

**RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015  
BOARD ROOM  
6735 MAGNOLIA AVENUE, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mrs. Kathy Allavie, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mrs. Kathy Allavie, Board President; Mr. Tom Hunt, Vice President; Mr., Brent Lee, Board Clerk; Mrs. Gayle Cloud, Member; and Mrs. Patricia Lock-Dawson, Member.

Also present were District Superintendent, Dr. David C. Hansen, members of the staff, and other interested citizens.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON CLOSED SESSION MATTERS**

There were no requests received to address the Board members regarding Closed Session items.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:30 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. Consideration of Pupil Services Matters Pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918
2. Conference With Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6  
District Representative: David C. Hansen, Ed.D., District Superintendent  
Employee Organizations: Riverside City Teachers Association  
California School Employees Association
3. Consideration of Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
4. Consideration of Public Employee Appointment Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6  
Title: Director V Instructional Services Secondary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
5. Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)  
CAL200, et al v. San Francisco U.S.D., et al.  
SFSC Case No. CGC-13-534975

**RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:32 p.m. Mrs. Allavie announced that the following actions were taken by the Board during Closed Session:

It was moved by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mrs. Cloud and was unanimously approved by members present with the following roll call vote to approve the Settlement for SFSC Case No. CGC-13-534975 per Government Code Section 54956.9(a):

AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

It was moved by Mrs. Lock-Dawson and seconded by Mrs. Cloud and was unanimously approved by members present with the following roll call vote to approve the appointment of Mr. Darel Hansen, Director V, Instructional Services Secondary Education:

AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

Dr. Hansen reported that Mr. Hansen’s position as Director V, Instructional Services Secondary Education, will not begin until after the end of the school year to allow the District time to appoint a new principal for Martin Luther King High School.

Dr. Hansen noted that Mrs. Beth Martin, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, but more important Secretary to the Board of Education, was also introduced in Closed Session, as well as Mr. Ron Weston, Career Technical Education(CTE) Coordinator.

It was moved by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mrs. Cloud and was unanimously approved by members present with the following roll call vote pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 that the employee appeal be heard by an outside hearing officer:

AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**RIVERSIDE POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL ARMY JROTC COLOR GUARD PRESENTATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to our flag was led by Julia McDonald, 6<sup>th</sup> grade student from Pachappa Elementary School.

**GROUP PERFORMANCE**

The Miller Melodies Choir from Frank Augustus Miller Middle School performed for the Board of Education.

**SECTION A – PRESENTATIONS**

**A.1 Recognition of Riverside Polytechnic High School’s Solar Cup Team and Advisor Greg Aniol**

Ms. Rachel McQuire, Community Affairs Supervisor, Western Municipal Water District, shared a brief PowerPoint presentation about the Solar Cup program and presented a check in the amount of \$4,000 to Poly's Solar Cup Advisor Mr. Greg Aniol and Principal Michael Roe.

#### **A.2 Recognition of the Martin Luther King High School Girls' Tennis Team as Recipients of the Riverside County Office of Education Academic/Athletic Team Award**

The Board of Education and Dr. Hilma Griffin-Watson, Executive Director, on behalf of RCOE, recognized the Martin Luther King High School Girls' Tennis Team for earning the Riverside County Office of Education's Academic/Athletic Team Award for posting the highest Grade Point Average (GPA) for their sport 4.32 GPA.

### **SECTION B – REPORTS BY HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **B.1 Reports presented by Riverside Polytechnic, Ramona, and John W. North High Schools' Student Board Representatives.**

### **SECTION C – DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Hansen voiced that this is our first Board meeting after all of the holidays and that it is wonderful it hear from our Student Board representatives. He reported that Martin Luther King High School Senior Saumya Keremane has been named one of 300 Intel Science Talent Search Semifinalists. He said that Saumya earned this prestigious honor for her project, "An Eco-friendly RNA Interference-based Insect Control for Management of Citrus Greening Diseases Using a Model System." Dr. Hansen noted that Saumya was selected for the Intel honor from more than 1,800 entrants from 460 high schools in 41 states, Puerto Rico and five American and international high schools overseas. He stated that Saumya also earned a Gold Medal for her project in the 2014 RIMS Science and Engineering Fair and an Honorable Mention at the California State Science Fair last spring.

