

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 23, 2012
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 6:30pm

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 7:56 pm

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board heard Human Resource issues and received updates on collective bargaining negotiations with BCCE/OSS and BFT. The Board gave direction to the negotiations teams.

Student Expulsions

Student Case # 1112-19-101895
Student expelled for current and next semester
Wilson/Leyva-Cutler and approved on a vote of 5-0

Liability Claims

Claim Nos. IN1541, IN1539, IN1330 and IN1285
Wilson/Leyva-Cutler and approved on a vote of 3-0 (Daniels and Hemphill absent)

Appointment of Thousand Oaks Principal

Gayle Hughes was appointed to position of Principal at Thousand Oaks Elementary School.
Leyva-Cutler/Daniels and approved on a vote of 4-0 (Hemphill absent)

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

2.1-C (pulled by Daniels for comment)

3.3-C (pulled by Leyva-Cutler)

2.1-A moved to Consent

3.1-A moved to Consent

5.1-I requires no report from staff

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

RECOGNITION

Berkeley Scholars to Cal

Public Testimony

Several BFT “temporary” teachers addressed the Board in regard to receiving layoff notices for the second year in a row. The District is at risk of losing good teachers who feel their future in Berkeley is uncertain. A teacher stated she did not believe issuing temporary contracts to a second year teachers with good evaluations was proper practice for a district. She found the process demoralizing. A parent from Thousand Oaks read a letter to the Board recommending they extend their “early exit” program to the 5th grade. A teacher that was issued a temporary contract for the second year, questioned why other teachers hired after him were given probationary contracts. A teacher from King Middle School spoke in support of visual art programs and elective classes at the school. The budget for visual arts programs is at risk for being cut by fifty percent. The chair of the Peace and Justice Commission informed the Board that the current City Manager has suggested cutting the School Board appointed positions on the Commission.

UNION REPORT

Cathy Campbell, BFT President, questioned the District’s policy of hiring second year teachers on temporary contracts. Temporary teachers are “at will” employees. A teacher cannot be a “temporary” teacher for 2-3 years and then become permanent per EdCode. Teachers are looking for work in districts that can offer probationary contracts. Our teachers deserve a path to permanent status. Making the teachers probationary, does not take away the ability to lay off teachers during tough financial times. The practice of hiring second year temporary teachers needs to discontinue. Sixty-three temporary teachers were noticed in March. She called upon the Board to take strong action.

Board Members’ Reports

Student Director: The students appreciate the construction that is going on at the old gym. It is not disturbing student life or classroom environments.

Director Daniels: Announced the ground breaking ceremony at Derby Field. He recognized classified staff in celebration of Classified Staff Week.

Director Hemphill: Commented that she was disappointed that the City has proposed cutting School Board appointees to the Peace and Justice Commission and Youth Commission without the proposal first being discussed at a 2x2 meeting. June 9th at 11:00 there will be a ground breaking ceremony at Derby Field, she is hoping that the baseball field will be ready for the Spring 2013 season. She recognized the BHS students that participated in the talent show.

Director Leyva-Cutler: She is interested in still having Board appointed representatives on the Commissions.

Vice President Wilson: She has appreciated the process the Board is going through while searching for a new Superintendent. They are working really hard to appoint a new Superintendent.

Superintendent's Report

Supt. Huyett commented on the District's desire to keep our talented teaching staff. He has directed staff to look at the number of temporary teachers that we currently have and why they are in temporary status. The District has rescinded layoff notices and is in the process of rehiring temporary teachers. Staff is looking at reducing the number of temporary teachers. We are taking action to provide some probationary contracts for second year temps.

APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

Leyva-Cutler/Wilson and approved unanimously 5-0

2.1-C (pulled by Daniels)

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

3.3-C (pulled by Leyva-Cutler)

Leyva-Cutler/Hemphill and approved unanimously 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

2.1-A

Approval of BCCE'S Personnel Commission Nomination

Moved to Consent

3.1-A

Approval of Consolidated Application for Categorical Programs

Moved to Consent

3.2-A

Approval of the FY 2012-13 Expenditure Plan for the BSEP Visual and Performing Arts Fund (VAPA)

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

3.3-A

Approval of the FY 2012-13 Expenditure Plan for the BSEP Professional Development Fund

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

3.4-A

Approval of the FY 2012-13 Expenditure Plan for the BSEP Program Evaluation Fund

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

3.5-A

Approval of the FY 2012-13 Expenditure Plan for the BSEP Library Fund

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

3.6-A

Approval of the FY 2012-13 Expenditure Plan for the BSEP Technology Fund

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

Board Direction: Directed that a four year budget be presented with the annual BSEP expenditure plans to the Board, to include: previous year, upcoming year and following two years. The report to also include actual expenditures for the previous year and establish expenditures for current year.

CONFERENCE ITEM

2.1-CF

Reorganization of Maintenance Department and Related Elimination/Reduction and Addition of Certain Classified Positions

Wilson/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 4-0 (Daniels absent)

INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1-I

Progress Report on Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI)
Received for Information

4.1-I

The Governor's May Revision on the State Budget

Received for Information

5.1-I

Maintenance and BB Third Quarter FY 2012 Report
Received for Information

Additional Board Direction: At the June 27th meeting, the Board would like to have a discussion about budget around possible election results. They would like to have an update presented to the Board.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Approve Board of Education Minutes: May 2, 2012

Approve Board of Education Minutes: May 9, 2012

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

EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY

None

President Selawsky adjourned the meeting at 11:11 pm.



Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Clerk
Board of Education