

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

February 6, 2019

Vice-President Beatriz Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. She 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  
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

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**  
**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Motion to approve meeting agenda:  
Alper/Sinai and unanimously approved 4-0.

**Workforce Housing Study Session – Action**

**Public Comments**

Five comments in support of workforce housing

BeHome Representative David Meyer and Executive Director of Facilities John Calise presented on the benefits of providing affordable housing for educators and BUSD staff. Their presentation included an update on the efforts undertaken to date to engage various community partners in the process and to identify potential sites for building.

Alper moved to designate Director Sinai as the Board representative to move the governing body through the next steps, including submitting a letter to the

Mayor and City Council; motion was seconded by Brown and carried with a unanimous vote.

The next update will be presented at the April 10 Board meeting.

This portion of the meeting concluded at 7:20pm and the Board recessed until 7:30pm.

### **REPORT CLOSED SESSION**

Vice President Leyva-Cutler reported out on closed session:

#### **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54957.6 (c)) Two (2) Potential Cases**

The Board heard an update and gave direction to staff on both cases; no action was taken.

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

##### BCCE

Motion to approve the settlement compromise for 2017-18:

Alper/Brown and unanimously approved 4-0.

##### LOCAL 21

The Board heard an update and gave direction; no action was taken.

##### BFT

The Board heard 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.

### **SCHOOL SNAPSHOT**

#### **King Middle School**

Principal Janet Levenson and Counselor Jane Tran walked the Board and viewing audience through King's student-led restorative justice process.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

A total of eight people addressed the Board:

- Three comments in support of keeping OFFE at the sites.
- Four comments in advocacy for increased compensation for educators.
- One comment in opposition to cuts to the mechanic positions within the transportation department.

## **UNION COMMENTS**

BCCE members in the transportation department spoke in opposition to proposed cuts to the mechanics' FTE and explained that it would become more challenging to adequately conduct mechanical repairs and ongoing maintenance should these proposed cuts materialize.

UBA President Janet Levenson thanked Superintendent Evans for his work and wished him a happy retirement. She also sent her positive thoughts to President Appel as she continues to recover. She went on to comment on the need for a system overhaul specifically in the HR department in order to best address the current teacher shortage across BUSD.

BFT President Cathy Campbell ceded her time to BFT member Suzanne Wright who advocated for increased teacher compensation.

## **BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

**Director Hariri** presented the Superintendent with a thank-you card on behalf of BHS students and another one for President Appel wishing her a complete recovery. He expressed concern in response to the opposition voiced in public comment regarding cuts to mechanics.

**Director Sinai** thanked Principal Levenson for sharing a great snapshot of King Middle. She announced her appointment of BHS junior Rachel Pierce to the Peace and Justice Commission. She thanked the community for its advocacy around the Office of Family Engagement and Equity. She also thanked the King CDC TK parents for their communication around a shooting that took place in the community, and BUSD's administration for their prompt responsiveness. She will hold office hour this Sunday at 151 Coffee from 3:30-5pm.

**Director Brown** thanked all who came out tonight, specifically BCCE and BFT for their continued advocacy for adequate compensation. She shared and read aloud a resolution in support for full and adequate funding for public education.

**Director Alper** thanked Director Brown for her endorsement of the resolution in support of full funding. He went on to share that tonight the Board will initiate its discussions around budget reductions. He noted that BUSD's need to identify up to \$2 million in reductions coupled with the continued advocacy for sufficient employee compensation indicates the importance of applying pressure at the state level through active participation in Sacramento and by reaching out to state representatives to advocate for adequately funded schools.

**Vice president Leyva-Cutler** thanked Director Sinai for leading the workforce housing discussion earlier. She also thanked the community for its advocacy of the Office of Family Engagement and Equity (OFEE). She alerted the public to consent item 15.11 which calls for the implementation of the policy for the provision of free menstrual products, requesting that the products be of quality and vetted by the students who will be using them.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:  
Hariri/Brown and unanimously approved 5-0.

### **First Interim Report of Revenue and Expenditures in FY 2018-29 of the Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2016 (BSEP Measure E1) and Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 (BSEP Measure A)**

Time allotted: 30 min  
Actual time: 26 min

Director of Public Relations Natasha Beery explained that the current BSEP measure provides about \$30 million in funding for Berkeley schools and it is structured in the manner funds are disbursed across each of its intended purposes. Her presentation provided an overview on how BSEP funds interact with some of the items considered as part of budget reductions and in relation to the first interim budget report of revenue and expenditures of Measures E1 and A. Questions and comments followed.

### **First Reading of Superintendent's Proposed Reductions for 2019-2020 Base Grant (Unrestricted General Funding)**

*Allotted time: 60 min*  
*Actual time: 62 min*

Associate Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi and Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Pauline Follansbee presented a first reading of proposed reductions for 2019-20, noting that this was an opportunity for the Board to pose clarifying questions and request any additional information with the goal of identifying up to \$2 million in solutions. A follow-up discussion will take place at the Feb 20 meeting in preparation for action on March 13. Questions and discussion followed.

### **Approval of REALM Notice of Violation**

Assistant Superintendent Follansbee explained that BUSD is issuing a Notice of Violation to REALM due to fiscal mismanagement. She noted that this is the first step in the due process for revoking the charter.

Motion to approve issuance of Notice of Violation to REALM:  
Alper/Sinai and unanimously approved 5-0.

The board recessed to closed session 10:20PM.