

**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805**

November 17, 2010

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:36 PM.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

President Kronenberg led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

President Kronenberg offered welcome to the public regarding the meeting.

B.3 Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Antonio Medrano

Staff Present: Andre Bell, Executive Director Bonds/Capital Projects; Linda Cohen, Coronado Elementary Principal; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Otilia Espinoza, Interpreter; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Erin Fleming, Director of Human Resources-Classified; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Chris Hanna, Information Technology Operations Manager; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Barbara Jellison, Director Food Services; Sue Kahn, Principal Pinole Valley High; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Lynn Potter, Director Categorical & Instructional Support Services; Sonya Neely-Johnson, Coordinator Ed Services; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Ann Reinhagen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer; Lori Walker, Senior Personnel Assistant

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Pinole Valley High School

Tommy Tran provided a report of activities at Pinole Valley High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes with no abstentions and Mr. Medrano absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.7 Minutes: November 3, 2010

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval the Minutes of November 3, 2010.

President Kronenberg announced November 29, 6:00 p.m., for a parent meeting at Madera. She said that it makes sense to allow Madera to add a sixth grade. She also discussed the middle school transition in order to be academically prepared.

Mr. Ramsey spoke about students who attended Madera, Portola and El Cerrito High and have successfully gone on to Ivy League colleges.

Mr. Thurmond commented about the challenge for parents who leave the District during the middle school years.

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Harter reported on activities in the District.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment

Public Comment:

Eric Swabeck, Kristen Pursley, Margaret Browne

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Request for Bond Waiver

Mr. Fay introduced Dave Olson of KNN Public Finance and Jeff Baratta of Piper Jaffary & Company who provided a presentation regarding the resolution regarding submission of a waiver request to California Department of Education asking for a release from the limitation of 2.5% bonding limit capacity.

President Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

Audra Williams, Linda Cohen

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked questions about the tax rate and the bonding capacity. Mr. Olson responded with information about tax rate targets and issuance of bonds. He spoke about available funds and costs of completion as well as school site councils' input in the waiver request. Mr. Fay responded that the Department of Education will allow submission with supplemental information supporting application requirements. Mr. Olson commented on the section about the parental involvement by saying that the waiver process involves all types of requested waivers, most of which deal with educational programs. He said that while the bonding capacity waiver is not a perfect fit for the statute, this is the venue for the Department of Education to review. Mr. Ramsey further commented about the health and safety problem at the Portola property and serious issues that require economic consideration. He also had questions about an appeals process if the waiver is denied. Mr. Olson responded.

Mr. Thurmond asked questions about the District bonding capacity as compared to other districts with better assessed property values.

9006 Tc 0.006 Tw 3(s)2(a)-8c values06 Tc 0.009 Tw 1w 5.783 0 Td ()T06 Teri

President Kronenberg said that she has followed this matter carefully and thinks it important to support the resolution as well as appear before the Board in Sacramento for the hearing. She said she does not want the bond program to fall victim to the real estate crisis in California because of the Board's failure to fight for it.

MOTION: Ms. Miles moved approval of Resolution No. 31-1011: Intent to Seek Debt Limit Waiver from State Board of Education for Sale of remaining General Obligation Bonds as approved by voters under Measure D, 2010. Mr. Ramey seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Tommy Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes with no abstentions and Mr. Medrano absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Student Reassignment for Lake and Shannon Elementary Schools

This item was tabled to December 8, 2010.

G.2 Adding 6th Grade at Madera Elementary

This item was moved to follow item D.4.

Tommy Tran left the meeting.

G.3 WCCUSD Competitive Food Sales Policy

Mr. Fay commented that this report is given as a result of public comment about local restaurants delivering food to the Richmond High School campus. He said that families and students have the choice to bring lunch to school as well as purchase from food service offered on campus. He commented that competitive food sales as prescribed by District policies are compliant with state and federal laws. Ms. Barbara Jellison, Director of Food Service, provided further information regarding campus food sales meeting guidelines of state and federal regulations.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Ms. Miles had concerns about student and site council ability to make comments and suggestions about food items. She also commented about cultural likes and how that might be addressed. Ms. Jellison responded. f

J.