

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting
March 15, 2006
District Administrative Offices
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

OFFICIAL MINUTES

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

President Terry S. Doran
Vice President Joaquin Rivera
Director John T. Selawsky
Director Shirley Issel
Director Nancy Riddle
Student Director Teal Miller

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))

- 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

President Doran called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m.

Report on Closed Session Actions:

The Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for suspended expulsion for five students with the stipulation that each of the students would abide by a rehabilitation plan for one year:

Student Case No. 0506-22-030 193

Student Case No. 0506-23-012 193

Student Case No. 0506-25-071 791

Student Case No. 0506-26-071 392

Student Case No. 0506-31-072-788

President Terry S. Doran announced that this time last year, on March 19, 2005, Jennifer Dieges, a BHS teacher, died of cancer. Next Monday, there will be a memorial service for her at BHS during the noon hour

President Doran also announced that Berkeley Community Activist, Robin Strong Ortiz Young, died on Saturday. Terry worked closely with Robin, who had four children attending BHS. She was co-founder of PCAD (Parents of Children of African Descent) and worked on the Small Schools Initiative. A memorial service will be held on Saturday at the BHS Small Theatre at 1:30 p.m. President Doran asked that tonight's meeting be adjourned in her honor.

Approve Agenda of March 15, 2006

Director Selawsky requested that Item 3.1-CF be moved to Consent

Vice President Rivera requested that Items 1.1-A through 1.4-A be moved to Consent

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously as amended on voice vote

Teaching and Learning Presentation

Teacher Jamie Carlson of Emerson presented on the challenges faced on including students who have special needs.

Public Testimony

Several speakers commented on Item 4.5-A: Approval to move forward with East Campus project. Support for this proposal was favorable.

Speakers representing Farmers Market and the Ecology Center raised issues about additional parking, the need for onsite restrooms and ongoing drainage issues at the site.

Reports

Superintendent Lawrence had nothing to report

Student Director Teal Miller announced that the BHS girl's basketball team defeated Napa High School's team

Director Nancy Riddle thanked the Kiwanis club for their yard work at King Middle School. She also reported that President Doran and she attended the Athletic Luncheon and acknowledged their support of high school programs.

Director John Selawsky offered condolences to the family of activist Robin Strong Ortiz Young, and shared the good news that Student Director Miller was accepted at UC Davis.

Director Shirley Issel announced the Resource Fair for Berkeley Elementary School families this Saturday, March 18, from 10-1 at LeConte. This fair will have a variety of resources available for families.

Vice President Joaquin Rivera had nothing to report

President Terry S. Doran spoke about this week's DEAR Day (Drop Everything and Read) and its importance to our students. He also discussed a recent letter received from community members about use of our sites after school hours and put forward that this is an issue that needs to be explored.

Item 3.1-I – Special Ed Model

An overview of the proposed Special Ed Model was presented by Felton Owens, Steve Port and Elaine Eger. At the crux of this model, is intervention before special Ed placement and an attempt to get rid of the stigma that special Ed students often bear. Superintendent Lawrence advised the Board that this item

is being presented for feedback and is presently at the negotiations table around the staffing model. Hopefully, the model will be in place by September 1.

Item 4.1-A – Second Interim Report

Deputy Superintendent Eric Smith and Director of Fiscal Services, Song Chin-Bendib were on hand to discuss the Second Interim report. Vice President Rivera extended his thanks for including the variance report.

Riddle/Rivera and approved unanimously as positive second certification on voice vote

CONSENT CALENDAR

Rivera/Selawsky and approve as amended: Move 3.1-CF and 1.1-A – 1.4.A to Consent

ACTION CALENDAR

Item 2.1-A – Credential Waiver

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

Item 3.1-A – Rosa Parks Grant

Rivera/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

Item 4.2-A – Public Hearing on Five Year Deferred Maintenance Plan

Public Hearing opened at 10:09 p.m.

Rivera/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

Public Hearing closed at 10:11 p.m.

Rivera/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

Item 4.3-A – Five Year Deferred Maintenance Plan

Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote

Item 4.4-A – Annual Facilities Plan

Director Issel expressed concerns that a plan was not included for employees at the maintenance facility on Oregon Street. She suggested that a bullet be added under “Challenges” to read: Develop plan for Oregon Street property

Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously as amended

Item 4.5-A – Approval to move forward with East Campus Project

Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously on voice vote to proceed with design

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 3.2-I – Enrollment

Received for information

Item 4.1-I – Facilities Update

Received for information

Item 4.2-I – Disaster Planning

President Doran noted that this year marks the 100th year anniversary of the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco.

Extended public testimony

None

Public announcements

Meeting Adjournment:

President Doran adjourned the meeting at 10:55 p.m. in honor of Robin Strong Ortiz Young.

ATTEST:

Terry S. Doran, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:

Michele Lawrence, Secretary
Board of Education