

BSEP PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 27, 2018

BUSD Offices –Technology Room 126

2020 Bonar Street, Berkeley, CA 94702

P&O Committee Members Present:

Loretha Henry, *Arts Magnet (Co)*

Liz Fox, *Cragmont*

Harry Charalambides, *Jefferson*

Danielle Perez, *John Muir (co-Chair)*

Lucero Lupercio, *LeConte (Co)*

Jane Tunks Demel, *Malcolm X*

Carla Bryant, *Oxford*

Weldon Bradstreet, *Rosa Parks*

Stephen Murphy, *Thousand Oaks (Co)*

Stephanie Upp, *Washington*

Terry Pastika, *King*

Aaron Glimme, *Berkeley High*

Shauna Rabinowitz, *Berkeley High*

Josh Irwin, *Berkeley High*

Bruce Simon, *Berkeley High (co-Chair)*

P&O Committee Members Absent*:

Dawn Paxson, *Emerson*

Sean Poremba, *Longfellow*

Angela Gallegos-Castillo, *Longfellow*

Rita Gaber, *Willard*

Jennifer Sitkin Morgan, *Willard*

Christina Balch, *Independent Study*

**Alternates and co-reps are not marked absent if another rep is present. Currently there is not representation from the stand-alone T-K, Pre-K, or BTA.*

Visitors, School Board Directors, Union Reps, and Guests:

Donald Evans, *Superintendent of Schools*

Jay Nitschke, *Director of Technology*

Pasquale Scuderi, *Associate Superintendent for Educational Services*

Lea Baechler-Brabo, *former P&O Rep, Communications for District*

BSEP Staff:

Natasha Beery, *Director, BSEP and Community Relations*

Danielle Perez, *Minute Recorder*

1. Call to Order, Introductions & Site Reports

At 7:19, Co-Chair Simon called the meeting to order by welcoming attendees. Introductions and site reports were given by each member. Dr. Evans updated that the upcoming Board meeting will include an update on the BHS redesign, completing the facilities master plan, and moving the district's hiring process earlier in the year.

2. Establish the Quorum & Approve Agenda

The Quorum was not immediately established at the outset with only 11 committee members present. 13 members were present by 7:33pm, when Rep. Pastika moved and Rep. Glimme seconded to approve the agenda, which was approved unanimously.

3. Chairperson's Comments

Bruce Simon, Co-Chair Planning and Oversight Committee

Co-Chair Simon expressed gratitude for the snack that BSEP Program Specialist Valerie Tay made for the group. He noted that due to Co-Chair Perez assuming a position with BUSD supporting the P&O meetings, it was time to look at finding interested committee members who might want to assume the position of Co-Chair with Bruce for the remainder of the year. He also stated that he and Co-Chair Perez intended to step down as Co-Chairs at the end of this school year, and members should start to consider who might want to fill the positions for next year.

4. BSEP Director's Comments

Natasha Beery, Director BSEP & Community Relations

Director Beery noted that BSEP Program Specialist Valerie Tay sent the homemade snack as a semi-farewell, as she is planning to move on to other business endeavors and has been reducing her hours over the past year. The hope is that in the next week there will be a new candidate chosen to fill that position. Director Beery asked the group to sign a card as a thank-you for Valerie for her years of work with the P&O and supporting school site committees.

Director Beery called the group's attention to the updated P&O Calendar, hard copies of which were available, and noted that the most recent version is always posted on the district webpage. Following additions to the last several meetings' agendas to accommodate discussions and input around the district budget cuts, the committee will now resume its regularly scheduled work. The goal for this evening is to take action on a portion of the Class Size Reduction plan, and subsequent meetings will see presentations of plans for the remaining purposes. Further, the calendar has two meeting dates listed for the month of April; as we get closer to the Spring Break we will survey committee members to see which date is preferred and will choose one to remain on the calendar.

