

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702
510-644-6206

Official Minutes
April 6, 2016

President Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. She reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board of Education:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, President – Present

Ty Alper, Vice President – Present

Judy Appel, Director/Clerk – Present

Josh Daniels, Director – Present

Angelo Paraiso-Arroyo, Student Director, BHS – Excused Absence

Alaunte Keys, Student Director, BTA – Excused Absence

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

President Leyva-Cutler reported out on closed session:

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Evaluation (Government Code Sections 54954.5(e), 54957)

Suspension of Classified Employee #002273

Motion to accept staff recommendation for suspension of classified employee #002273:

Daniels/Hemphill and unanimously approved 5-0

Settlement Agreement with Classified Employee #002273

Motion to approve settlement agreement with classified employee #002273:

Daniels/Hemphill and unanimously approved 5-0

Student Discipline (Ed Codes 48900/48915)

Case #1415-11-111002 – Readmission

Motion to approve staff recommendation to deny readmission in this case:

Daniels/Appel and unanimously approved 5-0

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6) District Representative: Delia Ruiz; Employee Organization: BCCE

The Board received an update on this matter; no action was taken.

Collective Bargaining Government Code Section 54957.6(a) (Lead Negotiator: Legal Counsel Roy Combs) BFT Negotiations

The Board received an update on this matter; no action was taken.

Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8)

District Negotiator: David A. Soldani, Legal Counsel; Negotiating Party: City of
Berkeley; Property: 1231 Addison; Under Negotiations: Status Update

The Board received an update on this matter; no action was taken.

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of President Leyva-Cutler, Action Item 12.2, Superintendent's Employment Contract, was pulled. It will be come back at a subsequent meeting after some minor edits are applied.

Motion to approve agenda as amended:

Alper/Daniels and approved 4-1

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, President – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Vice President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Director/Clerk – *No*

Josh Daniels, Director – *Yes*

Angelo Paraiso-Arroyo, Student Director, BHS – *Excused Absence*

Alaunte Keys, Student Director, BTA – *Excused Absence*

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of three people addressed the Board:

A person addressed the Board with his complaints.

A community member asked the the Board to relocate a BUSD dumpster adjacent to his home.

NAACP president commented on the process by which employees are allowed to return to their job placements following an extended leave of absence.

UNION COMMENTS

Cathy Campbell, BFT President

Campbell commented on the importance to recruit teachers of color. She said that emails have gone out to new teachers notifying them that June 30 is their last day of employment. In light of an extremely financially tight labor market for teachers, she urged the Board to modify its timelines. For the first time in ten years, this current school year did not begin fully staffed and students were impacted, and this should not happen again. She urged the Board to approve the not new LCAP funded before them tonight, to encourage staff to begin the hiring process without waiting on May revise, to direct staff to take steps to ensure that the site plans are not an impediment to expediting the hiring process, and to vote to approve new LCAP funded positions as soon as possible. She expressed support for the full time restorative practices positions, and the item regarding staffing proportionality.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Bruce Simon, BSEP P&O Committee, Co Chair

Congratulated the Board on its outstanding fiscal stewardship apparent in its new credit rating of AAA and A+. He said that tonight's BSEP update would be on the ongoing planning process for the upcoming BSEP measure renewal. The planning process has been centered on budget, programs and community engagement. The Board and the P&O have received several updates as the work has progressed. About a year ago, the planning process developed three formal components: educational priorities, budget models and public engagement. The Board has heard reports from staff on all three areas to ensure public understanding in support of the current measure and provide opportunity for input on the new measure. The Board will review a first draft on April 20. The next P&O meeting is on April 12 at 7:15 p.m. in Room 126.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Evans thanked Pat Saddler for bringing LCAP budget recommendation early this year. He also thanked Director Beery for all of her hard work with the new measure. He acknowledged Deputy Superintendent Cleveland for BUSDs credit rating.

Director Appel announced her appointment of Ruby Spies, a BHS sophomore, to the Youth Commission. Office hours: April 16 at Mo'joe, 10am-12pm.

Director Daniels said he will have office hours in May. He announced that on April 9th will be the first of a number of events celebrating Willard's Centennial at the Ed Roberts campus. Next Thurs. April 14, the Smarter Balance Assessment Family Night will be held in the Board Room at 6:30pm. With respect to BUSDs new credit rating, he said that it was special and explained that it determines our risk when borrowing. AAA is the best, AA+ is second best. In comparison with all of the large districts, who have a AAA, as a small district, BUSDs rating is remarkable, the same as Beverly Hills USD, a very wealthy district.

Director Hemphill will hold office hours on April 30th at 10:30am at Café Leila. The anti racism task force will meet for the first time tomorrow at 6pm in Room 126.

