

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Meeting Location: 1231 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94702
Phone: (510) 644-8764

Official Minutes
September 09, 2015

President Appel called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. She reported that the Board of Education convened to Closed Session at 5:30 p.m.

Swearing In of New Student Director:

President Appel swore in Berkeley High's Student Director, Angelo Paraiso-Arroyo.

Roll Call: 7:37 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
Angelo Paraiso-Arroyo, Student Director, BHS – Present

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

Conference with Legal Counsel--Pending Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9)

OCR Case #09-15-1041
OCR Case # 09-15-1095
OCR Case # 09-15-1369

President Appel reported that the Board conferenced with legal counsel on this matter; no action was taken.

Collective Bargaining: Lead Negotiator: Legal Counsel Roy Combs

UBA, BCCE, Local 21 Negotiations and Non-Represented Employees (Government Code Section 54957.6(a)) – President Appel reported that the Board conferenced with Roy Combs on this matter.

Property & Liability Program

Request for Settlement Authority (BUSD Claim #IN2053) – President Appel reported that this was discussed, but no action was taken.

Superintendent's Evaluation

President Appel reported that the Board will discuss this item when it recesses into Closed Session after Open Session.

OPEN SESSION

President Appel called the Open Session to order at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Director Hemphill pulled Consent Item 11.14, Approval of Board of Education Minutes for June 3, 2015, and moved it to Action.

Motion to approve Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by Director Hemphill:

Leyva-Cutler/Daniels and unanimously approved 5-0

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of two people addressed the Board:

Ralph Walker addressed the District's legal action against him.

Jim Hayes addressed the Board in support of the previous speaker, Mr. Walker.

UNION COMMENTS

Steve Collins, Local 21

He talked about the District's wellness program and announced that clinics for biometric screening and flu shots are scheduled to begin in October. He promoted Thrive Across America, an exercise competition program. He said employees can register as teams to represent the various District departments and invited the Board to join and compete as a team.

Cathy Campbell, President, Berkeley Federation of Teachers (BFT)

Thanked all of the BUSD staff for a great start of school. She offered special thanks to the Board for contributing to the smooth start of the year with the certificated staff. She also congratulated Deputy Superintendent Cleveland for her excellent leadership. She went on to address Discussion Item 13.2, Board Policy Priorities, and highlighted some of the things she hoped the

Board would consider: continued strong focus on closing equity gaps, continuing discussion of assessment and progress monitoring, recruitment and retention of teachers of color, restorative justice pilot, and BSEP. She said she would follow this with an email to the Board.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Director Ty Alper announced his appointment of Damian McNeil to the Youth Commission. He shared a report issued by Equal Rights Advocates, one of the leading non-profits advocating for equal rights for women, in which they investigate Title IX compliance in over 100 school districts. He said this report was significant because in addition to showing that BUSD is doing as well or better than the over 100 districts involved, it also highlights the work of our students. He added that this was a true testament to the advocacy of the students and the District responding with meaningful change. Office hours: Last Sunday of every month from 3:00pm to 4:30pm at Casa Latina.

Director Josh Daniels alerted everyone to Senate Bill 172. He said that if it passes, any student who did not receive a diploma solely due to not passing one or both parts of the CAHSEE is now by state law entitled to a high school diploma. This would be a slight modification to the recently signed bill that removed the CAHSEE as a high school graduation requirement for students of class of 2015. He went on to report that the SBA results were out and said they are indicative of all of the work needed to be done at both the state and District levels. He added that while less than half of the students who took the exam statewide were proficient, in BUSD more than half were proficient. Overall, he said, BUSD did somewhat better than the state. Office Hours: this Saturday, September 12, 2pm-3pm at Take 5 Cafe.

Director Angelo Paraiso-Arroyo said he was excited to represent his fellow peers on the school Board.

Director Karen Hemphill announced that she will be out of the country as of tomorrow and will not be at the next Board meeting on September 30. She will have office hours on the first and last Saturdays of October at 10:30 a.m. at Cafe Leila. She clarified that she had mistakenly pulled the minutes from June 3. Her intention was to pull the minutes from June 24 to make a correction to her recorded comment. The June 24 minutes misquoted her saying that “Berkeley has the only CTE program in the state of California”. She said that was incorrect and had, in fact, stated that Berkeley “has the only science fire program that is A-G eligible in the state of California.”

Director Hemphill’s correction will be applied to the Board of Education minutes for June 24 and they will be brought back to the Board for approval.

Director Beatriz Leyva-Cutler acknowledged the month of September as the attendance awareness month and reported that staff will be at the various sites promoting attendance. Office hours: Thursday, 4:30-6pm at Casa Latina.

President Judy Appel welcomed Student Director Paraiso-Arroyo and said that our BTA student representative will be sworn in at the next Board meeting on September 30. She went on to address the SBA results, saying that the gap is disheartening, particularly for African American students. She let parents know that they will soon be getting test results in the mail and reminded them that the results do not determine their child's intelligence or potential. She said that a clarifying letter would also accompany results. Office Hours: 3rd Saturday of the month at Mojo's Café.

Superintendent Donald Evans acknowledged a smooth opening of schools and announced that Back to School Night for elementary schools is tomorrow night. In terms of the SBA results, he reported that data is being analyzed and staff is working to address the achievement gap. He invited all to Solano Stroll on Sunday at 10am.

Motion to adopt Board of Education minutes for June 3:
Hemphill/Leyva-Cutler and unanimously approved 5-0

11. Consent Calendar - approval requested

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Priorities and Initiatives for the 2015-16 School Year

Superintendent Evans presented Priorities and Initiatives for the 2015-16 School Year relative to enrollment, budget and his plan for strengthening the infrastructure. He reported that he will be bringing the BSEP renewal and monitoring of the LCAP to the Board within the next meetings. Questions and discussion followed.

The Board suggested that this presentation be posted on the website for the public to view. The Board agreed that it would be a good idea for the various school sites and committees to also see this presentation.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Resolution No. 16-007 Gann Limit

Motion to approve Resolution No. 16-007 Gann Limit:
Daniels/Alper and unanimously approved 5-0

Approval of 2014-2015 Unaudited Actuals

Director of Finance, Pauline Follansbee presented an overview of the projected ending fund balance of \$5,302,728. She reported that the District closed the year with an ending fund balance of \$5,094,617. She displayed variances and provided explanation. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to Approve Unaudited Actuals for 2014-2015:
Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and unanimously approved 5-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Cont.)

Board Policy Priorities

The Board revisited the list of policies they created in February of 14-15. President Appel directed the Board to bring forth any new or already listed policies that should be prioritized for the 2015-16 school year.

Director Alper:

- The role of police in schools and when it is appropriate to refer students to the police

Director Paraiso-Arroyo:

- Student discipline and alternative to suspensions

Director Hemphill:

- Student discipline
- Discrimination of all types
- Naming facilities

Vice President Leyva-Cutler:

- Bullying
- Student discipline
- Enrollment changed given higher priority
- Revisit bullying and sexual harassment policies
- Gender neutral restrooms.

President Appel said she agreed and had nothing else to add; she went on to summarize the policies.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward

ADJOURNMENT

President Appel adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m. and the Board recessed into Closed Session.