

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education
1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702
510-644-6206

Official Minutes
June 12, 2019

Vice President Beatriz Leyva-Cutler called the meeting to order at 7:32pm. She reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 6pm.

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 Sinai, 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

Motion to approve agenda:

Alper/Sinai and approved 5-0.

RECOGNITION

Superintendent Donald Evans was honored with proclamations from the Alameda County Office of Education, the State Department of Education, the office of Congresswoman Barbara Lee, and the City of Berkeley for his years of service to Berkeley USD as Superintendent.

The Board expressed their gratitude for his leadership and wished him well on his retirement.

The Board also recognized Public Information Officer Charles Burress who is retiring; Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley, who is moving on from BUSD; outgoing president of the Berkeley Federation of Teachers Cathy Campbell; and outgoing Student Director Arvin Hariri.

REPORT CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Leyva-Cutler reported out on closed session:

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

Case No. 022105

This item was postponed to the June 26 Board meeting.

Case No. 040203

This item was postponed to the June 26 Board meeting.

Public Employment Appointment (Government Code Section 54957)

Coordinator, District Library Services

Motion to appoint Jessica Lee as the new District Coordinator of Library Services:

Alper/Sinai and approved 4-0.

Collective Bargaining Government Code Section 54957.6(a) (District Negotiator: Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley) Local 21 Negotiations

BCCE

BFT

UBA

The Board received an update on negotiations and provided direction; no action was taken.

SNAPSHOT OF OUR SCHOOLS

Longfellow Middle School

Longfellow Middle School Students presented a video highlighting what they are most proud about their school community.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 22 people addressed the Board:

Eleven comments in support of extending lunch periods.

3 comments advocating for additional support for Longfellow.

3 comments in opposition to REALM Charter's request for material revision.

3 comments in support of hiring of bilingual staff at Sylvia Mendez.

1 comment reading aloud a resignation letter by a special education teacher.

1 comment in advocacy for increased teacher compensation.

UNION COMMENTS

BFT President Cathy Campbell addressed the Board one last time as president thanking staff and all with whom she's worked to serve BUSD students. She thanked Dr. Evans, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Evelyn-Tamondong and wished them well as they move on.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

PTA Council President Mara Kalias addressed need for additional lunch time and commented in support of additional supports for Longfellow.

PAC Co-Chair Dominica Spears provided comments on behalf of the committee in advocacy of additional math support for students, ensuring proper spending of support funds allocated for extended day programs, holding schools accountable for bias and negative school climates, and calling for a close review of the restorative justice process and protocol.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Evans thanked all who came out tonight. He thanked all of the officials for the dedicated proclamations. He acknowledged the students and parents who came out to advocate for additional lunch time and said he will be working with the principals to identify the best solution. He thanked Charles Burress, Evelyn Tamondong-Bradley, Arvin Hariri and Cathy Campbell and wished them well as they move on from BUSD.

Director Sinai thanked Longfellow for its presentation. She commended Director Alper for holding his seventh annual mock trial. She shared that she attended the adult school's graduation, and thanked Dr. Evans for his work in BUSD for the past six years.

Director Alper pointed out the pride flag affixed on the wall behind the dais saying that we should not take for granted how welcoming our community is as there are neighboring communities who do not get to experience the same acceptance.

Director Hariri shared that this is his last meeting and thanked the Board and the Superintendent for their mentorship.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler acknowledged the comments made earlier tonight advocating for support for our students. She requested written notes from PAC and BFT to more closely review their recommendations.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

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

Approval of REALM Charter's Request for Material Revision - *Action*

Allotted Time: 30 min

Actual time: 28 min

Director Alper led this item explaining that the Board was set to take action on this matter at its last meeting but postponed its vote, and instead set out a list of conditions to be met by REALM in order for the Board to take action. Since then, REALM submitted a revised request for material revision inclusive of said conditions. Tonight the Board will take action on REALM's revised submission of material revision request. A vote on BUSD's intent to revoke REALM's charter will immediately follow.