President Leyva-Cutler thanked Daniels for his framing of the new rating. With respect to a public comment at the previous meeting about AEDs, she proposed that we install one in the Board Room as well. She reported that she attended a Latino Summit and went to Legislators offices to advocate for education, climate change and ethnic studies.

Vice President Alper: No comment

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

Appel/Alper and approved unanimously 5-0

DISCUSSION ITEMS

First Draft Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Budget for School Year 2016-17

Time allotted: 40 min

Actual time: 65 min

Superintendent Evans explained that this is the first draft of the LCAP for 16-17, which includes program actions as well as service recommendations. The purpose of bringing expenditure recommendations early is to expedite direction from the Board that will impact our 2016-17 hiring timeline. Additionally, we are also eliminating one program.

Presenters: Pat Saddler and Maggie Riddle

Saddler added that we are in year one of our current three year LCAP, which was approved last June. There are some recommendations for minor

adjustments. There is a new LCAP rubric that is being designed at the state wide level and the state will provide more direction following the state board's approval of the final rubric in August.

In accordance with BP 0460, the Superintendent's recommendation is to reduce the FTE for Middle School Bridge to .2 FTE for 5th to 6th Grade transition. Ed services is recommending a 1.0 FTE Counseling position at each middle school, in lieu of existing middle school BRIDGE, to provide Restorative Practices and case management. They also recommended the increase of some existing services and proposed new services, including a middle school 1.0 FTE counselor, a TSA for equity and instruction, and a literacy pre-teacher for the summer academy. Questions and discussion followed.

Superintendent Evans guided the discussion around these questions:

- Do LCAP goals continue to reflect the Board's priorities.
- Do proposed actions and services benefit the academic and socio-emotional needs of the targeted students?
- Are there any proposed additions, increases or changes that cause you concern?

Vice President Leyva-Cutler recused herself from conversation around the intervention services and the pre-teach summer program.

Daniels commended the way this presentation had been laid out. He said he appreciated the adherence to the policy that was approved last year. In comparison to other districts, he added that we are leaps and bounds ahead. He recognized the difficulty in recommending to discontinue a program that is serving students. He went on to express concern with the proposed use of supplemental funds for the RTI position as a response to increase in enrollment. Given our limited funds, our focus should be on creating cultural shifts at our middle and high schools around discipline and behavior. He also proposed a revolving loan fund to support classified staff in becoming teachers.

Craig said that after having success with the pilot at Washington elementary, we want to see restorative justice practices at all of our schools. This would ideally translate into one full time staff at each site for this purpose.

Hemphill shared Daniels' concerns. She proposed that we continue to invest in professional development for new teachers around toolbox and saturate restorative justice at the secondary level, where it has made a difference.

Appel thanked staff for their hard work. She commented on the restorative practices and suggested that instead of placing it at a second site, to have trained teachers work with the Washington teachers to model circles. At the middle school level, she supports intervention positions, but there are some

talks about whether the positions should be classified staff or counselors who can supervise interns. At the high school level, she proposed employing funds to duplicate Mr. Estrada's work.

Alper echoed that it was great that the pilot was successful at Washington, but leans towards focusing restorative practices at the middle and high school levels.

Leyva-Cutler commented on student truancy and absenteeism and how the LCAP identifies and targets truant students.

Craig responded that student absenteeism is supported through the Office of Family Engagement. She added that the next draft can more clearly lay out how LCAP is supporting truant students.

After receiving direction from the Board, staff will bring this item back on April 20.

Report on BSEP Planning Process: Voter Poll, Workgroups and Conversations

Time allotted: 40 min

Actual time: 28 min

Presenter: Natasha Beery, Director of BSEP and Community Relations

This is the last update before a draft is presented on April 20. There are three components that are really engaged: the public process, the budget models and educational priorities. As we began this process, we began with some questions and possible scenarios, which have evolved. Budget models were created to share what we need to consider to remain sustainable in the next measure. The budget models considered projected enrollment process, compensation costs, BSEP tax rate and revenue, and K-5 class size. One of the points to acknowledge, is that class size is gradual and does not happen overnight. Balancing would eliminate combination grade classes and we will gradually restore flex rooms and be more financially sustainable. When presenting BSEP to various community groups, the topics of conversation indicated that balanced class sizes K-5 are appealing, students also need support with counseling and there is strong support around academics and interventions. Questions and discussion followed.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

Daniels acted as observer:

- Both items were framed well.

- It's always difficult to allot accurate time to items.
- Our discussion on LCAP, in particular, displayed an attempt on addressing a problem at the root.
- Good job at modeling mutual respect.

ADJOURNMENT

President Leyva-Cutler adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. The Board recessed back into closed session.