

## BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Minutes, Regular Meeting

### OFFICIAL MINUTES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011  
Berkeley Unified School District  
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley CA 94704

### Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, President  
John T. Selawsky, Vice President /Clerk  
Karen Hemphill, Director  
Leah Wilson, Director  
Josh Daniels, Director  
Lias Djili, Student Director (excused absence)

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

President Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 7:46 pm

### Report Closed Session Actions

The Board heard Human Resource issues and received updates on collective bargaining. The Board discussed the Superintendent's evaluation process for 2011-12, existing litigation and anticipated litigation.

Classified Employee Discipline

**Selawsky/Wilson** and approved staff recommendation on a vote of 5-0

Administrative Reassignment

**Selawsky/Wilson** and approved on a vote of 4-0

Leyva-Cutler abstained

### Claims

Claim No. IN0187

**Hemphill/Selawsky** and approved on a vote of 5-0

Claim No. IN0617

**Hemphill/Selawsky** and approved on a vote of 5-0

Claim No. IN0668

**Hemphill/Selawsky** and approved on a vote of 5-0

### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

**Hemphill/Selawsky** and approved on a vote of 5-0

Supt. Huyett requested to move up item 2.1-I

### **Public Testimony**

Irma Parker addressed the board regarding community concern that the District needs to hire more African-American teachers. A parent spoke in support of a teacher at Berkeley High School. Members from the Berkeley Chess School addressed the Board requesting that they accept the collaborative bid from the Hillside Education Foundation. They submitted a bid for the Hillside property. A committee member (Measure BB) gave a report and made comments in support of the documents in the Board packet (5.4-C). Member from the Hillside Neighborhood Association addressed the Board regarding his concerns about the bidding process for the Hillside property. He wanted to make sure all the bidders understand the process this evening. He wanted to state that the auction would take place under protest. A parent from Jefferson elementary addressed the board regarding concerns with BACR being the fiscal agent for the after school program. Burr Guthrie, Principal of Berkeley Adult School, presented the Board copies of a poetry book written and created by students at BAS.

### **UNION REPORT**

Paula Phillips, BCCE President, expressed her concerns about the after school program at Jefferson elementary school. She was concerned about the safety of the students and the fact that the program is run by non BUSD employees. She also spoke about the continuation of the Merit system. She listed issues the classified employees are facing on a daily basis. She stated that the classified hiring process has become corrupt. She listed positive attributes of the Merit system. She asked the Board to use careful consideration when reviewing this issue.

### **APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.1-C pulled by Leyva-Cutler

4.6-C pulled by Wilson

3.1-C pulled by Hemphill

5.4-C pulled by Hemphill

Motion to approve

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

### 1.1-C

Resolution honoring Father George Crespino

President Leyva-Cutler read the resolution to the audience. Community members were also in attendance and stood for the reading and in support for Father Crespino.

**Leyva-Cutler/Hemphill** and approved unanimously 5-0

### 2.2-I

Proposal to Eliminate or Reduce Specified Classified Positions

(moved forward on the agenda)

Director Wilson requested that the principals explain the reduction in FTE. Principal Collins explained the reduction in FTE in dance instruction. Dr. Craig spoke in regards to the elimination of the position at B-Tech.

### 4.6-C

Request Approval for Special Education Department Contracts.

Director Wilson inquired about the contract with Green Acres.

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

### 3.1-C

Approve Holt Algebra Readiness for Adoption

Director Hemphill expressed concern about progress being made in math within the District. Adopting a pre-algebra text book for eighth graders could be seen as a step backward from the plan to move students forward into algebra in eighth grade. She wanted to know what would be different this time. The pre-algebra model was unsuccessful in the past. Neil Smith stated that the pre-algebra curriculum would be used with students that have been identified and when students and families are in agreement. It will be a class for students that are not ready for algebra. It will help them be more successful when they take algebra in the ninth grade. It will not be a repeat of the math they had in the seventh grade. Director Hemphill expressed concern that the Holt pre-algebra curriculum was not aligned with the algebra curriculum being taught in ninth grade. Three math options will now be offered to eighth graders (pre-algebra, algebra and geometry). Supt. Huyett suggested that an information item be brought forward at a later date to include middle school math teachers and information explaining the alignment with algebra being taught at the high school. Director Wilson asked which middle school had declined to adopt the pre-algebra curriculum (Longfellow). She suggested that we look at the success of Longfellow and what methods they have been using make great gains. She also expressed concern that the pre-algebra classes may be imbalanced in

population in regards to race. President Leyva-Cutler requested that the committee that researched the curriculum, come to a future Board meeting and present. Supt. Huyett suggested a mid year report evaluating the program. Director Hemphill suggested tracking of the cohort taking pre-algebra to evaluate future success.

