

**BSEP PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 13, 2022**

P&O Committee Members Present

Erin Holland, Pre-K	Weldon Bradstreet, <i>King Middle School</i>
Heather Gilbert, <i>Arts Magnet</i>	Nicole Chabot, <i>King Middle School</i>
Susan Lau, <i>Arts Magnet</i>	Ron Chung, <i>King Middle School (Alt)</i>
Nimota Abina, <i>Cragmont</i>	Hollis Williams, <i>King Middle School (Alt)</i>
Jonathan Weissglass, <i>Emerson</i>	Daniel Frydman, <i>Willard Middle School</i>
Coleen Kantner, <i>John Muir</i>	Aaron Glimme, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Anya Hurwitz, <i>Oxford</i>	David Kojan, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Scott Marsh, <i>Rosa Parks</i>	Terry Pastika, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Vanessa Chong, <i>Ruth Acty</i>	Shauna Rabinowitz, <i>Berkeley High</i>
Eric Johnson, <i>Ruth Acty (Alt)</i>	Vicki Davis, <i>Berkeley High (Alt)</i>
Sara Parker, <i>Sylvia Mendez</i>	Rebecca Levenson, <i>Berkeley High (Alt)</i>
Katy Reese, <i>Thousand Oaks</i>	

P&O Committee Members Absent*:

Jerry Liang, <i>Malcolm X</i>	Alexandria Corneiro-Harris, <i>Longfellow M.S.</i>
Anne Mayoral, <i>Oxford</i>	Vanessa Marrero, <i>Longfellow Middle School</i>
Chris Rauen, <i>Washington</i>	Kate Jordan, <i>Willard Middle School</i>

**Alternates and co-reps are not marked absent if another rep is present. Currently there is no representation from Berkeley Technology Academy or Independent Studies.*

Visitors, School Board Directors, Union Reps, and Guests:

Ana Vasudeo, *School Board Director*

BUSD Staff:

Enikia Ford Morthel, *Superintendent of Schools*
Ruth Steele-Brown, *Director of BREA*
Kathy Fleming, *Director of Local Partnerships*
Shawn Mansager, *Executive Director of Special Education*
Max Eissler, *Director of Technology*
Pete Gidlund, *Visual and Performing Arts Manager*
Jessica Lee, *District Library Coordinator*
Craig Kaufman, *Budget Analyst II*
Danielle Perez, *BSEP Program Specialist*

1. Call to Order

The meeting was held online via Zoom. At 6:31 p.m. Chairperson Bradstreet called the meeting to order.

2. Establish the Quorum/Approve the Agenda

The quorum was established with 14 voting members present, later increased to 18. Director Fleming explained that for agenda item #10, the Expanded Course Offerings (ECO) and Counseling and Behavioral Health annual reports will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

The modified agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

3. Chairperson's Comments

Nicole Chabot and Weldon Bradstreet

Co-Chair Chabot welcomed members and guests and thanked everyone for making the time to attend. Co-Chair Bradstreet encouraged members to ask questions and be curious during the discussions and presentations.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Board Liaison Comment

There was no Board liaison comment.

6. District Leadership Comment

Enikia Ford Morthel, Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent Ford Morthel wished all a lovely winter break. She noted that the committee will hear from the Director of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment to share district data in the spirit of transparency, and to set the tone around a focus this year on being a data-informed organization. The goal is to identify, keep and scale successes while locating points where the district isn't succeeding. It is also to see the impact and implementation of data, and engaging in progress monitoring toward shared goals of the P&O Committee and the district.

7. of Local Resources and Partnerships Comment

Kathy Fleming, Director of Local Resources

Director Fleming welcomed members and thanked district managers for attending.

8. Approval of Minutes

November 8, 2022

Co-Chair Bradstreet asked if there were any corrections to the [Draft November 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes](#), there were none offered. The 11.8.22 P&O Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

9. District Assessment Data

Ruth Steele-Brown, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment

Director Steele-Brown shared a [slide presentation on district data](#). She noted an error on the math Smarter Balance Assessment (SBA) performance slide that would be corrected before the slides were shared or posted.

