

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education

1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702

510-644-6206

Official Minutes

February 20, 2019

Vice President Beatriz Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, noting that Director Ty Alper would be chairing meeting because she was feeling ill. Alper reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 5:30pm.

Roll Call

Board of Education:

Judy Appel, President – Excused

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – Present

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – Present

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – Present by Phone

Julie Siniai, Director -- Present

Arvin Hariri, Student Director, BHS – Present

Oneida Abrams, Student Director, BTA -- Absent

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

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of Alper, item 16 was pulled altogether.

Motion to approve agenda as amended.

Sinai/Hariri and unanimously approved 5-0.

REPORT CLOSED SESSION

Director Alper reported out on closed session:

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(c)) One (1) Potential Case

The Board tabled this item and will discuss at its next meeting.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54056.9(a))

OAH Case No. 2019010138

Motion to approve staff's recommendation on this matter:

Sinai/Leyva-Cutler and approved 3-0:

Judy Appel, President – *Excused*

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – Present – *Absent*

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – *Yes*

Julie Sinai, Director -- *Yes*

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Government Code Section 54957)

Motion to approve release as an administrator and non-reelect employee ID #11169, effective at the end of the 2018-19 school year:

Alper/Sinai and approved 4-0:

Judy Appel, President – *Excused*

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – Present – *Yes*

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – *Yes*

Julie Sinai, Director -- *Yes*

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

Berkeley Council of Classified Employees (BCCE)

Berkeley Federation of Teachers (BFT)

Union of Berkeley Administrators (UBA)

The Board received an update and gave direction. No action was taken.

Public Employee Appointment (Government Code Section 54957) Title: Superintendent

The Board did not discuss this matter.

SNAPSHOT OF OUR SCHOOLS

Thousand Oaks introduced Voices of the Village, a school based program that fosters community building among staff, students and their families.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of six people addressed the Board:

One comment advocating for increase in compensation.

Three comments in opposition to proposed after-school transportation fees

Two comments in opposition to proposed renovation plans for the Berkeley theater and requesting that all stakeholders be given the opportunity to vet any potential plans.

UNION COMMENTS

BFT President Cathy Campbell ceded her time to BFT members who urged the Board to consider compensation increase.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Director Sinai thanked all the teachers for taking the time to come out tonight. She will hold her next office hours at Coffee 1951 on March 9 from 3:30-5pm. With respect to the superintendent search process, she reported that BUSD is gearing up to begin the community engagement phase that will give members of the community to provide input via the online survey now available.

Vice President Leyva- Cutler announced the African American oratorical festival on March 26. She will hold office hours on March 4 at Casa Latina, 4:30-6pm. With respect to the public comments regarding community theatre renovation plans, she requested that staff provide updated information on the website for the public to access.

Director Brown read aloud a resolution in honor of Black History month.

Director Hariri expressed concern regarding the proposed reduction of a mechanic position due to potential threat posed to the safety of the students who ride the buses. He added not feeling comfortable with said reduction.

Superintendent Evans thanked Director Brown for her endorsement of the resolution honoring Black History Month.. He also thanked the teachers for showing up tonight. He announced that the last session of the Superintendent's Speaker Series will be on March 5 at BHS' Little Theater at 4:30pm.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

Leyva-Cutler/Brown and unanimously approved 5-0.

Lease-Leaseback Construction Delivery Method –Discussion

allotted time: 15 min

Actual time: 19 min

Executive Director of Facilities presented on the Lease-Leaseback Delivery method, adding that it most notably differs from previously employed methods in the way it allows the District to lease property to a developer who then leases it back to the District, thus making it a more collaborative process. In addition, the lease lease-back method also allows for the selection of a contractor earlier on in the process. Questions and discussion followed.

Superintendent's Proposed Reductions for 2019-2020 Base Grant (Proposed Fees for After-School Transportation) – Discussion

Allotted time: 10 min

Actual time: 25 min

Vice-President Leyva-Cutler recused herself from this discussion

Assistant Superintendent Pauline Follansbee and Transportation Manager Sheila Collier presented on the \$100k in proposed revenue from after school transportation fees. Questions and discussion followed.

Director Sinai expressed an apology to the larger community for any confusion as a result of BUSD's sudden notices to after school programs about newly implemented fees. She requested that the transportation list of after school program providers be reviewed closely so as to not include after school programs that do not use BUSD's bussing service. In addition, she suggested that a formula used by the transportation department to determine rates be established in writing for the purpose of clarity and transparency.

Superintendent's Proposed Reductions for 2019-2020 Base Grant (Unrestricted General Funding) – Discussion

Allotted time: 50 min

Actual time: 70 min

Associate Superintendent Scuderi and Assistant Superintendent Follansbee presented the second reading of the Superintendent's recommendations for budget reduction reductions for the 2019-20 school year. They noted that this was an opportunity for the Board to pose clarifying questions, request additional information and suggest other possible solutions with the goal of identifying up to \$2 million in solution by the next meeting. The Board has already agreed to approximately \$1.1 million in reductions at its February 6 meeting. Questions and discussion followed.

Approval of Tentative Agreement with Local 21 Professional and Technician Engineers, AFL-CIO, for Successor Agreement for 2018-2021 – Action

Allotted time: 5 min

Actual time: 2 min

Motion to approve tentative agreement with Local 21 Professionals and Technician Engineers, AFL-CIO, for successor agreement for 2018-21:
Hariri/Sinai and unanimously approved 3-0.

Vote for Delegates to the California School Boards Delegate Assembly – Action

Allotted time: 5 min

Actual time: 3min

As a former CSBA Delegate, Leyva-Cutler recommended that the Board vote for:
Jamie Yee Hintzke, Pleasanton USD
Diana Paola, San Leandro USD
Nancy Thomas, Newark USD
Jeff Wang, New Haven USD

Motion to approve Vice-President Leyva-Cutler's recommendation:
Leyva-Cutler/Alper and unanimously approved 3-0.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

One comment in opposition to proposed after-school transportation fees and suggesting that a formal policy precede any implementation of fees.

ADJOURNMENT 10:33