



MINUTES

BOARD STUDY SESSION

November 9, 2010

Order of Business

A. OPENING

A.1 **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Mae P. Thomas, Board President, at 5:05 p.m., in the Board Room of the District Education Service Center, 501 South Santa Fe Avenue, Compton, CA 90221.

A.2 **ROLL CALL**

The following Members were present:

Micah Ali *[Arrived at 5:10 p.m.]*

Fred Easter

Margie N. Garrett

Emma Sharif

Marjorie Shipp

Mae Thomas

Satra Zurita *[Arrived during Closed Session]*

Karen E. Frison

Donnie King

Student Board Member

A.3 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Donnie King, Student Board Member, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A.4 **INVOCATION**

Elder Herles Holmes rendered the invocation.

A.5 **PUBLIC COMMENTS - CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

- **LUCKEY GREEN**, 466 Raymond Street, Compton, CA
Requested to address the Board in Closed Session regarding employment.

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B. CLOSED SESSION

10/11-039a **MOTION** by *MRS. GARRETT*, **SECOND** by *MRS. SHIPP* to recess to Closed Session to consider matters within the purview of the Brown Act. (Time: 5:11 p.m.), specifically:

- **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/SUSPENSION/RELEASE/
NONRELECTION/NONREEMPLOYMENT/LEAVE/RESIGNATION**
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - (Existing Litigation)**
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
 - USD CV-06-4717 AHM; USCA Case No. 07-55751
 - (Case names unspecified: Disclosure would jeopardize existing settlement negotiations)
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - (Anticipated Litigation)**
(Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c))
 - 4 Potential Cases
 - 6 Potential Defendants
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - (Claims)**
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(2)(C))
 - Claimant: Best Contracting Services, Inc.*
 - Agency: Compton Unified School District*
- **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)
 - Agency Designated Representatives: Mr. Barrett K. Green
Alejandro Flores*
 - Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association
American Federation of Teachers
Police Officers' Association
Service Employees International Union
Compton Education Association*
 - Agency Designated Representatives: Mr. Barrett K. Green
Alejandro Flores*
 - Unrepresented Employee(s): Certificated/Classified Management
Nonrepresented Classified
Deputy Superintendent
Associate Superintendents
Acting Superintendent
Chief Facilities Officer*
- **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)
 - *Acting Superintendent*
 - *Superintendent*
- **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS**

VOTE ON MOTION TO RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION CARRIED

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10/11-039b B. OPEN SESSION

MOTION by *MR. EASTER*, **SECOND** by *MRS. SHIPP* to reconvene into Open Session – Time: 6:30 p.m.

VOTE ON MOTION TO RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

MOTION CARRIED

- **Report Out of Closed Session**
(Pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54957.1)

There was no report out of Closed Session.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

C.1 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Acting Superintendent Karen Frison recognized members of the community and students of the Chester Adult School; acknowledged the services that the adult school provides to the community; and stated that there would be additional recommendations presented to the Board at the December Board meeting regarding Chester Adult School.

C.2 RECOGNITION

- CUSD Schools that met their AYP and API Targets for 2009/2010.

At the request of **Acting Superintendent Frison, Dr. Abimbola Ajala, Associate Superintendents, Elementary Schools and Dr. Donald Evans, Associate Superintendent, Secondary Schools**, recognized schools for meeting their Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Academic Performance Index (API) for the 2009/2010 School Year.

(A complete list will be appended as part of the official Minutes of this meeting.)

C.3 INFORMATION ITEM

- *None Scheduled*

D. SPECIAL SESSION

- *None Scheduled*

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E. PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA & NON AGENDA ITEMS

- **MARTHA ARANA**, 1004 West 134th Place, Compton, CA 90222
Recognized Dr. Omar Spry, David Azcárraga and the Maintenance Department, on behalf the parents of Washington Elementary School, for their assistance. Dr. Spry and Mr. Azcárraga were presented with a plaque.
- **DERRICK FONTAINE**, 315 South Sloan Avenue, Compton, CA 90221
Recognized Dr. Omar Spry, on behalf of the Special Projects Task Force, for his dedication to safe education and commitment to excellence. Dr. Spry was presented with a plaque.

The following individuals addressed the Board on behalf of the Sounders Drill Team and Drum Squad, Compton, CA; requested that the Board give consideration to waiving the use of facilities fee for a school parking lot to hold drill team and drum squad practices.

- **ROSIE MANNING**, Parent Representative, (No address Provided)
- **MARTHA SKINNER**, District Retiree, 227 South Holly Avenue, Compton, CA

The following individuals addressed the Board in support of Chester Adult School and requested that the Board reconsider their decision to eliminate the adult school program.