Rep. Gilbert asked if there is data on household economics, housed/unhoused and refugee student populations. Director Steele Brown explained that where the slides indicate "SED" data, that represents socio-economically disadvantaged students, and that homeless and foster youth data is

also gathered but may not always be shared publicly, because data from groups below a certain size is protected for privacy reasons. The upcoming launch of the new EduClimber district dashboard will provide improved and more seamless data access, including real-time attendance and other markers. The challenge is supporting school sites to really dig into that data, and so the BREA staff focus has been on training and supporting site staff. Rep. Davis asked how to measure whether one curriculum might perform better than another. Director Steele Brown responded that the District Professional Development (PD) Coordinator could speak to that, but noted that there is no upcoming planned curriculum change; there will only be an update to materials and focus on instructional practices. She added that for the high school data, the district will be looking at last year as a baseline to evaluate moving forward, due to incomplete historical data and low participation numbers in the past. Co-Chair Chabot appreciated the inclusion of English Learner (EL), Special Education (SpEd), and SED subgroup data and requested that all data presented in the future include these categories. She also asked that the 2023-24 BSEP Evaluation annual plan include any further staffing needs to support the district's evaluation goals. Director Steele Brown answered that she is very satisfied with her existing team, and that data fidelity is the highest need. As the district launches the EduClimber dashboard, it is imperative for schools to enter and manage data uniformly, with consistent practices and procedures to get site data into the system.

Rep. Frydman asked if the EduClimber system will be available to parents. Director Steele Brown answered that Illuminate, the company that supports the EduClimber platform, does not provide any parent access mechanisms. BUSD will share regular data reports, including cohort and subgroup data, in public meetings. All individual student data will be in Infinite Campus, which parents can access. Part of her team's work with the Technology department is to ensure that all data is accessible in both Illuminate and Infinite Campus. Rep. Levenson asked about the district's stance on literacy curriculum. Director Steele Brown answered that she is not a literacy expert but explained that the district uses the Fast Track Phonics as a curriculum and the DIBELS as an early literacy assessment tool; EduClimber will then allow Principals, teachers, and coaches to look at performance on these and other assessments across many markers and over time. BUSD's PD Coordinator Lita Martinez and Lead Literacy Coach Rose James will present to the P&O in January, and will focus on the instructional side of that work.

Rep. Kojan asked about comparing BUSD data to districts in other parts of the state or country. Director Steele Brown answered that BUSD can only compare to data that is publicly released, specifically through [Ed Data](#) and [DataQuest](#), including state Smarter Balance Assessment (SBA) data. Data from other districts cannot be put into EduClimber. Rep. Chong asked about the number of students in the cohorts described in the data presentation. Director Steele Brown explained that the cohorts only included students who took the CAASPP (state tests) all 3 years. There is a 95% completion rate for most assessments, which is a high enough percentage that it does have meaning. Because the completion rate in high school falls so significantly, the matched cohort data for those grades is not a representative sample size. Director Steele Brown added that she would be happy to return to discuss the high school data specifically.

Rep. Holland observed that students' sense of belonging is connected to the 23% UC/CSU eligibility rate of graduating Black/African American BHS students. She felt there should be a focus on that sense of belonging and culture in classroom instruction. She also stated that information around attendance, household composition, and programs that students participate in (including funding for those programs) should be presented. Director Steele Brown answered that

the district has a lot of quantitative data, but that uncovering the cultural piece could be better achieved by principals and administrators walking through classrooms to monitor instruction, while surveys (such as the Healthy Kids survey done every 2 years) do help fill in some of that as well. The new Director of Equity, Achievement and Belonging (EAB), Mat Espinosa, may be working on something of that nature to help measure less defined qualities by asking the right questions.

Rep. Kantner asked if the percentage of BHS graduates meeting UC/CSU requirements was lower post-pandemic. Director Steele Brown could not recall the past data but would bring that information back to the next P&O meeting in January. Rep. Hurwitz asked about a specific evaluation of BSEP funding and how it relates to student experiences. Director Steele Brown explained that when she started in BUSD last year, the focus was on building data into systems, looking for specific areas to gather data that exists, and identifying new data that is not yet being gathered that could help connect interventions to student performance, to see where specific programs are impacting students positively or not. This year the BREA team is asking every site to list every student in all programs, to connect programs and outcomes, building up that available data over time. To start it will show which students are accessing the programs that BSEP is funding. Director Fleming added that this will show interventions that BSEP partially funds, as often happens, so the data will be viewed in partnership with other funding sources across the district.

10. BSEP Annual Reports 2021-22

Pete Gidlund, Max Eissler, Kathy Fleming

Director Fleming explained that the Annual Reports for Expanded Course Offerings and Counseling and Behavioral Health will be presented at a subsequent P&O meeting. She presented [Annual Report Overview Slides](#) to provide background about the Annual Report structure.

