

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING

ADOPTED MINUTES  
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Wednesday, January 9, 2002  
District Administrative Offices  
Board Meeting Room  
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Shirley Issel called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**BOARD ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Shirley Issel  
Vice President Joaquin J. Rivera  
Director Ted Schultz  
Director John T. Selawsky  
Student Director Sarena M. Chandler

**MEMBER EXCUSED:** Director Terry S. Doran

Administration Superintendent Michele Lawrence, Secretary

Prior to Closed Session, as necessary, staff/employee comments are taken per Government Code Section 54957

No one addressed the Board at this time.

Recess to Closed Session (Government Code Sections 3549.1(d), 54956.9, 54956.9(a) and 54957) and Education Code Section 48918(c)—Board Conference Room

- a) Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation
- b) Collective Bargaining
- c) Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- d) Public Employment and Appointments
- e) Liability Claims

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 6:08 p.m. and reconvened in Public Session at 7:44 p.m.

Report Closed Session Action

President Issel stated that in Closed Session, the Board dealt with Closed Session item (c)(1): Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release: Berkeley Federation of Teachers (BFT) Level III Grievance.

At this time, President Issel announced that Director Doran is excused from the meeting because he is recovering from surgery. She reported that he is doing well.

Approve Agenda

President Issel suggested that the Reports Section of the agenda follow the **PUBLIC HEARING** section as it appeared on past agendas. Vice President Rivera requested that this be a permanent change.

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

That the agenda is approved as modified.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky, (Chandler)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

Special Minutes, December 19, 2001

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held December 19, 2002 are approved as corrected. The correction is on page 3, under REPORTS, Union Representatives' Reports. The section now reads:

- 80 votes by teachers surveyed said they support moving ahead with the Small Schools policy currently described in the Summary Statement.
- 56 votes by teachers said they would like to pursue another vision of Small Schools. This may or may not include all students attending small schools.
- 16 votes by teachers said they would like to pursue organizing Berkeley High School around a large traditional urban high school model. This would include phasing out the existing small schools.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky, (Chandler)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

## **REPORTS** (continued)

### Union Representatives' Reports (continued)

On page 6, item 1.I-1, the second percentage should be **49%** instead of 50%. It now reads:

- 164 teachers and counselors voted;
- **49%** voted to support the Small Schools policy;
- 34% voted to pursue Small Schools in some other format;
- 16% voted to organize Berkeley High School as a large traditional high school without small schools.

## **HEARING SECTION**

Six speakers addressed the Board on various issues. A number of speakers expressed their concern regarding the change of when committee representatives are allowed to address the Board and the length of time they can speak.

Mr. Barry Fike, President, Berkeley Federation of Teachers, expressed his concern regarding when and the length of time committee representatives are allowed to speak at Board Meetings. He discussed the budget issue and suggested that the administrative staff conduct face-to-face conferences with those affective staff and review various career options with them, speak with representatives of the intern programs that some of these teachers are affiliated with, and see what can be done to make other employment arrangements with these internship programs. He also suggested that these employees be offered the opportunity to be a bargaining unit substitute in the District. Administrative staff should explain why there is a budget crisis, why it is necessary to layoff staff and how this budget crisis will affect class sizes.

### Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lawrence extended her sincere apologies to the Board regarding the change in the format of the Board agenda regarding when in the meeting and the length of time committee representatives can address the Board. She said her intent was to put committee reports on the agenda in a systematic way and not intended to squelch community participation. She recommended that the Board discuss, at future Board meetings, the issue of committee reports to the Board, the Board agenda format, and how the Board wants to receive input from the public.

At this time, President Issel expressed deep sympathy on behalf of the Board, Superintendent, and staff of the District to J. B. French and his family regarding the death of his wife, Tatia Malika Oden French and new baby, Zorah Allie-Mae French; and, to the family of Richard "Grizzly" Brown on his death. President Issel declared a moment of silence in memory of these people.

#### Board Members' Comments

Individual Board Members expressed their sympathy to those families who lost their loved ones. Student Director Chandler inquired about the status of the truancy policy. She reported that the holiday meal for the homeless was a success. She reported that 700 homeless people were served. Director Schultz wished everyone a happy new year. He said he hopes that we will move forward in upgrading and stabilizing business operations and in making significant and positive changes at Berkeley High School. Director Schultz suggested that advisory committees continue as in the past. Director Selawsky thanked the superintendent for addressing and correcting the advisory committee issue. Vice President Rivera discussed the issue of committee reports. He said advisory committee members can also communicate with the Board by writing. A concern that he has is whether the committee representative who is addressing the Board as an individual or speaking on behalf of the entire committee. Vice President Rivera said he would like for staff and the Board to pursue a standardized committee communication vehicle for advisory committee representatives to address the Board so that everyone will know whom the person is speaking for when they address the Board.

President Issel said if committee members wish to make committee reports, please notify her via the committee chairperson(s). She, in turn, will notify the superintendent.

