



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
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Superintendent's Office

Recommendation: 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

<p>Estimated Time of Presentation: N/A</p> <p>Submitted by: José L. Banda, Superintendent</p> <p>Approved by: N/A</p>
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Putting
Children
First

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
Jessie Ryan*

A quorum was reached.

2.0 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

3.0 CLOSED SESSION

While the Brown Act creates broad public access rights to the meetings of the Board of Education, it also recognizes the legitimate need to conduct some of its meetings outside of the public eye. Closed session meetings are specifically defined and limited in scope. They primarily involve personnel issues, pending litigation, labor negotiations, and real property matters.

- 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

6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION

Vice President Pritchett asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was made to approve by Member Cochrane and seconded by Member Ryan. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

7.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- 7.1 *Approve Resolution No. 2856: Recognizing Rosemont High School Alumnus Anthony Sadler (Christina Pritchett)*

Vice President Christina Pritchett introduced the resolution to honor “Hometown Hero” Anthony Sadler. She told of his heroic actions this past summer when he and two of his friends prevented what could have been a terrible tragedy while traveling on a train from Amsterdam to Paris. She told how

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. It is the highest honor the school can bestow upon a noteworthy graduate and is awarded in recognition of a particular achievement of noteworthy value, a series of such achievements, or a career of noteworthy accomplishment. She thanked Mr. Sadler for what he has done for the community, the nation, and the world. She presented him with a plaque, two tickets for a two day stay at Disneyland, and a Rosemont High School hat. Vice President Pritchett then read Resolution No. 2856 and asked for a motion to approve the resolution. A motion was made by Member Ryan and seconded by Member Cochrane. The motion passed unanimously. Vice President Pritchett then presented a framed copy of the resolution to Mr. Sadler along with a marble apple. Mr. Sadler spoke to say he appreciates being recognized by the District.

Public Comment:

None

Board Member Comments:

None

7.2 Theodore Judah Presentation - Project Green/Science Alive Program Growth and Success (Shannon Hardwicke and the Green Team)

Shannon Hardwicke, of Soil Born Farms, and students from Theodore Judah spoke about the garden program there. Ms. Hardwicke then gave the presentation which covered symposiums given, resilient schools and communities, career pathways, academics related to gardens, connection to Common Core and STEM, healthy lifestyles, social emotional learning, environmental stewardship, and Growing Together pilot sites including Oakridge, Pacific, Camellia Basic, Nicholas Elementary and Will C. Wood Middle Schools.

Public Comment:

The following spoke in favor of school gardens:

Sarah Wagner, a Sixth grade teacher at Oakridge Elementary School

Dawn Student, a First grade teacher at Camellia Basic Elementary School

Dudley Burton, an Environmental Science teacher at Sacramento State

Jennifer VanDyke, a former intern at the Burbank Urban Garden at Luther Burbank High School

Brenda Ruiz, speaking on behalf of Slow Food Sacramento and Slow Food California

Todd McPherson, school garden coordinator with the Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center

Ryan Nowshiravan, an Environmental Studies major at Sacramento State and an intern of the Burbank Urban Garden

Cheyene Keniston, an intern that managed the construction of the aquaponics system at Luther Burbank High School

Board Member Comments:

Student Member Barry said that she is in full support of all that is being done. She has a friend that attends George Washington Carver High School who raves about their garden. And she knows at least one teacher at her school (West Campus) that is interested in a garden. She asked to be able to pass on their contact information.

Member Cochrane said she feels very proud to have Theodore Judah Elementary School in her area, and she encouraged all Board members to come on a visit with her. She said it is a truly extraordinary place. She was glad to see from the presentation that we have gardens in 55 percent of our schools. She stated that we should shoot for 100 percent. She said we are working closely with Sacramento State to provide pathways from our District to Sacramento State, and this is a very hands-on and obvious one. She said to Science Alive/Green Team and all the speakers in favor of school gardens that they have her unequivocal support. She asked for direction from them so that she can stay abreast of programs and initiatives.

Member Rodriguez said that she was taught many things about protecting the earth while growing up, so she is very in favor of what is being done. She attended Luther Burbank when they still had a Future Farmers of America (FFA) program. When she visited as a Board member, the teacher that was there when she was a student was about to retire, and he asked her to make sure the program continued. However she could not do it because the program did not have support back in 2008. But now we believe in this and are talking about it. Member Rodriguez thanked all for coming. The high school is named after American botanist, horticulturalist, and pioneer in agricultural science, Luther Burbank. He created 800 strains and varieties of plants over his 55 year long career. She said that this school should be our premier school right now, and it should be our agricultural school, focused on this subject. She also spoke about Bread for the World and the organizations they are working with. She said we have lots of resources out there which we have not even touched. She would love to work with all present and connect them with resources.

