

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Special Meeting
May 24, 2006
District Administrative Offices
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704-1180

ADOPTED 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: 42 p.m.

Report on Closed Session Actions:

The Board voted unanimously to offer the successful vice principal candidate at Longfellow Middle School a position.

The Board also considered the following student expulsion matters:

Student Case Nos 0506-51-010195 and 0506-52-101596 – the Board voted unanimously to accept recommendation for stipulated suspended expulsion until spring 2007

Approve Agenda of May 24, 2006

Selawsky/Rivera and approved unanimously on voice vote

Public Testimony

There was support for a proposal to provide for an independent audit committee and comprehensive audits in the parcel tax language.

Barry Fike, representing BFT, spoke about the proposed tax measure.

REPORTS

There was a report from Dan Lindheim reporting out from the P&O Committee and their take on a variety of items in the proposed tax measure.

Superintendent Lawrence had nothing to report

Student Director Teal Miller reported on BHS's dance project. She also noted that student elections are being held next week.

Director Nancy Riddle had nothing to report.

Director John Selawsky had nothing to report

Director Shirley Issel remarked on charges raised by Barry Fike in his testimony to the Board. She asserted that his comments about the District/Board's lack of credibility are serious charges. Since his comments were referencing the District not restoring the reserve fund as the union deems appropriate, she countered that perhaps the disparity is based on different interpretations of the union's agreement.

Vice President Rivera expressed his outrage at comments from BFT. He and the Board pride themselves on being fiscally responsible, stating that the union's accusations have no basis in truth.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

Open Public Hearing

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously on voice vote

Close Public Hearing

Rivera/Riddle and approved unanimously on voice vote

CONFERENCE ITEM

Item 1.1-CF – Recommendations for Components of Proposed Parcel Tax Measure

The Superintendent and the Board discussed specifics about this latest version of the proposed tax measure. Superintendent Lawrence requested that the Board provide her with specific recommendations so that the final language can be included. She plans to bring this back as an action item for board approval on June 7.

There was discussion about a possible name for the proposed measure.

Director Selawsky suggested BEST (Berkeley Excellence in Schools Tax).

President Doran asked that a list of suggested names be included in the next board packet.

INFORMATION ITEM

4.1-I – May Revise

Deputy Superintendent Eric Smith showed a PowerPoint presentation on highlights from the May revise budget. In general, he feels optimistic for the district noting that mandated costs will finally be paid and the district expects to receive funds owed from Proposition 98.

Public announcements

None

Meeting Adjournment

President Doran adjourned the meeting at 10:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Terry S. Doran, President
Board of Education

Michele Lawrence, Secretary
Board of Education