5. Approval of Minutes

Rep Charalambides moved to approve the minutes from the 2.13.18 P&O meeting, Rep. Glimme seconded, and the **minutes were approved unanimously with no corrections.**

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. BSEP Revenue Projection and Site Allocations 2018-19

Natasha Beery, Director of BSEP & Community Relations

Director Beery provided the following handouts:

- *2017-18 Revenue Projection*
- *2018-19 Revenue Projection with 2.9% COLA*

Director Beery asked the group to identify differences between the projection documents and possible reasons for those changes; Co-Chair Simon observed that the revenue was expected to increase. Rep. Glimme posited that the increase was likely due to more property being taxed, the Bay Area CPI (COLA) increase of 2.9%, and that fewer taxpayers than anticipated may have filed for exemptions in the previous year which would yield more available funds than expected. Director Beery noted that the estimate of rebates increasing in the coming year is due to the expectation that more taxpayers will claim them as the tax rate increases. Also, rebates may be claimed retroactively for up to three years, so funds need to be maintained for that possibility.

Beery explained that the 0754 resource, which supports the BSEP and Public Information Offices, is allocated 2% of the revenue and then the remaining funds are divided among all the other purposes according to the percentages listed in the measure. Indirect costs are overhead costs, which for '18-'19 is 5.93% (a slight decrease) paid by all but Public Information budgets. Most purposes have a fixed percentage allocation, with the exception of Family Engagement, Counseling, and Student Achievement Strategies, which share 7% in allocations in proportions that can be changed. Rep. Bryant asked to clarify whether the budget is based on a projection or actual amounts, and Director Beery answered that it is based on a projection, with adjustments made as changes come; though as Co-Chair Simon noted the projections tend to be very accurate. Rep. Bryant noted that the surplus very nearly equals the amount of the budget shortfall for the district's General Fund in the coming year. Director Beery explained that BSEP can only be expended on specific purposes as written into the measures, and further that the prior two measures were unable to fully sustain all the BSEP purposes due to increased costs, so an effort is being made to maintain the fund balances in the early years of this new measure. Co-Chair Simon added that the district is facing a structural deficit, and BSEP money would not be sufficient to cover these ongoing district expenses in any event.

Director Beery then provided the following handouts:

- *Educational Services Preliminary Site Budget Allocations FY 2018-19*
- *Preliminary Site Budget Allocations FY 2018-19 (BSEP Funds Only)*

Director Beery began by explaining that the per-pupil allocation is determined using the expected revenue, and taking into account needing to keep a modest reserve in the event of changes. Director Beery and Budget Analyst Liz Karam needed to plan to keep enough funds aside in the event that stand-alone TK classes were moved back to elementary sites. Per-pupil allocations have increased by almost exactly the amount of the COLA, 2.8-2.9%; between that increase and some enrollment increases most sites are receiving more dollars than in the previous year. BTA has historically received an allocation based on 150 students despite fluctuating populations, because this steady amount provides them with enough budget to reliably fund their priorities.

Director Beery explained how the BSEP amounts shown in the BSEP site allocations document were filled into the second document, which combined that information with Title I allocations by site. Co-Chair Simon commented how few schools receive Title I funds, and how quickly the change has happened. Rep. Henry inquired if Title I funds at a site were to decrease that BSEP funds would increase to maintain funding levels. Director Beery responded that no, the Measure stipulates funding on a per pupil basis. She acknowledged that there are other inequities in funding between sites, such as PTA funds, but noted that the BSEP discretionary funds were

always directly proportional to school population size. Rep. Tunks-Demel asked how, if the district tries to keep site demographics balanced within district, there are only a few sites which qualify for Title I. There was some discussion as to whether school size would affect sites' abilities to meet the Title I criteria of 35% low-income. Rep. Tunks-Demel asked if it could be a problem of families not filling out the free/reduced lunch paperwork. Associate Superintendent Scuderi confirmed that was possible.