He asked the Board to go down the line and express their individual stance with respect to this vote:

- Alper said he would vote against the merger.
- Leyva-Cutler said she would vote against the merger.
- Sinai said she would not support material revision
- Brown said that she would vote in favor of material revision request
- Hariri said that he would vote to approve material revision request

Alper moved to deny request for material revision; Leyva-Cutler seconded motion. Motion carried on a 3-2 vote:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – *Yes*

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – *Yes*

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – *No*

Julie Sinai, Director -- *Yes*

Arvin Hariri, Student Director, BHS –*No*

Approval of Notice of Intent to Revoke Charter – *Action*

Allotted Time: 30 min

Actual time: 20 min

BUSD Legal Counsel John Yeh explained that voting to revoke REALM's charter was a separate procedure from the preceding vote on REALM's material revision request. He provided some context noting the number of notices of violation issued to REALM since early 2017. The current proceeding is a result of unresolved fiscal issues and tonight's vote is the last of a three-step process. He explained that a vote to revoke REALM's charter results also in the adoption of a resolution outlining the findings. REALM would have the option of appealing an adverse decision at the County level.

Alper moved to revoke REALM's charter and adopt accompanying resolution. Motion seconded by Leyva-Cutler. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – Yes

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – Yes

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – No

Julie Sinai, Director -- Yes

Arvin Hariri, Student Director, BHS –Yes

Public Hearing for BUSD's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Time Certain: 9PM

Director Hariri opened public hearing at 10:21PM.

One comment in support of allocating LCAP funds to adequately support EL students.

Director Hariri closed public hearing at 10:24PM

Public Hearing for Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 – Time Certain: 9:20PM

Director Hariri opened public hearing at 10:25PM.

No one came forward.

Public hearing closed at 10:25pm.

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services presentation highlighted changes between 2018-19 estimated actuals and 2019-20 budget, multi year projections, and other considerations. Questions and discussion followed.

Update on Plan to Explore Revision to Middle School Assignment Process

Allotted time: 15 min

Actual time: 25 min

Associate Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi and Manager of Admissions Francisco Martinez presented preliminary ideas about potential revisions to the way the District makes middle school assignments. Currently students are assigned to King and Willard based on zones, and assigned to Longfellow at the request of families. They noted that the latter assignment process is based on a magnet school program model that is no longer applicable or funded. The goal of a possible revision to the middle school assignment process is to ensure that each middle school's population is reflective of Berkeley's demographics and consistent with the District's integration goals. Their presentation included a proposed timeline that would place the rising 6th grade class of 2020-21 under new model.

Director Hariri moved to extend open session to 11:20pm; Director Alper seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 vote.

This presentation continued with Martinez walking the audience through a sample map illustrating one possible delineated zones as an example of what a three-zone system could

look like, highlighting where students live relative to the middle school they attend and proposing possible assignment scenarios. Staff emphasized that it was not making any proposals tonight. Questions and discussion followed.

Approval of Tentative Agreement with Berkeley Council of Classified Employees (BCCE) for Successor Agreement for 2018-19

Motion to approve Tentative Agreement with BCCE for successor agreement for 2018-19: Alper/Brown and unanimously approved 5-0.

Approval to Enter into an Agreement with the Home Depot Pro Institutional (formerly Supply Works) to Continue Purchasing Supplies as Part of a Piggyback Bid with Fresno Unified through a US Communities Bid

Leyva-Cutler explained that she requested to have this item pulled from consent to state that she was not supportive of BUSD conducting business with Home Depot due to the company's support of the current administration's efforts to build a wall and further perpetuate the separation of families:

Alper moved to approve this item with the request that staff consider Leyva-Cutler's comments moving forward: Motion was seconded by Hariri.

Sinai amended motion to request that staff move forward with this agreement to purchase from Home Depot only if unable to find an alternative vendor able to supply the same products; Alper seconded motion. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President – *No*

Ty Alper, Director/Clerk – *Yes*

Ka'Dijah Brown, Director – *Yes*

Julie Sinai, Director -- *Yes*

Arvin Hariri, Student Director, BHS – *Yes*

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Three comments advocating for the hiring of bilingual personnel at Sylvia Mendez Elementary.

ADJOURNMENT

11:20PM