Member Ryan thanked Ms. Hardwicke for her presentation and acknowledged the hard work that the teachers in the room are doing to bring meaningful connections to their students through school gardens. October is National Farm to School Month. We have to do more to ensure that we are integrating these conversations in the classroom and across the District throughout the year. Member Ryan stated that school gardens and having a connection to food that is grown happens in more affluent neighborhoods. So it is incredibly heartwarming to see that in her own backyard of Oak Park at Oak Ridge Elementary School there is a model for what a school garden and orchard can be. She thanked the teachers that are leading this work. She also visited Pacific Elementary where Ms. Hardwicke was training the entire teaching site to be able to integrate Common Core standards into their school lessons. She noted that although 55 percent of school sites have gardens, many lay barren. She asked Ms. Hardwicke what is the cost of onboarding a school site and what are the challenges to sustain the work. She also asked what are our opportunities to get the percentage of gardens to 100% and to see that this becomes a reality in a reasonable and actionable timeline. Ms. Hardwicke said that the cost is not in the building of the garden, but in the sustaining of the garden through equipping and empowering the community, teachers, and administrators on how to manage the garden well. Even with one or two people on site that have a stipend or are able to develop trainings, one could look at a small amount of even \$5,000 and you are covering enough training and maybe a stipend for a coordinator to support the program with direction. It also comes down to developing teams. Over the last three years that they have been piloting the programs, they find the key success comes when teachers are joining together along with parents and other community members to develop a team. Otherwise, if one lead person leaves, often the garden does not continue. But if there is a team with a shared vision, it is not critical when one person leaves. It is about

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

Member Rodriguez said that one of her schools had a piece of land that she helps clean up almost every year with a community of volunteers, and she has longed for that piece of property to be developed as a garden. To her disappointment, however, the go-to for this individual was that they are thinking of putting a parking lot there. It hurts to hear that the go-to response is that we need a parking lot rather than thinking of our children, the future, and community. There is an opportunity for the community if you put a garden there; we can certainly find parking somewhere else, but we cannot find somewhere else to put the garden. It creates a mind shift that people have to go to.

Vice President Pritchett said that it is safe to say all the Board supports their efforts, and she thanked the presenters. She suggested partnering up with the parent-teacher groups in all schools. She would be happy to help with this.

Vice President Pritchett then announced and presented Stellar Student Willie Murphy, a Senior from American Legion High School. Member Ryan told how we honored Anthony Sadler earlier for being a hometown hero and that Willie Murphy is another hometown hero, but one that not as many have heard of. She said she is proud that he is a hometown hero representing American Legion High School and told of his recent courageous act in Oak Park. When witnessing a car that was burning, he put his own well-being aside and took quick action to rescue a person by pulling them from the vehicle. Member Ryan again said she is incredibly proud of what he has done, and she thanked him for inspiring people in Oak Park to save a life if they have an opportunity to do so. Member Ryan then presented a Certificate of Achievement.

8.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Please fill out a yellow card available at the entrance. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, or grouped by subject area. We ask that comments are limited to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Public Comment:

LaShanya Brenzell gave an update on the Black Parallel School Board. She spoke about the support of the District as a twenty first century, multi-cultural education partner. She informed that the Black Parallel School Board has reconstituted the Restorative Justice Collaborative. The purpose of the reconstitution is to support the District implementing the new school discipline administration regulation process. They are pleased to participate in the District administration regulation meeting that will begin next month in November. They will be reviewing the results of California assessment of student performance and their progress. One major area focus will be the baseline data and relation to African descendent students. The Black Parallel School Board will support positive District initiatives that will ensure high quality support for students of African descent.

