

**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Minutes of the WCCUSD Board of Education
& Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805**

July 28, 2010

***Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Board Of Education
And Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee***

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

A.1 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

Call to order – Chairperson Tim Banuelos called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed the audience.

A.2 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Audrey Miles, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

CBOC Members Present: Tim Banuelos, Paul Gilbert-Snyder, Alex Gomez, Don Gosney, Anton Jungherr, Marcus Mitchell, Yvette Ricco, Robert Studdiford, Cecilia Valdez

Staff Present: Waheed Balogun, Director of Facilities and Construction; André Bell, Senior Director Bond Finance; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

B.1 Nystrom Project

Mr. Banuelos, as newly appointed Chairperson introduced himself as representative of the Pinole City Council with a background in architecture. He then spoke about the Nystrom multi-use project. The committee thought it would be beneficial for them to follow a project from beginning to completion to get a better idea of the process.

Discussion:

Mr. Ramsey asked about working with the second phase or only the first phase of the project. Chairperson Banuelos responded that they would begin talking about the first phase and said he would like to see this project following concept expanded to other projects.

Mr. Medrano asked whether the committee would consider following the demolition of Gompers and the old Helms site. Chairperson Banuelos also mentioned that the DeAnza project is still in early stages and this concept provides opportunity to give the committee a full overview in general terms to compliment the presentations by Mr. Savidge. Mr. Jungherr said that as part of the focus of this project the committee has asked the performance auditor to take this on as part of the June 2010 performance audit.

Mr. Ramsey asked whether there would be a report back to the Board. Mr. Banuelos responded affirmatively with the goal to further enhance the CBOC's knowledge about what goes on during a project. Mr. Jungherr said this is an effort to strategize better oversight committee work for the upcoming year, to better understand change orders, speaking with architects and inspectors, focus with performance auditors and generally be more effective.

Mr. Gosney said that in the past the committee has been able to visit a site after completion, but this process will enable them to see things that might concern the public from start to finish and therefore take a closer look prior to completion.

Mr. Studdiford spoke about the Nystrom project providing opportunity to look a how public funds are being used for pu was to discuss the sale in context of the Measure J general obligation bond program, economic benefit with qualified school construction bonds, and the future of the District's bond program.

Mr. Olson told the committee that the Measure J bond program has grown into a constrained bond program due to the decline in tax base substantiated by a target tax rate and available revenue strain. The District does not have

Susanna Lowery, Grant Elementary Principal
Jay Dowd, Downer Elementary Principal
Guthrie Fleishman, Assistant Principal, Hercules Middle High School
Kenneth Gardner, Principal/Alternative Education Administrator, Vista High Independent Study

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify approval of the vote taken in Closed Session to appoint administrators for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond abstaining and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Agenda. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.6 Board Minutes: July 7, 2010

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the minutes of July 7, 2010. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Grants/Awards Agreements

C.2 Acceptance of Donations

C.3 Approval of Fund Raising Activities

C.4 Contracted Services

C.5 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

C.6 Resolution No. 15-1011 Local Agreement for Child Development Contract #CSPP-0055

C.7 Acceptance of Contracts for Placement of Student Teachers

C.8 Notices of Completion: Bid J068182 Richmond High School Security Camera Project, J068228 Portola Middle School Portable Building Demolition and Site Work, W068181 Various Site Play Yard Improvements, J068229 Portola Middle School Reconditioning of Existing Electrical Switchboard

C.9 Certificated Personnel Changes

C.10 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)

C.11 2010 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs, Part I

C.12 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.13 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.14 Juan Crespi Jr. High Emergency Repair Program Roofing Repair Contract Award

C.15 Kennedy High School Field Building and Field Lighting Project Rejection of Bids & Authorization for Staff to Rebid the Project

This item was pulled for discussion.

