

BSEP PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 26, 2013

Malcolm X School Library
1731 Prince St., Berkeley

P&O Committee Members Present:

Amelia Archer, <i>Berkeley High</i>	Keira Armstrong, <i>Washington (Co-Rep)</i>	Jennifer Braun, <i>Ind. Study (Alt)</i>
Danielle Perez, <i>Pre-K (co-Rep)</i>	Lee Bernstein, <i>Arts Magnet</i>	Aaron Glimme, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Larry Gordon, <i>Berkeley High (Alt)</i>	Patrick Hamill, <i>Thousand Oaks</i>	Catherine Lazio, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Melissa Kaprelian, <i>Thous.Oaks (Alt)</i>	John Lavine, <i>Berkeley High (Alt)</i>	Chris Martin, <i>LeConte (co-Chair)</i>
Dawn Paxson, <i>Willard</i>	Cecilie Rose, <i>John Muir</i>	Catherine Huchting, <i>Malcolm X</i>
Bruce Simon, <i>King</i>	Juliet Bashore, <i>Rosa Parks (co-Rep)</i>	Greg Wiberg, <i>Oxford</i>
Brittini Milam, <i>Washington (Co-Rep)</i>		

P&O Committee Members Absent:

Lea Baechler-Brabo, <i>Oxford (Alt)</i>	Elisabeth Hensley, <i>King (co-Chair)</i>	Leslie Lippard, <i>Cragmont</i>
Shannon Cunningham, <i>B-Tech</i>	Ila Deiss, <i>LeConte (Alt)</i>	Moshe Cohen, <i>Pre-K (co-Rep)</i>
Rhonda Jefferson, <i>Berkeley High</i>	Maria Einaudi, <i>Ind. Study</i>	James Shultz, <i>Rosa Parks (co-Rep)</i>
Ellen Weis, <i>Longfellow (Alt)</i>	Emily Newman, <i>Emerson (Alt)</i>	Sauna Rabinowitz, <i>Jefferson</i>
Margot Reed, <i>Longfellow</i>	Boyd Power, <i>Emerson</i>	
Abigail Surasky, <i>Longfellow</i>	Hugo Wildmann, <i>John Muir (co-Rep)</i>	

Visitors, School Board Directors, Union Reps, and Guests:

Josh Daniels, *School Board*
Mark Coplan, *Public Information Office*
Jay Nitschke, *Director of Technology*
Leah Wilson, *School Board*
Debbi D'Angelo, *BEA*
Neil Smith, *Co-Superintendent*

BSEP Staff:

Natasha Beery, *BSEP Director*
Mark Coplan, *BUSD Public Information Officer*
Linda Race, *BSEP Staff Support*

1. Call to Order, Introductions & Site Reports

At 7:15 p.m. Co-chair Chris Martin called the meeting to order by welcoming attendees and by asking P&O members to introduce themselves and to report on School Governance Council activity at their sites.

2. Establish the Quorum / Approve Agenda

The quorum was approved with 15 voting members present.

3. Chairs' Comments

Chris Martin

Co-Chair Martin said that prior to tonight's P&O meeting, a group met to discuss ways to research how school sites were allocating discretionary funds from BSEP, PTA, and other

sources for key programs and supports. There was a proposal to convene a subcommittee to work on this in coming weeks.

4. BSEP Director's Comments

Natasha Beery, BSEP Director

Beery noted that a classroom-sized meeting room at the BUSD Offices can be used for future P&O meetings. A parking lot is available nearby. The chair agreed to the move, so Beery will follow up with information and directions.

5. Public Comment

No comments

6. Presentation–Overview of Program Evaluation

Debbi D'Angelo, Director, Berkeley Evaluation and Assessment (BEA) Department

D'Angelo distributed a memo summarizing the programs and services offered by the BEA department, a staff roster (3.9 FTE funded out of BSEP) with their areas of responsibility, and copies of a Berkeley Times article on Illuminate, the new data and assessment system adopted by BUSD. Following her presentation, BHS teacher Aaron Glimme shared how he uses Illuminate in the classroom, as well as how he continually uses evaluation to inform his instruction. The link to his video presentation is:

<http://www.glimme.net/illuminate/IlluminateTalk-20130222-Edited.mp4>.

