

## BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 22, 2010  
Berkeley Unified School District  
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley CA 94704

### OFFICIAL MINUTES

#### Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

Karen Hemphill, President  
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President  
John T. Selawsky, Director /Clerk  
Shirley Issel, Director  
Nancy Riddle, Director  
Lias Djili, Student Director

Administration: Superintendent William Huyett, Secretary  
Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent  
Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Educational  
Services  
Delia Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent of Human  
Resources

President Hemphill called the meeting to order at 7:53 pm

#### Report Closed Session Actions

The Board heard Claim No. IN0002 & INI329

The Board requested further guidance regarding claim No. IN0002

**Issel/Cutler** and approved unanimously to reject claim No. INI329

The Board discussed Human Resource issues, received updates and heard an appeal.

Action: None

#### APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Vice President Leyva-Cutler pulled 3.2C – Approval of BHS Expanded Course Offerings for 2010-2011. Director Issel pulled 5.2C - Approval of the End of Year 2010 Facilities Financial Report. Superintendent Huyett requested to move item 3.1A up on the agenda due to the large amount of parents in attendance interested in the item.

**Selawsky/Cutler** and approved unanimously as revised

## **RECOGNITION**

Pat Saddler, Marlo Warburton and Julianna Jones from Longfellow Middle School: Algebra Achievement as recommended by Arne Duncan, US Secretary of Education

Superintendent Huyett stated that 64% of the students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Longfellow middle school were proficient in Algebra in 2010. The State average is only 25% proficiency among 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Superintendent Huyett presented certificates of achievement to the teachers. Pat Saddler thanked the Board and community for allowing Longfellow to maintain small class size in Algebra classes.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Adult School Benchmarks: Burr Guthrie, Acting Principal, Berkeley Adult School

### **Public Testimony**

Childcare/Preschool funding: Many parents and educators were present to support and speak about action item 3.1A (Childcare and Preschool funding). Parents spoke about the struggle of single parent households juggling many things in today's economy. Preschool makes the difference between poverty and the working poor. Some educators referenced the role of preschool in helping to close the achievement gap. The children need preschool to prepare for Kindergarten. One suggested this maybe one of the most important decisions the board makes this year.

Student Privacy: Bay Peace passed a resolution to protect student rights against the Military and JAMRS. JAMRS collect student data and sells it to the military. A resolution has been passed by Oakland Unified helping to further protect student privacy. The group hoped that Berkeley Unified would do the same.

## **UNION REPORT**

Tim Donnelly of BCCE commented on a BCCE senior clerical employee laid off due to lack of work. He also commented on the sharing of information between the District and Union.

Cathy Campbell, BFT, gave her report time to Cynthia Allman, Kindergarten teacher at Malcolm X. Teachers are amazed at the great work being done with the preschool students. Children who attend Preschool walk into Kindergarten ready. The amount you are being asked to provide is little compared to the money that will have to be spent on these children in the future, if they fall behind. In September

2010, 134 students went directly from BUSD Preschools into BUSD Kindergarten classroom.

### **Commissions Report**

Bob Meola, from the Peace and Justice Commission, thanked the Superintendent for putting the Resolution before the Board.

### **Board's Report:**

Lias Djili: We are interested in seeing the implementation of the new School Site Counsel. The strict enforcement of the cell phone policy is working well.

Director Issel: Whooping cough vaccinations are available. The City of Berkeley is working with BUSD to get the vaccination clinics up and running at our middle schools. They are targeting middle school students because the infant/child vaccinations wear off by the age of 10.

Director Riddle: Monica Thyberg, BSEP manager, is going to retire in December. Monica has worked for the District for nearly 24 years. She has a strong sense of how precious the BSEP funds are and never takes them for granted. She is very principled in the management of the funds and tenacious in protecting them.

Vice President Levy- Cutler: Middle school back to school night is on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Director Cutler congratulated and welcomed the 55 new teachers to the District.

President Hemphill: Free back packs and school supplies will be distributed to local families at San Pablo Park tomorrow at 4:30. The Black Family Reunion will be held at Berkeley High School this weekend starting at 3:00.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Local Superintendents had a productive session with Nancy Skinner regarding current state budget negotiations.

### **APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Selawky/Riddle** and approved unanimously

3.2C Vice President Cutler commented: "These are outstanding courses. I am excited about the classes and I hope that students enroll and take advantage of the classes." The courses are being funded by BSEP.

**Cutler/Selawsky** 5-0 and approved unanimously

5.2C Approval of year end financial report. Lew Jones, Director of Facilities presented the report. This is a regular quarterly report.

Construction prices are down. Some bids are coming in lower than what we originally anticipated.

**Selawsky/Issel** 5-0 and approved unanimously

### **ACTION ITEMS**

2.1-A (Pulled because 3.1A was approved)

Approval of Classified Layoffs

No Action taken

2.2-A (Pulled because 3.1A was approved)

Resolution to Lay Off Permit Teachers

Employees in the Child Development

Program

No Action taken

3.1-A

Proposal to Extend Current Child Care Programs through January 31, 2011.

Item presented by Christina Faulkner and Maria Carriedo. We have stripped the program down to just cover personnel costs to run the program and to feed the children. It will only cost approximately \$150,000 till the end of January.

The Board has reviewed this extensively with the Budget Advisory Committee and they recommended that we approve the resolution.

Superintendent Huyett: There are levels of risk in choosing to fund the program on our own. The State may not fund the program. We think this is a risk worth taking. If we get funding from the State, we will get the money back.

**Cutler/Selawsky** 5-0 approved unanimously

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2.1-I Expiration of Personnel Commissioner Term

Received for information

Dan Lee has requested to be reappointed to the Merit Commission. The Board intends to reappoint Mr. Lee. The public will be noticed and a public hearing will be scheduled.

3.1-I New Language Arts Textbook for BHS

Received for information

3.2-I Annual Report on Berkeley Adult School Skills Benchmarks.

Received for information

5.1-I Maintenance and Measure BB Update  
Received for information

5.2-I BB Financial Update Report  
Received for information

5.3-I Facilities Plan Update  
Received for information

**EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

None

President Hemphill adjourned the meeting at 10:13 pm

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John T. Selawsky, Clerk  
Board of Education