Dr. Hansen congratulated Principal Sean Curtin and the entire Amelia Earhart Middle School staff, for their renewal as a National AVID Demonstration School following a recent visit from the AVID team. He said that Earhart received a three-year certification for the outstanding job that they are doing. Dr. Hansen noted that approximately 20 percent of Earhart students are enrolled in AVID and the entire school uses AVID success techniques.

Dr. Hansen commended the Districtwide support for United Way indicating that over \$46,000 was raised for this worthy effort.

Mrs. Lynn Carmen Day reported that Ms. Stephanie Niechayev, Arlington High School English Language Arts and English Language Development ELA/ELD Teacher was appointed by the State Board of Education to serve as a reviewer to evaluate instructional material for the 2015 ELA/ELD adoption. She discussed that RUSD has been awarded a California Math and Science Partnership Grant that will provide 75 elementary teachers intensive professional development. She noted that the grant award is in the amount of \$1.6 million over the next three years. Mrs. Carmen Day discussed that RUSD is partnering with UCR and Bourns to host a STEM awareness event for 150 – 10<sup>th</sup> grade high school girls called "Inspire Her Mind" on February 5. She provided a brief update regarding initial meetings with University of California, Riverside (UCR) Chancellor Wilcox and Riverside Community College (RCC) Interim President Isaac, regarding formalizing pathways that provide RUSD students with the opportunity to pursue college level coursework while in high school. She discussed

that District staff is working with Pivot Learning Partners and that they are examining our Professional Development and are listening to the needs of our teachers.

Dr. Kirk Lewis provided information regarding the upcoming Study Session on Tuesday, February 17 which will include various properties and a potential bond.

**SECTION D – PUBLIC INPUT**

The following individuals addressed the Board members: Mr. Morris Mendoza shared information about partnerships and concerns about counselors that are needed throughout the District, Ms. Ashley Lopez discussed concerns about Special Education student opportunities at Mark Twain Elementary School, and Mr. Steve Davey discussed the importance of participation in “Grow Riverside”.

**SECTION E – DISTRICT EMPLOYEE GROUP REPORTS**

**E.1 RASM Presentation by Mr. Bernie Marez, President, Riverside Association of School Managers**

Mr. Bernie Marez provided a report on the activities and accomplishments of the Riverside Association of School Managers (RASM).

**E.2 RCTA Presentation by Mr. Tim Martin, Present, Riverside City Teachers Association**

Mr. Tim Martin provided a report on the activities and accomplishments of the Riverside City Teachers Association (RCTA).

**SECTION F – CONSENT**

Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved by Mrs. Lock-Dawson and seconded by Mr. Hunt and approved by members present, with the exception of Items F.10 and F.15 which were pulled for discussion, with the following roll call vote:

- AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None

Items in the Consent Calendar have been published with the agenda and copies are on file in the District administrative offices.

**ITEM PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

**F.10 Approval of Head Start Progress Report for November 2014**

Item F.10 was moved by Mrs. Cloud and seconded by Mr. Hunt and was unanimously approved by members present with the following roll call vote:

- AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None

**ITEM PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

**F.15 Recommended Actions From the Administrative Hearing Panel and/or the Executive Director, Pupil Services/SELPA and Adoption of the Findings of Fact for All Approved Cases**

Item F.15 was moved by Mrs. Cloud and seconded by Mrs. Lock-Dawson and was unanimously approved by members present with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

The Board took a recess from 6:56 to 7:07 p.m.

**SECTION G – REPORT/DISCUSSION**

**G.1 Governor’s Budget Proposals for 2015-16**

Mr. Michael Fine, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services and Government Relations, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the Governor’s Budget Proposals for 2015-16 and the potential impacts on the Riverside Unified School District.

