

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING

January 12, 2005

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Wednesday, District Administrative Offices  
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Nancy Riddle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the Board recessed to Closed Session.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Nancy Riddle  
Vice President Terry Doran  
Director John T. Selawsky  
Director Shirley Issel  
Director Joaquin J. Rivera  
Student Director Lily Dorman-Colby\*

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 49819(c))

- Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
- Consideration of Student Expulsion
- Collective Bargaining
- Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- Public Employment Appointment
- Liability Claims
- Property Acquisition

**Reconvene in Public Session**

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 7:45 p.m.

**Report Closed Session Action**

President Riddle reported that the Board discussed the following items in Closed Session:

- The Board voted to approve dismissal for a classified employee
- Collective Bargaining – no action taken
- Public Employee Appointment – no action taken

### **Approve Agenda**

Directors Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously on voice vote:

That the Regular Meeting Agenda of January 12, 2005 is approved as amended:  
That item 3.1-I is pulled for further clarification.

### **TEACHING AND LEARNING PRESENTATION**

Every Day Counts – math programs presentation by Jefferson Elementary School  
This was presented as a supplemental math program geared toward combating the decrease in math skills synonymous with grade level. The program uses clear concepts with repetition, essential to not only improve skill development but the development of a mathematical disposition. Children learn to expect logical sequence, learn to generate their own mathematical relationships and problems. This interactive program ensures that no child will be left behind.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Sara Nickerson – Library Media Tech Worker expressed strong support for the addition of the elementary schools' Library Media Technicians by .40 FTE beginning February 1, 2005 (Item 3.1-A)

### **REPORTS**

#### **Union Representatives' Report:**

No union representative addressed the Board

#### **Superintendent's Report:**

Superintendent Lawrence shared information about the BAHS parent meeting held January 11 that raised concerns about alternative high students graduating with Berkeley High Students and prom privileges. She wants to assure seniors that there has been no change and they have earned the right to be part of the graduating ceremony at BHS. A group of students and staff members will meet with the BHS activities director and the assistant principal to ensure that there is better supervision at the prom.

Superintendent Lawrence also expressed the need for discussion about the role that the alternative high school plays in the District. There are several factors to

be discussed such as its vision, what agreements may have been made in the past and what the school should look like.

Superintendent Lawrence updated the Board on the strategic planning process, which is currently comprised of an Education and Resource Committee. They are in the process of getting prepared for a presentation on January 18. Response has been positive from UC Berkeley.

**Student Director Report:**

Student Director Lily Dorman-Colby reported on a government retreat attended by 30 students from BHS where they discussed various issues. Principal Slep also gave a presentation on the school wide plan. They discussed WASC, the activities calendar for the year and refining the BHS website as well as efforts to help Tsunami victims.

**Board Members' Report:**

**Director Issel:**

Director Issel discussed the achievement gap and the disparities in achievement. She shared *Meaningful Differences*, a text that suggests "barriers to learning" as a more comprehensive term encompassing social, physical, family problems and many other factors. Specifically, she discussed barriers to learning relating to social class and cited examples

**Director Doran:**

Director Doran expressed his support about alternative high school students graduating at Berkeley High School.

Director Doran attended the first planning process meeting and suggests posting the names of the members in each group on our website and listing their affiliation i.e. community, teacher, etc.

Director Doran attended the site meeting at Berkeley Adult School. The school is moving toward developing its community garden. He also noted that the neighbors/community were once against putting lights on the east side of the building but have decided that it would not harm the community or disrupt the quality of life.

Director Doran met with the Chavez Committee, including representatives from the City, to organize city wide celebrations in coordination with state and district holidays.

Director Doran also acknowledged Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and suggests it be used as a time of reflection.

**Director Selawsky:**

Director Selawsky thanked the Superintendent for attending the BAHS meeting and also supports the idea that protocols should be developed.

Director Selawsky attended a presentation of noteworthy buildings in Berkeley where King Middle School received an award.

**Director Riddle:**

Director Riddle welcomed back everyone after the holiday season. She extended congratulations to the Afro Haitian dancers at Berkeley High School for their outstanding performance.

Director Riddle spoke to the Mayor about the 2 x 2 Committee that generally meets quarterly. The next meeting will not be until February 17.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Motion: Directors Rivera/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote the Consent Calendar.

**Personnel Services**

**2.1-C** Approval of Human Resources Report 05-01

This report details personnel assignments, employment and terminations

**3.1-C** Approve the non-public school placements for Special Education students

**Educational Services**

**4.1-C** Approval of Contracts/Purchase Orders for Service Contracts

The District contracts with consultants or independent contracts that can provide valuable and necessary specialized services not normally required on a continuing basis. These contracts are pursuant to Public Contract Code 201111 and Board Policy DJED

**4.2-C** Camera Installation at Berkeley High School

Approval of Resolution 04-22 to accept the camera installation at Berkeley High School pursuant to Public Contract Code 20110-20118 and funded through Measure BB

**4.3-C** Award Tree Removal and Replacement at Malcolm X School

Approval of Resolution 04-23 to award the tree removal and replacement at Malcolm X School pursuant to Public Contract Code 20110-20118 and funded through Measure BB

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**General Services**

**1.1-A** Approve additional Board meetings.

The Board approved replacing the March 16 meeting, which was set as tentative, to March 9. Superintendent Lawrence also proposed canceling the July 6 meeting and adding another meeting on June 29.

