

Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education
LaEscuelita Education Center
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Meeting Minutes Long - Final

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

5:00 PM

Special Meeting

**KDOL TV Studios, LaEscuelita Education Center, 1050 2nd Avenue, Oakland,
CA 94606-2212**

Board of Education

President David Kakishiba

Vice President Jumoke Hinton Hodge

***Directors: Jody London, Gary Yee,
Christopher Dobbins, Roseann Torres,
James Harris***

***Student Directors: Carmen Jimenez,
Pierre Salmeri***

***Staff: Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Secretary,
Board of Education***

A. Call To Order

President Kakishiba called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M.

B. Roll Call

Present 5 -

Director David Kakishiba, Director Roseann Torres, Director James Harris, Director Jumoke Hodge, and Director Jody London

Absent 4 -

Student Director Carmen Jimenez, Student Director Pierre Salmeri, Director Gary Yee, and Director Christopher Dobbins

C. Public Hearing(s)

[13-0135](#)**Bay Area Technology School - Petition and Proposed Charter School (Renewal) (Grades 6-12)**

Public Hearing - Bay Area Technology School - Petition and Proposed Charter School (Renewal) (Grades 6-12).

Attachments: [13-0135 Bay Area Technology School - Petition and Proposed Charter School \(Renewal\) \(Grades 6-12\)](#)
[13-0135 Presentation - Public Hearing - Bay Area Technology School - Petition and Proposed Charter School \(Renewal\) \(Grades 6-12\) \(.PPTX\)](#)
[13-0135 Presentation - Public Hearing - Bay Area Technology School - Petition and Proposed Charter School \(Renewal\) \(Grades 6-12\) \(.PDF\)](#)
[13-0135 13-0135 - Proof Of Publication](#)

President Kakishiba open the Public Hearing at 5:05 P.M.

Hayri Hatipoglu, the Principal of Bay Area of Technology School gave a presentation about the enrollment of Bay Tech over the years from 2004 through 2013. Mr. Hatipoglu also stated about the demographic, API, CAHSEE, ADA, free reduced lunch of the students that are attending Bay Tech is increasing each year. One, the graduation rate in 2011 it was 100%, but on 2012 it was 95% because one student did not pass CAHSEE so she wasn't counted as a graduate, said Mr. Hatipoglu. Mr. Hatipoglu also stated that they have followed up with her and she has passed her CAHSEE. Also, Bay Tech have elective courses that a student can choose from said Mr. Hatipoglu. The suspension rate, and drop out rate have gone down for Bay Tech, said Mr. Hatipoglu.

Public Comments:

Lacey Asbill who is with Moving Forward Education stated the students of Bay Tech are very driven to learn, who is in partnership with Bay Tech.

Ben Visnick stated that the District has violated the Brown Act by not having an auditorium that could seat the public. Mr. Visnick stated instead of giving the money to Charter schools, take that money and improve Oakland Unified Schools.

Maha Mostafavi stated that Bay Tech has helped her in many ways. Not only academically but as a citizen as well said, Ms. Mostafavi.

Maha Mizyed stated that the principal is a strong leader and the teachers are all knowledgeable and have a wonderful heart in helping their students' skills.

Samantha Delamera stated that as a teacher at Bay Tech, she has personal relationships with the students and the parents compared to other places that she have taught.

Allal Yafai stated as a student at Bay Tech the school wants the best education for their students.

Harold Bradford stated the students are very excited about music. Mr. Bradford also stated that the students are very enthusiastic about the College Prep Program.

Gary Lo stated as a math teacher he feels motivated to teach because of what he believes regarding Bay Tech and its programs.

Bryan Anthony stated as a History teacher at Bay Tech he see the important of each

student from the low achiever to middle achiever and from that to the highest achiever. That each student is important, said Mr. Anthony.

Audrey Birl stated that Bay Tech is a model of No Child Left Behind. Ms. Birl also stated all the staff at Bay Tech are very helpful and to help it keep open.

Christian Delo Reyes stated Bay Tech is a special place for him. Mr. Reyes also stated the teachers really care for them.

Dawn Ortiz stated that she has been to many schools, but what makes Bay Tech unique is because they are bridging the achievement gap.

Africa Williams stated how incredible it is for her and her kids to be part of Bay Tech and is also in her neighborhood.

Ida Lewis stated that they have made the right choice to attend Bay Tech because the teachers are vested in their student and to keep Bay Tech Open.

Patricia Williams stated Bay Tech is the best choice that she has made for her children. Bay Tech teachers, staffs are very hard working and dedicated to what they do said Ms. Williams.