At this time, President Issel:

- Introduced Mr. Jerry J. Kurr, Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations.
- Mr. Mark Coplan, President, In Dulci Jubilo. Mr. Coplan presented award grants to the following nine people:

**Recipients:**

President Shirley Issel:  
  
Dana Walberg, Oxford School:  
Merle Gerhard, Parent  
Yolanda Huang, Parent  
Jennifer Smallwood, LeConte  
Jonathan Maier, LeConte  
  
Ada Wada, King  
Corinne Eno, Parent  
  
Paula Israel, Parent

**Grants:**

The Ted Rosenkrantz Memorial Lecture on Education, \$500  
Shakespeare in the Park, \$500  
Berkeley High School Jazz Club, \$500  
Portable Gardens at Willard, \$500  
Young Inventors' Program, \$500  
Cooperative Adventures and Rope Course, \$500  
Math Contest prize money, \$500  
Drama Production storage for costumes at Berkeley High School, \$500  
Berkeley High School Organizer, \$500

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

That the Consent Calendar is approved as amended.

The amendment is the revised Personnel Report.

- 2.1-C: Acceptance of **revised** Personnel Report  
2.2-C: Liability claims submitted to the Berkeley Unified School District  
4.1-C: Approval of Purchases in Excess of \$15,000  
4.2-C: Approve Listing of Warrants issued in December 2001

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky (Student Director Chandler)  
EXCUSED: Director Doran

At this time, President Issel announced that there will be a Special Board of Education Meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2002, 7:30 p.m., at the Berkeley Alternative High School, in the Multi-Purpose Room. She emphasized the date, time and location of the meeting because this is a deviation from the published Board Meeting schedule.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Human Resources

#### 2.1-A:

Approve the Tentative Agreement Between the District and BFT (Berkeley Federation of Teachers), Articles 15 and 16

Dr. David Gomez, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services, presented this item.

Motion: Directors Schultz/Selawsky and approved 4-0-(1)-1-0 on voice vote:

That Article 15 is approved and that Article 16 is tabled.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: (Student Director Chandler)  
EXCUSED: Director Doran  
ABSENT: None

### Educational Services

#### 3.1-A

Approve Library Improvement Plan and the K-4 Classroom Library Plan for FY 2002

Ms. Monica Thyberg, Manager, BSEP (Berkeley Schools Excellence Project), and representatives from the library staff presented the State Library Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2002. They described how, by having school libraries, and supporting the literacy plans, staff can better serve our students and thus help to reduce the achievement gap. Ms. Thyberg highlighted the Library Improvement Plan Status Report, Year 3.

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

That this item is approved.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky, (Chandler)  
EXCUSED: Director Doran

Business Services

4.1-A

Maintenance Yearly Plan and Facilities Division Goals

Mr. Lewis Jones, Manager, Facilities Planning, presented this item. He explained the two documents: (1) the listing of goals by area and the BB Yearly Expenditure Plan. He said staff developed the BB Plan through the end of FY 2003. The Board approved the strategic plan/organization chart on October 17, 2001. Board Members requested additional information from staff at the October 17, 2001 Board Meeting and as a result of their requests, staff generated, posted and distributed a draft maintenance document, on December 6, 2001. The draft went to the Advisory Committee for comments or additions but none were received. Mr. Jones discussed, in detail, the following areas:

- Maintenance
- Custodial
- Utility
- Construction
- Property Management
- Plant Security
- Hazardous Material
- Disaster Preparedness
- Reporting

Mr. Jones said the BB Expenditure Plan is for 18 months and the Plan identifies which sections of the approved Strategic Plan happen first. He reported that the total expenditure for FY 2002 is \$3,250,000; for FY 2003 is \$4,125,000

After his presentation, Mr. Jones responded to Board questions and comments.

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

That the goals, by discipline, and the BB Expenditure Plan are approved.

AYES: Directors Issel, Rivera, Schultz, Selawsky, (Chandler)

EXCUSED: Director Doran

## **INFORMATION**

### General Services

### Committee Reports

Receive the Yearly Report by the Citizens Construction Advisory Committee and possible direction from the Board on the Committee's Yearly focus

Mr. Bruce Wicinas, Chair, Citizens Construction Advisory Committee and Mr. Carl Bridges, member of the committee, highlighted the:

- "The State of the Construction Program 2001" section;
- "Project Manual Steps" section; and
- Potential Future Topics for the Citizens' Construction Advisory Committee.

Director Selawsky asked that members of the Citizens Construction Advisory Committee make a recommendation to the Board regarding the Hillside property.

President Issel announced again that there will be a Special Board of Education Meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2002, 7:30 p.m., at the Berkeley Alternative High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. She reiterated that everyone is invited to attend.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

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President, Board of Education  
Berkeley Unified School District

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Secretary, Board of Education  
Berkeley Unified School District

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