



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 8.1g

Meeting Date: November 19, 2015

Subject: Approve Minutes of the October 15, 2015, Board of Education Meeting

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action : Approve Minutes of the October 15, 2015, Board of Education

Meeting.

Background/Rationale : None

Financial Considerations : None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Engagement

Documents Attached:

1. Minutes of the October 15, 2015, Board of Education Regular Meeting

Estimated Time of Presentation : N/A Submitted by: José L. Banda, Superintendent Approved by : N/A
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Sacramento City Unified School District BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP

Board of Education Members

Darrel Woo, President (Trustee Area 6)
Christina Pritchett, Vice President (Trustee Area 3)
Jay Hansen, Second Vice President (Trustee Area 1)
Ellen Cochrane, (Trustee Area 2)
Gustavo Arroyo, (Trustee Area 4)
Diana Rodriguez, (Trustee Area 5)
Jessie Ryan, (Trustee Area 7)
Elizabeth Barry, Student Member

Thursday, October 15, 2015

4:30 p.m. Closed Session

6:30 p.m. Open Session

Serna Center

Community Conference Rooms
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

MINUTES

2015/16-8

1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:43 p.m. by Vice President Pritchett, and roll was taken.

Members Present:

Vice President Christina Pritchett
Gustavo Arroyo (present until end of Closed Session)
Ellen Cochrane
Diana Rodriguez

Members Absent:

President Woo
Second Vice President Hansen

- 3.1 *Government Code 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation:*
- a) *Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code section 54956.9*
 - b) *Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Government Code section 54956.9*
- 3.2 *Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining CSA, SCTA, SEIU, Teamsters, UPE, Unrepresented Management*
- 3.3 *Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment*

4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called back to order at 6:37 p.m. by Vice President Pritchett.

Members Present:

*Vice President Christina Pritchett
Ellen Cochrane
Diana Rodriguez
Jessie Ryan
Student Member Elizabeth Barry*

Members Absent:

*President Darrel Woo
Second Vice President Jay Hansen
Gustavo Arroyo (left after Closed Session)*

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rosemont High School Alumnus Anthony Sadler.

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

None

they have heard in the days since from many teachers and staff who knew Mr. Sadler when he was a student in our District. She introduced his First Grade teacher from Martin Luther King, Jr., K-8 School, Mabel Gee. Ms. Gee and several of her current students made a brief presentation. They gave Mr. Sadler letters the children had written along with a framed picture of Mr. Sadler in First Grade that the students decorated. Rosemont High School Principal Elizabeth Vigil then spoke of the impact he had at the school and shared thoughts from one of his former teachers, Ms. Siegert. She told how Rosemont High School has chosen Mr. Sadler as the first recipient of the Rosemont Distinguished Alumni Award of 2010. She also shared a letter from a former student, Ms. Siegert, who told how Rosemont High School has chosen Mr. Sadler as the first recipient of the Rosemont Distinguished Alumni Award of 2010.

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developing a program and not about building a garden that is woven into the curriculum and the ideas of the school site itself.

website. People are frustrated that they cannot get answers from the Benefits office. The technicians in the Benefits office should not have to be dealing with these problems because Keenan and the Benefit Bridge portal (that the District pays Keenan to create and maintain) should have accurate information. Open Enrollment has been going on since September 28 and is the one time of year employees can make changes to their health plan. Before it was extended, it was scheduled to end tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. Days ago when she logged on to review the carrier options and compare SCTA plans, she was stunned

District Charter Oversight Coordinator Jack Kramer gave the presentation and facilitated the public hearing item. He gave an overview of Capitol Collegiate Academy, review of the charter renewal process, the purpose of the public hearing, and next steps. Following his presentation, Principal Cristin Fiorelli gave a more detailed presentation on behalf of her school consisting of a history of Capitol Collegiate, enrollment trends, commitment to diversity, academics, strong