Aminah Omar stated the atmosphere at Bay Tech has allowed her daughter to mature at the right age appropriate pace. Bay Tech has teachers that go out of their way to teach their students said Ms. Omar.

Kezia Ranilla stated she likes Bay Area Tech because it has good academic standards and great teachers.

Teresa McIntosh stated that Bay Area Tech has given her hope that her kids can go to college.

LaRue Williams stated that she have found a family here in Bay Tech. Ms. Williams also stated she love it so much where she drives 90 miles to grad school and 90 miles back because she refused to leave the area.

Shawn Robinson stated Bay Tech is a school that represents the technology of the industries, the math, the science, those are the jobs of the future. Mr. Robinson also stated they need schools such as Bay Tech to be open.

Gabrielle Henry stated that Bay Tech has helped her in her hard times, but if Bay Tech is kept open it can even help her more.

Denisa Henry stated that Bay Tech has helped her kids out in many ways and have broaden their horizons.

Sondisa Dunlap stated that he represents all African American young men. Mr. Dunlap also stated that Bay Tech has changed his life.

Jordan Reed stated Bay Tech has taught him how to write.

Staff Comment

Superintendent Tony Smith announced to the public that they will review the application and bring a recommendation

Board Member Comments

Director London had a question for the principal as to how the trips to Turkey are funded . He responded by saying it's through fund raising and that, in addition to Turkish (28%), Spanish (45%) is the predominant foreign-language taken at the school.

President Kakishiba clarified that staff recommendation on the Charter Petition will be coming to the Board on February 27 rather than February 20 .

President Kakishiba closed the Public Hearing at 5:59 P.M.

Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

Director Dobbins arrived at 5:27 P.M.

Present 6 -

Director David Kakishiba, Director Roseann Torres, Director Christopher Dobbins, Director James Harris, Director Jumoke Hodge, and Director Jody London

Absent 3 -

Student Director Carmen Jimenez, Student Director Pierre Salmeri, and Director Gary Yee

D. New Business

[13-0271](#)**Special Presentation - Chabot Space and Science Center**

Special Presentation - "Chabot Space and Science Center - Expand Your Universe."

Attachments: [13-0271 Special Presentation - "Chabot Space and Science Center - Expand Your Universe" \(.PPT\)](#)
[13-0271 Special Presentation - "Chabot Space and Science Center - Expand Your Universe" \(.PDF\)](#)

Alexander Zwissler the Executive Director for Chabot Space & Science Center, using a PowerPoint (Incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth) gave a special presentation about Chabot Space & Science Center. Mr. Zwissler also stated Chabot Space & Science Center is to inspire and educates students of all ages about the Planet Earth and the Universe and to tie it in with STEM. The Strategic Plan for 2013-2015 is to transforming the Chabot we love, to one loved by all, new outdoor education facility, planetarium upgrades, space time and next generation science standards, said Mr. Zwissler. Mr. Zwissler invited board members to view Chabot's newest exhibit "Touch the Sun."

Comment from Board Member:

Director Roseann Torres and Mr. Zwissler had a dialog about Chabot's Middle School Program. Zwissler said Chabot is working right now with about 50 kids, two different cohorts. The students come from Brewer, Roosevelt, Cova, West Oakland, and hoping to hear from United for Success, said Mr. Zwissler. Zwissler said this afternoon, short program, has a variety of inter-action activities for students; student also work with mentors from the GE Teens Program and during the summer students come for a week or two.

Director Torres and Mr. Zwissler also had a dialog about how many Oakland kids or students visited Chabot Space & Science. Zwissler said kids are visiting through OUSD Programs, which is up dramatically from before. He said before Chabot charged for the school field trips, everyone, except when the deal with OUSD was renegotiated, it was made free for District students and as a results, visits jumped 60% in the first year. He said the Center is seeing about 20% of OUSD kids now.

Public Comments

No speaker cards submitted.

Discussed and Closed

Enactment No:

[13-0272](#)**Special Presentation - East Bay College Access Network**

Special Presentation - East Bay College Access Network - "Focus On Financial Aid" - increasing access to post-secondary education.