C.16 Gompers Continuation High Campus Modulars Approval of Lease

C.17 Richmond College Prep Charter Campus Modulars Award of Contract 1.157 Td [(C.)-2(1)-5(3)]TJ 0 Tc 0 7 Td [(C.C /TT

C.15 Kennedy High School Field Building and Field Lighting Project Rejection of Bids & Authorization for Staff to Rebid the Project

Public Comment:
Eduardo Martinez

Board Comment:
Mr. Ramsey spoke about the upgrade to the same types of lights found at other high schools.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Consent Items C.15 Kennedy High School Field Building and Field Lighting Project Rejection of Bids & Authorization for Staff to Rebid the Project. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Standing Reports

Public Employees Union Local One. Michael Wasilchin spoke about working on a parcel tax campaign, comprehensive safety plan or difficult conversations about fiscal difficulties being endured. He asked the District to be sensitive to difficult decisions made and contributions by Local One members while doing their part to see that the District runs successful. He said he would like to maintain mutual respect, dignity and courtesy when dealing with members.

United Teachers of Richmond. President Diane Brown spoke about their leadership and beliefs in student success and achievement as a first priority, and that mutual communication and transparency are crucial in developing positive relationships. One particular goal of UTR is to create a district and union collaborative partnership through an evidenced based set of measures to increase student achievement performance. She recommended a book by Diane Ravitch, former Assistant Secretary for Education, *The Death and Life of the Great American School System*

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano reported on the July 26 meeting where a recommendation was made to bring the updated project budgets for Leadership Public Schools (LPS) and the Gompers sites to the Board. He continued to say that discussion items included status update on bond sales, program budget updates, state funding for district projects and more. The next meeting is scheduled for August 24. Mr. Ramsey commented that the

E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS
(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

E.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Harter provided a report of events in District summer schools.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment

Public Comment:

Michael Wasilchin, Marcus Mitchell

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Authorize a Parcel Tax Election Resolution No. 16-1011

Superintendent Harter spoke of the unprecedented financial crisis in California and its devastating impact on the District. He continued to say that any kind of revenue enhancement for success of children in schools is up to the local community and voters. In June the Board authorized a random sample survey of voters with a preliminary report provided in July. Mr. Bryan Godbe was available to provide an updated report. Superintendent Harter also spoke about the resolution to support a parcel tax on the primary gubernatorial election ballot for voter approval in order to continue to deliver primary services to students.

Mr. Godbe spoke about the overview and research objectives of the survey, methodology for likely November voters, support for different tax rates, and his recommendation of a five-cent tax rate level due to a low propensity of voters.

Public Comment:

Charles Cowens, Laura Ramos, Michael Wasilchin, Paul Gilbert-Snyder, Jason Freeman, Genoveva Calloway, Sarah Butler, Louise Waters

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano spoke about CSBA, State PTA and other entities that have filed suit against the State to fulfill its constitutional obligation to provide the fundamental right of every child to receive an education. He continued to speak in support of the parcel tax measure.

Ms. Miles said that over the last few weeks, she has seen evidence of support from the community and as well as support for the higher tax rate amount. She urged the Board to consider what the community supports and the work required to get clear information out to voters.

Mr. Thurmond said he had no doubt the measure is necessary in order to locally support school programs. He said that the Board has heard from some parts of the community about their support, but urges a reconciling with data from other parts of the district. He expressed concern about converting "likely no" voters to "yes" voters and the hard work involved. He asked Mr. Godbe whether the data supports conversion of negative voters. Mr. Godbe responded affirmatively with partisan messaging and communicating differently to various identified groups. Mr. Thurmond asked staff about recommendations for priorities of using the funds. Superintendent Harter responded about pulling a committee together who had worked on past measures for discussion, including employee groups, administrators associations, PTA's, and business and political committees, to work on language. Next steps will be determining levels of funding, generation and distribution of those funds. Once the language is approved and the tax rate is set, another community conversation will be held regarding general allocations. Superintendent Harter spoke about the timeline with approval of the resolution and setting the tax rate before the Elections Office August 6 deadline.

Mr. Ramsey thanked Mr. Thurmond for looking beneath the numbers for more detail

