

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

Official Minutes  
January 5, 2022

The Board Meeting was held virtually.

President Ka'Dijah Brown called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. She reported that the Board convened for Closed Session at 5:30 pm.

#### 4. Roll Call

Board of Education:

Ka'Dijah Brown, President – Present

Laura Babitt, Vice President – Present

Ana Vasudeo, Director/Clerk – Present

Ty Alper, Director – Present

Julie Sinai, Director – Present

Anjuna Mascarenhas-Swan, Student Director, BHS – Present

Administration:

Brent Stephens, Ed., D, Superintendent

Ruben Aurelio, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Pauline Follansbee, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Samantha Tobias-Espinosa, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Rosalina Barrios, Recorder

#### OPEN SESSION

#### 5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of President Brown, discussion items 13.1 Board Workshop moved to precede to the first item, following item 12.3 PUENTE Program.

Motion to approve agenda as amended:

Vasudeo/Alper and unanimously approved 6-0

#### 6. REPORT CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Babbit reported out on closed session:

Superintendent Evaluation (Government Code Section 54957)

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

## 7. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of 5 people addressed the Board:

Three comments brought concerns to students' safety and danger with the COVID outbreak. Suggestion to shut down face-to-face instruction and reinstate virtual learning. Preschool sites are not receiving Covid testing. A student has been exposed to Covid by staff transmission.

Two comments are in support to launch and fully fund Latinx Resolution. Urgently suggesting student achievement through the PUENTE program for target intervention for Latinx students and to include hiring a PUENTE counselor for the upcoming 2022-23 school year. Puente will provide college readiness for Latinx student success.

## 8. UNION COMMENTS

BFT President Matt Meyer addressed the Board on behalf of BFT members. Suggested ideas on how to keep BUSD schools open due to the COVID surge.

## 9. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None

## 10. BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Board members and the Superintendent provided individual comments. Dr. Stephens shared Covid data slides and key strategies and informed the community of all-day testing at Berkeley Adult School.

## 11. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

Sinai/Alper and approved 6-0

Ka'Dijah Brown, President – Yes

Laura Babitt, Vice President – Yes

Ana Vasudeo, Director/Clerk – Yes

Ty Alper, Director – Yes

Julie Sinai, Director – Yes

Anjuna Mascarenhas-Swan, Student Director – Yes

## 13. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 13.1 Board Workshop: Mathematics in BUSD

Associate Superintendent Ruben Aurelio presented fall math data on the mathematical program. Reviewed LCAP goals 1 & 2 and provided math actions.

Director of Schools TK-8 grade Debbie Dean presented a K-8th grade math instruction program review.

Professional Development Coordinator Adelita Martinez, provided an overview of mathematics professional development including lesson studies and mathematical practice. Discussed focusing on examining, improving systems, and practices that will support students. Collaboration through a pilot to support different programs and RTI teachers.

Middle school TSA Rosa Lee presented 6th-8th grade math supplemental curriculum and Desmos lessons. The curriculum is digital-based and fully aligned with the common core standards. Students can enroll in additional math support classes, math intervention, Math 180, ST Math, and IXL.

Middle school TSA Laura Kretschmar discussed how 7th and 8th-grade BUSD teachers were able to pilot Desmos middle school curriculum. About 70% of the curriculum is online but designed to be used in the classroom. The sixth-grade curriculum was released in the fall.

Elementary lead math teacher Tracey Iglehart presented interventions for grades 1st-5th grade. Elementary sites are provided with an RTI lead who is responsible for both ELD, math, and perhaps additional math interventionists tailored to the school while supporting the different tiers.

BREA Director Ruth Steele-Brown presented K-12 math baseline data from the prior two years. Assessments are at 95% and above completion rate. Has analyzed LCAP Goal 1 & 2 data and provided data on the two sets of BHS Math class discussion protocol demographics.

BHS Vice Principal Kiernan Rok discussed the implemented change of eliminating the INE SPED Algebra class. Mr. Rok presented the designed plan to support students with disabilities.

BHS math teacher Nakia Baird provided a historical context overview of Berkeley High's math curriculum progression over the course of a decade. Presented an overview of the current sequence Math 1, Math 2, and Math 3.

BHS math teacher Monique Duncan Harris provided the next steps on how to continue and increase the support to our SPED students. Suggesting more funding and staffing for math professional development for all grade teachers and improving 6th -12th-grade collaboration. Recruitment and retention for qualified math teachers.

BHS math teacher Kori Auster presented an overview of BHS LEAP's math class. LEAP is provided for students who are performing below grade level. Suggested to create a full inclusion universal 9th grade Math 1 course and to increase funding to create a math coach position with staff training.

## 12. ACTION ITEMS

### 12.3 Update on the PUENTE Program and PUENTE Contract Approval

Associate Superintendent Ruben Aurelio brought forward the Puente multi year MOU contract for approval and gave an update on the Puente program which targets Latinx students. Planning in the 2021-22 SY for the 2022-23 SY first cohorts to be launched at Longfellow and BHS. Presented an overview of the implementation model structure and the estimated cost for full implementation.

Motion to approve PUENTE contract:

Vasudeo/Sinai and unanimously approved 6-0.

Motion to extend the meeting to 11:20 PM  
Apler/Vasudeo and approved 6-0

### 12.1 Approve amendments to Board Policy 4219, Universal Precautions, to update the definition of "full vaccination" for employees to include a COVID-19 booster shot

Superintendent Dr. Brent Stephens brought two policy recommendations on updating an existing Board policy that includes Covid vaccine and test requirement. The amendments will be for two existing policies for Board approval. One of the policies refers to employee vaccine policies and the second of the two policies are related to students.

Motion to approve the suggested language to direct staff to include the booster requirement in the policy which will still allow employees to test by February 25th.  
Alper/Babbit unanimously approved 6-0

### 12.2 Approve amendments to Board Policy 5141.3, "All-Student Vaccine and Testing Policy", to update the definition of "full vaccination" for eligible students to include a COVID-19 booster shot

Superintendent Dr. Brent Stephens is proposing to include three recommendations to amend the current policy. 1. To include the booster shot in the definition of fully vaccinated for students who are eligible for the shot. 2. To include students in the 5-11 year old range to be fully vaccinated by March 7, 2022. 3. Include Berkeley Adult school students as part of the weekly testing requirement for those who don't have medical or religious exemptions from the vaccine.

Motion to amend the current policy to clarify the definition of fully vaccinated and attach the link to the current CDC guidelines.

Alper/Sinai unanimously approved 6-0

#### 15. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

A total of 2 people addressed the Board:

One comment appreciating the testing exemption provided for students age 5-11 and to consider following the guidance on vaccines. Second comment appreciative of the math and equity robust discussion, but stated the District needs to look at the curriculum as a whole and focus on what is happening in K-12 grade classrooms.

One comment encourages the community to do research of the possible harmful effects from the vaccines being administered to the public. Urging to leave the testing option for students.

#### 16. ADJOURNMENT:

11:19 PM