Attachments: [13-0272 Special Presentation - East Bay College Access Network - "Focus On Financial Aid" \(.PPTX\)](#)
[13-0272 Special Presentation - East Bay College Access Network - "Focus On Financial Aid" \(.PDF\)](#)

Julio, a spokesperson, with the College Access Foundation, a private foundation focused on helping low income kids in California to go to college and graduate from college by helping kids get as much financial aid as they can so that it can actually pay to go to college, made the presentation. The speaker, using a PowerPoint (Incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth), stated the Foundation's work started in 2005. She said since the doors of the Foundation opened it has made \$100 million in scholarship awards to about 15,000 students in the State of California. In Oakland, last year, for the graduating seniors, there were about 277 graduates from Oakland who received scholarships valued at \$700,000. She said that awardees were selected by local College Access Organizations working in District schools. She said the Foundation's partners are many members of the East Bay College Access Network; that they want all senior students to apply for FAFSA. The focus is on very low income students. She said of the 277 students, 70% of the families were not expected to make any contributions to a pupil's college expenses. She said the students received roughly \$2500 per year. She acknowledged that the contribution is a mere fraction of what it costs for college, which is very expensive. She said the real money for low income kids, and anyone who meets a certain income threshold, is in the public financial aid, Pell grants and Cal grants. She said today in California if a kid gets a Pell grant and a Cal Grant such would pay for roughly half the cost of going to a UC school, the state University; almost 60% of going to a community college. In a sense that is real money, said the speaker.

The speaker said they learned a lot in working with the program; that the program did very good; great work helping students who received scholarships also to get Cal and Pell grants. She emphasized that it is important that students fill out the paperwork - the FAFSA - the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. She said thanks to that good work over 90% of Oakland's student applicants received Cal and Pell grants. She said what this translates to is: the Foundation spent \$700,000 in scholarships. Students got an additional \$2.1 million from Cal and Pell grants. Three times more than the Foundation spent on the students. This is real money, said the spokesperson. For the Foundation this is real money; it's programs. The Foundation, as a results, has turned much of them from just doing scholarships to focusing efforts on how to help tens of thousands, hundred thousand graduating seniors every year in California, who are likely to be low income. They started in the Coachella Valley, a hundred miles east of LA, in the Inland Empire, and the proportion of kids who completed the FAFSA Application doubled in two years. Again money speaks, said the spokesperson. She said the local College in the Valley - the College of the Desert - the year after experienced a solid 25% increase in the number of kids obtaining Pell Grants and reportedly \$2.5 million more, which goes into the students pockets, rather than school, in which students use the resources to pay for housing, transportation, sales tax goods and services, et seq.. By such, the community benefit as well. She said she did not know the actual number of seniors in Oakland schools that are not applying for financial aid, it is a tough number to get. But one thing that is really clear, speaker said, is that Oakland can do better. The latest data available indicates that 55% of students in the District are completing the FAFSA. So that leaves almost half of the students in the District and most likely those kids are low income, who don't qualify for because of lack of submitting an application. Closing that gap, said the spokesperson, is the goal, a worthy goal. It will help pupils have a choice and a way to pay for the choice. It is very doable, said spokesperson. She said

she believed resources in Oakland, like the East Bay College Access Network and the associated and affiliated members can help. She said the Foundation is proud of the efforts of the Network and for the District taking the extra step to send a pupil's grade point average to the Student Aid Commission and proof of graduation, which is really important. It is those extra steps that not only gives students a shot at not just the Pell grant but the Cal Grant. The spokesperson said the Foundation thinks it is really a worthwhile effort and she hoped the Board will support the efforts.

Alisha Dixon, expressed appreciation of being here this evening to talk about the efforts of the East Bay College Access Network. Dixon said Julio did an excellent job of why and she wanted to also couple of more about why as well as how. She said the Network's goal is for every District senior to complete the FAFSA because it creates options and opportunities for the students who were not making decisions in the time frame like students who were prepared to go to college. It gives an opportunity to consider college as an option. It is the networks goal for every Oakland senior to complete the FAFSA application by the priority deadline. She said the District has been uploading seniors GPA for the last two years. Dixon says the preliminary data demonstrates that there was an increase over 2011 in 2012 with an additional 130 students receiving Cal Grant awards. Citing LA's focused effort having resulted in a \$10 million increase in Cal grant awards for 30,000 seniors first year of focus, so she believes there will be an increase for District students if there is a focus. In addition, said Dixon, for students who have academic talent, and who are applying and maybe not applying themselves, when they understand the option of the amount of resources that are available to support them in their college going efforts, it changes decision-making by said pupils. It makes the opportunity for college real, said Dixon.