Vice President Pritchett opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

Darlene Anderson stated that she was probably the first parent in the District to file a Williams Act complaint regarding textbook sufficiency. She said the District chose not to purchase books for children in Special Education. The Board approved an adoption that said it would be the teacher who would determine the textbook the student would have. So it is the teacher and the Individual Education Program (IEP) that selects the text. Ms. Anderson asked how age appropriate curriculum is being given to children with disabilities if the teacher is selecting the text (because there are standards that the children still need to meet). She feels that the District is not demonstrating the meeting of standards of children who are, for example, in Seventh Grade but doing Third and Fourth Grade work. This would be because the teacher has selected curriculum to determine the movement of the student. We are not, however, measuring growth. So, as she said earlier, far below basic is unacceptable. She is going to an administrative hearing with a student where she will address this issue. She feels that parents of children with special needs do not understand the dynamics of moving toward standards based IEPs. Therefore when their children get curriculum that is two to three grade levels below and their child is getting good grades, they think they are doing well. She would like to know what is happening with this, as it was a Board policy that was approved a long time ago.

Board Member Comments:

None

Vice President Pritchett closed the Public Hearing. She asked for a motion to move from Conference

(José L. Banda)

10.1f Approve Waiver Request and Affidavit – Request for Allowance of Attendance Due to

Ms. Scott. The facility that Ms. Scott mentioned will be built by Northwest Land Park. Part of the fees that they have to give to the City of Sacramento will be used to construct improvements, and one of the improvements is the farm/garden. In addition there will be a City of Sacramento community garden there as well. It is a big collaborative and we have just recently finally identified a funding source. Northwest Land Park is doing a community facilities district (CFD); we have two of those as well, and the Board hears reports on those a couple times a year. This will provide the ongoing operating funds so that we can keep it sustainable and going so that when we need more dirt and plants we will be able to buy those. Ms. Allen said she is very excited and that Second Vice President Hansen is a huge advocate for this. The department will be bringing this back as they move forward; they are working with the City of Sacramento right now to go back and look at the old lease agreement. This agreement is somewhat out of date and being updated.

Board Member Comments:

Member Cochrane said that she is a very enthusiastic supporter. She noted how it was said that the Food Literacy Center works in partnership with Science Alive and some other gardening programs that are in the District. She said she has a concern because these programs are very separate in a lot of ways. She asked if the District has been offered an opportunity to have an umbrella-type program in which policy is set for the District directing that this is going to be something that we do at all schools with the same partners involved. Ms. Scott said that would be amazing, but she does not think we are there yet. She sees this as a pilot for what is possible to be physically on a school site. There are very few across the state. They do work collaboratively together, and will be drawing on the resources that Soil Born Farms will provide to their staff. They have their garden training program, and they have been through the Edible Schoolyard Academy's training program, and they will be hiring a full-time Farm Educator. Member Cochrane knows that the Board will be responsible if this happens or not, but she wanted to put this thought out there. She said to continue the great work, and she hopes the collaborative with Science Alive and the other programs goes forward. She will be talking to District staff about it. She asked what is the vegetable of the year. Ms. Scott replied bell pepper.

Member Rodriguez said that she hoped the presentation would show the connection between health and health professions and healthy eating. Students that attend Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School are dual enrollment students, going to high school and college, so it seems that it would be an opportunity to make such a connection there. Member Rodriguez asked if there would be a research component provided to these students. Ms. Scott said she feels this is outside of their scope. They welcome folks from Health Professions High School to join their program development committee to have input on that, but largely they will be coming from the perspective of gardening, farming, cooking, and nutrition. There is a dietician component. Member Rodriguez said that would be one piece of it, but she thinks Ms. Taylor might want to work with someone from the organization to start creating that curriculum because it would be a perfect environment to do case studies for children that are attending the school. Ms. Scott said they are looking forward to those opportunities to work with folks from Health Professions High School. They will have at least a year and a half of development once contracts are signed because the building will not be built for about that amount of time. Once they have the green light, they will begin really detailed program development. Member Rodriguez said that she was on the Board when this project came forward initially, and she has a concern when we do these contracts with land developers in that we have a community that exists currently at Leataata Floyd Elementary School and the surrounding immediate area, and she feels the community should not be displaced in any way, shape, or form. As they go through a renewal, revision, or policy process trust that she will be looking at those contracts and agreements to see if there is any sense of the word that communities will be displaced that are there now. She is adamant about making sure that we give every advantage to the community that is there now and we work with the community to

