

# **BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **Board of Education**

**1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702**

**510-644-6206**

### **Official Minutes**

April 25, 2018

President Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. 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 (arrived at 8:45pm)

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:

#### **Public Employment (Government Code Section 54957)**

Vice Principal, Malcolm X Elementary

Motion to approve the appointment of Candyce Cannon as the Vice Principal at Malcolm X Elementary:

Alper/Daniels and unanimously approved 4-0:

Josh Daniels, President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Absent*

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

Karen Hemphill, Director – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director -- *Yes*

### Manager, Student Services

Motion to approve the appointment of James Wogan as the new Manager of Student Services:

Alper/Leyva-Cutler and unanimously approved 4-0:

Josh Daniels, President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Absent*

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

Karen Hemphill, Director – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director -- *Yes*

### **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 discussed this matter and gave direction to staff. No action was taken.

### **Collective Bargaining Government Code Section 54947.6(a) (District Negotiator: Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley) BCCE Negotiations**

The Board discussed this matter and gave direction to staff. No action was taken.

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Motion to approve agenda:

Leyva-Cutler/Hemphill and unanimously approved 5-0:

Josh Daniels, President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Absent*

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

Karen Hemphill, Director – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director -- *Yes*

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

#### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

A total of 16 people addressed the Board:

- Three students updated the Board on MEET's progress and thanked the Board for its support.
- A BIS teacher advocated for the hiring of Ms. Weber as the administrator.
- Two comments advocating for additional support at Longfellow.
- Two comments advocating for the conservation of King's computer program.
- Four comments requesting a long-term Spanish substitute at Le Conte.
- One comment in support of technology.

- Two comments regarding BHS math
- One comment in support of the proposed phonics program.

### **UNION COMMENTS**

BFT President Cathy Campbell ceded her time to two teachers who commented in support of increased compensation for classified and certificated staff.

### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

PTA Council Co-Chair Mimi Pullich commented on BHS math and in support of the Universal 9<sup>th</sup> grade program. She requested that the hiring process for a math lead be transparent and include stakeholder input.

### **BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

**Director Leyva-Cutler** thanked the students and families for coming out and speaking tonight.

**Director Hemphill** reported that she will not hold regular office hours in May because she will be attending her son's college graduation.

**Superintendent Evans** thanked all who addressed the Board tonight advocating for their school communities and shared that staff is currently reviewing how best to support Longfellow.

**President Daniels** reported that the BHS alumni baseball team beat the BHS varsity baseball team 7-6. He then went on to introduce Nina Goldman, the new 2020 Vision Manager with the City of Berkeley

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

Alper/Uma and unanimously approved 5-0:

Josh Daniels, President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Absent*

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

Karen Hemphill, Director – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director -- *Yes*

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

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Approval of Proposed Ongoing New One-Time and Ongoing Expenses**

*Estimated time: 60 min*

*Actual time: 81*

Interim Assistant of Business Services Pauline Follansbee and Associate Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi presented proposed new one-time and ongoing expenditures for the 18-19 school year. New ongoing expenditures included bilingual support at Le Conte Elementary and clerical support for the K-8 Schools Director and for the Title IX Office.

Board members were given the opportunity to ask about or comment on each proposed new expenditure.

A majority of the Board expressed their support for a permanent bilingual support teacher at Le Conte as a one-time pilot rather than an ongoing expenditure. Much of the discussion that followed centered on whether the position should be site-based or a district-wide position.

(Vice President Appel arrived at 8:45pm)

A majority of the Board expressed its support of the ongoing administrative support proposed for the Title IX and K-8 Schools offices.

Daniels expressed that while he supports the need for the proposed support for the Title IX and K-8 Schools offices, he is not comfortable voting in favor of said support without any corresponding offsets.

In an attempt to focus discussion on the items for which there may not be a majority support from the Board, Daniels went down the list of the proposed one-time expenditures totaling to about \$1.3 million.

With respect to the proposed transition support to Thousand Oaks, Hemphill expressed her support and suggested that it be partially funded out of LCAP. Alper and Leyva-Cutler also expressed their support for the TO item to be funded out of LCAP.

Alper brought up the proposed addition of a permanent bilingual sub as a pilot and leaving the associated details up to staff to determine. Daniels agreed, but added that details were important to consider in making this decision.

The Board discussion that followed centered around how to prioritize the placement of a long-term substitute.

Daniels remarked that the reason why BUSD is in the fiscal condition that it's in is due to its ability to say no even to good programs. He pointed out that after going through a long process with the aim of identifying 1.8 million in cuts, the Board has now agreed to add approximately \$1 million (\$120k-ongoing and \$860k – one time) in

expenditures, which will have a long-term, negative impact on the succeeding Board's ability to meet pressing needs.

