

Berkeley Unified School District  
Board of Education Minutes  
Wednesday, June 8, 2005  
District Administrative Offices  
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

ADOPTED MINUTES

**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: Reassignment of Categorically Funded Teachers
- Public Employment Appointment
- Liability Claims
- Property Acquisition

**Call to Order of Public Session**

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 7:45 p.m. All members were present.

**Report Closed Session Action**

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

- Collective Bargaining: President Riddle explained that the Board did not vote on the BFT contract because we are awaiting approval from the County.
- Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- Public Employment Appointment: Superintendent’s Contract  
Note: The Student Director does not vote on closed session items

## **Approve Agenda**

**Motion:** Directors Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously that the regular meeting Agenda of June 8, 2005 is approved as amended:

Item 2.1-A is tabled for a future meeting

## **Teaching and Learning Presentation**

Lorna Skantze-Neill, Signe Harnett, Carol Ono and Marcie Thomas from Berkeley Arts Magnet (BAM) presented on strategies to support the whole child using a variety of integrated disciplines

## **Public Testimony**

Several people gave testimony on the following issues:

- Jefferson Elementary School proposed name change
- BHS students reported on a study regarding sleep deprivations
- Comments were made regarding public disclosure of BFT Contract

## **Committee Reports**

Bill Flounders/Facilities Safety and Oversight Committee Bill commented on Item 4.3-A – Financial Recovery Plan and noted that he is pleased that oversight of BB expenditures is taking place. He also asked that the Board fill open appointments.

## **Union Reports**

Lynn Long – Local 39 Representative Long expressed interest in Item 2.1-A Nutrition Services and how it might affect the job security of food service workers. Regarding Item 4.2-A and reductions proposed by Transportation Department, she noted that layoff letters had been recalled and that procedures are in place to deal with funds being cut.

## **Superintendent's Report**

None

## **Board Members' Reports**

Student Director Lily Dorman-Colby thanked BAM for its presentation and told the Board that there are two candidates at BHS for Student Board Director. She also expressed concern that the Berkeley High Health Center no longer has a nurse to address routine medical concerns. Student Director Dorman also discussed the effects of the work-to-rule action and how many students suffered because of teachers' minimal responsibilities and suggested that maybe there is a way to make up for their losses.

Director Shirley Issel gave no report

Vice President Terry Doran complemented the representatives of employee unions for doing such a fantastic job.

Director Joaquin Rivera gave no report

Director John Selawsky extended his congratulations to all graduates

President Nancy Riddle spoke about the recent tour of the Edible School Yard with UN representatives and mayors. She too wished the graduates well and extended her thanks and goodbyes to District retirees.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion:** Directors Selawsky /Doran and approved unanimously on vote that the Consent Calendar be approved as a block

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **4.1-A** Third Interim

Director Rivera had salient questions about the increase in transportation costs on page 9, line 72. Deputy Superintendent Thompson agreed to get back to Director Rivera with specific details.

Director Selawsky had questions about the multi-year projections and also requested further clarification from Deputy Superintendent.

**Motion:** Rivera/Selawsky and approved unanimously on vote to accept the Third Interim Report.

**3.1-I Timed presentation:** Presentation by Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Neil Smith, on Planning Cycle for School Plans. The Director explained that in the past site plans have been used strictly as a compliance item. His presentation handout included diagrams that show the intent for the coming year. Plans will now be brought forward every three years but each year there will be progress report utilizing new tools from MPR that evaluate adopted strategies.

Director Issel expressed her concern about the allocation of resources to some schools and if the lack of sufficient allocations would hinder the eradication of barriers to learning.

Superintendent Lawrence discussed how the three year plans provide an opportunity to see change using the performance indicators that are tied into the school plans.

Director Rivera noted that he would like to see the use of more sophisticated data analysis particularly cohort analysis which provides a means for analyzing specific program results and also reflects sustainability. He also took issue with the language used in the plans: some groups not listed as statistically significant and the constant use of the phrase “alignment of standards with curriculum”

Neil will provide a progress report to the Board in April or May of 2006.