Nikki Milevsky, President of SCTA, reported they have recently reached a conceptual agreement with Human Resources to resolve three significant outstanding issues related to fixing the mess with the unilateral changes to the agreed upon health plans created. She hoped having to talk about health plan issues would not have come up for a while, but said it appears that will not happen as long as the District continues to use the Grand Jury investigated broker Keenan and Associates. She said that the phones are again ringing off the hook at SCTA with active and retired members thoroughly confused at the inaccurate and misleading information presented by Keenan on their Benefit Bridge and District

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 to see that she was being offered health plans that are not available to certificated employees, yet one of the only two health plans for active teachers was missing. Also, dental plans that she knows should have been offered were not, while programs that are not an option were listed as available. She asked how many mistakes Keenan will be allowed to make before the District pulls the plug, and is there no limit to the amount of financial risk the District will allow Keenan to expose it. She spoke of other subjects dealing with education that the professional staff of educators would rather discuss. Darlene Anderson has concerns with students that consistently score far below grade level. She also feels the District needs to do more about positive behavior support plans for students so that they can be successful in the classroom.

9.0 PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 Public Hearing on Adoption of Resolution No. 2857 for Developer Fee Increase (Cathy Allen) **Conference/Action**

Vice President Pritchett opened the Public Hearing and called on Cathy Allen, Chief Operations Officer. Ms. Allen reported that the developer fee is increased by the State Allocation Board (SAB) every even-numbered year. Following the increase, Districts must develop a developer fee justification study that demonstrates a nexus between any new development and the need for additional or adequate school facilities. In January 2014 the State Allocation Board increased the statutory fees for level one residential from \$3.20 a square foot to \$3.36 per square foot. Commercial, retail, and industrial went from 51 cents per square foot to 54 cents per square foot. In addition, Districts are required to calculate a fee for retail self-storage separately. Although the SAB did increase the statutory fee, the District during its justification process was unable to increase in the self-storage fee category; therefore we leave our fee for this at 26 cents per square foot.

Public Comment:
None

Board Member Comments:
None

Vice President Pritchett asked for a motion to move the Item from Conference to Action. Member Cochrane motioned and Member Ryan seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Vice President Pritchett asked if there was any discussion. There was none, and she asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2857. Member Rodriguez motioned and Member Cochrane seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9.2 Public Hearing on the Renewal of the Charter for Capitol Collegiate Academy (Jack Kraemer and Cristin Fiorelli) **Conference**

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 school culture, academic achievement results, and ongoing commitments and goals. Students, parents, and staff were also part of the presentation.

Public Comment:

The following speakers all spoke in favor of renewing the charter for Capitol Collegiate Academy:

Liberty Matias, First Grade teacher at Capitol Collegiate Academy

Melissa Colon, a parent at Capitol Collegiate Academy

Kayla-Noemi Diarte, a Third Grade student at Capitol Collegiate Academy

Laura Kerr, of the California Charter Schools Association

Charlie Moynahan, a Third Grade teacher at Capitol Collegiate Academy

Itzel Ramirez, a student from Capitol Collegiate Academy

Penny Schwinn, founder of Capitol Collegiate Academy

Board Member Comments:

Member Rodriguez thanked Ms. Schwinn for traveling across the country to be here tonight. She said it gives one a good feeling to see the positive results, and when there is excellence happening somewhere one has to acknowledge it. She likes the college theme. She thanked all from the school for creating a family community and amazing results.

Member Ryan asked Ms. Fiorelli if she saw the achievement gap closed across all ethnic subgroups. Ms. Fiorelli said that they did and there is no achievement gap in any subgroup at Capitol Collegiate Academy. Member Ryan asked why they had a smaller number of students tested. Ms. Fiorelli said that at this time last year they had classes only through Third Grade. Member Ryan asked what is the student to teacher ratio. Ms. Fiorelli said that in Kindergarten and First Grade the class size is 28 and in Second through Fourth Grades it is 26. However, when English Language Arts is being taught, they have an additional teacher in each classroom. At those times, students are learning in groups of 8 to 13 students. Member Ryan told the parents and students in the audience that she is happy the students are aspiring to go to college.

Vice President Pritchett thanked everyone for coming tonight and said the Board looks forward to their return.

9.3 *Public Hearing on Approval of Resolution No. 2858: Compliance with the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program Act-Public Hearing (Matthew Turkie)*

Conference/Action

5 minute presentation

5 minute discussion

Interim Assistant Superintendent Matthew Turkie reported on the District's compliance with the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program Act, otherwise known as Educational Code 60115. He explained the requirements of the Act, steps to ensure sufficiency, the components of Resolution No. 2858, the sufficiency status of each school, and gave his recommendation to approve the resolution.

