

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education

1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702

510-644-6206

Official Minutes

March 28, 2018

President Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:30. He reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 6:00pm.

Roll Call

Board of Education:

Josh Daniels, President – Present,

Judy Appel, Vice President – Present (8:05pm)

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:

Consideration of Student Expulsion (Ed Code Section 48918 (c))

Motion to expel student consistent with direction provided to staff in closed session for the suspended expulsion for a period of time and other conditions :

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and approved 3-1:

Josh Daniels, President – Yes

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Absent*

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director/Clerk – Yes

Karen Hemphill, Director – Yes

Ty Alper, Director -- *No*

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

The Board discussed this matter and gave direction to staff.

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 did not discuss this matter.

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of Daniels, item 12.12 was pulled from consent and will follow item 15.

Motion to approve agenda as amended:

Alper/Daniels and unanimously approved 5-0.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 17 people addressed the Board:

- Six comments in support of keeping dance for 4/5 grades at Cragmont.
- Seven comments in support of vote 16.
- One comment opposing reduction of safety officers at BHS.
- One comment opposing clustering practices at Rosa Parks.
- Two comments regarding bullying.

UNION COMMENTS

BCCE President Paula Phillips shared that she participated in March for Our Lives in Santa Ana. She commented in opposition to the resolution to eliminate two school safety officer position at BHS.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Director Leyva-Cutler thanked all students who came out tonight. She will hold office hours on April 9 at Casa Latina. She announced the Chavez-Huerta essay contest will take place March 11-April 30.

Director Hemphill announced that the 50th Anniversary of the African American Studies department planning is underway. She reported that last week's oratorical fest was a success. She also announced that the annual celebration of black student excellence will be held. Students with a 3.0 GPA and higher will be recognized. She will hold her next office hours on April 14.

Vice President Appel remarked that we are approaching the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination. She shared that she saw a film about him that highlighted parallels in the problems that persist today among those who continue to fight for justice.

Director Nagarajan-Swenson shared how impressed she was with her peers' civic engagement. She participated in the March for Our Lives and is excited to see so many of her peers present tonight. She reported the BHS elections have concluded and Armin will be succeeding as BHS rep to the Board.

Superintendent Evans acknowledged the students present tonight.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

Daniels/Leyva-Cutler and unanimously approved 6-0.

Update on Vote 16 Efforts – Discussion

Allotted: 30 min

Actual: 35 min

BHS Vote 16 students presented an update on the efforts relative to increasing civic engagement among 16 and 17 year olds. They shared that a number of events that transpired led them to see the importance of having their voices heard regarding the many decisions that are made that directly impact them. The City Measure is a positive step towards giving 16 and 17 year olds a voice beyond a public comment period as students have a unique perspective and the capacity to understand the needs of their peers. They reported that they have been visiting classrooms, connecting with peers directly, registering peers to vote, and tabling at various community events. In four weeks they registered 347 students to vote in the school board elections. They have been awarded a grant to ensure follow-up. They requested that the Board send a letter to the County in support of the implementation of Measure Y1. Questions and discussion followed.

The Board agreed to write a letter in support of the implementation of Measure Y1.

Le Conte School Renaming Update – Discussion (20 min)

Allotted time: 20 min

Actual: 36 min

Director of Communications Natasha Beery reported that the Superintendent's Advisory Committee has met three times as required by the AR. The committee sorted through 118 names (76 names of people and 42 phrases, places and groups) and developed a brief paragraph of each name. A straw poll was conducted and name list was narrowed down to 20 names, then to seven. She provided an overview of the criteria used to narrow down list of

names. The top seven names are Dolores Huerta, Ruth Acty, denise brown, Sylvia Mendez, Arco Iris, Mamie Tape, and Ohlone.

Three final names will be presented for Board decision in May. Question and discussion followed.

Solicit Answers to Trivia Question

12.12 – Expenditures of BSEP Funds for class size reduction and support for teaching in 2018-19

President Daniels explained that on February 21 when the Board approved close to \$1.8 million in cuts, it also approved transferring expenditures from the General Fund to the BSEP fund. He added that for purposes of BSEP there would have to be some conversation by the P&O committee around how to adjust to those additional expenses. At the time, one of the recommendations was to eliminate the BREA director position. Item 12.12 is in line with such recommendation. He submitted that as a district which is trying to improve the way it serves its students with the highest needs, it is important to be data driven, which in turn requires data analysis. Thus, it is also short sighted to reduce our ability to make data driven decisions given the high need to do so even now. Over the long term, he said this may be an FTE we will wish to bring back.

Vice President Appel asked if the Board had to make a decision tonight. She expressed needing more time to find out if there are any other staffing configurations that have been considered that involve keeping the director position and reducing a TSA instead.

Superintendent Evans responded that all viable options have been considered and discussed. Delaying action on this item, also delays our hiring ability.

Motion to approve staff recommendation for expenditures of BSEP Funds for class size reduction and support for teaching in 2018-19:

Alper/Leyva-Cutler and approved on a 5-1 vote

Josh Daniels, President – *No*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Yes*

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Director/Clerk – *Yes*

Karen Hemphill, Director – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director – *Yes*

Uma Nagarajan-Swenson, Student Director, BHS – *Yes*

First Reading of Policy Regarding Student Interviews by District Counsel – *Discussion*

Allotted time: 15 min

Actual time: 10 min

Director Alper explained that this policy is coming before the Board with some changes since it was last presented last year. Initially, the policy directed staff to move forward with authorizing

student interviews by District counsel even if unable to reach parent when attempted. The revised BP explicitly states that District counsel can interview a student only once parental consent has been obtained.

Appel suggested detailing what happens in the event that parent's contact information is outdated.

Update on the Implementation of Next Generation Science Standards– Discussion

Allotted time: 30 min

Actual time: 26 min

Ms. Lens, Ms. Simon-O'Neill and Mr. Wolkenfeld presented an update on the implementation of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). They reported that in its beginning stages, there are currently science specialists teaching across BUSD in 4/5 grades and sporadically in 2/3 grades as needed. Their presentation provided an overview of the NGSS status at the elementary, middle and high school detailing next steps at each level. They noted that at the middle school level, they are currently in the final year of the three-year rolling out of the curriculum. Teachers need additional time for collaboration as it takes years to develop cohesiveness. Questions and discussion followed.

Update on Professional Development for Certificated Teachers – Discussion Allotted time:

30 min

Actual time: 32 min

Suzanne Reed, Maggie Riddle, and Karen Zapata provided an update on the professional development for certificated teachers. Their presentation provided an overview of the professional learning focus across the different grades which is being implemented in alignment with each of the three LCAP goals.

Alper moved to extend to 11:10pm. Seconded by Appel and approved without objection.

ADJOURNMENT

11:10pm