

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 6:00 pm
Members Present:

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

Administration:

Superintendent William Huyett, Secretary
Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent
Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Lisa van Thillo, Assistant Superintendent - HR

President Hemphill convened the regular meeting at 7:47 pm

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board heard Student Case No. 0910-37-050695

Riddle/Selawsky and unanimously approved a stipulated suspended expulsion through fall 2010

On the matter of reassignment of a certificated employee, the Board unanimously voted on motion by **Selawsky/Riddle** to reassign employee

The Board discussed discipline of a classified employee and postponed the matter until and not later than June 23

Riddle/Selawsky and approved on vote of 4-1 with Vice President Leyva-Cutler abstaining

The Board reviewed the dismissal of a classified employee

Selawsky/Riddle and approved on vote of 4-1 with Vice President Leyva-Cutler abstaining

The Board approved a two-year contract for Director of Special Education, Kay Altizer

Riddle/Issel and approved unanimously

The Board also discussed a few personnel matters with no action taken

Approval of May 26, 2010 Agenda

Director Selawsky pulled Item 5.2-C

Director Issel pulled Item 3.2-C

Director Riddle pulled Item 3.9-C and recused on Item 5.2-C

President Hemphill re-ordered the agenda as follows: After Recognition, Teaching and Learning and Public Testimony, the Union, Board and Superintendent's report will be deferred. The REALM Proposal (Item 3.1-A) will be discussed, followed by Item 4.1-CF (Proposed Budget Reductions) and then back to reports and continuation of the agenda. Director Riddle suggested that we approve the Consent Calendar after Public Testimony.

RECOGNITION

The *Berkeley High Jacket* received the Gold Crown Award from Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Evelyn Bradley, Principal of Cragmont Elementary School discussed BEST (Building Effective Schools Together)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Several speakers expressed their opposition to eliminating the King VP position

Four speakers discussed Berkeley Adult School cuts

Three speakers expressed opposition to the REALM charter school proposals

UNION REPORTS

Cathy Campbell, representing BFT acknowledged the work of classified employees. She also reminded everyone to vote YES on Measure C.

Paula Phillips from BCCE talked about Classified Employees Recognition Day.

APPROVE CONSENT

Riddle/Selawsky and approved as revised

ACTION ITEM

Item 3.1-A – REALM Proposals

Issel/Selawsky and approved unanimously to deny proposals

CONSENT ITEM

Item 4.1-CF – Proposed Budget Reductions

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Issel reported that the Board Policy Subcommittee met with the BHS Governance Council and presented a draft of the SSC Bylaws for their

consideration. They received valuable feedback from the Council. The Bylaws will be presented to the Board shortly.

Director Selawsky requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Nancy Kee, an employee of Berkeley Unified for 25 years. Nancy worked most of these years in Nutrition Services and will be fondly remembered for her commitment in making sure all kids had a lunchtime meal.

Director Riddle reported highlights from her weekend at the Delegate Assembly in Sacramento. One theme the Assembly discussed was “how we get through this crisis may be the most important lesson we give our students.” She connected the discussions to the District’s budget challenges, the REALM proposals and how in showing good role modeling we provide our students with a valuable lesson. She discussed the recent lawsuit, *Maya Robles -Wong v. California*. CSBA, ACSA and the California PTA have all joined the lawsuit. The lawsuit is premised upon California having a broken school finance system. This lawsuit is requesting that the State of California requesting that the current education finance system be declared unconstitutional and that the state be required to establish a school finance system that provides all students an equal opportunity to meet the academic goals set by the State.

The keynote speaker at this year’s CSBA Conference is Pedro Noguera, a former School Board member and currently a professor at New York University.

Vice President Leyva-Culter announced that the City of Berkeley is drawing up a Resolution opposing the child care program cuts and its impact on our community. President Hemphill asked that she bring forth a Resolution that parallels the City Resolution for Board approval.

She also talked about BTSA funding. Apparently, the Superintendent of Newark Unified recommended to its Board that \$100,000 left over from last year be swept into their budget. Berkeley has the most teachers who participate in the program (33). Vice President Leyva-Cutler would like the Superintendent to direct a letter to Newark and other consortium members.

President Hemphill attended the African American graduation celebration on Sunday and said it was a joyous celebration.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Huyett announced that there are two upcoming forums on Vision, Mission and Goals. The next one is tomorrow, 4pm at Longfellow. The final report will be placed on the agenda in the near future.

Motion to extend meeting past 11:00 pm

Riddle/Leyva-Cutler and approved on a vote of 4-1 with Director Issel opposing

CONSENT ITEMS

Item 3.2-C – Career Technical Education

Director Issel shared some of the impressive results of Berkeley students compared to statewide average. She asked that when this Performance Indicator report is due that she would like to know what we are doing to show this increase in performance

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

3.9-C – BSEP Class Size recommendation

Riddle/Selawsky and unanimous approval of staff recommendation with the exception of the 3.8 FTE component for middle school math teachers

ACTION ITEM

Item 2.1-A – Classified Layoffs

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 3.2-I – state and similar school rankings

President Hemphill congratulated Willard for being most improved school

All other items received for information

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve minutes of 4-28-10 - Leyva/Cutler abstained

Approve minutes of 5-12-10

Selawsky/Riddle and approved as revised

Leyva-Cutler was absent on 5-12, excused on 4-28)

EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Comment about charter school and how curriculum for black and Latino students should be improved/changed so that student's interests are peaked

ADJOURNMENT

President Hemphill adjourned the meeting in memory of Nancy Kee at 11:47 PM

John T. Selawsky, Clerk
Board of Education