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

5.4-C

Approval of the 2011/12 Measure BB Annual Plan

Director Hemphill had questions about the facility needs that have been identified in support of the BHS safety plan. She did not see them incorporated in the plan. The safety plan has not been submitted yet to Facilities. The Board does realize there will be some facility costs associated with the safety plan and that there is some flexibility to add them at a later date. Director Daniels thanked the maintenance committee members for their efforts on the committee and in the drafting of the annual plan.

**Hemphill/Leyva-Cutler** and approved unanimously 5-0

#### **CONFERENCE ITEM**

4.1-CF

2011-12 Preliminary Budget

**8:24 p.m. – Open Public Hearing on Item 4.1-CF – 2011-12**

**Preliminary Budget**

**Close Public Hearing at 8:25**

4.1-CF

2011-12 Preliminary Budget

Received for information

Director Hemphill suggested that the reserves in the cafeteria fund could be used to offset some of the District's other garden and nutrition programs that are funded through BSEP. Director Hemphill requested a more in-depth discussion about the special education fund. Director Wilson requested a running tally of expenditures the Board is approving. She would like to know when they approve expenditures, what fund is the money coming from and what the running balance is. Director Daniels noted that parcel taxes make up 26% of the general fund. He thanked the community for voting to support the measures. He also noted that the budget is being jointly recommended by staff, Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee and the Audit Committee.

Director Daniels made note that he is not participating in any decisions or approval of funding related to the California School Board Association.

Director Daniels opened a discussion to make a modification to the budget to fund \$25,000 of child care expenses to cover an extended day classroom at the preschool. President Leyva-Cutler excused herself due to a potential conflict of interest. Director Hemphill suggested there will be other opportunities to extend additional classrooms at a later date when we have more concrete state budget information.

**Motion** by Daniels to increase the general fund contribution by \$25,000 on a contingent basis to the child development fund to help fund a fourth 9.5 hour class. The contingency would be whether an additional \$35,000 could be found, possibly from the City of Berkeley.

No Second  
Motion died

Motion to approve the 2011-12 Preliminary Budget (Item 4.1-CF)  
**Daniels/Hemphill** and approved unanimously 5-0

Motion to continue the meeting past 11:00  
**Daniels/Wilson** and approved unanimously 5-0

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

4.1-A

Independent Auditor's Reports for Measure A of 2006, and Measure BB of 2000 for Year Ended June 30, 2010

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

5.1-A

Accept Written Bids and Oral Bids for the sale of Hillside School

Instructions were given and read to the Board regarding the bidding process by Marilyn Cleveland from DWK law firm.

Two written bids have been received. Hillside Education Foundation offered to lease the property with an option to purchase the property during the lease term. A bid was also submitted by the German International School of Silicon Valley.

Oral bids: None

The Board has the right to accept or reject the bids. They can also reject all bids and take new bids. The Board will be given individual packets outlining all bids in detail.

Director Daniels asked some clarifying questions about the process. The District is meeting with the neighborhood association tomorrow as a courtesy. The analysis of the bids will not be complete until Friday.

No action required at this time.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2.1-I

Proposal to Eliminate or Reduce Certain Classified Positions  
Received for Information

3.1-I

New Textbook Recommendations for Economics, Environmental Science,  
and Academic Language Development at Berkeley High School  
Received for Information

3.2-I

Progress Report on Steps to Eliminate Weapons at Berkeley High School  
Presented by Dr. Susan Craig

A detailed report and recommendations will be presented to the Board at the June 29<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Director Hemphill suggested that all the changes to school protocols be placed in the “back to school” information packet for BHS students. Board members appreciated the restructuring of the report. There will be some cost analysis, but more will come forward at a later date. The committee is still working to gather more student “voice” information.

Received for Information

3.3-I

Report on Completion Rate of Special Education Individual Education  
Plans  
Received for Information

4.1-I

Results of Measure I Bond Issuance  
The item details the ways in which the District was able to save \$12.2 million as compared with the original Measure I plan presented to voters.  
Received for Information

5.1-I

Facilities Plan Update  
Received for Information

### **ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

Approve Minutes of June 8, 2011 as amended  
**Hemphill/Wilson** and approved unanimously 5-0

**EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

A member from the Hillside Education Foundation addressed the Board.

President Leyva-Cutler adjourned the meeting at 11:11 pm in honor of the class of 2011.

---

John T. Selawsky, Clerk  
Board of Education