With this BEA goal in mind - to have continuous inquiry, assessment and evaluation drive instruction - Illuminate was selected for its quality and flexibility. Teachers can submit standards to be incorporated into the curriculum, build their own assessments, and enter tags so that educational strategies can be customized. According to Glimme, the data collected is very rich and specific, enabling teachers to pinpoint students' strengths and weaknesses and then give feedback quickly. In this transition year, 100+ staff persons have been trained to date, and additional training sessions are scheduled April 2-4 at 2020 Bonar Street. In addition to these trainings and professional development conferences, BEA staff people are at school sites at least once a week. D'Angelo reports that adoption of Illuminate has been going well.

After reviewing BEA's involvement with other district programs and services, D'Angelo fielded questions on Illuminate, pacing guides, We CARE and GATE.

7. Presentation-Recommendation for the Allocation of BSEP CSR Funds for 2013-14

Neil Smith, Interim Co-Superintendent

Smith presented the BUSD Class Size Reduction FTE Planning Document FY 2013-14 Proposal v2013-02-25.

This planning document (also known as the "Teacher Template") ensures that the district achieves class size goals set by BSEP/Measure A every year and through the end of 2016-2017, while maintaining a steady fund balance. Smith reviewed the financial assumptions and calculations in the document, making special note of what is happening with elementary school numbers compared to the 7th and 8th grade. The 7th grade is the last small class to go through the schools, and subsequent classes have generally averaged 650 as opposed to 600. He summarized the first two pages by noting that the General Fund is contributing 295.46

teachers and BSEP 125.87 classroom teachers. The equivalent of 30% of the teachers are being funded by BSEP.

With respect to the Discretionary Fund – monies to be used after class size reduction is achieved – Smith said that the 8 FTE for Expanded Course Offerings are primarily science labs, music, yearbook, AP augmentation, and AVID support (for students in 7th and 8th grade).

Smith further detailed the Program Support priorities as follows:

Literacy coaches receive a contribution of .3 FTE at each of the elementary schools for a total of 3.3 FTE. Math class size for 7th and 8th graders at all three middle schools will be reduced from 28:1 to 20:1. At three schools, grade 3/4/5 combos each have an additional half time teacher, plus the additional cost for release of that half-time teacher, 3 x .6 for 1.8 FTE. (Smith added that at the bottom of page 4, ULSS teachers should be listed as RTI² teachers.) The elementary schools have an a half time RTI² teacher for each site, and at the middle schools it is 1.5 RTI² teachers for Longfellow and Willard and 2.5 teachers at King.

Smith posed the question of whether a shortfall of roughly \$500,000 (with projected costs of \$15,173,360 and income next year expected to be \$14,743,000 after indirect costs) is sustainable over a period of many years given the available fund balance. If not, what changes will ensure that the finances are there to carry the Measure through? Discussion ensued as to the expected and proper carryover balance from one year to the next.

Several questions were asked with respect to class size and performance in math and at the middle school level. According to Smith, class size is one component that was changed when the performance of 8th graders in Algebra was very poor. There was also the adoption of new curriculum, intervention and after-school programs, and strong professional development. The discussion shifted to questions of how new data and standards meshed with the class size reduction directive of Measure A, and whether there was any flexibility in how the funds were spent. According to Glimme, the target numbers are clearly laid out. Smith added that while suggestions are always welcome, the P&O committee's job is to ensure that the BSEP funds are spent in accordance with the Measure.

Smith indicated that a revised recommendation would be presented at the next meeting, taking into account multi-year projects for the fund, but that the revisions would be minor. There was also a question about middle school counseling as well as a request to have a MS Counselor speak at the next P&O Committee meeting.

8. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2013

MOTION CARRIED (Bashore/Glimme): To approve the minutes of the February 12, 2013 P&O Committee Meeting.

The motion was approved by a voice vote.

9. Additional Items for Discussion

Just a reminder that March 1 is College/Career Day at all grade levels from preschool on.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:50 p.