

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICIAL BUT UNADOPTED MINUTES

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MINUTES, SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, January 18, 2001
District Administrative Offices
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

CALL TO ORDER

President Terry S. Doran called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. and the Board recessed to Closed Session.

1 BOARD ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Terry S. Doran
Vice President Shirley Issel (left at 5:09 p.m.)
Director Joaquin J. Rivera
Director Ted Schultz
Director John T. Selawsky
Student Director Niles Xi'an Lichtenstein*

COLLECT "REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION" CARDS

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

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Three speakers addressed the Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Finalize the timeline for selection of the new Superintendent

Board members reassured the public that the selection of a new Superintendent will be an inclusive, open process.

President Doran introduced Dr. Jake Abbott and Dr. Robert Trigg of LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATES, the consultants who have been hired to conduct the search for a new Superintendent.

Dr. Abbott suggested that their District contacts be President Doran and Executive Assistant Graham. He said, however, they will keep the entire Board informed throughout the search process. He and Dr. Robert Trigg reviewed the selection timeline.

*The Student Director does not attend Closed Session

DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

3. Discussion of the characteristics the Board would like the new Superintendent to possess.

Board members discussed the following characteristics they would like the new Superintendent to possess:

- Address the school culture at Berkeley High School.
- Experience with small learning schools/communities.
- Someone who can work with the mentorship program.
- Someone with a track record for bridging the achievement gap between minority and non-minority students.
- Knows available resources and can work with the resources.
- Someone who will make themselves accessible/approachable to the students and community.
- Possesses a background in dealing with diverse communities.
- A risk-taker.
- An educator.
- A successful superintendent.
- Someone who is committed to the Berkeley ideal.
- Proven successful experience working in an urban environment.
- Good track record.
- Can work internally with the business system in the District.
- Management experience and wisdom.
- Good listener and consensus builder.
- Ability to lobby the State.
- Personnel experience and wisdom.
- Data processing experience.

BOARD RECESS

At 4:15 p.m. the Board recessed to Closed Session.

7. Recess to Closed Session (Board Conference Room)
- a. Consideration of Student Expulsions (Education Code Section 48918(c)(K-12).
 - (1) Case No. 202
 - (2) Case No. 203
 - (3) Case No. 204
 - b. Discussion of contract parameters for the new Superintendent.
 - c. Discussion of possible candidates for the position of Superintendent.

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to Public Session at 4:55 p.m.

8. BOARD ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Terry S. Doran
Vice President Shirley Issel (left at 5:09 p.m.)
Director Joaquin J. Rivera
Director Ted Schultz
Director John T. Selawsky
Student Director Niles Xi'an Lichtenstein*

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Please see below for the action the Board took in Closed Session.

APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS

9. Approval of action taken regarding decisions of Student Expulsion Administrative Panel:

- a. Case No. 202
- b. Case No. 203
- c. Case No. 204

Motion: Directors Schultz/Rivera and approved 5-(1) on voice vote:

To uphold the decisions of the Student Expulsion Administrative Panels.

AYES: Directors Doran, Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky.

ABSTAIN: (Student Director Lichtenstein, the Student Director, does not vote on Closed Session items.)

*The Student Director does not attend Closed Session

AGENDA REORDER

3. Discussion of the characteristics the Board would like the new Superintendent to possess.

- High standards based on achievement.
- Unshakable belief that all students can learn.
- The ability to bring the District office into the 21st century. Experienced and understands the mechanism of organizational change.
- Diversity.
- Someone who can deal effectively with both the instructional and business sides in a real and meaningful way.
- Bridge the achievement gap.
- The high school and high school reorganization.
- Continue the District's commitment to integration.
- Local and state political lobbying.
- Someone who is a spokesperson for public education.
- Familiar with and can read budgets.
- Articulate music and arts in this District.
- An educational innovator.
- Experience and interest in school reform and structure, particularly at the secondary level.

4. Discussion of Board recommendations on community and staff groups with whom the consultants should meet.

Board members are to submit to President Doran the names of individuals, groups, committees and organizations they would like the consultants to interview. President Doran will give this information to Mrs. Queen Graham, Executive Assistant, who will coordinate and schedule the meetings.

5. Discussion regarding Board of Education protocols during Superintendent search.

The consultants stressed the need for strict confidentiality regarding the candidate or prospective candidates for the Superintendent position.

Dr. Jake Abbott stated that he is the lead consultant. Press calls are to be directed to the Board President.

6. Other items the Board may wish to discuss pertaining to the Superintendent search.

The consultants further clarified their role and the Board's role in the process.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There was no Additional Public Testimony at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

President Doran declared the Special Meeting of January 18, 2001 adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District

Secretary, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District

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