Rep. Henry asked if TK numbers were included in site allocations for BAM. Director Beery responded that there were not TK students included in the Art Magnet allocations. Rep. Bryant asked if the TK classes at King CDC will be moved to elementary sites, to which Mr. Scuderi responded that the move has been postponed until at least the '19-'20 school year. Director Beery will try to bring prior years' allocations for comparison. Co-Chair Simon added that schools get a one year grace period with Title I classifications, so can have dropped below the 35% threshold over a year ago and only this year lose funding. Rep. Bryant raised a question of whether Title I had a district component or whether is determined strictly by site demographics. Director Beery and Mr. Scuderi concurred that to the best of their knowledge Title I is site-only. Also clarified that sites that come back into eligibility do so immediately, without a corresponding one-year buffer, and that the reported enrollment is from October of each year.

8. Update re: District Budget Decisions for 2018-19

Pasquale Scuderi, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services

Mr. Scuderi provided the following handouts:

- *Proposed Reductions in Ongoing General Fund Spending, 2018-19*

Scuderi explained that the document represents the culmination of a process going on since last Spring, and the resulting final decisions of the School Board. Dr. Evans added that Board's direction was for staff to come up with \$2.1 million in cuts while the estimated shortfall was \$1.8 million, and that ultimately the amount agreed upon by Board was to cut \$1.7 million. They will be going back to the Board with one-time expenses and ongoing expenses through April, though those conversations won't be as painful as this one. Rep. Irwin asked for clarification of whether the Board approved the BREA director position reduction. Mr. Scuderi explained that it is written differently in the distributed document because it is a proposed elimination of a BSEP-funded position to create room for \$148,000 transfer in of other expenses from the GF. Rep. Irwin asked if there were any surprises in the Board's final decision. Mr. Scuderi responded that overall they were pleased to have tried to stay away from cuts to school sites as much as possible, for example eliminating two Safety Officers instead of the originally proposed four. There was Board discussion about the TK program, but the impact of moving the classes seemed to outweigh the potential savings.

Regarding anticipated revenue, the hope that improved P2 attendance numbers might allow for, as Dr. Evans noted, postponement of some further reduction considerations is still being allowed. BTA position reductions had been approved earlier, as fusion of BTA structure with BIS. BTA will still have low student to teacher ratio given enrollment, with room to grow. Rep. Bryant shared that she was invited to visit the last BTA SGC meeting, and the concern among parents at that site is the elimination of a CTE position. Mr. Scuderi explained that there hasn't been any CTE position specifically cut. The Board moved to change BTA back to continuation site rather than an alternative school, giving more flexibility with credentialing requirements for teachers and allowing existing staff to teach more types of classes. The goal was to try to hold on to existing teachers by now being able to offer them classes that may be outside their specific

credential but that would maintain the CTE blueprint currently being used at the site. Rep. Bryant shared that the SGC group from BTA was feeling that a disproportionate amount of the district cuts are affecting their small population, and that the district might be targeting their site intentionally. Mr. Scuderi shared that the Superintendent put significant effort into visiting BTA as this decision was being discussed to engage that community and attempt to counteract that feeling. He asked to keep in mind that even after the reduction, on most days students are still getting a 7:1 student to teacher ratio at BTA, [where the BSEP Measure specifics 18:1, and BHS is at 28:1].

Dr. Evans clarified that the CTE teacher teaching Video Production at BTA is different from the CTE coordinator position for district. Mr. Scuderi indicated that the district has a draft schedule, and will have to see how that could function with the existing staff. CTE will still be the focus; a \$275,000 grant for CTE still exists to support at BTA. Rep. Bryant reiterated to the group that BTA is reaching out to community members because they feel they have taken the biggest cuts. The BTA conversation she participated in centered around the elimination of A-G requirements and the higher needs that their students bring into the school that create the need for a low ratio and lots of resources. Rep. Bryant shared that she asked the BTA SGC group to identify who they are and what they're trying to do, and advised them to use that to inform their direction. For example, if the program is about CTE and career readiness, they should focus their energies on the CTE aspect. Rep. Bryant wanted to report that conversation and overall situation back to the larger P&O group in the absence of a regular P&O representative from that site.

