

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 8, 2012
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

John T. Selawsky, President
Leah Wilson, Vice President
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director/ Clerk
Karen Hemphill, Director
Josh Daniels, Director
Maddy Roberts, 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 Selawsky called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board heard Human Resource issues and received updates on collective bargaining and negotiations.

Student Expulsions

Student Case No. 1112-07-011098

Leyva-Cutler/Daniels and approved staff recommendation on a vote of 5-0

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Leyva-Cutler/Wilson and approved on a vote of 5-0 as amended.

The recognition was tabled for a future Board meeting.

3.2-C pulled by Leyva-Cutler for comment

4.6-C pulled by Daniels for comment

5.1-I moved to Consent

Public Testimony

Several parents with children with hearing impairments spoke in support of reopening a special day class at John Muir. A community member

expressed concerns about the way the report on services for the deaf/hard of hearing students was written. A teacher from Thousand Oaks addressed the Board regarding low enrollment in the District's bilingual and two way immersion programs. She conveyed parent concerns about the admissions process for the bilingual program. A statement from the Thousand Oaks PTA president was read concerning the TWI consolidation process. They expressed concerns about the future of the bilingual program located at Thousand Oaks. They would like to see the program expanded to include up to fifth grade. A graduate from the deaf and hard of hearing program at John Muir addressed the Board in regards to the successes she has had since being part of the program. She is graduating BHS in 2012 and will attend Howard University on a full scholarship. Barry Fike represented a group of BHS baseball supporters. His group would like to be part of the process of naming the field. He also expressed concern over the score board not being funded. A parent stated that Board members need to be more communicative with Berkeley residents. She suggested that Board members take their school liaison roles seriously.

Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee (BAESC) addressed the Board regarding the \$250,000 donation being made by the Lonely Island Boys (BHS alumni). They suggested that the donation be earmarked to fund the renovation of the Berkeley Community Theatre. Their next meeting is on Tuesday, March 20th at 3:30 at Le Pena Cultural Center.

Audit Committee

A member from the Audit Committee reported to the Board. There were two audit findings. One finding was related to a student body account at King Middle School. The second finding was connected to attendance reporting at John Muir elementary and Berkeley High School. The findings are outlined in the current audit report. This is the second year of working with the new auditor. The new auditor is more rigorous. The Board thanked staff for identifying the current auditor.

BSEP/ P & O Committee

The committee co-chair read a statement to the Board regarding 2012-13 BSEP budget considerations. They urged conservative use of BSEP monies. They also advised against too broadly interpreting how "Class Size Reduction" funds can be distributed. It is the charge of the Board and the P & O committee to ensure that budget decisions made honor the Measure as voted upon by our citizens.

UNION REPORT

Paula Phillips, BCCE President, addressed the Board regarding BCCE now representing prior Local 39 members.

Board Members' Reports

Student Director: The second semester has started at BHS. She is reviewing how the new attendance policy is affecting the school. There is an upcoming construction meeting regarding the bleachers at the stadium. The WASC report has been completed. Leadership will be presenting all 18 year old students with voter's registration information.

Director Daniels: He acknowledged District retirees in the month of February. He is interested in attending the meeting with the group of supporters of BHS baseball.

Director Hemphill: none

Director Leyva-Cutler: She will follow up with her community in West Berkeley regarding the increased crime/burglary. She will also work to make her presence more known at Thousand Oaks.

Vice President Wilson: Requested information from staff regarding the TWI task force.

President Selawsky: Thanked Lonely Island Boys for their donation. They all met at Willard Middle School and graduated from Berkeley High School. He announced the memorial services for Terry Doran, retired Board member on February 25th at Longfellow middle school.

Superintendent's Report

Thanked the Lonely Island Boys for their generous donation. He is pleased to hear that these writers and performers have decided to give back to Berkeley Unified. We will do something impactful with the funds. He thanked Maddy for appointing an additional member to the Youth Commission.

APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

Wilson/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0
3.3-C (pulled by Leyva-Cutler)

Leyva-Culter/Wilson and approved unanimously 5-0

4.6-C (pulled by Daniels)

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

1.1-A

Swearing in of Marni Posey to the Office of Child Nutrition Advisory Council

Marni Posey was sworn in by President Selawsky to the Office of Child Nutrition Advisory Council for the state of California.

2.1-A

Resolution to Recognize BCCE as Exclusive Bargaining Unit for Operations and Support Services Unit

Wilson/Daniels and approved unanimously 5-0

2.2-A

Selection of Superintendent Search Firm

Further Direction: Staff was directed to negotiate the most cost effective contract possible with HYA based on the fact that they stated they would be open to negotiations.

Motion by Wilson to select HYA: Second by Selawsky

Wilson/Selawsky and approved unanimously 5-0

Student Director abstained.

4.1-A

Independent Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011

An auditor from Crowe Horwath presented the audit findings to the Board. The District has complied with all federal laws and regulations. They did not identify any weaknesses in internal controls. There were student attendance findings for the second straight year. Staff stated that they would follow up with the school for which this reoccurred. Staff also stated that they would be looking into retesting the disallowance from BHS.

Wilson/Daniels and approved unanimously 5-0

INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1-I

Report on Percentages of Students Qualifying for the National School Lunch Program

Received for Information

3.2-I

School Accountability Report Cards for 2010-11

Received for Information

3.3-I

Services for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students

Further Direction:

Cost out the current program and a program that would include a day class program. These estimates will be based upon the current IEP program requirements for Berkeley students as projected forward into the 2012-13 school year.

Received for Information

5.1-I

Facilities Plan Update

Received for Information

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Approve Board of Education Minutes: January 25, 2012

Leyva-Cutler/Daniels and approved as amended unanimously 5-0

EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A retired deaf and hard of hearing teacher from John Muir addressed the Board regarding the structure of the special day class that existed at John Muir. A parent of a hard of hearing student addressed the board regarding the value of a special day class. She believed that Berkeley can draw students here.

President Selawsky adjourned the meeting at 10:32 pm.

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Clerk
Board of Education