Member Ryan thanked Ms. Scott for her leadership with Food Literacy Project. She said once we develop learning laboratories, at Leataata Floyd Elementary School and Health Professions High School, hopefully those laboratories will allow us rich mentorship opportunities outside of the school sites so that we can bring schools throughout the District to visit this incredible model for possibility in the region. She also said, in response to Member Rodriguez's concerns about displacement, that one of her great dismays is that if one does not live in or around Seavey Circle, quite often very few people will ever visit the area. Many students that grew up in the area have never set foot outside of those confines. So the idea that we could do something that would be a model, a beacon of hope, and offer opportunities for beauty and learning, for her is tremendous. It might not be in her area, but Member Ryan said they have 100 percent of her support.

Student Member Barry said that she thinks what they are doing is completely amazing. She noted that she had always struggled with her weight growing up, but then her Mother got her to be serious about learning food literacy. Just by changing her diet, she has lost 26 pounds. So she really understands the food literacy subject and how important it is. She supports what is being done, and regarding Health Professions High School, she feels it would be a really good connection. She also knows there are certain teachers at West Campus that would love to work with the program.

Vice President Pritchett thanked Ms. Scott for her presentation. She said she had heard about this through the Facilities Committee and is even more excited today to hopefully be able to join forces on this. She is glad that Member Ryan mentioned Seavey Circle. Her son had gone to pre-school in that area in the nineties and she sees the area blossoming since that time. Something like this will help the area even more.

11.2 Strategic Plan Needs Assessment (Al Rogers)

Information

Chief Strategy Officer Al Rogers gave the update on the strategic plan process, specifically to share the results of a needs assessment. Cathy Morrison, LCAP/SPSA Coordinator, joined him along with Will Jarrell of Pivot Learning Partners. Dr. Rogers reviewed the background of the strategic planning process, the project itself, needs assessment recommendations, and a timeline summary of next steps.

*Public Comment:
Darlene Anderson*

In some ways, and the whole point of the alignment piece, is that the discussion on equity and the achievement gap, for example, is not specific to one and exclusive of the other. In fact it will work for each of our processes and should be aligning all of our initiatives. That part should be clear and easily accessed for students and families. Member Rodriguez said that she has other questions, but stated that his secretary reached out to her to make an appointment, so she will reserve the rest of her questions for that time. She said she supports comments made by Member Ryan. She has been on the Board since 2008, and at a point one gets tired of talking about equity and access because it starts to feel unobtainable in looking at a large district. But then hope comes along, and it is in the form of local control funding, and sometimes you are forced into looking at equity and the access for children by putting them up on a level playing field with others. There are many areas in the budget to which she can point and say we are not placing a priority on this, so as we are going through this process do not forget that the focus would be also to look at the budget document and find out where we are not expending our money fully. Member Rodriguez said that children do not get a second chance to learn, and the dollar they have today should be spent on them today.

Vice President Pritchett thanked Dr. Rogers for a job well-done. She asked how individuals for the focus groups that were done initially were chosen and of what did they consist. Dr. Rogers said to remember that the purpose of the focus groups is to get a sampling of what is out there. Therefore this is not an exhaustive survey, but the purpose is to randomly select stakeholder groups to get a representative idea as to what might be out there. The deeper dive happens now. So, for example, in choosing people they just communicated with the school communities and invited students to be able to participate. He then deferred to Cathy Morrison to report on the remaining focus groups.

Ms. Morrison said that, as Dr. Rogers stated, the focus groups were just a very, very small part of the research. The ten that were held consisted of one group of principals who were volunteers in the process, one group of certificated staff

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13.0 ADJOURNMENT