Rep. Pastika inquired if the items listed on the handout without dollar amounts would not be cut, which was confirmed. She also asked what monies being cut fell into the category of having been budgeted but never expended. Mr. Scuderi responded the Homeless non-salary budget was unused allocation, Peer Assistance was the same, and the GATE program as well. Additionally, though noon supervisor monies are not being cut, that budget is also under-expended.

Co-Chair Simon asked about what the "escape hatch" or "Plan B" would be if the district isn't able to reduce legal costs by the desired amount. Dr. Evans responded that the district is currently negotiating prices for services with different firms and is optimistic about being able to achieve a more competitive price which will help tremendously. Of course it isn't possible to predict future issues, but this year has seen several big issues come up. Mr. Scuderi added that in the last 3 years the district had relatively new staff in HR, Student Services and Special Education; one of the hopes is that as staff become more seasoned the district won't need to rely on legal counsel when mid-level situations can be handled by these, now more veteran, managers. Dr. Evans stated that not bringing legal counsel into contract negotiations until towards the end of the process rather than the middle is a part of the reduction plan as well.

Director Beery pointed out to the group that the transfer of costs into BSEP, in the amount of \$489,000, was higher than the originally requested \$454,000 target by the Board, but that this total was informed by the items that were most in keeping with the Measure and which could be financially sustainable. Rep. Pastika asked if in that discussion the feedback from the P&O about using Measure A funds first was acknowledged. Director Beery responded that the ultimate need was to find solutions that would work in an ongoing way and so ongoing revenue needed to be allocated rather than fund balances. BSEP budget managers will look to use fund balances to fund current purposes. Though it is not required to expend Measure A funds before Measure E1 funds, generally it is a good idea to expend carryover first; the transition from A to E1 is smooth enough to plan to draw upon those for current purposes, and that carryover could very well be used to fund items that the GF used to pay for or for new purposes in keeping with the Measure, while preserving fund balance in the New Measure for future purposes.

9. Recommendation for BSEP Funds in FY 2018-19

Pasquale Scuderi, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services

Associate Superintendent Scuderi provided the following handouts:

- *Recommendation for Expenditure of BSEP Funds for Class Size Reduction and Support for Teaching in FY 2018-19*
- *Class Size Reduction FTE Planning Document (revised)*

Beery explained that the High Quality Instruction fund is 66% of the revenue allocation, and comprises two main portions: Class Size Reduction and Support for Teaching. The committee will decouple these two pieces; they can be looked at together, but the hope is to accelerate the approval of the Teacher Template, which will allow HR to plan for how many teachers the district can hire for the classrooms. That in turn will help the district get ahead in recruiting new teachers, particularly in high-demand areas. The committee will then queue up evaluating of the rest of the resource which encompasses several large programs, with each needing a separate discussion. Because of the change in structure in moving to this new measure, this might be the way the committee continues to approach this task moving forward.

Mr. Scuderi began by explaining that all of the changes listed in the document are due to the transferring in of expenses from the GF. Mr. Scuderi credited Director Beery with improving the layout of the narrative packet, as the second page is easier to read than previously and walks through how staffing is calculated. Director Beery added that as we're doing the gradual class size balancing, it means changing staffing ratios one grade at a time each year; we haven't reached 2nd and 3rd grade yet in Measure E1 so they are still 20:1, 4th and 5th are still 26:1 for now. Rep Henry asked if we have increased instructional time with the increase in prep time for classroom teachers. Mr. Scuderi confirmed that those expanded preps do equal an increase of a few minutes per day. Previously K-3 had 1 prep period per week while grades 4-5 had 5; now all grades will have 4, balancing prep time as well as class sizes across elementary grades.