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 to Action. A motion was made by Member Ryan and seconded by Member Cochrane. The motion passed unanimously. Vice President Pritchett asked for Board comment. There being none, she asked for a motion to approve the Item. A motion was made by Member Rodriguez and seconded by Member Ryan. The motion passed unanimously to approve Resolution No. 2858.

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.

10.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:

10.1a Approve Grants, Entitlements and Other Income Agreements, Ratification of Other Agreements, Approval of Bid Awards, Change Notices and Notices of Completion (Gerardo Castillo, CPA)

10.1b Approve Personnel Transactions (Cancy McArn)

10.1c Approve Mandatory Reporting to the Sacramento County Office of Education – Uniform Complaints Regarding the Williams Settlement Processed for the Period of July through September 2015 (Cancy McArn)

10.1d Approve Business and Financial Report: Warrants, Checks, and Electronic Transfers Issued for the period of September 2015 (Gerardo Castillo, CPA)

10.1e Approve Minutes of the September 17, 2015, Board of Education Meeting

(José L. Banda)

10.1f *Approve Waiver Request and Affidavit – Request for Allowance of Attendance Due to Emergency Conditions at Tahoe Elementary School on September 11, 2015 (Gerardo Castillo, CPA)*

Vice President Pritchett asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. A motion was made to approve by Member Rodriguez and seconded by Member Cochrane. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

Public Comment:

None

Board Member Comment:

None

11.0 BOARD WORKSHOP/STRATEGIC PLAN AND OTHER INITIATIVES

11.1 *Monthly Facilities Update – Presentation by the Food Literacy Center for the Leataata Floyd Farm Project (Cathy Allen)* **Information**

Cathy Allen, Chief of Operations, introduced Amber Scott who spoke about the Food Literacy Center and the Floyd Farm project they are proposing to partner on with the District. This project is at Leataata Floyd Elementary School. They would be moving Food Literacy Center headquarters to that school site where they would be running full-time programming to the students of that school and Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School. They would continue to deliver all of their programming to the seven-plus schools that they currently serve. She explained how their non-profit organization founded in 2011. They currently work in seven schools, mostly in the Sacramento City Unified School District. They provide cooking and nutrition education to low-income elementary kids. She spoke about their mission, how they educate and train, statistics on children’s eating habits, and the organization’s plans and goals.

Public Comment:

The following speakers all spoke in favor of partnering with the Food Literacy Center:

Nicole Rogers, the Director of Farm to Fork

Evonne Fisher, a parent whose Third Grade daughter is involved with the Food Literacy Center

Brenda Ruiz, with Slow Food Sacramento

Elaine Lander, Program Officer at Food Literacy Center

Todd McPherson, school garden coordinator with the Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center

Alex Visaya, community advocate for students and families of the Sacramento City Unified School District

Ms. Allen said that this partnership is with the City of Sacramento, the District, and the developers of Northwest Land Park. One of the struggles early on was finding a third party operator, due mostly to insurance requirements on our side. It has been a long search, and we are glad that we have found

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 bring them along and forward into a better lifestyle in every way.

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 spoke about sustainability in regard to single plans for student achievement. She said we should be able to measure whatever we want to do, such as with Farm to Fork. She asked how this will work in the plan, who is going to be the partner, and who will ensure that all the teachers know what will happen. She said we say it is about local planning, but unfortunately African American people do not show up, and when they do show up, they are usually ignored. She feels that she is ignored also by the Board many times when she speaks about the achievement of African American students. She is concerned about having a strategic plan that talks about student achievement when many African American kids are far below basic. She said she tries to help parents. She is concerned that there is no safety net for students. She said that she did not know there were meetings held previously. She would like to be informed of meetings in the future. She would like them to be posted, and she would like more community members to come out and share their concerns.

Alex Visaya shared his thoughts on the strategic plan. He feels we have had enough common sense ideas, lots and lots of research, and statistical data on how to fix the secondary educational system.

Our most vulnerable kids are to reach an excellent education that they richly deserve. He told Member Cochrane she is right in saying that the common denominator in the classroom is the student and the teacher. He recommends that we also include a strong leader and administrator at all sites. What is missing is equity and opportunity in reaching their goals, most especially for English learners, the socially and economically disadvantaged, special education students, and foster youth. He thanked the Board for appointing Dr. Rogers to the position of Chief Strategy Officer because he is sure Dr. Rogers will deliver positive results going forward.

