

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

**March 27, 2013**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:35 P.M.

**A.1 Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome / Meeting Procedures**

President Kronenberg led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting.

**A.2 Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** Randy Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg, Charles Ramsey. Elaine Merriweather arrived at 6:51 PM.

**Staff Present:** Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Matthew Burnham, Portola Principal; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Clifford Dorton, Electronics Technician; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent, Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Antoinette Henry-Evans, K-12 Executive Director; Nancy Ivey, Portola Vice Principal; Lisa Levy, Washington Elementary Principal; David Luongo, El Cerrito Principal; Reyna Ortiz de Touciel, Translator; Wendy Pangelina, Human Res

ite Modernization and New Construction A

Contract

Mr. Abdalla read a revision to this item into the record.

*Hibser-Yamauchi Architects has prepared plans and specifications for the project. Scope of work includes selective demolition of the existing Castro Elementary School site, modernization of remaining buildings, construction of new buildings, including a new multi-purpose building, a new classroom building, and associated site improvements.*

*The District conducted a public bid process for the project. Bids were received on March 21, 2013. Six contractors submitted bids. They are as follows: Arntz Builders, Inc., \$42,942,000; Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc. \$43,793, 714; Alten Construction, Inc., \$44,123,022; Roebbelen Contracting, Inc., \$44,343,281; Wright Contracting, Inc., \$44,450,365; S.J. Amoroso Construction, Inc., \$44,977*

*\$44,977,000 Funded from the Measure D-2010 Bond.*

Mr. Ramsey asked for an explanation of the bid protest period. Mr. Abdalla responded with information about the required three day waiting period for this size project. He remarked that one protest had been received and a letter

was sent to the contractor for opportunity to respond. Mr. Abdalla estimated that the protest would be resolved by early next week. This item will return for Board ratification at the April 10 meeting.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Item B.1 Portola Middle School at Castro Elementary School Site Modernization and New Construction Award of Contract. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

**C. SPECIAL MEETING PURPOSE / PROCEDURES**

President Kronenberg explained the purpose of the meeting as opportunity for a public conversation around the future of Portola including the rebuilding of the structure and continuing to excel in academics and safety.

Mr. Groves said this is an opportunity to think about what the community wants for the school and confidence building.

President Kronenberg called a brief recess of the meeting due to technical difficulties at 6:45 PM.

The meeting resumed at 6:49 PM.

**D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND DATA REVIEW**

Superintendent Harter provided background and focus regarding the eight schools of the El Cerrito Family. The presentation included information regarding API scores over the last three years, descriptions of schools students including English Language Learners, Free and Reduced Lunch, Special Education as well as enrollment stability.

Ms. Merriweather arrived at 6:51 PM.

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Groves said he found the data helpful.

President Kronenberg reflected that antidotal stories do not always fit with the actual data.

**E. PORTOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTATION**

Portola Principal Matthew Burnham provided a report on the school. ision statement  
created by faculty and staff with a focus on student learning. iversity and  
unique challenges, including safety, communications, opportunities, resources, and goals for the 2013-14 year.

Mr. Burnham concluded by seeking support on two initiatives for the school: the Universal Design for Learning program and the development of a learning center for the school.

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Enos said he appreciated the presentation

special needs. He saw the model as one for students working in small groups to buil