Dixon stated that the local network has grown its membership in his first year, which consisted of Centro De La Rosa, the East Bay Consortium, the East Oakland Youth Development Center and the Marcus Foster Education Fund. Today, the Peralta Community College District and OUSD, having a representative at the table, the East Bay Asian Youth Center, with leadership on the Oakland High School Campus and Alternatives In Action, are now part of the Network. She said the Network has taken a strategy that focuses on the lead agency on each campus, so that they can align with and maximize the resources that are available and impact the culture around college going and financially on those in the campuses. She said what was found that there is a profound relationship between the data and the relationships that are being built on individual campuses. Dixon indicated that the Network is monitoring and tracking the matching of the GPA uploads with the FAFSA applications, which is very important and reducing errors, which may result in a pupil not getting an award. Dixon provided few technical details of the process which is broken down into four phases for Financial Aid process. Dixon said that they are grateful for the support from the Foundation and that the network is focused on 100% FAFSA application for eligible pupils in the District. She said the strategy being used is to break down and demystify the financial aid process. The 4 phases are families, parents, students, administrators and for all to understand the details involved in the process. Dixon said she would like to come back and share those details as well as the data as soon as the Network is sure about the source, the completion and award uptake, later in March. She asked that the District support the FAFSA application completion events, the CASH for College Events, the in classroom during class time FAFSA completion process. She wants to come back later to report on the efforts to target universally all the high school grades the District.

Comments from the Board Member:

Director London stated that this is a great program and she looks forward to hearing of the progress.

Public Comments

There were no Speaker Cards on this item.

Discussed and Closed

Enactment No:

[13-0273](#)**2013 Board of Education Strategic Priorities & Calendar**

Approval by Board of Education of its 2013 Board of Education Strategic Priorities & Calendar.

Attachments: [13-0273 2013 Board of Education Strategic Priorities & Calendar](#)

Public Comments:

Charlie Stimson stated that he and his wife have a teaching mentoring program in West Oakland. Mr. Stimson also stated you're the only organization can end the crime murder and despair. I like to proposed that every second grade student fluently and subtract within twenty that know how to apply grade level phonics and word analysis skills, said Mr. Stimson

Caitlin Everett stated a quote from Rosa Park, "Each person must live their life as a model for others". Ms. Everett also stated when working with parents, students, and community, they must be transparent. When discussing about strategic priority for the upcoming year to keep the focus on serving our students, said Ms. Everett. Ms. Everett also stated if the strategic plan doesn't included more money for teachers salary, budget shortfalls are not caught and corrected in downtown, smaller class sizes k-12 and in special need classes then we are cutting back on the services we provide to our students.

Marilyn Noble stated first she was rehired and now she has fired by the district. Ms. Noble also stated that the Family Literacy will be very important to have in the future due to the immigration. Ms. Noble also stated that she sat and watch the school board voted unanimously for Full Service Community Schools which including parents. Family Literacy can teach parents how to be involved with their children said Ms. Noble. I can't give you a higher graduation rate next year, but my program can give you a higher graduation rate in years, said Ms. Noble.

Mike Hutchinson made critical statements about the meeting room and public comment opportunities. He said regarding Chabot Science Center, he stated if we could find a transportation that would transport students from the flat land up to the hill then we would have much higher percentage of Oakland residence attending Chabot Science Center. Mr. Hutchinson, said in listening to the College Network Access Presentation, that he use to have a counselor that would help with the financial aid and now we are counting on outside agency to save us. Why is there every 3-6 months that there's money missing, there's a short fall, said Mr. Hutchinson.

Board Member Comments

Vice President Hinton Hodge said she is excited about the Work Plan. She said it's a good idea for the seven Board members to have a framework and a container to go through. She commended President Kakishiba for stepping in and providing such support. She thanked the outgoing president as well. Hodge said the piece for her that is always a bit fuzzy is how do we get our arms around and pay attention to the accountability factor. She said that she believes that the Board has a responsibility to support the superintendent to be able to get these outcomes, give him an opportunity with the staff and work with staff in a particular kind of way and then ultimately bring that information back to the Board.

Hodge said she thinks about structure, so where does this show up? Is it a committee structure? Is it any bimonthly meeting? Is it in a report? What is it that really allows the Board to understand the progress that is being made, step-by-step? She said the Board cannot burden the superintendent with every issue that the Board potentially has - the 7 of

us - multiplying that by how many of the issues that we have are things that are listed here and that's spread to staff. She said she is really looking to her colleagues, if the motion is adopted. She feels there needs to be a clear articulation of how does the Board learn about the information along the way. Hodge said a greater sense of an ongoing assessment of these things because she thinks what will happen if the Board gets a body of evaluative information at the end and we are not always hearing where the benchmarks are along the way. Where are the adjustments being made? We often talk about, said Hodge, that there needs to be a cultural shift in our organization so that sometimes hinders some of the progress that we have. Hodge said she is actually asking for help, in this moment, to say where that show up for us in this Strategic Priorities Calendar. Where do we have our checkpoints along the way? She said, again, she may not be reading it very well or it may be just an implementation that we should be really clear about how the Board is going to track.

