

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting
November 2, 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 600 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 Teal Miller

Administration: Superintendent Michele Lawrence, Secretary

PUBLIC SESSION

Convened by President Nancy Riddle at 7:13 p.m. for Youth Commission interviews

Two candidates interviewed: Emma Tarver and Calvin Young. The decision on whom to appoint will be made at an upcoming Board meeting.

Public Session adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Reconvene in Public Session

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 7:32 p.m.

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))

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

Report Closed Session Actions

President Riddle reported that the Board discussed:

Litigation

Student Expulsion

Motion: Rivera/Selawsky on voice vote and approved the suspended expulsion of student case no. 0506-05-92390 with placement at Berkeley Alternative High School and a contract that includes community service

Riddle/Doran abstained

Approve Agenda

Motion: Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously on voice vote: Director Rivera pulled Item 3.3-C and Director Issel pulled item 4.4-C for discussion; President Riddle moved Item 4.1-A to Consent calendar

Teaching and Learning Presentation

John Muir principal Gregory John and teachers Pam Ormsby, Marlo Warburton, Heather Olson, and Barbara Gertz facilitated a presentation by three fifth grade students on components used to develop strong writing skills.

Public Testimony

None

Committee Report

Isaiah Roter and Laurie Snowden appeared on behalf of the Audit Committee. The Committee will present its preliminary audit findings at the next Board meeting. The final audit should be available in December or January for presentation to the Board in February.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lawrence announced the opening of the new organic salad bar at BHS.

Board Members' Reports

Student Director Teal Miller shared that Spirit Week was a success and positive feedback was received.

Director Issel reminded that the BPEF Preschool Forum is on November 3, 7 p.m. in the BHS Library. Kris Perry, Executive Director of First Five will speak.

Vice President Doran noted the death of Civil Rights pioneer, Ross Parks and that our Rosa Parks elementary school held an assembly on Monday. There is a larger celebration on December 1 which will be open to the community. He also urged everyone to vote on November 8.

Director Rivera reiterated the importance of voting in the special election and said that the "future of California and public education is at stake." The Board signed resolutions opposing Propositions 73, 74, 75, and 76.

Director Selawsky re-announced his community meeting set for November 21 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Berkeley Library meeting room, 3rd floor.

President Riddle also noted the passing of Rosa Parks. She gave high marks to BHSs interpretation of the Laramie Project play.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion: Rivera/Selawsky and approved unanimously on voice vote: Items pulled: 3.3-C, 4.4-C – Item added 4.1-A

Item 3.3-C – CNN Evaluation

Director Rivera requested this item be pulled for comment. He found the prior evaluation disturbing and would like this item brought back to the Board at some point for a more in depth discussion.

Motion: Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote

Item 4.4-C – Landscape architect at BAM

Director Issel drove by several of our school sites and found the maintenance of our grounds wanting. She is reluctant to continue approving funds for landscaping when grounds are not being maintained. She asked that the Superintendent convey her concerns to those responsible.

Motion: Rivera/Selawsky and approved unanimously on voice vote

ACTION ITEMS

Item 3.1-A – Datawise

Motion: Rivera/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 3.1-I – Pre-Kindergarten

Neil Smith, Director of Curriculum Services, reported on the Educational Workgroups look at major initiatives that would improve student achievement.

Item 3.2-I – Noyce Math Assessment

Jake Disston and Peter Bloomsburgh discussed the Noyce assessment professional development for teachers.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEM

Minutes of October 19, 2005

Motion: Rivera/Selawsky and approved on voice vote with changes

No extended public testimony

No public announcements

President Riddle adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Nancy Riddle, President
Board of Education

Michele Lawrence, Secretary
Board of Education