

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD UPDATES

At the board meeting on September 1, 2004 the Board discussed the following items:

Report of Closed Session:

The Board had discussion on Existing Litigation, Collective Bargaining and Public Employment Appointment. No decisions were made in closed session.

Superintendent and Board Reports:

The Superintendent asked for a presentation from staff to the Board and the community in response to the questions that have surfaced in the Daily Planet about the construction project at Willard Middle School. The presentation will be available on the BUSD website: www.berkeley.k12.ca.us 9/3/2004.

The Superintendent and Board members reported on their visits to school sites on this, the first day of school. They congratulated staff for the balanced budget, the first to be approved without exceptions by the County Office of Education. There will be more on the budget at the next meeting (9/22/04). The Superintendent thanked BUSD administrators who joined her at school sites lending a hand on the first day.

Reading Recovery Presentation:

Reading Recovery teachers Lividia Evans Taylor and Tom Prince made a presentation to the Board explaining that the BUSD has RR teachers at all schools, and that the four year old program has been very successful. The program provides short term intervention for students who have the worst literacy in reading and writing. Assessment is done by the classroom and Reading Recovery teacher. Each student identified meets individually with a teacher for 30 minutes per day, 5 days a week. for 12 to 20 weeks, as needed. Lividia: said that the success of the program is due to the training model we have developed and the commitment here in Berkeley.

Approval of Agenda:

The Board approved the agenda with the following changes:

- Items 4.1-C, 4.4-C and 4.5-C moved from the Consent Items for discussion before voting
- Item 3.1-A Approve English Language Acquisition Program (ELAP) Application moved from Action to Consent
- Information Items 4.1-I and 4.2-I were removed from the agenda for a later meeting

Consent Items:

4.1-C Approval of Contracts for Services in Excess of Fifteen Thousand Dollars

The board voted to approve 4.1-C following a discussion on number 4, Nextel cellular phone services for BHS for the 2004-2005FY.

4.4-C Approval of Next Steps for West Campus and Related Properties

The Board voted to approve 4.4-C after discussion about an amendment that the Hillside property be added to those already listed: West Campus, Oregon Street and the Central Office. There were no amendments to the item approved.

4.5-C Approval of Process for East Campus

The Board voted to approve proceeding with the demolition of East Campus as a separate project from field development following a discussion of the timeline for moving ahead when ready for the next stage.

All other consent items were approved.

Action Items:

- Business and Operations

3.2 -A Out of State Travel Request to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Conference

The Board reviewed and approved item 3.2-A. BUSD Teacher Susan Katz will represent the District at the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, from September 16 through 19, 2004. The conference will bring together representatives from the entire country, all of whom act as National Board coordinators for their districts. Ms. Katz is a National Board Certified Teacher and trained National Board support provider. The cost of the travel arrangements and accommodations will be covered by the National Board and Ms. Katz. The District will pay for two sub days since she will be away from her site (Cragmont) for two school days.

This board meeting will be re-broadcast on Berkeley Cable Channel 33 on 9/3, 9 AM, 9/4 5 PM 9/5 at 1 PM.

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