Mr. Scuderi clarified that in this meeting the committee is being asked to approve only the first portion of the plan, the transfer from BSEP to the GF to meet the district's class size goals. The specifics of the remaining funding to ancillary purposes after meeting those class size goals will be discussed at a later meeting. Co-Chair Simon asked what changes had been made to the Teacher Template, since the group had seen it at the previous meeting. Director Beery indicated the need to round up further to provide full teachers at 2 elementary sites and at BHS, which ended up adding about 3 FTE to more effectively achieve class size goals. None of the \$489,000 asked of BSEP to take on from the GF is included in the cost being approved in this action. Mr. Scuderi clarified that because there would be no change to the number of TK sections, there would not be a change to the Teacher Template as a result of the district-wide budget changes.

Rep. Glimme stated that a large portion of the above-mentioned ancillary purposes include around 8 FTE of teaching positions at the high school, and asked if the consideration and approval of those purposes would also be concluded in an accelerated timeframe, as the need to accelerate hiring extends to those positions as well. Mr. Scuderi answered that the committee will move on to that task as soon as this approval is done. Further clarification was given that the 2 FTE being added to support the Universal 9th grade transition represented portions of positions, combining hours to reach the equivalent of two full-time positions.

Rep. Rabinowitz asked to clarify if when you add prep times, you need to add time that another teacher will be in class with students. Director Beery affirmed that is correct, and the document being approved takes that into account. Ms. Baechler-Brabo asked what portion of the additional prep costs were included in the BSEP budget. From the total increase of \$600,000, it will be around \$400,000 from the GF and \$200,000 from BSEP. Ms. Baechler-Brabo also shared from the PTA Council meeting the desire for sites to maintain some level of discretion and choice in how to use these prep times, recognizing that individual schools have long-established programs and staff that communities do not want to lose. Mr. Scuderi acknowledged that while all grade levels will get a discretionary period, concern has been voiced about upper grades losing an “elective” with the overall reduction of one prep in grades 4 and 5. This is a discussion that will continue over the next several weeks. Rep. Tunks-Demel raised a question about which grades would receive which programs in that release time. Mr. Scuderi summarized the ongoing process of trying to figure out that schedule and promised to send the information out as soon as possible; he later clarified that 1st and 2nd grades would receive two PE periods, one music OR science period, and one period of school site choice; 3rd grade will receive two PE periods, one music period, and one period of school site choice. Rep. Pastika asked what is being offered during the release time for 6th grade at the middle schools. Mr. Scuderi will bring that information to a subsequent meeting of the group.

Action: Simon called for a **motion to approve the Teacher Template**. Rep. Upp moved to approve, Rep. Bryant seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Scuderi continued to review the remaining portion of the document to give highlights of the rest of the plan for ancillary purposes under the “Support for Teaching” heading, which include Expanded Course Offerings, Professional Development, Evaluation, and Classroom Support at LeConte and BHS. Rep. Charalambides inquired about the number of FTEs for Literacy Coaches in previous years. Mr. Scuderi replied that the number has been the same for several years.

Mr. Scuderi noted that Professional Development monies from BSEP are particularly important as a significant portion of previous years’ PD funding came from funds dedicated to implementing Common Core, which is reducing by 50% this year. The district is relying on a much smaller amount, including these BSEP funds, to support PD. Director Beery also reminded the group that notes in the document in italics show where BSEP is taking on additional costs from GF; the amounts add up to 4 FTE at about \$100,000 each in salary and benefits, which equals about \$400,000 of that \$489,000 total added to the BSEP budget for this year. Mr. Scuderi stated that this speaks to Rep. Glimme’s previous point about the value of accelerating the approval timeline for this second portion of the proposal, which contains many positions for which we want to recruit and hire as early as possible. He also pointed out that the increase in TSA costs under Program Evaluation represents adding 1 FTE to BSEP concurrent with the GF eliminating the Director of Program Evaluation position. He also noted that the item of LeConte TWI support is not the same as request to have full-time support/substitute position at that site.