**Motion:** Selawsky/Doran and approved unanimously on voice vote to approve the Planning Cycle for School Plans

### **3.1-A School Site Plans**

2005-06 Consolidated School Plans for Arts Magnet, Cragmont, Emerson, LeConte, Longfellow, Malcolm X, John Muir, Oxford, and Thousand Oaks

**Motion:** Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously on voice vote to accept and approve the School Site Plans.

### **3.2-A Staffing the Instrumental Music Program in FY 2005-06**

Director Selawsky noted that this item had not been processed through the Music Curriculum Committee.

**Motion:** Selawsky/Rivera and unanimously approved to approve staffing for the FY 2005-06 Instrumental Music Program

### **4.2-A Transportation Department Cost Savings Strategies and Program Changes – Budget Reductions PART II– Resolution 04-59**

Director Selawsky had questions about this item particularly the increase in walking distance for the children and how the increased time might add to already stressful mornings that all families experience. There was also concern about children having to cross major thoroughfares.

**Motion:** Rivera/Selawsky and unanimously approved to accept and approve the Transportation Department Cost Savings Strategies and Program Changes

### **4.3-A Financial Recovery Plan**

Director Issel expressed thanks to Deputy Superintendent Thompson for renegotiation of several contracts such as special ed services that have yielded costs savings

**Motion:** Rivera/Selawsky and unanimously approved to accept and approve the Financial Recovery Plan

## **CONFERENCE ITEMS**

### **3.1-CF Jefferson Elementary School Name Change**

There was a lengthy discussion concerning this item. It was noted that this item would be brought before the public for discussion and revisited at the June 22, 2005 Board meeting.

Director Selawsky had many questions about this proposed change. He wants to make sure the process was followed and was done cleanly and with integrity. He also questioned the fact that outgoing parents and students are proposing a change that would affect future students as well as alumni of the school.

Vice President Doran took exception to remarks made in Public Testimony that the process was not adequately debated and that the community was not given every opportunity to have their voices heard.

Director Rivera noted that he finds this whole proposal offensive and will vote against this name change when it comes to Board.

Director Issel had strong objections about this proposal and clearly expressed them to the Board and to the public.

Student Director Colby feels we should support community.

**Motion:** Doran/Selawsky to receive for first reading the submission of the Jefferson Elementary School name change proposal.

**AYES: 3 – Selawsky, Doran and Riddle**

**NOES: 2 – Issel and Rivera**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**4.1-I Hazardous**

Report received by Board for information

**Action**

Approval of Board meeting Minutes of May 25, 2005

**Motion:** Selawsky/Rivera approved with the following corrections:

Page2/132 – Under agenda, Item 2.1-A was pulled to be brought back at a future meeting.

- under Committee Reports change last sentence to he also asked that the Board fill open appointments.

-Under BP Doran’s report delete the second and third sentence (these were from the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting)

Page 3/133 – Under 4.1-A. I don’t think that I abstained; I think that this vote was unanimous.

Page 4/134 – Under 3.2-A change “processed through the P&O committee” to “processed through the Music Curriculum Committee”.

-Under 3.1 C.F: Please add that the Motion was “To receive for first reading the submission of the Jefferson Elementary School name change proposal.” The motion was made by Selawsky and seconded by Doran. The Vote was Selawsky, Doran and Riddle “Yes” and Rivera and Issel “No”

**Extended Public Testimony**

There was no extended public testimony

**Announcements**

Calendar for meetings of the Board of Education:

June 22

June 29

August 24

September 7

September 21

October 5

October 19

November 2

November 16

December 7 (organizational meeting)

December 14 (tentative)

**Adjournment**

President Riddle declared the Regular Meeting of June 8, 2005, adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

**Approved:**

**Attest:**

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Nancy Riddle, President  
Board of Education  
Berkeley Unified School District

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Michele Lawrence, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Berkeley Unified School District