Appel appreciated Daniels' comments and expressed the need to acknowledge that new needs will inevitably arise every year. She added that she felt confident that the Board has been prudent in making tough decisions relative to budget cuts. She thanked staff and President Daniels for their leadership in guiding the Board through this process.

Motion to approve the two ongoing expenses in support of the Title IX and K-8 Schools offices and proposed one-time expenditures (structured literacy, math coordinator, BHS WASC, AA studies, math screen tools, transitional support for Thousand Oaks, a dedicated bilingual substitute position, MEET program, and the investment in training around racial and sexual harassment prevention) for a combined total of \$860,009 Alper/Hemphill 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*

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Local Control and Accountability (LCAP) Recommendations for Early Approval and Discontinuance of Actions and Services**

*Allotted time: 30 min*

*Actual time: 61 min*

Director of Programs and Special Projects, Dr. Pat Saddler presented a proposal for the discontinuation of services and recommended new action and services. The recommendation is for the the discontinuation of Ramp-Up literacy intervention for grades 3-4 and the professional development for the Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Included in the recommendation is a request for the Board to approve the carryover of unspent funds into the following school year.

Daniels opened the item for discussion and directed the Board to express any concern or comment regarding the discontinuation of Ramp-Up literacy intervention for grades 3-4 and professional development for PLCs.

Hearing no concerns, he moved on to the proposed new actions and services, which included:

- .5FTE U9 math coordinator
- Restorative justice coordinator

- School welfare and attendance specialist
- Extra math support for Le Conte, Thousand Oaks, and Longfellow

Director Hemphill stressed the importance of ensuring that the proposed new services have a direct and demonstrative nexus to target students. She suggested that a dual funding between LCAP and General Fund be considered with respect to the new services being proposed as they do not in their entirety have a direct impact on our target student population .

Daniels agreed with Hemphill and reiterated the importance that is the students with the most needs that are primarily served. He submitted that due to lack of a comprehensive plan for math support at the elementary, it may be beneficial to consider redirecting those resources to the middle schools.

Ultimately, a majority of the Board voiced support for the proposed new math support position.

Motion to extended open session to 11:30pm:

Leyva-Cutler/Daniels and approved 5-1:

Josh Daniels, President – *Yes*

Judy Appel, Vice President – *Yes*

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

Karen Hemphill, Director – *No*

Ty Alper, Director – *Yes*

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

Discussion around the proposed services and actions continued.

Appel added that she did not feel fully equipped to provide direction at this time. She would like more information specifically about what the African American Student Success Manager position will do.

With respect to staff's request for the carryover of unspent funds, Daniels proposed that the policy committee review and amend the LCAP policy, specifically the portion of the reserve of unspent supplemental funds currently set at \$1million or 25% of supplemental funds received annually. This would allow a provision to be set in place for the spending of any amount over the cap without having to dip into the General Fund.

## **2018 Quarter 1 Board Self-Reflection - Discussion**

Allotted time: 30 min

Before turning it over to Director Nagarajan-Swenson to lead this discussion, President Daniels noted that record of time allocated to the various agenda items in quarter 1 was kept in order to determine how well the amount of time spent on these items reflected our priorities.

With respect to priority items for the 2017-18 school year, Nagarajan-Swenson reported that the Board spent:

41% of its time on budget reductions;  
8% of its time on secondary offerings; and  
6% of its time on special education.

Questions for the Board to reflect on:

### **Has the board appropriately spent its time/attention?**

Alper responded that the substantial amount of time spent on budget cuts as a priority was appropriate as it involved making challenging decisions.

Leyva-Cutler noted that more time should be dedicated to special education as it connects directly with the budget process.

Appel noted that the time spent on budget cuts was reflective of a well-led process. She added that Board members could have been more concise with their comments. She also said that more time should be dedicated to the two remaining priorities.

Hemphill suggested that some of the relatively low percentage of time spent on special educational has a lot to do with the current state of transition within the department.

Evans highlighted that the Board has for the most part stayed on task. He added that once the Board concludes its discussions around the budget, more time will be freed up to address the remaining two priorities

### **What is one thing from the past three months that the Board should maintain?**

Evans said that we should continue using the current template that distinguished headliner from non-headliner items.

Daniels added that not checking cell phones and laptops during public comment

Appel appreciated the reference to previous related discussions included in the Board docs. She added that she would like to keep the trivia.

Nagarajan-Swenson said we should continue providing a meeting overview before open session is called to order.

Alper wants to continue receiving copies of the materials.

**What is one thing from the past three months that the Board should change?**

Hemphill suggested discontinuing the trivia for the sake of time.

Evans responded that we should aim at ending board meetings by 10:30pm.

Leyva-Cutler suggested earlier start of meetings.

Appel said she did not find it necessary to receive hard copies of the materials.

**Extended Public Comment**

One comment in support of additional support at Longfellow.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**11:30**