Motion: Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote

**1.2-A** Suggestions for Health Food Choices

Approved suggestions for healthy food choices and recognition of distribution developed by BUSDs Nutrition Services Department pursuant to Policy BP 3550.1

Director Issel noted that this list of suggestions was not as helpful as she would have liked. Superintendent Lawrence stated that we are putting together a list of brand names that should be ready shortly. She also noted that the District's venture into providing healthy snacks sets the tone of what we can look forward to in our school.

Motion: Directors Selawsky/Issel all ayes except Issel who abstained

**2.1-A** Annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators – Title V Regulation 80026

Approval of Annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators required for teachers on emergency teaching permits pursuant to Education Code 44225.7 and Title V Regulation 80026

Motion: Directors Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously on voice vote. Student Director Dorman-Colby abstained.

**Educational Services**

**3.1-A** Recommendation for the Implementation of Measure B beginning February 1, 2005

Approval of recommendation to increase the hours of the elementary schools' Library Media Technicians by .4-FTE beginning February 1, 2005.

Superintendent Lawrence corrected technician hours from .40 to .33. There was discussion about increasing library services at Berkeley High School. Superintendent Lawrence said she would research and report findings in the Board's Friday notes. There was further discussion about proposals to use money from Measure B. The P&O Committee is charged with responsibility of overseeing money for Measure B. Student Director Dorman-

Colby raised the issue of additional counselors or better access to counselors at the high school. Superintendent Lawrence replied that these dollars are restricted and cannot be used for this purpose. The other potential idea is that BHS use BSEP site funds.

Motion: Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote.

#### **Business Services**

##### **4.1-A** Declaration of Fiscal Emergency

Approval to declare a “severe fiscal emergency” for the budget of FY 2005-06 under the terms of the Berkeley Public Schools Educational Enrichment Act of 1994

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

##### **4.2-A** Authorization to Create Separate and Distinct Cash Account for Measure B (Fund 08) – Resolution 04-21

Approval to create a separate fund where voter approved revenues and expenditures will be recognized, recorded and reported pursuant to Educational Code Section 42646.6

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

##### **4.3-A** Yearly Facilities Plan Modifications

Approval

Staff reported that the Facilities Plan was originally presented to the Board on December 15, 2004. Pursuant to Board direction, staff modified the Plan and is presenting it for Board review. Director Selawsky pointed out that the lights for adult school were not included and asked that the item come back to the Board. Director Issel asked that proposed modifications for the community theatre be broken down.

Director Riddle asked if the inflation budget was being distributed among all projects. Staff said it was distributed to some of the projects. There was some discussion about how schools or parents can take care of current facilities problems. The Superintendent asked that such requests go through the principal who then works with maintenance to resolve facility issues.

Motion: Directors Selawsky/Issel and approved on voice vote. Student Director Dorman-Colby abstained.

## **CONFERENCE**

### **INFORMATION**

#### General Services

**1.1-I** Receive information numbers and percentages of students participating in Federal School lunch program  
Free and reduced report – The Superintendent noted that staff is doing what it can to get all students approved, including working with BOCA on an Express Lane Eligibility for health services using free and reduced lunch numbers. There was some discussion about the percentages of students at each school. Staff explained that the increase in numbers at some schools could be due to several reasons such as the change in the food programs, more students are interested in eating on campus and that staff may be doing a better job of documenting.

**1.2-I** Receive for information progress report toward implementation of FCMAT standards  
Staff and the Board were pleased with the progress the district is making on FCMAT findings, especially on policy updates and working through financial difficulties. Director Selawsky said the district is also making strong, consistent and steady progress in student achievement. Director Riddle also noted the importance of site plans and their role in governance.

#### **Educational Services**

**3.1-I** Receive student enrollment and Average Daily Attendance report for information  
This item was pulled from the agenda.

#### **Business Services**

**4.1-I** Receive report for information regarding progress on various facilities projects  
Director Selawsky noted that Berkeley High School won a design award (CASH)  
The Board also asked about the status of West Campus. Staff said the item will come before the Board on February 7.

**4.2-I** Receive report regarding public access to buildings and facilities  
Director Riddle asked how often the implementation team met. Staff said it had met regularly during the early phases; however, it has not met for 16 to 18 months.

**EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

There was no Extended Public Testimony at this time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Schedule of Board of Education Meetings for 2005:

**ADJOURNMENT**

President declared the meeting of January 12, 2005 adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

**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