

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
1231 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702
510-644-6206

Official Minutes
August 11, 2021

President Ty Alper called the meeting to order at 7pm. He reported that the Board convened to Closed Session at 5:30pm.

Roll Call

Board of Education:

Ty Alper, President – Present

Ka'Dijah Brown, Vice President – Present

Julie Sinai, Director/Clerk – Present

Laura Babitt, Director – Present

Ana Vasudeo, Director -- Present

Anjuna Mascarenhas-Swan, Student Director, BHS – Present

Administration:

Brent Stephens, Ed., D, Superintendent

Ruben Aurelio, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Pauline Follansbee, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Samantha Tobias-Espinosa, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Lyz Chairez, Recorder

OPEN SESSION

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

At the request of President Alper items 11.21, 14.1 and 14.2 were pulled from the agenda.

Motion to approve agenda as amended:

Vasudeo/Sinai and unanimously approved 6-0.

REPORT CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Brown reported out on closed session:

Superintendent Evaluation (Government Code Section 54957)

The Board heard an update and provided direction. No action was taken.

Conference with Legal Counsel--Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b))

OAH Case NO. 2021050471

Motion to approve staff recommendation:
Alper/Babitt and approved unanimously 5-0.

Collective Bargaining - Government Code Section 54957.6(a) (District Negotiator:
Samantha Tobias-Espinosa)

Berkeley Federation of Teachers (BFT)

The Board heard an update and gave direction. no action was taken.

Berkeley Council of Classified Employees (BCCE)

The Board heard an update and gave direction. no action was taken.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

A total of seven people addressed the Board:

One comment in support of a remote-only option for families this new school year.

One comment in support of climate change literacy.

Three comments in support of mandated vaccinations for staff and eligible students.

One comment in support of Latinx student resolution

One comment on safety mitigations this school year

UNION COMMENTS

BFT President Matt Meyers addressed the Board.

BOARD MEMBER AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Members of the Board and Superintendent Stephens provided individual comments.
They all welcomed Student Director Anjuna Mascarenhas-Swan and Associate
Superintendent Ruben Aurelio.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS.

Berkeley PTA Council representative addressed the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar:
Sinai/Brown and approved unanimously 6-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Updates for the Start of the 2021-2022 School Year (45 min)

Superintendent Stephens, Associate Superintendent Aurelio and Trish MacDermott presented an update on preparations for the first day of the 2021-22 school year on August 16. They covered most recent health guidance enacted by the state, safety plan for risk mitigation, and plans to support students and families as they return to in person instructions five days out of the week. Questions and discussion followed.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Updated Board Policy 6155 - Independent Study Program (30 min)
Associate Superintendent Aurelio and BIS/BTA Principal Heidi Weber presented updates to the Independent Study Program policy as required by AB 130. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to waive a second reading of the policy change:
Alper/Brown and unanimously approved 6-0.

Motion to approve updated policy 6155:
Alper/Brown and approved 6-0.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

A total of two people addressed the Board:

Two comments expressing concern for possible difficulties to hire after school staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

10:02 PM