

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

Official Minutes
February 7, 2018

President Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:33pm He reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 5:32pm.

Roll Call

Board of Education:

Josh Daniels, President – Present,
Judy Appel, Vice President – Present
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director/Clerk – Present
Karen Hemphill, Director – Present
Ty Alper, Director -- Present
Uma Nagarajan-Swenson, Student Director, BHS – Present

Administration:

Donald E. Evans, Ed. D, Superintendent
Pasquale Scuderi, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Pauline Follansbee, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Lyz Chairez, Recorder

REPORT CLOSED SESSION

President Daniels reported out on closed session:

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 549569(b)) – Two Potential cases

The Board discussed the first potential case with counsel. No action was taken.

The Board did not discuss the second potential case.

Collective Bargaining Government Code Section 54957.6(a) (District Negotiator: Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley) BCCE Negotiations

The Board discussed this item. 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 Negotiation: Status Update

The Board gave direction to staff. No action taken.

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda:

Alper/Appel and unanimously approved 6-0

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 15 people addressed the Board:

Four comments in support of keeping the VP at MX.

Three comments on sexual harassment.

One comment on proposed budget cuts.

Three comments requesting support at Cragmont

One comment on the future of TK

Two comments in support of a permanent bilingual substitute at Le Conte

One comment on union negotiations and compensation for classified staff

UNION COMMENTS

Berkeley Federation of Teachers (BFT) President Cathy Campbell commented on proposed budget cuts and priorities

Berkeley Council of Classified Employees (BCCE) President Paula Phillips spoke on behalf of classified personnel requesting increase in compensation for BCCE members.

Union of Berkeley Administrators (UBA) President Janet Levenson commented on proposed budget cuts and priorities.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Charles Ribley provided a report of the district's financial audit. He reported that there were no findings.

BSEP Planning and Oversight Committee Co-Chair Bruce Simon highlighted the annual BSEP report for 2016-17 that will be presented tonight.

Berkeley PTA Council Member Christine Staples commented on proposed budget cuts and priorities

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Director Hemphill will hold office hours this Saturday. She announced that the Office of Family Engagement and Equity is sponsoring a black history oratorical fest on March 22 at Longfellow.

Director Leyva-Cutler reported that the county board of supervisors voted to put on the ballot an initiative in support of child development programs.

Vice President Appel thanked all who came out tonight. She shared that she visited sites that she is a liaison to. She also shared that she attended the meeting with the county board of supervisors and gave testimony in support of initiative to fund \$40 million into early childhood education.

Superintendent Evans thanked the public for advocating for our schools and students.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:
Appel/Alper and unanimously approved 6-0.

Annual Report of Revenue and Expenditures in FY 2016-2017 of the Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006

Allotted time: 10 mins

Actual time: 10 mins

Communications Director Natasha Beery reported on the programs that benefited from the BSEP Measure of 2006. Her presentation explained how BSEP and the General Fund complimented each other to support our educational programs during the life of the old measure as well as how they will continue to support programs within new current measure.

Proposed Reductions and Budget Priorities for 2018-19 Base Grant (Unrestricted General Fund)

Allotted time: 60 mins

Actual time: 60 mins

Associate Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi and Interim Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Pauline Follansbee presented budget cuts and priorities as proposed for the 2018-19 school year. They walked the viewing audience through some of the recommended changes since this item was last presented. Some of those changes included the removal of the vice principal at MX and dean of students at BHS, as well as the reduction of resource officers from 4FTE to 2FTE, from cut list. In summary, all of the proposed reductions on which consensus was reached translate into \$1.4 million. Questions and discussion followed.

Before initiating Board discussion, President Daniels contextualized item by reminding viewing audience that while the Superintendent was directed to recommend \$2.1 million in cuts, the committee was directed to make \$1.8 million in recommended cuts, which explains why the Superintendent's recommendation includes items not listed in the committee's. The \$300k

difference was to gauge what additional reductions the Superintendent and staff would recommend in anticipation of the cuts that will be proposed for the following year.

First, Daniels noted that the Board has already approved \$425k in reductions. Daniels then identified “consensus” cuts, those that the SBAC and the Superintendent all agreed to cut. The Board agreed to place all consensus cuts on the cut list with the exception of the proposed cuts to the Homeless Student program and to the CTE program.

Daniels next requested that the Board identify additional items that they would like to see removed from each of the categories as presented by staff. The Board agreed to place the following on the cut list:

- 2 safety officers
- roving custodian
- behavioral specialist

The Board also agreed to;

- a reduction in legal fees by \$50,000
- reducing consulting fees to \$75,000

In total, the Board identified \$1.6 million in solutions. This item will come back for action on February 21.

Approval to Issue Notice of Violation to REALM Charter High School

Allotted time: 30 min

Actual time:27min

Executive Director Victor Diaz opened up the item by providing some context.

Assistant Superintendent Follansbee reported that REALM is finishing the fiscal with a negative ending fund balance. She noted that, if the Notice of Violation was approved, REALM would have until April 11 to respond. In the meantime, BUSD will continue its fiscal oversight. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve the notice of violation as drafted by staff:
Daniels/Alper and unanimously approved 6-0.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

One comment classes housed at King CDC opposing relocation of TK

One comment in support of keeping vp and MX.

One comment on complaint process.

Motion to extend meeting by five minutes:
Appel/Daniels and unanimously approved 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

11:05pm