

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 17, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Long Beach Unified School District, County of Los Angeles, California, was held in the Community Room of the Administration Building at 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California, on January 17, 2019.

Present: Members Benitez, Craighead, Kerr, Meyer, and Williams  
Student Member Zoe Nelson, Millikan HS

Absent: None.

Call to  
Order

President Craighead called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 464.

Closed  
Session

President Craighead announced that the Board would be considering Items 4, 7 and 11 as listed on the Closed Session agenda.

Call to  
Order

Having completed the Closed Session, President Craighead called the Open Session meeting to order in the Community Room at 5:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Student Member Nelson.

Report of  
Closed  
Session

President Craighead reported that the Governing Board had been meeting in Closed Session regarding matters listed on today's Closed Session agenda and wished to announce that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

Public  
Hearing

None.

Call for  
Agenda  
Items/  
Adopt  
Agenda

President Craighead asked if Board Members had any items listed on the agenda for separate action.

It was moved by Member Williams that the agenda be adopted as published.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Approval  
of  
Minutes

It was moved by Member Kerr that the minutes of December 19, 2018 be approved as written.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Communi-  
cations

Member Kerr recognized Nkiruka Okonkwo for her 24 years of dedicated service.

Recognition  
of Retiree

Kids Making  
Sense

Pamela Weinstein, 6th grade English teacher and coordinator of the Green Team at Rogers, shared that she and Danielle Van Divort, teacher at Hughes, have been studying the Kids Making Sense (KMS) curriculum from the Coalition for Clean Air.

The students introduced themselves and shared their findings and what they've learned about our air quality.

Vivian Hall, 7th grade student and president of the Rogers Green Team, shared that her team is devoted to keeping their campus trash-free and more environmentally friendly. The KMS curriculum is about air quality and particulate matter, and teaches them how to improve the air quality. Particulate matter is extremely small pieces of debris in the air and is a leading cause to health problems and pollution.

Ms. Van Divort introduced her team, called the Airbenders, and the students shared results of some of their experiments related to air quality.

Hearing of  
Public  
Testimony

President Craighead asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Board on matters of school district business listed on the agenda.

Ms. Ravi chose to speak when the item was heard.

Staff Report

None.

Hearing of  
Public  
Testimony

President Craighead asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Board on matters of school district business not listed on the agenda.

The following spoke regarding gender neutral restrooms in schools:

Amber Va, student

Ethan Miramontes, GSA Network and The Center

Christopher Covington, Genders & Sexualities Alliance Network

Dondrea McAllister, parent, spoke regarding bullying in schools.

Betty Miller, student, spoke regarding the fence at Prisk ES.

Sam Miller, parent, spoke regarding fencing at Prisk and Stanford Schools.

Personnel

Member Williams presented the Certificated and Classified Recommendations, prepared by the Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, Human Resource Services, and approved and recommended by the Superintendent.

It was moved by Member Williams that the Certificated and Classified Recommendations of the Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, Human Resource Services, be approved and authorized.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Board  
Authorizations

Member Williams moved approval of the Board Authorizations.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Instruction  
Report

Member Kerr moved approval of the Instruction Report. She noted and thanked the new members of the Special Education CAC for their service.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Finance Report

Member Williams moved approval of the Finance Report.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Business Report

Member Kerr moved approval of the Business Report.

President Craighead inquired about the uniforms.

Superintendent Steinhauser replied that the Assistance League does a great job of providing uniforms for students throughout the district. Students at Avalon K-8 School are not in uniforms, as they never adopted the uniform policy. Recently, parents have brought the issue to the table and we want to be prepared. Filming revenue along with matching grants from the Assistance League, will be used for this.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Purchasing & Contract Report

Member Kerr moved approval of the Purchasing & Contract Report.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Superintendent's Items

The Superintendent of Schools, presented the following recommendations:

1. That the Board of Education approve the Readmit for Student # 089.

Student Readmit

It was moved by Member Kerr that the Superintendent's Recommendation be approved and authorized.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Williams UCP Quarterly Report

2. That the Board of Education receive and file the Williams UCP Second Quarterly Report, which had no findings.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Anita Ravi, petitioner, spoke regarding the charter petition.

Res. 011719-A, Charter Petition

Member Williams moved approval of Resolution 011719-A, denying the Charter Petition for We The People Charter High School.

Dr. Williams expressed his concerns with aspects of this latest submission, particularly with the number of submissions, the projected enrollment and with the delegation of responsibilities to third parties.