President Kakishiba, responding, said it is an excellent question. He said he thinks, being very candid, that the Board is going to be building that process that he does not think that we, as a Board, have quite functioned with the level of rigor, detail, discipline and consistency that Vice President Hodge is speaking about. Kakishiba said, a couple of concrete things: 1) in December, the Board established six goals: three student oriented; three operations oriented; 18 indicators. He said we are not just looking for ninth inning scores but through a set or series of, for lack of a better term, Study Sessions, that are calendared, we are looking at both progress reports about where we are with the outcomes on each of the measures. Plus we are looking at, said Kakishiba, what is the Superintendent's Theory of Change, basically the core strategies; how we going to reduce chronic absenteeism throughout the District at the elementary level, at the middle school level, getting very concrete about what the strategies are; get very candid about those strategies working; what needs to be jettisoned; what needs to be strengthened and that it becomes an ongoing process for this Board and the Superintendent and Cabinet to be engaged, very disciplined and not for us to get sidetracked by the emergency of the day, which is still very important, but the Board must be very disciplined, because he believes that the Board can help contribute to moving the system in a positive way. The other thing, said Kakishiba, is that what is not outlined here - there are going to be a number of issues that come before the Board, for example, getting the actual Independent Audit Report from the State Controller's Office for the financial statements for 2010-2011. Everyone should know, like in any comprehensive full scope Audit, there's going to be a lot of different findings in the report. He said part of the problem is we get caught up in the hype - and he does not mean any particular individual - as a system, caught up in the hype, and get distracted, because, it is about "ah another studied school district move, again, for all of these findings." And for us, the Board, responds to it. He said the Board needs to respond by asking the right questions about what kind of targets and benchmarks we expect the Superintendent to produce. And again, said Kakishiba, without casting any judgment, just about doing the work. He stated he and Vice President Hodge, as the Board's leadership, have a responsibility, in between meetings, to figure out how to ramp up the discussions for all Board members. He said it isn't a perfect answer but it's a work in progress, said Kakishiba.

Director Jody London stated that she really appreciates the work here and the effort; that she discussed over email with President Kakishiba that there are additional initiatives that we had discussed such as the Middle School Strategy, Special Education, the Oakland Athletic League and probably three or four other ones that have come up over time, again and again; areas where the Board also must have some attention. She said she is looking forward to when the Board can layer those issues into the Calendar, as well.

President Kakishiba said that Vice President Hodge is collecting that data and that we will build that in. London said that she does not want the public to think that the Board is not holding on to those issues.

Adopted

Aye: 6 -

Director David Kakishiba, Director Roseann Torres, Director Christopher Dobbins, Director James Harris, Director Jumoke Hodge, and Director Jody London

Absent: 3 -

Student Director Carmen Jimenez, Student Director Pierre Salmeri, and Director Gary Yee

Non-voting:

Enactment No: 13-0272

E. President's Statement Disclosing Item(s) To Be Discussed In Closed Session Today

President Kakishiba stated the Board will now recess to Closed Session, there will be one item, Public Employee Appointment/ Discipline/Release.

Closed Session Item(s):

Public Employee Matter(s)

13-0268 Public Employee Appointment/ Discipline / Release
Public Employee Appointment / Discipline / Release

F. Recess to Closed Session

President Kakishiba Recess to Closed Session at 6:48 P.M.

G. Reconvene to Public Session

President Kakishiba reconvene to Public Session at 8:44 P.M.

H. Second Roll Call

Present 6 -

Director David Kakishiba, Director Roseann Torres, Director Christopher Dobbins, Director James Harris, Director Jumoke Hodge, and Director Jody London

Absent 3 -

Student Director Carmen Jimenez, Student Director Pierre Salmeri, and Director Gary Yee

I. President's Statement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session and the Vote or Abstention of Members Present, If Any

President Kakishiba stated there is no reportable action taken in Closed Session and at this time the meeting is adjourned.

J. Adjournment

President Kakishiba adjourned the meeting at 8:45 P.M.

Prepared By: _____

Approved By: _____