

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICIAL BUT UNADOPTED MINUTES

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MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

District Administrative Offices

2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Shirley Issel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Board recessed to Closed Session.

1 BOARD ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice President Shirley Issel
Director Joaquin J. Rivera
Director Ted Schultz
Director John T. Selawsky
Student Director Niles Xi'an Lichtenstein*

EXCUSED: President Terry S. Doran

ADMINISTRATION: Interim Superintendent Stephen A. Goldstone, Secretary

2. Recess to Closed Session (Board Conference Room)

a. Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(a)).

Case name unspecified: Disclosure would jeopardize:

Service of Process X Existing Settlement Negotiations

b. Liability Claims (Government Code Section 54956.9)

c. Collective Bargaining Session Government Code Section 3549.1(d)

d. Public Employment (Government Code Section 54957

Certificated Transactions:

(1) Head Baseball Coach

(2) Head Boys Soccer Coach

Classified Transactions:

(1) Substitutes; if and as needed: Instructional Assistant; Instructional Specialist; GATE Instructional Specialist; Instructional Technician; Noon Director; Intramural Director.

(2) Student Worker.

(3) Stipends.

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

The Board returned to Public Session at 7:37 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Issel stated that there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

*The Student Director does not attend Closed Session

COLLECT "REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION" CARDS

Vice President Issel collected the "Requests to Address the Board of Education" cards.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Eleven speakers addressed the Board.

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Barry Fike, President, Berkeley Federation of Teachers, and Mr. Rick Spaid, Business Agent, Public Employees' Union Local One, addressed the Board.

ADVISORY COUNCILS

Ms. Carol Wilkins, representing the Berkeley Schools Excellence Project (BSEP); Ms. Cynthia Papermaster and Ms. Yolanda Huang addressed the Board regarding various topics.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Interim Superintendent Goldstone discussed the status of state and federal funding for school districts. He reported on the last 2x2 Committee Meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Student Director Lichtenstein appointed Vicki Davis to the Citizens Budget and Finance Advisory Committee.

Board members responded to comments made during Public Testimony. They congratulated the students and staff at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School for receiving a Distinguished School award.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

The Board pulled, for separate consideration, items 8, 10 and 11.

Motion: Directors Schultz/Selawsky and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

That the remainder of the Consent Calendar be approved.

3. Approval of Personnel Recommendations
4. Approval of Contracts and Purchase Orders in Excess of \$15,000
5. Approval to Deny Claims Against the District:
 - a. Claim filed by a staff person for items allegedly stolen from her classroom at Washington Elementary School.
 - b. Claim filed by a delivery driver for injuries allegedly caused by a fall at Berkeley High School.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (continued)

5. Approval to Deny Claims Against the District: (continued)
 - c. Claim filed by a staff person for damage to her vehicle while she was allegedly parked at Berkeley High School.
 - d. Claim filed by a parent for reimbursement for medical expenses incurred when a teacher allegedly backed his car into her child.
 - e. Claim filed by a parent for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred when a piece of a theatrical set allegedly broke while on stage at Longfellow Arts & Technology Magnet Middle School.
 - f. Claim filed by a parent for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred when her son's arm was allegedly broken at Rosa Parks Environmental Science Magnet School.
 - g. Claim filed by a resident for reimbursement of expenses for window damaged allegedly caused by students at Cragmont Elementary School.
6. Approval of Resolution No. 7261: Acceptance of base bid of Cleary Brothers Landscape Inc. for Berkeley High School Softball Field Turf Renovation and Irrigation System Project.
7. Approval of Resolution No. 7262: To establish the 2001-2002 tax rate for the "Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 1994" (BSEP) (Measure B, 1994-Schools Special Tax).
8. Approval of One-time School Site Block Grant Expenditure Plans for: Berkeley Alternative High School, Berkeley Adult School, Berkeley Arts Magnet Elementary School, City of Franklin MicroSociety Magnet School, Emerson, Jefferson, John Muir and LeConte elementary schools, Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Longfellow Arts & Technology Magnet Middle School, Malcolm X Arts & Academic Magnet School, Rosa Parks Environmental Science Magnet School, and Willard Middle School.

Please see page 4 of these minutes for action on this item.
9. Approval of the applications for 21st Century Learning Center Grant applications for the following schools: John Muir, Emerson and Washington elementary schools; Malcolm X Arts & Academic Magnet School and Willard Middle School.
10. Approval of 21st Century Grant application being submitted by Longfellow Arts & Technology Middle School and Progressive Learning.

Please see page 4 of these minutes for action on this item.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (continued)

11. Approval to schedule a Special Board of Education meeting and a budget workshop on Wednesday, April 18, 2001.

Please see page 5 of these minutes for action on this item.