**SECTION H – ACTION**

**H.1 2013-14 Annual Financial Report and Audit**

Mr. Fine discussed that state law requires that each year the financial records of the District be audited by an independent third party audit firm and that the Governing Board review the annual financial report and audit at a public meeting.

Mr. Kevin Brejnak, Partner, Nigro & Nigro, PC, reviewed the highlights of the financial report and audit as included on a handout that he provided to the Board of Education members.

The item was moved by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mrs. Lock-Dawson and was approved unanimously by the following roll call vote to accept the Annual Audit and Financial Report for the year ending June 20, 2014:

AYES: Allavie, Cloud, Hunt, Lee, Lock-Dawson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**SECTION I – CONCLUSION**

**I.1 Board Members’ Comments**

Mr. Lee discussed his and Mrs. Allavie’s attendance at RCOE’s Head Start Program Governance Training on January 16 along with staff members Mrs. Gloria Cowder, Director, Program Development and Extended Learning, and Mr. Joe Nieto, Coordinator, Early Childhood and Family Education and thanked them for their hard work. He stated in terms of the last Board Study Session on Riverside STEM Academy that he would like the information reviewed in a report with the Board members pertaining to curriculum, long term facilities planning, and equity in terms of demographics and the lottery.

Mrs. Allavie noted that she would like to have Riverside STEM Academy (RSA) brought back as a discussion item on the next Board agenda. She reviewed some of the history leading up to the Adhoc Committee being formed for RSA, and suggested that District staff may have more ideas that the Board members need to hear at this time. She mentioned looking back at prior Board of Education decisions for programs of

choice within the District, and that the information was the same, that the Board was given general knowledge about the programs but did not vote on the program. She stated that the Adhoc Committee's primary goal was to create a world class STEM education. In closing, Mrs. Allavie said the new RUSD Family Resource Center opening is scheduled for February 5 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. with the Ribbon Cutting at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunt noted that he was glad that the RSA item was being brought back because things do change. He complimented staff for the new carpet in the District Office. He discussed that Teen Challenge has been in Riverside since 1971. He stated that Mr. Ron Black, who oversees the program, would like to bring the program into RUSD. He complimented staff regarding the Operations Board Subcommittee Meeting and the Strategic Plan related to the use of properties. He noted his approval of the Grow Riverside Program. He discussed match grants for Career Technical Education (CTE), and that he is anxious for Mr. Weston to start working in this area. He noted at a recent Good Morning Riverside, that he met someone who serves under Captain Baird at the California Military Institute. He discussed a possible Military Alliance where they would come speak at school events or hold events on base. In closing, Mr. Hunt said that RUSD is one of the only two District's in Riverside County on the old calendar. He said that Principal Michael Roe has some unique ideas about the calendar to keep the District on schedule, and he would like our staff to take another look at the school calendar.

Mrs. Cloud discussed compliance with all of the different divisions and issues that fall under Mr. Fine. She spoke about the importance of the CTE programs. Mrs. Cloud mentioned our District calendar and that we need to be careful when we redesign the calendar. She also referenced concerns related to technology and obesity, and that technology is good but children need to stay active.

Mrs. Lock-Dawson mentioned a speaker at the Annual California School Boards Association (CSBA) Conference who spoke on the black girls' code, computer programming for African-American girls. She referenced Mrs. Lopez who expressed concern tonight regarding Special Education and her desire that this be addressed. She noted that the Grow Riverside Program is very good. She indicated that she is looking forward to serving on the Board Communications and the Board Student Activities Subcommittees.

## **1.2 Next Board Meeting: February 2, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Allavie adjourned the Public Session at 8:24 p.m. in memory of Ms. Ann Marie Peterson who passed away on November 29, former Chemawa Middle School teacher for several years, Mrs. Nila Gates, former Teacher's Aide for 16 years with RUSD who passed away on November 30; Mrs. Jaunita Porch, former RUSD employee for 25 years who passed away on December 27; and Celeste Alvarez, Amelia Earhart Middle School student who passed away on January 2, 2015.

Brent Lee  
Clerk  
Board of Education