

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

Official Minutes
April 20, 2016

President Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. She reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 5:45 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 – Present

Alaunte Key, Student Director, BTA – 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

President Leyva-Cutler reported out on closed session:

Collective Bargaining: Lead Negotiator: Legal Counsel Roy Combs—BCCE, BFT, UBA and Local 21 Negotiations

The Board received an update; no action was taken

Conference with Legal Counsel—Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9)

The Board consulted legal counsel on this matter; no action was taken.

Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8)

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

The Board consulted legal counsel on this matter; no action was taken.

Public Employee Appointment: Career and Technical Education Program Supervisor (Government Code Section 54957)

Motion to accept staff recommendation:

Daniels/Appel and unanimously approved 5-0.

Superintendent's Midyear Evaluation (Government Code Section 54957)

The Board discussed the Superintendent's midyear evaluation; no action was taken.

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of Director Alper, Consent Item 11.9, Approval to Award a Contract with Vila Construction Company for the LeConte Transitional Kindergarten Campus Project, was moved to Action.

Motion to approve agenda as amended:

Alper/Paraiso-Arroyo and unanimously approved 7-0.

RECOGNITION

Berkeley Scholars to CAL recognized participating students for their academic achievements.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 12 people addressed the Board:

Three students shared the testimony of a student who experienced sexual harassment.

A parent addressed LeConte's need for a bilingual secretary.

Two teachers updated the Board on the BHS design plans.

A parent shared his experience in seeking adequate support for his child.

A community member commented on the resolution regarding the Superintendent's contract.

A parent commented in support of the added language to the recess restriction policy.

A science teacher commented in support of the resolution directing staff to deemphasize the science CST.

A SHAC representative commented on the expulsion policy.

An MX teacher advocated for proportional staffing.

UNION COMMENTS

Cathy Campbell ceded her time to a Washington school who also stressed the need for

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

P&O Co-Chair Bruce Simon highlighted tonight's presentation on BSEP Measure Renewal. Tonight's presentation on BSEP represents the voices of many community members who have contributed an impressive depth of knowledge and breadth of experience. The P&O is confident that the process included representatives of every school site. While the new measure shares many principles with that of 2006, there have been focused efforts to provide increased measures of flexibility to manage changes in financial demographics and academic circumstances the District could face over the next years. The next step is approval of the grant to submit to the voters of Berkeley. Public comment on BSPE will be welcomed at the next P&O meeting on April 26, in Room 126 at 7:15 p.m.

David Goldman, Citizens Bond Oversight Committee

Mr. Goldman reported that for the third year, BUSD expended Measure I funds only for the purposes approved by the voters and only for the specific projects developed by the Board of Education in accordance with Prop 39 and the California Constitution. On behalf of the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, he thanked the Board, the Superintendent and the city of Berkeley voters for their support.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Vice President Alper thanked the Construction Bond Oversight Committee. He clarified that the resolution regarding CST was a resolution brought forward joint by him and Director Appel.

Director Daniels shared he's had the opportunity to visit some schools. No April office hours. The next policy committee meeting will be on May 4 from 1pm to 4pm. The annual BHS alumni baseball game will be this Saturday.

Director Paraiso-Arroyo expressed support for the a BUSD form to report sexual harassment.

Director Appel shared that today was the first ever queer-straight alliance event and she thanked the counselors who organized it. She also thanked Alper for taking the lead on CST resolution.

Director Hemphill gave a shout out to all the Black students who were recognized for achieving a 3.2 GPA or higher. She added that the Berkeley

Scholars Program is a great program that should be duplicated. She reported that the Anti-Racism Task Force held its first meeting last week on Wednesday and will meet again on Tues. May 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the office of the Superintendent.

President Leyva-Cutler announced Cathy Orozco as her new appointment to the Peace and Justice Committee. She shared that she attended the NAACP meeting which had a great turnout. The task force will be responding to concerns raised at this meeting. She encouraged the Board and staff to be mindful of the time allotted to each item and being in consideration of those who work tomorrow.

Superintendent Evans shared that while leading a school district is challenging, it is also rewarding because of the people that he is working with. He thanked everyone for the opportunity and their contribution as decisions and changes are not made in isolation. He added that we are anticipating the completion of the Ed specs before revisiting the possibility of a new school. He recognized MX for receiving the Golden Ribbon Award.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:
Appel/Alper and unanimously approved 7-0.

ACTION ITEMS

Annual Declaration of Need for Fully-Qualified Educators

Assistant Superintendent Ruiz explained that due to higher demand in the teaching force, this resolution provides flexibility to hire teachers who have a permit and are in the process of becoming credentialed can be hired to teach.

