

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Location: 1231 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94702

Phone: (510) 644-8764

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

President Judy Appel called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. She reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 5:30.

Roll Call 7:53 p.m.

Board of Education:

Judy Appel, President - Present

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President - Present

Karen Hemphill, Director/Clerk – Present

Josh Daniels, Director - Present

Ty Alper, Director - Present

Jesse Barber, Student Director, BHS - Present

Carlos Ku-Ceja, Student Director, BTA – Absent

Administration:

Donald E. Evans, Ed.D, Superintendent

Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent

Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Delia Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Lyz Chairez, Recorder

Report Closed Session

Collective Bargaining – Conference with Labor Negotiators:

District designated representative: Roy Combs

Employee organization: BFT Negotiations

Employee organization: Local 21 Negotiations

Unrepresented Employees: Classified Management

-No Action

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

Consideration of complaint pursuant to AR 1312.1

Classified Employee Settlement Agreement – No Action

Classified Employee Suspension – was postponed at the employee’s request

Classified Employee Dismissal

Motion to accept the staff recommendation for the Classified Employee Dismissal:

Leyva-Cutler/Hemphill and approved 4-1

Judy Appel, President – Yes

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President - Yes

Karen Hemphill, Director/Clerk – Yes

Josh Daniels, Director - Yes

Ty Alper, Director - No

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))

Crowell vs. BUSD PERB Case No. SF-CE-3027-E – No Action

OCR Complaint No. 09-15-1041 – No Action

OCR Complaint No. 09-15-1095 – No Action

Public Employment/Appointment

Appointment of Berkeley High Principal - President Appel announced the appointment of Sam Pasarow as the Principal of Berkeley High starting in the new school year.

Motion to Appoint Sam Pasarow as the new Principal of Berkeley High:

Appel/Hemphill and unanimously approved 5-0

OPEN SESSION

President Appel called the Open Session meeting to order at 7:50pm.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Director Daniels requested that Action Item 1, The Approval of District Funds for the School Nurse, be moved to the Consent Calendar. President Appel requested to switch the order of Discussion Items, making Common Core State Standards Implementation: Three Year Budget Recommendation Discussion Item 1 and Childhood Development Center Staffing Recommendation and Regulatory Compliance Discussion Item 2.

Motion to approve regular agenda as amended by Director Daniels and President Appel:

Hemphill/Barber and unanimously approved 5-0

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 17 people addressed the board:

Two Students and two parents talked about the Sexual Harassment Policy.

A Parent talked about a complaint she filed with OCR.

A Thousand Oaks teacher addressed teacher compensation.

Three parents addressed the Board about considering alternatives to portables.

Two John Muir parents talked about John Muir's modernization project.

A Berkeley High parent voiced support for BUSD Information Technology professionals' request for some important position needs for I.T.

The BFT President asked the Board not to close preschool classrooms.

Two teachers came before the Board requesting prioritization to teacher contract negotiations.

A Berkeley High alum and current parent came before the Board to request transportation for the Biannual Berkeley High Alumni picnic.

UNION COMMENTS

Maggie Knutson, BFT

Ms. Knutson talked about the urgent need for a more culturally responsive, equitable and effective model of student management—one that will address the disproportionality of punitive discipline and drastically improve school climate. In order to eliminate the existing discipline gap, she urged the Board to provide financial support and thoughtful leadership for a restorative practices pilot program to begin next year. She added that concrete action and financial investment should now follow the 2020 Vision Statement and the 2011 BUSD Board Resolution vowing to accept restorative practices as a means to reduce suspensions. She submitted that while preventative measures such as PBIS, Welcoming Schools, RTI and Toolbox are in effect, there is no specific program in place that directly addresses or responds to misbehavior. She reported that a recent BFT survey showed that more than half of BUSD teachers believe that our schools' discipline structure is either not very effective or is nonexistent. She added that BUSD needs a model that is transparent, student centered, effective and encourages parent engagement. Ultimately, she said that restorative practices create a community culture where students feel valued, heard and respected. In order to implement restorative practices, she asked the Board to make significant investment in professional development.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Director Ty Alper announced that he made two appointments. His first appointment was of Roxanne Reyes, a recent Cal graduate with years of working with BUSD students, to the Peace and Justice Commission. He also appointed Dewey Zarney, a Berkeley High tenth grader, to the Youth Commission. He congratulated Dr. Craig and Merlin Edwards for the recent state recognition BUSD received as one of only 11 districts with a model SARB program.

Director Karen Hemphill announced that she will be participating on the interview panel for the new Principal at Washington Elementary, making it her third Principal interview this school year. She also notified everyone that she will not attend the next Board Meeting due to her son's college graduation.