- **DARLENE WILMORSKY**, 506 West Raymond Street, Compton, CA 90220
(Deferred her three minutes to Dr. Melinda Conner)
- **SANDRA ROYSTER**, 3372 Los Flores, Boulevard, Lynwood, CA 90262
- **CAVON FRENY-BROWN**, 333 South Santa Fe Avenue, Compton, CA 90221
- **DR. MELINDA CONNER**, 937 West Myrrh Street, Compton, CA 90221
- **JOANNE TRIMBLE**, Post Office Box 43794, Los Angeles, CA 90043
(Deferred her three minutes to Dr. Melinda Conner)
- **PATRICIA COOKS**, 852 West 84th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90044
- **TINA GRIFFIN**, 809 South Pannes Avenue, Compton, CA
- **LAUREN CORRALEZ**, 1104 East 148th Street, Compton, CA
- **EMMA BRYANT**, Post Office Box 4037, Compton, CA 90221
- **TISHA BUCCAFURRI**, 7126 Somerset Boulevard, Paramount, CA
- **SANDY CANISTER**, 1646 East 124th Street, Compton, CA
- **MARIO CHIAPPE**, (No address provided)
- **LATRICE DIXON**, 1212 East 3rd Street, Long Beach, CA
- **MARIA LOPEZ**, 609 South Coral Avenue, Compton, CA 90220
- **JIM SCHANGARTH**, Supervisor and Deputy Probation Officer, Los Angeles County Probation Department, 3530 West Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
- **VICTOR COLEMAN**, Probation Officer, Los Angeles County Probation Department, 3530 West Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
- **NYDIA QUARLES**, 717 South Holly Avenue, Compton, CA 90221
Inquired as to the specific amount of funding that the District has received from the Federal Government; asked how the funds that have been diverted from the Adult School to K thru 12 Programs were being used and/or spent; asked about five (5) complaints that she presented at a previous Board Meeting; stated that one of which was regarding the closure of the Adult School; reported that she has not received a response to her inquiries; and reported that she would be contacting the State of California with reference to her concerns.

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(Continued)

- **MARIA VILLAREAL**, 609 West Peach Street, Compton, CA

Addressed the Board regarding the District's English Language (EL) Program; expressed concern about the EL training program that Dr. Donald Evans implemented; reported that there were trainers training teachers; that these individuals were reporting to Dr. Evans without involving the school principals or the EL Department; shared complaints received from teachers about Ebony Dancy's method of coaching; stated that the teachers do not want her; inquired as to how the EL funds were being spent; asked why Dr. LeMoine was working with Spanish speaking students; that she does not speak the language; and that the parents would prefer the trainer who was associated with Coaching Along Side.

Board Member Ali asked Ms. Villareal what evidence and/or information could she provide to show that Dr. Noma LeMoine's services were not effective.

Maria Villareal agreed to provide the requested information at a later date.

Acting Superintendent Frison requested that Drs. Evans and Ajala meet with Maria Villareal and explain the programs.

Board Member Ali requested that there be a workshop scheduled to fully explain the goal of the English Language Learners (ELL) programs for all students.

- **TARA BONNER**, Personnel Commissioner, 2129 North Nestor Avenue, Compton, CA
Addressed the Board about an agenda item discussed during the October 26, 2010, Board Meeting regarding a 15% salary increase for an employee; requested that appropriate staff thoroughly review the agenda for possible errors.

Board Member Ali requested that this matter be reviewed.

Board President Thomas recognized the students and concerned citizens who spoke in support of keeping the Chester Adult School open.

Board Member Easter encouraged the adult school principal and staff to request a copy of the Board Meeting where this matter (Chester Adult School) was discussed to obtain a clear understanding about the adult school program.

Board Member Zurita commented that it was not the Board's wishes to close the adult school; that the matter was a budgeting issue; and suggested that the community consider sharing with Gov. Schwarzenegger their concerns about funding for education.

Board Member Sharif suggested that the community, staff and students review the video regarding the Board's position regarding the closure of the Chester Adult School.

Board Member Ali stated that the Board was not advocating the closure of the adult school; that at a previous meeting the Board approved a loan to the adult school in the amount of \$300,000; that the Board must be mindful and consider all programs within the District and ensure that the District remains solvent; requested that a budget regarding the adult school be available for review at the December meeting; and that it would include how the monies flow, the statutory and legal requirements, and the loans that have been extended to the Adult Education Program within the past 5-6 years.

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F. COMMENTS OF THE STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

Donnie King commented on the high school homecoming events; stated that each event was well attended; that alumni from the Class of 1950 were recognized; reported that students from Dominguez and Centennial High Schools were invited to California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) on November 10, 2010, to participate and receive assistance with the college application process from CSULA and UCLA student interns; and that the college fair hosted by Centennial High School was very successful.