Mr. Gidlund presented the [2021-22 BSEP Music/VAPA Annual Report](#), and [accompanying slides](#). Rep. Gilbert asked if the percentage of high school students participating in music was available. Mr. Gidlund answered that 2022-23 data should be available this spring. He explained that mandatory 4th and 5th grade music classes are completely funded by BSEP VAPA. The mandatory 3rd grade music classes are funded by the general fund (GF) using Mr. Gidlund's teaching staff. Any TK-2nd grade music instruction is funded by individual schools using site funds (discretionary, PTA, or otherwise). VAPA Arts Anchor funds never pay music, but are for other arts. BSEP VAPA also funds 6-8th grade music, which students can choose to participate in. BHS funds their own music sections, using Mr. Gidlund's staff; using some BSEP Expanded Course Offerings (ECO) funds, which don't come through VAPA but are from a separate district-wide BSEP resource. Rep. Frydman asked about the impact of the negotiated staff raises on the VAPA fund balance. Director Fleming answered that there is a reserve for personnel variance built into in each budget, and that annual increases are built into BSEP revenues by way of the cost of living adjustment (COLA), which also helps to cover program cost increases. Co-Chair Chabot asked that VAPA participation data includes subset on students in Special Education, and for program planning to include how to reach those students. Mr. Gidlund answered that he will be looking at that, and emphasized that the VAPA Equity Specialist is in charge of ongoing mentoring and similar programs.

Rep. Holland asked if it was possible to track students through graduation to see how music students perform in other areas. Mr. Gidlund answered that this could be done but that he is not planning to cross reference student performance in other subjects. Philosophically he agreed with the points, but believes that the arts are important in and of themselves and so doesn't want to spend time justifying them in terms of other subjects. He will focus on the enrollment of different subgroups of kids. Rep. Hurwitz was interested in talking about recently-passed Ca. Prop. 28 arts funds. Mr. Gidlund clarified that Prop. 28 funds won't come through BSEP mechanisms, but will be received through the Business Services department to be disbursed directly to schools; that funding is categorically different from BSEP local taxes. His role and the VAPA Office does not manage all arts across the district.

Mr. Eissler presented the [2021-22 BSEP Instructional Technology Annual Report](#) and [accompanying slides](#). Rep. Davis asked if the activities described include all Technology department work in the 2021-22 school year, or only work that was BSEP-funded. Mr. Eissler answered that his position and many others, and many district technology supplies and services, are funded by non-BSEP sources; this presentation was meant to be a full departmental overview. He noted that it is difficult to separate just BSEP-funded activities. For example, when Infinite Campus was rolled out in the district, that was done by staff paid through the GF, but then must be maintained by support staff at the sites. Almost all of the BSEP Technology funding is used to provide staff supporting sites, and site staff training to use technology purchased by the GF or other sources. It wouldn't be possible to use other funds to put tech into classrooms if we didn't have the BSEP-paid infrastructure in staffing to make it work. There is a need to show both sides, to see what the district is able to do with technology because of BSEP funding. There are a number of data points that can be evaluated, such as the number of PD offerings, coaching sessions, and support tickets at each grade level. These can be shared in the future and reporting next year can focus more on this type of data. Rep. Frydman asked to see data that showed the impacts on students, to look at qualitative impacts in addition to the quantitative. Director Eissler responded that there is no way to provide data that shows greater mastery of a subject due to computers in classrooms, because the application of technology is uniform across BUSD classrooms at each grade level. It isn't possible to tease out how this one aspect impacts students. Director Fleming explained that she and managers are working on how to measure these aspects, and that these measure tables in the Annual Reports are new this year as a step in trying to incorporate that.

Co-Chair Bradstreet moved to amend the agenda, to move items 12 and 13 to the January 10, 2023 meeting, the motion was seconded by Co-Chair Chabot. The motion was passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Bradstreet moved to amend the agenda, to move the Libraries Annual Report to the January 10, 2023 meeting, the motion was seconded by Rep. Holland. The motion was passed unanimously.

11. BSEP Measure A 2022-23 Plan Updates

Kathy Fleming, Director of Local Resources

Director Fleming presented the [BSEP Measure A Plan Updates for Libraries](#).

Director Fleming presented the [BSEP Measure A Plan Updates for Music/VAPA](#).

12. BSEP Renewal Process Update

Kathy Fleming, Director of Local Resources

This item was postponed until the following meeting.

13. BSEP Fund Balance Updates

Kathy Fleming, Director of Local Resources

This item was postponed until the following meeting.

14. For the Good of the Order

No items were offered for the good of the order.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:20 p.m.