

MINUTES, SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, February 25, 2004
District Administrative Offices
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

CALL TO ORDER

President John T. Selawsky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board recessed to Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened in Public Session at 7:30 p.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School, 2701 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

ROLL CALL President John T. Selawsky
 Vice President Nancy Riddle
 Director Terry S. Doran
 Director Shirley Issel
 Director Joaquin J. Rivera
 Student Director Bradley Johnson*

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(a) and 54957) and Education Code Section 49818(c)—Board Conference Room

- a) Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation
- b) Consideration of Student Expulsion
- c) Collective Bargaining
- d) Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- e) Public Employment Appointments
- f) Liability Claims
- g) Property Acquisition

*The Student Director does not attend Closed Session.

Report Closed Session Action

The Board reconvened in Public at 7:30 p.m. President Selawsky stated that there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

Approve Agenda

Motion: Directors Rivera/Doran and approved unanimously on voice vote:

Approval of the March 25, 2004 Special Board Meeting Agenda.

At 7:30 p.m., the Board reconvened in Public Session at the Berkeley Alternative High School, 2701 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Two speakers, including Ms. Stephanie Allan, Local 39, addressed the Board.

7:30 P.M.-9:30 P.M.

WORKSHOP STUDY SESSION

AGENDA ITEM

Student Nutrition, Health and Food Services

Discussion with the Board of Education regarding the increase in health related problems for students and the challenges and opportunities involved in presenting a viable food services and nutrition program.

Superintendent Lawrence introduced the panel of nutrition people seated at the table. They were: Mr. Neil Smith, Director, Curriculum and Development; Ms. Kit Pappenheimer, Principal, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School; Ms. Tina Brier, Director, Classified Personnel; Ms. Karen Candito, Director, Nutrition Services; Ms. Alice Waters, Chez Panisse; Ms. Molly Fraker, Chez Panisse Foundation; Ms. Zenobia Barlow, Center for Ecoliteracy; Ms. Janet Brown, Center for Ecoliteracy; Ms. Marsha Guerrero, the Edible Schoolyard; Dr. Bert Lubin, Head of the Pediatric Department of Children's Hospital; Dr. Janet King, Interim Director, Translational Research, Children's Hospital; Ms. Marilyn Briggs, retired Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Education.

Student Nutrition, Health and Food Services (continued)

Superintendent Lawrence said the District sponsored a community-based process that led to the formulation of a District Food Policy adopted by the Board of Education in August, 1999 affirming the District's commitment to improving "the health of the entire community by teaching students and families ways to establish and maintain life-long healthy eating habits."

Mrs. Lawrence said the creation of the new dining facility at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, made possible through funding from Measure AA, the \$117 million bond measure passed by 88% of the Berkeley voters, represents an opportunity to demonstrate "the connection between a healthy diet and a student's ability to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school" (BUSD Food Policy, 1999); the links between diet and long-term health; and the impact of institutional buying power of schools on local sustainable agriculture. The lunch served at this facility can teach powerful and critical lessons and values about ecology, economic systems, socialization, and community.

Mr. Neil Smith, Director, Curriculum and Development, reviewed the "Transforming Education Through A School Lunch Curriculum Vision Statement." The Vision Statement is as follows:

This initiative is a proposed curriculum linking gardening, cooking, and a daily lunch to the full range of academic courses offered to Berkeley Unified School District's K-12 students. Through a sensory, hands-on approach to learning, the curriculum teaches healthy approaches to nutrition; promotes agricultural and regional economic sustainability; strengthens ecological literacy; encourages cooperation and inclusion; and cultivates community.

The incorporation of gardening and cooking into core academic subjects, integrated through the school lunch, is wholly consistent with California's teaching standards; in fact, it expands teacher flexibility in the realization of those academic benchmarks. This dynamic curriculum develops the caring and personal responsibility that children can apply to their own life choices for years to come.

Student Nutrition, Health and Food Services (continued)

Ms. Walters and Dr. Lubin described how they are forming a partnership with the food service department of the District to help make possible healthy, nutritious food for all our school children.

EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY

One speaker addressed the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

President Selawsky declared the Special Meeting of March 25, 2004 adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District

Secretary, Board of Education
Berkeley Unified School District