James Suarez, Assistant Director with the Equity, Access, and College & Career Readiness Office, responded to his concerns.

The motion carried. The vote was 4-0 with Member Meyer not present.

Report of  
Board  
Members

Student Member Nelson shared that she is a senior at Millikan High School and is the acting president of the ASB. This semester has gone very well for them and she shared about their past and upcoming events and activities. Millikan is experimenting with a new format for ASB, where students can apply to be in the Council but then they have to earn the positions. Overall they have a very good sense of teamwork. She enjoyed a Leadership Training held at Disneyland and they hope to reach out to the freshmen especially, because it's so hard to transition from middle to high school.

Lastly, they held a mini Ram Kindness Challenge for 15 days, and it was posted on social media. They did things like bring a pencil for a friend or leave a note on a desk for the next person who sits there. They are small things, but it helps to create a great community at Millikan.

Member Kerr thanked Dr. Tiffany Brown and Robin Weckerly, acting president for the Special Education CAC, for the invitation to attend their meeting. They provided good information and she enjoyed the opportunity to interact with parents from around the district. She and President Craighead attended a Joint-Use Committee meeting for the City of Long Beach with Council Member Rex Richardson. They addressed issues that impact not only students but residents as well, and she is grateful for the opportunity to look for best outcomes and problem solving some of the issues that we share in common.

Ms. Kerr thanked Annette Kashiwabara, with Operation School Bell of the Assistance League and the Rick Rackers, for once again providing uniforms to 10,000 students. They had a great event at Addams ES and not even the rain deterred the families from picking up uniforms and enjoying the different activities. Lastly, she expressed gratitude to the people who come speak at these meetings. She feels that as a group, they do better when they know better, and she is grateful for the opportunity to learn from the speakers.

Member Williams thanked the student board member for such a nice and professional presentation. He commended Dr. Tiffany Brown on the tremendous work she does of facilitating the Community Advisory Committee meetings. She is able to demonstrate to the parents that the district is very serious about its commitment to the special education population.

Member Benitez extended an invitation to everyone to the grand reopening of Renaissance HS on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m. He has had a preview of the facilities and the school is awesome. He echoed the gratitude for the wonderful work that Dr. Brown, district staff, parents and community members are doing through the Special Education CAC. He looks forward to hearing the updates on the progress made and the next steps.

Dr. Benitez participated in Career Day for the Cameo mentorship program of the Assistance League. Their mentors are providing wonderful work with so many of our LBUSD students and youth in general. He emphasized the powerful impact that mentoring has on the lives of students, as he himself is a beneficiary of having mentors growing up.

President Craighead also thanked the Assistance League and the Special Education CAC. While at the CAC meeting, one of the teachers shared a great story regarding the ASB at Millikan. She would like to challenge the other schools to do all they can to include all of the students. Earlier that day, she was at Millikan for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Jeopardy tournament, which was a lot of fun.

Superinten-  
dent's  
Report

Superintendent Steinhauser thanked Ms. Nelson and her school leaders as he has been to Millikan many times and there is great spirit. The Kindness Challenge has spread to other high schools and Millikan has done a great job of sharing the results on social media. That is what makes a community strong and he hopes they will continue.

Mr. Steinhauser shared that people who want to start other programs here have made some statements that our high school programs are not rigorous enough, and that is absolutely not true. We have some of the most rigorous programs of any school system in the nation, with over 40 pathways. Whether students are going to college or not, they get a rigorous academic, social, environmental and caring individual human being program. He thanks the staff that do this every day, and the students and parents also. As a student who went through the school system and as a parent who had two kids go through the school system, the district is a hundred times better today in meeting all the students' needs. There are plenty stories of students who didn't start off well for a variety of reasons, who are truly achieving the American dream, and that's what we're all here for.

Announce-  
ments

Member Williams shared that the Martin Luther King Jr. parade is Saturday. He thinks it really makes a very important statement at this particular time of the year in this nation, given the level of discord that exists at certain levels of our government.

Member Kerr shared that the next Kindergarten Festival will be happening on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9am-12pm at Roosevelt Elementary School.

Also that day, the Long Beach Symphony will have their 2<sup>nd</sup> family concert. This will be at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center, with music, games and crafts. Although kids get in free, you do need to reserve the seats for your kids. She looks forward to another great community event around the arts.

ADJOURNMENT

President Craighead adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 in the Administration Building, 1515 Hughes Way, at 5:00 p.m.

Leticia Rodriguez  
Assistant Secretary