Board Member Comments:

Student Member Barry said that she happened to be on one of the focus groups mentioned, and she also facilitated one. She was happy to see the results she saw in the presentation. Her focus group looked at what they saw from the strategic plan in the past, but said all the meetings and gatherings that were mentioned regarding feedback for the new strategic plan never mention students. So she is wondering if student input will be sought for the new strategic plan. Dr. Rogers said yes, absolutely, and he feels the principals will be very helpful in this. School site councils and PTA meetings will also help to engage parents and students.

Member Ryan thanked Dr. Rogers for the energy and vision that he has brought forth in putting this strategic plan together. Even though in early stages, there has been a lot of thought and very good ideas generated. She appreciates the deep dive into data because she feels it is not possible to put forth a strong plan if we do not have an honest conversation around data and where we are failing our students. As she looks over trends from the past three to five years, some things are very stark to her and merit explanation, and she hopes will be part of a larger conversation. She appreciates that the graduation rate is increasing, but at the same time, if the achievement gap is not decreased and the A through G completion and college readiness completion is flat, she is troubled. If we see suspensions down for all populations, but for students of color the percentage has increased, it makes her wonder how we could leave a couple hundred thousand dollars on the table for Restorative Justice work in last year's budget. She hopes that as we move forward with the strategic planning process, that we really look at equity at every level of the plan. She said we know that some students in some schools do far better than others, and we need to make sure that we standardize an opportunity for all students irrespective of the color of their skin. She also strongly feels that when we know that trends locally, such as Los Rios enrollment from our District being flat and our losing our share of attendance at Sacramento State (making Elk Grove now the largest feeder district), we have to do something to buck that troubling trend. And while there are some that argue that not all students are college material, she strongly feels that all students should be able to make that choice. She hopes that part of the strategic planning process will be a reopening of the conversation around whether A through G should become the default curriculum for all students in the District. When you talk to parents, they are not telling you that their children are not college material; we are often making that determination for others. She feels that this is unconscionable. Member Ryan also stated that there are a myriad of competing priorities for parents, so we have to do a better job of articulating why a strategic plan matters. Beyond that, we need to show parents that the time and energy they put into providing us feedback actually translates into priorities and results. We need to give a great deal of thought to how we message that in a real way that has resonance with the families across the District. We then need to facilitate conversations that are honest, both about the District's strengths and where we must and can do better.

Member Rodriguez thanked Dr. Rogers for including a couple items she had asked for last time. One thing she did not see is something about the dual track system of going out to the community for the strategic plan and for the LCAP and how we will prevent confusion. Dr. Rogers said that in general the confusion piece will be taken care of in clarifying for people the nature of the conversation and will help dispel a lot of confusion. This is why we have large group meetings as well as close-in fireside chats.

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, two groups of classified staff, and four groups of parents. They reached out to Sacramento Council of PTA for one parent group. They had a very short time frame and so held one meeting at Hollywood Park Elementary School that was promoted through their Parent Resource Center, one at Cesar Chavez Elementary School which was promoted the same way, and one at John Still Elementary School. The first student group was with the Student Advisory Council Executive Board, and the students that participated were trained to facilitate the focus group with the broader Student Advisory Council that met here at the Serna Center. With the time frame, they were not able to achieve a perfect distribution of our whole District, but were seeking to dip into the opinion of our general community. Vice President Pritchett asked that they utilize the Board as the members are very engaged in their communities. Ms. Morrison said that through Dr. Rogers she will reach out to each Board member as she feels Public Education Volunteer is something that they would enjoy and have interest.

12.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS

Receive Information

12.1 Business and Financial Information:

- **Purchase Order Board Report for the Period of August 15, 2015, through September 14, 2015**

Vice President Pritchett received the report.

13.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS

- ✓ November 5, 2015, 4:30 p.m. Closed Session, 6:30 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting
- ✓ November 19, 2015, 4:30 p.m. Closed Session; 6:30 p.m. Open Session; Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room; Regular Workshop Meeting

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Pritchett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; a motion was made by student member Elizabeth Barry and seconded by Member Cochrane. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

José L. Banda, Superintendent and Board Secretary

NOTE: The Sacramento City Unified School District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Board of Education Office at (916) 643-9314 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board of Education meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you. [Government Code § 54953.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)] Any public records distributed to the Board of Education less than 72 hours in advance of the meeting and relating to an open session item are available for public inspection at 5735 47th Avenue at the Front Desk Counter and on the District's website at www.scusd.edu