Mr. Scuderi highlighted that the document includes mention of a proposed reduction of \$36,000 in expenditures for stipends and professional development, the goals of which the district believes can be handled within the previously discussed PD budget of \$90,000. He also noted that in Classroom support 2 FTE are going to help fund the advisory component of the new Universal 9th Grade at BHS. This addition of FTE was achieved by applying resources that were freed up by reductions at BTA. The rationale behind this change was to shift focus to keeping kids on track starting in 9th and 10th grade rather than having un-accessed resources at BTA. The GF has committed an ongoing \$300,000 to support the costs of the Universal 9th Grade at BHS. Pending

the approval of this proposal in which BSEP would cover around \$200,000 there is a plan for LCAP to pick up remaining \$80,000 to fully fund the new 9th grade structure.

Rep. Henry asked if the district will be considering transitioning BTA back to the main High School. Mr. Scuderi responded that it will not, as the district intends BTA to function as a late-term net to catch kids who are not otherwise on track to graduate. Though it is a small number of students, the core group consistently transitioning in to BTA are significantly credit-deficient and require the continuation model to at the very least get them a continuation diploma, or to build toward the possibility of secondary education through CTE. Rep. Henry asked if the district was looking at ways to identify students needing support in 8th grade. Mr. Scuderi responded that some of the goals they have pursued over the past couple of years have been toward being more informed in that area; using ASI as a basic screener as well as a middle school transition rubric to give personalized information on every student who moves from a BUSD middle school to BHS, which is the focus of the intervention team at the 9th grade. Rep. Glimme added that BHS has used discretionary funds for special classes for 9th grade students particularly at-risk, and now the discussion is around whether this new district-funded program could make room for those discretionary funds to be used for additional support for those students into the 10th grade. The BHS administration is hoping to keep those students progressing and at BHS rather than transitioning them to BTA. Mr. Scuderi elaborated that there have been very successful programs that were limited in reach, and there is now hope that the new structure at 9th grade can scale the support up to better meet the need.

Rep. Bryant expressed a desire for data, would like to know what the current state is for the strategies discussed here and would like to see how data points can be included with these recommendations for consideration. She also stated that though she is happy to see intervention between middle and high school, it is clear that the need exists much earlier. You can see the divide at 3rd and 4th grade, in who is getting extra help and where that gap is. From her site's perspective, despite the efforts with Literacy Coaches and similar, the feeling is that the current actions aren't good enough; they want clear Tier 2 and 3 strategies that can be tested to measure any resulting changes in trajectory for these students. Lastly, when you go to BTA, you see what we see at elementary level; there has to be an open dialogue about that disproportionality and trajectory, and funding sources have to come with recognizing that. She would like to see it openly in the budget. Rep. Tunks-Demel concurred, stated that it can be seen by the end of Kindergarten. Mr. Scuderi acknowledged that those are huge points, and expressed the desire to remain open to that critique and be responsive rather than defensive. He further responded, to that end the district is actively trying to address these concerns by tackling areas of biggest impact, such as addressing literacy as key to achievement. The district is currently slogging through this challenge and has dedicated \$300,000 to completely reorient the structured literacy program to include a strong phonemic component. Another point might be to make more explicit that the Coordination of Services teams should be targeting the kids who are disproportionately affected by these challenges. We know this is a full-continuum need, and it might be helpful to show where other funds are supporting that to give a fuller picture of district efforts. Dr. Evans added that the Coordination of Services teams are where we're working to address these concerns, and that they are looking critically at what is and isn't working. It is a constant topic of discussion, why we're not meeting their needs. Some of these kids have been with us for a long time and we've lost them; we are aware that we don't have a perfect answer but we're working on it.