12. Exemption certification for emergency employment of retired member.

8. Approval of One-time School Site Block Grant Expenditure Plans for: Berkeley Alternative High School, Berkeley Adult School, Berkeley Arts Magnet Elementary School, City of Franklin MicroSociety Magnet School, Emerson, Jefferson, John Muir and LeConte elementary schools, Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Longfellow Arts & Technology Magnet Middle School, Malcolm X Arts & Academic Magnet School, Rosa Parks Environmental Science Magnet School, and Willard Middle School.

Board members noted that the grant application is due May 1, 2001 to the State. They requested that these kinds of recommendations should come to the Board at least two months before they are due. The Board wanted to know if these plans are in alignment with the District's goals.

Motion: Directors Rivera/Selawsky and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

That this item is approved.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student
Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

10. Approval of 21st Century Grant application being submitted by Longfellow Arts & Technology Middle School and Progressive Learning.

Director Rivera asked what are the expectations and measurable goals to determine that this program is successful?

Motion: Directors Rivera/Selawsky and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

That this item is approved.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student
Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (continued)

11. Approval to schedule a Special Board of Education Meeting and a Budget Workshop on Wednesday, April 18, 2001.

Motion: Directors Rivera/Selawsky and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

That there be a Special Board of Education meeting and budget workshop on Wednesday, April 18, 2001, 7:30 p.m.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

AGENDA REORDER

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION

13. Public Hearing and Approval of Waiver Request to Waive Education Code Section 44720-44725 (AB1331 Mathematics Professional Development)

Vice President Issel opened the Public Hearing at 9:28 p.m.

No one addressed the Board, and Vice President Issel declared the Public Hearing closed at 9:29 p.m.

Motion: Directors Rivera/Schultz and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

Approval of waiver request to waive Education Code Section 44720-44725 (AB1331 Mathematics Professional Development)

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS

14. Approval of Resolution No. 7263, awarding the contract for Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Project #832.9802 (to the low bidder, West Coast Contractors, Inc., for a total of \$17,976,000).

Interim Superintendent Goldstone recommended that the Board approve this Resolution. He recommended that the base bid of \$17,325,000 and all seven alternates totaling \$651,000 be accepted for a total cost of \$17,976,000.

Motion: Directors Schultz/Rivera and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

Approval of Resolution No. 7263.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student
Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

15. Approval of "Adopt-A-School"

Interim Superintendent Goldstone explained the Adopt-A-School proposal by saying the most important work of a school district occurs in the classrooms, between teachers and students, at the individual schools. Consequently, the participation of members of the Board of Education at the school sites is an important part of their role in understanding, encouraging, and supporting student achievement and student learning.

The Adopt-A-School proposal is presented as part of an effort to emphasize and support the importance of school visitations and connections by members of the Board of Education.

Motion: Directors Selawsky/Schultz and approved 4-(1)-1 on voice vote:

Approval of the Adopt-A-School proposal.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student
Director Lichtenstein)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/REPORT

16. Energy Conservation Committee Report

Mr. Gene LeFevre, Director, Grounds and Custodial Services, reviewed staff's plan to conserve energy by 10%. He said the plan is to investigate the use of electricity at every school and each department in the District and will include the following:

- Audit the heating system and water temperature.
- Initiate an energy saving awareness program.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/REPORT (continued)

16. Energy Conservation Committee Report (continued)

- Work with school principals on how they and their staffs can conserve energy.
- Encourage staff to turn off their computers, printers and photocopiers at the end of each workday.

17. Report on the Minority Student Achievement Network Youth Culture Survey

This item was presented by Ms. Christine Lim, Associate Superintendent, Instruction; Ms. Diane Pico, Manager, Curriculum & Assessment; and Ms. Marianne Splenda, Assessment Resource Teacher.

They reported that the survey was administered unanimously and consisted of the following:

- 49 questions from a youth culture survey known as Ed-Excel Assessment of Secondary School Student Culture.
- Six research questions added by the MSAN Practitioner's Council.
- One question added by BUSD.
- Questions on sensitive issues such as sex, alcohol, and drugs were not included on the survey.
- There were 3,113 survey responses—a 77% completion rate for students in grades 9 to 11.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There was no Additional Public Testimony at this time.

BOARD MATTERS

18. Board Committee Appointments/Reports

- Berkeley Arts in Education Steering Committee
- Berkeley School Financing Corporation
- Citizens Advisory Committee on Diversity
- Citizens Budget and Finance Advisory Committee
- Citizens Construction Program Advisory Committee
- Facilities Maintenance and Security Advisory Committee
- Music Program Committee
- Peace and Justice Commission
- Student Assignment Advisory Committee
- Surplus Facilities Advisory Committee
- Two-by-Two Committee
- Youth Commission

There were no appointments/reports regarding the above committees/commission.

BOARD REQUESTS

Director Rivera requested that staff convene the Citizens Budget and Finance Committee.

Director Selawsky requested that:

- Staff schedule a public forum to discuss out-of-district transfers and the impact on the District.
- Staff responded to a letter from Ms. Loni Hancock, former Secretary's Regional Representative of the United States Department of Education, regrading Small Learning Communities.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Issel declared the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2001 adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District

Secretary, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District

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