

# Berkeley Unified School District

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## FACILITIES PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1720 Oregon Street, Berkeley, CA 94703 (510) 644-6066 Fax: (510) 644-8703

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2014

Members Present: Stephanie Allan Carl Bridgers Susi Marzuola  
Eric Weaver Nicolie Bolster-Ott Alan Nudel

Staff Present: Lew Jones, Director of Facilities  
Chanita Stevenson, Administrative Coordinator

Members of the Public: Richard Boyden

1. *Call to Order:* The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.
2. *Approval of Meeting Minutes:* The following section of the Committee Member Comments was changed from: *Co-Chair Allan directed Staff to provide the dates of the upcoming meetings to the DRC members to Co-Chair Allan requested that Staff provide the dates of the upcoming meetings to the DRC members. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Secretary Weaver and seconded by Co-Chair Marzuola. The minutes were approved.*
3. *Public Comments:* Mr. Boyden requested that a maintenance audit be done at Berkeley High School.
4. *Staff Report*

## Project Updates

### *Current Construction*

- **Berkeley High School Phase II/III:** This project is going well. The Contractor is currently stripping the wood floors of the gymnasium. The linoleum floors are in. Exit signs are going up. There is a lot of activity going on at the site. The current plan is that the site will move in over the weekend of March 1<sup>st</sup>. The large gym will be a few weeks behind, because the wrestling mat needs two weeks to cure. The wrestling room and gymnasium is expected to be ready March 24<sup>th</sup>. The weight room is dependent on the installation of equipment. Once the building is occupied, the contractor will shift the focus to moving portables offsite to work on the softball field. The demolition of the BOC will also begin. In the summer, the repaving of Bancroft Way will be done. The project overall is still on schedule as Bancroft Way could not start until summer 2014. Secretary Weaver suggested that the District should have an open house.
- **West Campus Charter/Board Room:** This project is still moving slow. The last schedule stated a completion date in February. Hopefully, the building will be available for the first Board Meeting in March. The Mayor of the City is still interested in having City Council meetings in the new Board Room.
- **Jefferson:** Nothing to report. This project is going well.

### *Projects in Design*

- **Pre – K Expansion, Portable Project, Science Labs at BHS and B-Tech:** These projects are going well in this phase.

## *New Projects with the New Construction Notification Process*

- **John Muir, Emerson, and Willard Grounds Improvement Projects:** This project is going to the Board for schematic approval. The videos are available online for review. There was little community participation. The group at Emerson is interested in having the playground open during the summer which is not related to the scope of the project.
- **Demographic Study:** The draft study is in and the report will go to the Board in late January. The study shows a low Kindergarten enrollment for next year. Staff believes that the projections maybe a little low for K next year. The report overall shows growth throughout the system. This includes the increased kindergarten classes over the past years continuing to increase classes throughout the system. One interesting trend is the middle school to high school enrollment trend. Historically, there is an increase in ninth grade enrollment from eighth grade of 42%. Last year, there was a 15% increase. The current data suggests that the District does not have to utilize Hopkins this fall, but may have to in the fall of 2015. One possibility, the District may have to consider in the future is expanding class size to 24:1 versus 20:1 which is currently in the District classes from transitional K to third grade.
- **Safety Report:** This report is going to the Board on January 15<sup>th</sup>. There is a recommendation to allocate \$1.2M from the Bond to focus on camera systems and public address systems. The cameras will be added throughout the District. The Committee had questions regarding the use of cameras. Co-Chair Allan expressed concern about the allocation of \$1.2M bond funds for Camera System. She asked if there was an option to close the campus versus allocating money towards cameras. Staff responded that it would be problematic to close off some campuses such as Thousand Oaks. In contrast, Washington can be closed off but the location of the Principal's Office creates a problem. Co-Chair Allan encouraged anyone who has an opinion related to camera systems to go to the January 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. She believes that it is a bad expenditure of funds and that is misleading to families and parents. She believes it is wrong ethically and financially.
- **Changes to the Facilities Allocation Plan:** The plan includes adding more dollars to the Rosa Parks roof project because of vandalism. Two roofing projects were moved from Measure AA to Measure I to coordinate with modernizations at the sites. There is a better fund balance due to low inflation. Inflation was .2% and there was savings. The risk pool budget also had savings. The District is also looking into whether to move forward with Education Specifications. The Committee asked Staff to explain Educational Specifications.
- **Educational Specifications:** Educational Specifications will create a rubric of what items each school should have. It will create a model that can be replicated in each school. The District was not interested in developing educational specifications as part of the 1992 and 2000 bond elections. In 2010, it could have been implemented as the superintendent was interested in a more structured model. The Committee had significant discussion regarding this topic. A statement to the Board was drafted and approved. It states the following:

*If the Board decides to go forward with developing educational specifications, when it receives a draft set of recommendations we request that the Board run them by us for our opinion about what the implications are for Measure I and Measure A as a whole. This*

statement was moved by Secretary Weaver and seconded by Co-Chair Marzoula. The statement was approved and will be sent to the Board.

- **CABS:** Board President Daniels requested information from the financial advisor on whether the District will have to issue CABS. The financial advisor responded that assessed value is up and the District will not have to issue a CAB in 2015 but we may have to issue a smaller CAB in 2017. The basic structure of the Bond program will not have to change.
- **Proposition 39:** The Board requested that staff track these funds. Staff noted that the legislation has been drafted. Some planned projects in the Bond may receive some funds.
- **Malcolm X as Transitional K:** President Daniels wanted to see if it was feasible to concentrate transitional kindergarten in Malcolm X. Staff stated that it would be complicated as there are fire code requirements that require TK to be housed on floors with two dedicated exits. The costs are not significant if this decision is made.

5. Committee Member Comments

- Member Bolster-Ott asked if the Committee could take some time to look at the cost benefits of installing solar at our sites. She is interested in seeing any data. Staff noted that a document related to Proposition 39 will go to the Board in March and the cost benefits of solar may be a part of document.

6. Additional Items on the Agenda

- Co-Chair Allan requested that Agenda items 5, 6 and 7 to be shifted to the next meeting.

7. Future Meeting Dates:

- Our next meetings are scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup>.

8. Adjournment.

- The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.