Rep. Pastika asked if for the next meeting the group could be told exactly how much classroom time teachers are missing because of PD. Rep. Scuderi responded that BUSD has very little time that the district controls for PD, roughly only 2 days per level. By and large pulling teachers is not

our model; when it happens it's voluntary and developed with principals. The model focused on pulling administrators and coordination of services staff (non-direct instruction staff) for more of the PD, while some of it is also happening in the Wednesday meetings after school hours. Rep. Pastika also asked if, by voting to approve the PD and the Literacy Coach item in the proposal, that would commit other funds from sites. Director Beery and Mr. Scuderi confirmed that other funding sources beyond the budget being reviewed at this meeting would need to come into play to fully fund the literacy coaches.

Rep. Irwin expressed that though P&O members understand how we are helping the kids and what's happening, the public really doesn't understand things like RTI or Coordination of Services, and feels that a part of that lack of broader recognition is that the many success stories associated with these programs aren't being made known to the broader community. We do see that there are certain students who aren't achieving to desired levels, but it would help to give understanding if we also see the successes along with how much money is spent on groups of kids. Was disturbed to see GATE budget cut. This information would help to explain what the goals are and where are we trying to get to. How do we decide whether the programs we're trying are working? We need data to be able to evaluate how things work.

Rep. Upp asked for the rationale behind the distribution of the Expanded Course Offerings as they are not proportional to populations. Rep. Glimme pointed to an organic historical growth stemming from previous measures not including ECO for middle schools at all. The last measure added middle schools to the ECO purpose but those had to be added outside of the school day (zero period or after school), which has caused reduced participation. Mr. Scuderi added that ECO classes at BHS are also sometimes required labs for other AP or IB courses. Co-Chair Simon asked if the committee could see a breakdown of the transfers from GF as well as any savings, with the next presentation. Director Beery will show multi-year progression of how funding streams went in and out to fund various programs over time to give a clearer view of this at the next meeting.

10. School Site/Governance Council Bylaws Update

Natasha Beery, Director BSEP & Community Relations

Director Beery provided the following handouts:

- *California Open Meeting Laws and LCFF Parent Advisory Committees*
- *School Site Council (SSC) Bylaws; Summary of Updates to Prior Bylaws*
- *BUSD School Site Council Bylaws v 02.26.18*

Director Beery began by introducing the scope of P&O to oversee and improve school site function; that the P&O does not have a direct say over bylaws but it does have input that the Board can consider when making final approval decisions. Director Beery plans to share access to the document to allow comments from committee members. She summarized the major updates as follows. The first change is calling the site groups SSCs rather than SGCs in keeping with Ed Code. Rep. Glimme explained that Berkeley schools used to have both School Site Committees and BSEP Site Committees, and when they tried to merge those groups (and sometimes also ELACs), they adopted the SGC name to represent the broader scope. Director Beery stated that moving back to SSC allows us to pull directly from the state's outline of purposes. Another goal in the revision was to clarify the responsibilities of key staff, principals, and committee members. There was an effort to clarify how we carry out processes such as elections, quorum, and voting, trying to address issues that have come up around inclusion and to increase flexibility for very

small groups such as BIS or BTA. There was also an addition of information on removal of membership and more information on how to run meetings.

Director Beery explained that the Greene Act, which applies only to public schools' SSC's, was an effort by lawmakers to ease burdens on SSC members, to maintain transparency but reduce member liability and encourage participation in the processes without fear. Rep. Pastika stated that another part of the effort was to clarify the purpose of the site discretionary funds, as well as to get to the issue of data, recognizing that the administration has an obligation to implement the plans but that we also want to build parent capacity to be better informed about making decisions within these groups. She asked the members to please take time to read the revised bylaws, to comment if any of the items were not clear, and to participate in this process of improving practices for the district. Highlighted items in the document are new additions, most of which have been taken from the educational code or pulled from the P&O Committee bylaws. Director Beery stated that the group would revisit the conversation again in a subsequent meeting.

Co-Chair Simon asked the group to acknowledge the work that Pastika put into this improvement of the bylaws. *Applause*

11. For the Good of the Order

Rep. Glimme stated how much he appreciated the new name tags, and expressed appreciation to Valerie Tay for creating them.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24.