Student Director Jesse Barber thanked his classmates, in particular, for showing up. He invited everyone to come out to Little Theatre tomorrow for the Berkeley High Talent Show at 7p.m.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler introduced Berkeley's commemorative period, Si Se Puede, recognizing the work and legacies of Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. She announced the essay contest. The deadline for essay submissions is April 22nd. She also congratulated Dr. Craig for the state recognition given to BUSD SARB team.

Director Josh Daniels invited everyone to this year's Berkeley High Alum baseball game on Saturday, April 11th at 1p.m. He announced that his office hours were postponed from April 11th to April 18th from 2pm-4pm at Take One Café. In his update of an earlier policy subcommittee meeting today, he said that they discussed the Uniform Complaint procedures. In an effort to allow for PAC more time to submit feedback, he added that LCAP would not be coming back to the Board as soon as they had initially anticipated. He also expressed support for the Biannual Berkeley High Alumni Picnic and said he would like to know more of the kind of help the Board could provide. Lastly, he acknowledged Vice President Leyva-Cutler for her election to the Delegate Assembly of the School Board Association.

President Appel said she was able to stop by Thousand Oaks' community meeting and said it was great to see how many parents and community members were present. She added that she and Vice President Leyva-Cutler also attended the joint PAC and ELAC meeting. She reported that during the next policy subcommittee meeting they will be discussing the enrollment policy and extended an invitation for everyone to attend these meetings which take place at 12:30 p.m on the same day as the Board meetings. She thanked the Union for its comments tonight and said she was personally committed to ensure that there be a shift in the way discipline is addressed through the implementation of restorative practices.

Superintendent Evans congratulated the SARB team for its state recognition. He also congratulated Vice President Leyva-Cutler for her election to the Delegate Assembly of the School Board Association. He went on to say he was really excited about Sam Pasrow's appointment as Berkeley High's new Principal and added that it was his strong instructional leadership that set him apart from all of the other great candidates. Lastly, he formally introduced Tim White, BUSD's newly appointed Director of Facilities.

APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to Approve Consent Calendar:

Barber/Alper and approved unanimously 5-0

Action Item

1. Sexual Harassment Policy and Administrative Regulation – 5145.7 – Second Reading

President Appel introduced this item by saying that since it was previously addressed, there have been no changes. She reiterated that it is being passed as an interim policy and that the goal is to go back to the proposal from last year and make improvements reflective of OCR's input. Board members raised concerns relative to timeline, budget and specifics around the Title IX Coordinator position. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to adopt the Sexual Harassment and Administrative Regulation – 5145.7 – Second Reading, with the recommendation to revisit this policy in no later than a year:

Alper/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously 5-0

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Common Core State Standards Implementation: Three Year Budget Recommendation

Presenters: Pasquale Scuderi, Maggie Riddle, Michelle Sinclair

Superintendent Evans introduced this item by saying that the following presentation would be an overview of common standards and how they have been implemented in the past. He added that it would also display a more systematic approach in implementation as we move forward

Assistant Superintendent Scuderi added that his presentation would explain how the Common Core standards will be strategically implemented in the next three years. He said that this more systematic approach was less of a compliance effort and more of an effort to deepen support for positive improvement in how teachers teach, what teachers teach and what students learn. Questions and discussion followed.

Superintendent Evans thanked the Board for its input. He also reminded them that the goal herein was to develop teachers' capacities in order to deliver a world class education, requiring a thoughtful and significant investment. Staff agreed to come back with a recommendation reflective of the Board's input.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler moved that open session be extended to 11:30 p.m.

Motion to extend open session until 11:30 p.m.:

Leyva-Cutler/Appel and approved 4-1

Judy Appel, President – Yes

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President - Yes

Karen Hemphill, Director/Clerk - Yes

Josh Daniels, Director - No

Ty Alper, Director - Yes

Jesse Barber, Student Director, BHS - Yes

2. Childhood Development Center Staffing Recommendation and Regulatory Compliance

Presenters: Maria Carriedo, Pasquale Scuderi

Principal Carriedo provided an overview of the program and its needs relative to funding, staffing and enrollment. In funding this program, Assistant Superintendent Scuderi noted that BUSD is currently making a substantial investment of local monies into a regional program, whose 44 percent of participants are non-Berkeley residents. Out of the three possible scenarios presented, Staff recommended scenario 3, which explores the reduction of one 9.5 hour program and increases positive revenue to \$530,054, offering the needed minimum of \$253,000 for additional staffing and leaving a remaining \$22,946 to be funded. Questions and discussion followed.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward.

President Appel adjourned meeting at 11:15 p.m. The Board recessed into closed session.