

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 23, 2013
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 7:15pm

Members Present:

Leah Wilson, President
Josh Daniels, Vice-President
Judy Appel, Director
Karen Hemphill, Director
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director

Administration: Javetta Cleveland, Co-Superintendent
Neil Smith, Co-Superintendent
Delia Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent of Human
Resources

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 pm.

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board received an update on Collective Bargaining – Negotiations

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

(5.1-A) Approval of the LeConte Grounds Masterplan and Schematic Project: Only the Project Plan is being reviewed for approval. The Master Plan portion is tabled.

Board of Education Minutes (1-09-13 & 1-16-13) moved to Consent
Appel/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

RECOGNITION

Willard Middle School for advancing equity, opportunity and inclusion for students with disabilities, as recognized by the 2012 TASH Award

Public Testimony

Parents of Berkeley High students asked the Board to make repairs to the heating system in the “A” building at BHS, a priority. Neighbors of LeConte elementary school expressed concern about restricted access to the school grounds following the planned renovation. They currently use the school grounds as park space. There is no public park in the

neighborhood. They expressed concern about the communication process during the process of establishing the project master plan. A representative from BCCE addressed the Board regarding negotiations and the need for a raise. A BFT teacher spoke about the needs of BFT teachers. There has not been a cost of living increase for four years, yet healthcare costs are rising.

UNION REPORT

Paula Phillips, BCCE President, requested a 10% bonus for her members. Classified staff are the lowest paid employees in the District. Members struggle to meet the basic needs of their households. She asked that the Board do the “right” thing for the employees and give a 10% bonus.

Cathy Campbell, BFT President, urged the Board to make a strategic investment in the human talent in the district. Student achievement is improving. Teachers and staff are being asked to adjust to the Common Core teaching standards. Teachers are doing more than they ever have. Employees are facing financial hardships. They have not received a raise in four years. Healthcare costs are skyrocketing and cost of living in the San Francisco Bay Area has consistently risen. This hardship is beginning to affect morale and productivity. She asked the Board to delay consideration of item 4.2-P until negotiations are further along.

Board Members’ Reports

President Wilson: The Board received training and attended a retreat during the past week. Priorities have been set and some changes to the agenda will be made. The Board takes their role very seriously.

Vice President Daniels: Brought attention to the changes to the bullying policy. It now includes social networking sites. He congratulated BTech for making a significant increase in their attendance.

Director Appel: Mentioned the safety audit that took place at BHS. She wished the students that are in the middle of finals week “good luck.”

Director Hemphill: None

Director Leyva-Cutler: Asked staff to make contact with the Beacon agency that could assist in alerting families during an emergency.

Superintendent’s Report

Thanked the Berkeley community for celebrating MLK Jr.’s birthday with a commemorative breakfast on Monday morning. Supt. Cleveland is working with staff to problem solve the heating issues at BHS.

APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

Board of Education Minutes (1-09-13 & 1-16-13) moved to Consent
Appel/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

2.1-A

Approval of Consultant Firms to Conduct Superintendent Search

Ray and Associates was selected as the primary consultant. A secondary firm will be hired if necessary.

Wilson/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

4.1-A

Approval of Independent Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

5.1-A

Approval of the LeConte Grounds Master and Schematic Plan

Amended: Only the Project Plan is up for vote. The Master Plan was tabled.

Project Plan:

1. Providing a protected entry to the kindergarten yard from the school (ramp going into kindergarten yard)
2. An added play structure in the main yard
3. Drainage improvements to make the field drain better so it is more useable
4. Reserving money for improvements to the northwest corner

Board direction: Staff to bring back updates on project and information requested by the Board as an information item in the spring.

- Site committee composition
- Process/guidelines for meeting purpose and noticing
- Process for giving feedback if unable to attend committee meeting
- Access to school yard not covered under measure Y (Policy Committee/AR)

Appel/Daniels and approved Project Plan unanimously 5-0

PRESENTATION ITEMS

4.1-P

Information on the Governor's Budget
Received Presentation

4.2-P
One Time Expenditure Plan
Received Presentation

Board Direction: Remove the safety audit, classification study and 1% bonus from the list because they have already been funded and reflected in the budget. (Appel does not agree)

President Wilson: Investment OPEB \$500,000
\$500,000 Initiative and programmatic
\$500,000 Capital and Technology purchases

Board Direction: The Board directed staff to look at other funds that can possibly pay for suggested items. Can the bond measure pay for classroom and teacher technology? Staff is to research alternate funding sources and bring back a more refined list.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1.1-I
Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

Received for Information

4.1-I
School Enrollment and Attendance Report

Received for Information

5.1-I
Facilities Plan Update

Received for Information

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Approve Board of Education Minutes: 1-09-13
Moved to Consent

Approve Board of Education Minutes: 1-16-13
Moved to Consent

EXTENDED PUBLIC TESTIMONY

None

President Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:27 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Beatriz Leyva-Cutler", written over a horizontal line.

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Clerk
Board of Education