

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Wednesday, August 12, 2009
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

Nancy Riddle, President
Karen Hemphill, Vice President
John T. Selawsky, Director /Clerk
Shirley Issel, Director
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director
Eve Shames, Student Director

Administration: Superintendent William Huyett, Secretary
Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent
Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Educational
Services
Lisa van Thillo, Assistant Superintendent of Human
Resources

Prior to Closed Session, as necessary, staff/employee comments are taken per Government Code Section 54957. Recess to Closed Session (Government Code Sections 3549, 1(d), 54956.9(a) and 54957) and Education Code Section 49819(c)

President Riddle convened the regular meeting at 7:52pm

REPORT CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

The Board ratified a settlement agreement for a certificated employee **Selawsky/Hemphill** and approved unanimously

The Board also ratified a special education settlement agreement **Selawsky/Issel** and approved unanimously

The Board ratified personnel appointments made by Superintendent Huyett:
Sterling Bruner, Principal, Berkeley Adult School; Kay Altizer, Executive Director of Special Education; Javier Mendieta, Principal of John Muir; and Alejandro Ramos, Vice Principal at Longfellow Middle School

APPROVE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Vice President Hemphill pulled Item 4.5-C for clarification

Director Selawsky recused on Item 4.1-C, No. 23

Director Issel pulled 3.2-C

President Riddle recused on 5.1-CF

Superintendent Huyett pulled 5.3-C

Selawsky/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously as revised

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Five speakers commented on transportation issues

One speaker remarked on students of color at BAM

There was support for charter schools from one speaker

UNION REPORT

Paula Phillips from BCCE spoke about the death of longtime employee, Pat Robertson. She also discussed layoffs.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Board members had minimal comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Huyett expressed his condolences on the loss of Pat Robertson. He also touched on the zone and boundary changes that will affect transportation to school and after school programs. He noted that there will be a special Board study session on August 26. He recently met with community leaders about the formation of a charter schools.

Vice President Hemphill remarked that she would like to see an alternative for suspended students.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously

INFORMATION ITEM

Item 4.1-I – Transportation

This was received as information. Transportation will contact to update them on safety zone changes so they can plan accordingly.

PULLED ITEMS

Item 3.2-C – Berkeley LEARNS

Selawsky/Leyva-Cutler and approved on vote of 4-1 with Director Issel voting NO

Item 4.5-C – Special Education Contracts

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

Item 5.3-C – QSCBS Grant

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

CONFERENCE ITEMS

Item 1.1-CF – Report on Board Policy Subcommittee composed of Superintendent Bill Huyett and Directors Issel and Selawsky

This Committee has addressed issues around compliance with the School Governance Council and have recommended that Principal Slemple take the following five changes to the existing governance group and ask for ratification and then forward bylaws changes to Board for approval. The Board would then take action.

1. Eliminate from the bylaws the principal's right to veto the appointment of an elected member to the School Site Council
2. Continue to post minutes of the meetings in a timely manner. There is a recognition that it is difficult to post the minutes electronically. The school will add the Board and Superintendent's office to the list of those who receive the minutes.
3. The bylaws will be changed to allow comment on any issue during the public comment section of the agenda. Currently, the bylaws allow public comment only on items listed on the agenda.
4. The bylaws will be amended to require that an explicit count of votes be taken and recorded in the minute for both the SGC and SSC for any item requiring School Site Council approval.
5. The District will provide training to all existing and new School Governance Council members

The Committee is also looking to the long term at three models: K-8 model, merging BSEP into this model. The second model is a hybrid one which merges the functions of the leadership team with the functions of the SSC which would be called a Shared Governance Team. The remaining model is a modified Hybrid which would be similar to the second model, but the SSC would meet separately from the SGC to discuss and vote on matters requiring only SSC approval.

The Committee also discussed developing a full set of Board policies.

Item 5.1-CF – Capacity and Zones

Lew Jones, Director of Facilities, presented the Board with this report and advised that there would be a follow up at a September meeting.

Item 5.2-CF – Committee to Review Capital Needs

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 2.1-I – Employee Evaluation

Item 3.1-I – Board Policy and AR - first reading, the policy will come back as an action item

Item 4.1-I Enrollment

Item 4.3-I – Budget Updated

DIRECTOR ISSEL/SELAWSKY – motion to extend meeting until agenda is completed

Item 5.1-I – Facilities Plan Update

Item 5.2-I - Schematic Design – Director Issel requested that this item be placed on the agenda again so they can receive a full presentation

The Board convened to closed session at 11:07 pm.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Selawsky/ Hemphill and approved unanimously to approve recommendation to dismiss classified employee

The Board adjourned the meeting in honor of Pat Robertson at 11:20 pm

John T. Selawsky, Clerk
Board of Education