Motion to approve the Annual Declaration of Need for Fully-Qualified Educators:

Leyva-Cutler/Paraiso-Arroyo and unanimously approved 7-0.

Gardening and Cooking Program Budget for 2016-17

Superintendent Evans noted that this year's allocation is different than last year's. He added that tonight's budget proposal will highlight such changes.

Jezra Thompson, Program Supervisor

Her presentation highlighted the hands-on instruction that is happening at various sites. The garden based learning curriculum piloted last year was a success. This year's project based learning is focused at Longfellow, primarily around science, but also exploring different standards of math and history. A second project at BTA focused on supporting RTI in the garden promotes meditation and affords opportunity for calm. The goal of the proposed new projects for 2016-17 is to help improve the health and wellness activities for

kids and their families. Schools will be identified through pilots. In order to successfully execute these projects, we need a Health and Wellness Instructional Specialist. She presented this year's budget totaling to \$740,330. Next year's budget totals \$973,316. She also displayed previous and current FTEs. With respect to the COB grants, the panel of experts is looking at setting some specifications in the way that grants are used. Questions and discussion followed.

President Leyva-Cutler added that she would like to see how this program aligns with our nutrition services program.

Motion to approve the Gardening and Cooking Program Budget for 2016-17 with the condition that a comparison of FTEs be included in Friday Notes: **Alper/Daniels** and unanimously approved 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Special Education Elementary Inclusion Staffing

Lisa Graham, Director of Special Ed

Her presentation provided some context for the Statewide Special Education Task Force established in 1993. Among the Task Force recommendations were early intervention supports for students, technology to support common core state standards, and transition support for students aligned for college and independent living. On April 7, 2016, there was a community input meeting where participants had an opportunity to identify what they felt was a first and second priority. Graham requested direction from the Board with respect to four options: status quo, reconsideration of RtI duties and staffing, full proportionality, and modified proportionality.

Superintendent Evans directed the Board to comment in response to the four options.

President Leyva-Cutler suggested removing the status quo as an option and asked the Board for their input.

Alper asked that the staff recommendation be more clear.

Appel said that while the data supports the need for additional staffing at the larger sites, she wanted to know Graham's thoughts on the proposed additional staffing by some teachers.

Graham said the fourth option, a modified proportional staffing model, was the best option.

While the fourth option is ideal, Dr. Evans said we do not have the resources to get there. For that reason, option two would be more appropriate at this particular time.

Hemphill requested additional information on what reconsidering RTI duties looks like and who will be doing the work.

Daniels requested information around the thresholds of option four.

Appel added that she'd like to see this in the context of the whole sped budget.

Cleveland said that we'd reached a point where some trade-offs with respect to budget have to happen. She recommends that we just address MX at this time.

Alper added that it will be helpful to receive some information on the full impact on the budget.

Staff agreed to address these requests on May 18 after the May revise.

BSEP Measure Renewal of 2016 (First Draft)

Superintendent Evans and Natasha Beery

The structure of BSEP aligns with three major purposes: high quality instruction, essentials for excellence, and effective student support. These purposes are also aligned with the LCAP. This is an opportunity to reflect on how we can best support our students.

Beery added that this is a culmination of a long and thoughtful process. This is the first of three presentations before the measure language is up for approval in June. She highlighted history of BSEP support for schools since 1986 to demonstrate how the measure has evolved over time to continue to provide excellent education to our students.

Superintendent Evans walked the Board through changes since the last measure in 2006, which included the ruling of the Court of Appeals on special taxes calling for a uniform rate for residential and commercial properties, state mandated costs for retirement, CSR reduction, and low COLA. All of these coupled with increase in enrollment and compensation account for some of the major changes. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to extend open session to 11:15:

Leyva-Cutler/Hemphill and unanimously approved 7-0.

This item will come back for action on May 18.

Approval to Award a Contract with Vila Construction Company for the LeConte Transitional Kindergarten Campus Project

Director Alper explained that this item was pulled to highlight the revision to staff recommendation that clarifies that funding for this project will come from the Measure I Inflation Contingency Fund, and not from a future modernization budget for the LeConte site.

Motion to approve staff recommendation:

Alper/Daniels and unanimously approved 7-0.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Three people commented on sped staffing

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

President Leyva-Cutler acted as the observer:

- Items were framed well
- We need to make sure we allot adequate time to each item
- Director Hemphill modeled how to address issues at the root
- All modeled mutual respect and civility

ADJOURNMENT

President Leyva-Cutler adjourned the meeting at 11:06 p.m.