Donnie King, Student Board Member, was excused at 7:03 p.m.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presentation **Inner City Industry (ICI)**
(Acting Superintendent)

Comment: Inner City Industry (ICI) is a Los Angeles based organization that would like to enter into partnership with CUSD to facilitate the organization's Dedication to Education Reform (D2ER) program. The program will address barriers to student learning and promote healthy development. It would develop culturally relevant social emotional curriculum to support students in transition, establish peer to peer mentoring to build capacity for school based mental health services and promote the D2ER on campus and in the community.

At Acting Superintendent Karen Frison's request, Bruce Wheatly, Director, Inner City Industry, provided a thorough overview of the proposed program and addressed questions raised by the Board.

MOTION by *MR. ALI*, **SECOND** by *MRS. SHIPP* to approve Item No. 10/11-040.

H. ACTION ITEMS

10/11-040 **Applications to Attend Professional Conferences/School Business Meetings**

No Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM No. 10/11-040.

MOTION CARRIED

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I. BUSINESS/CONSENT ITEMS

- None Scheduled

J. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT

- **BOARD PRESIDENT THOMAS**
Requested that the meeting close in memory of Aaron J. Shannon, kindergarten student, Caldwell Elementary School and Audrey Hall-Johnson.
- **BOARD MEMBER SHIPP**
Requested that the meeting close in memory of Catherine Newton, District retiree.
- **BOARD MEMBER ALI**
Requested that the meeting close in memory of Eduardo Gayton, brother of Richard Gayton (Auto Body Teacher, Centennial High School).
- **BOARD MEMBER ZURITA**
Stated that the Chester Adult School program was important to the District; that many Board members have discussed with the Acting Superintendent possible options and alternatives to closing the adult school; suggested that consideration be given to reducing class fees to prices that would be consistent with the current market, especially the court ordered programs; encouraged everyone to work together to formulate programs that were more efficient and cost effective; announced that the scholarship application deadline was November 1, 2010, but that it was not too late to submit information; encouraged all middle school students to use the ucmentor.com program to assist with prerequisites that are needed to be eligible to enter in to a four-year college; extended condolence to the family of Aaron J. Shannon; thanked the District and local businesses for the support shown to the family; and announced that the services were scheduled for November 12, 2010, at the City of Refuge, Gardena, CA, at 11:00 a.m.
- **BOARD MEMBER SHIPP**
Encouraged the community to support the District at every Board meeting; extended condolences to the Shannon family, the staff and students of Caldwell Elementary School at the passing of Aaron J. Shannon; and announced that she would be absent from the upcoming Board meeting (November 23, 2010).
- **BOARD MEMBER EASTER**
No Comments.
- **BOARD MEMBER SHARIF**
Extended condolences to the family of Aaron J. Shannon and the Caldwell Elementary School staff and students.
- **BOARD MEMBER GARRETT**
Extended condolence to the Shannon family; encouraged the community to assist with supporting the family during this time; reported on her attendance at the Community Care (Beautification) event hosted by Ben and Emily Holifield on November 5, 2010; extended kudos to Longfellow Elementary School for their assistance with beautifying the school; acknowledged a member of the plant staff for going above and beyond the call of duty in the absence of the school's plant manager; invited members of the Board to visit Longfellow; reported that Willowbrook Middle School site was in need of assistance; asked for help from the District, local businesses and community to assist with enhancing the appearance and ensure student safety at the school site.

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J. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT

(Continued)

• **Board Member Ali**

Extended condolence to the family of Aaron J. Shannon; stated that the lack of education shapes juvenile crime; that studies have indicated that there is a direct correlation between poverty, the lack of education and crime; reported that the alleged individuals involved in the shooting were in their 20's; that it was incumbent upon the school system to assist with addressing truancy and any other forms of unacceptable behavioral at the early stages; shared his concerns about the number of classified employees working out-of-class and being issued stipends for performing additional tasks. Board Member Ali read Education Code 45110, a guideline for assigning individuals to work out-of-class; requested that all (classified) out-of-class items presented to the Board for approval include a detailed explanation; stated that consideration should be given to assigning work in-house and suggested "contracting-out" work that could not be performed by in-house staff.

K. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD STUDY SESSION

Education Service Center Board Room - December 14, 2010

ADJOURNMENT

10/11-9009 **MOTION** by *MS. ZURITA*, **SECOND** by *MRS. SHARIF* to adjourn the Board Study Session of the Board of Trustees - the time being 9:16 p.m..

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Aaron J. Shannon, Audrey Hall-Johnson, Catherine Newton and Eduardo Gayton.

*Karen Frison
Acting Superintendent*

/bmt