

Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education
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Minutes (Long)

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

6:00 PM

**Board Room, Paul Robeson Building, 1025 2nd Avenue, Oakland, CA
94606-2212**

Safety Committee

***Alice Spearman, Chairperson
Jumoke Hodge, Vice Chairperson
Noel Gallo, Member***

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Alice Spearman called the meeting to order at 6:12 P.M.

B. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Noel Gallo and Alice Spearman

Absent: Jumoke Hodge

C. Chairperson's Statement Disclosing Item(s) to be Discussed in Closed Session Today

Chairperson Spearman stated the meeting would recess to Closed Session to discuss students matters.

D. Closed Session Item(s):**Pupil Matters**

08-1602 Readmission Hearing - Student EE

11-0017 Admission Hearing - Student CC

11-0019 Admission Hearing - Student EE

E. Recess to Closed Session

Chairperson Spearman recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 6:14 P.M.

F. Reconvene to Public Session

Chairperson Spearman reconvened the meeting to Public Session at 6:55 P.M.

G. Second Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Noel Gallo and Alice Spearman
Absent: Jumoke Hodge

H. Chairperson's Statement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session and the Vote or Abstention of Members Present, if any.

Chairperson Spearman stated there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session.

I. Modification(s) To Agenda

None.

J. Adoption of Committee Minutes



[11-0116](#) Minutes - Safety Committee - January 4, 2011

Approval by Safety Committee of Its Minutes of January 4, 2011.

Attachments: [11-0116 - Minutes - Safety Committee - January 4, 2011](#)

A motion was made by Noel Gallo, seconded by Alice Spearman, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: Adv Aye: 0
Adv Nay: 0
Adv Abstain: 0
Aye: 2 - Noel Gallo and Alice Spearman
Nay: 0
Recused: 0
Absent: 1 - Jumoke Hinton Hodge
Preferential Aye: 0
Preferential Abstention: 0
Preferential Nay: 0

K. Adoption of the Committee General Consent Report

None.

Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

Jumoke Hodge present at 6:56 P.M.

Roll Call: Present: Noel Gallo, Alice Spearman and Jumoke Hodge

L. Unfinished Business



10-2384 Report - Police Services Department - Proposed FY 2011-2012 Budget

Report by the Chief of Police Services regarding the proposed FY 2011-2012 Police Services budget including the personnel and the operations costs of the department.

Attachments: [10-2384 - Report - Police Services Department - Proposed FY 2011-2012 Budget.pdf](#)

Prior to giving his budget report, Pete Sarna, Chief of Police Services, reported the District launched its Student Text Messaging Program today with signage at all six comprehensive high schools. He said students can utilize their cellular telephones to anonymously text message the District's Police Command Center Operator to make a report of a fire arms on campus, fights that are going to occur, and report anything safety related. He said he believes the Student Text Messaging Program will be a powerful tool to enhance the safety of District campuses

Committee Member Comments

Chairperson Spearman wanted to know what would the students text?

Chief Sarna said letters went home today. There is a key word for each school and students text the key word with a message to a short code. The letters that went home today explains how the program works. The text message goes directly to an operator who can have a two-way conversation via text with the student to ask more clarifying questions. Chief Sarna noted Oakland is the first school district in California to use this technology. He said he feels students will use this program in a discrete manor. He addressed the issue of false alarms. He said he would rather deal with 25 or 30 false alarms and have one come in and save a life and not have the system at all.

Adrian Kirk asked if there are codes for non-school buildings within the District so if something was to happen and it was not convenient to call to say there was a problem, would it be possible to have a code.

Chief Sarna suggested dialing 9-1-1 and not saying anything leaving the telephone open.

Chief Sarna said he is waiting to see what happens with the State in terms of what type of budget cuts there will be to the District. He said in the operations side of the budget in 2008-2009, Polices Services O & M Budget was \$1.122 million. He said some of the money was used to bring the police department back up to full strength, purchasing vehicles, and etc. The following year that budget was decreased by 70% at \$334,000. This year in 2010-2011 it was cut another 71% down to \$96,947. He said that is not a sufficient budget to fund Police Services operations. He said running a police department requires far more than salary and benefit expenses. He said he needs to fund equipment that has depreciated. He said he likes to put vehicles on the street with less than 80,000 miles and the District has several vehicles coming upon that mark. He said this is a profession requiring ongoing training due to changes in the law. He said a budget is needed to send staff to training on a regular basis. He said he did not think he could sustain anymore O & M cuts and continue to run the organization as it is being run now. He said this year already he is close to exceeding his overtime budget and only half way through the year.

He said the reason the department is spending overtime money, the department has become a more responsive and responsible police department. He said calls for services have increased over 70% this year. He said the department has created an organization where teachers, parents, and staff feel comfortable reaching out to. He said he was looking to the committee for leadership in crafting a budget because his budget has an impact on the rest of the District's budget. He said while the Oakland Police Department is facing tremendous cuts, the District has to look within its own organization to fill the void. He said the District has to look to increase the size of its Police Services Department. He said the department can do policing around the schools cheaper and more effectively than the city can because of the relationships built and more knowledge of the schools. He asked the committee for direction in crafting the Police Services budget for next year asking what things they would like to see.

Committee Member Comments

Director Hodge as for clarification regarding SSOs if they fell into the Police Services personnel budget?

Chief Sarna responded he had to lay-off approximately 20 SSOs this year. He said the department has been able to manage the loss effectively. He said SSOs play a different role than police officers.

Director Hodge talked about the Kaiser Permanente dollars that were supposed to go towards safety and violence prevention in the District.

Chief Sarna said those funds have been allocated for a mentoring function. He said now that Measure "Y" has passed, the District needs to examine how the city will spend the truancy funds. He requested Board Members work with their City Council colleagues to come up with a strategy to utilize the truancy funds. He noted the District has been excluded from those funds since the inception of Measure "Y" and he thinks the District can use those dollars wisely and build a strong truancy attendance program within the District.

Chairperson Spearman requested Chief Sarna bring the committee a realistic budget of the personnel that he needs, what that would like, what the personnel will need, the cost, and prepare a report with a ten percent reduction from the 2011-2012 budget.

Chief Sarna said any cuts this year you would have to look at making further SSO cuts. He said he can't justify sworn police officer cuts at this time.

Chairperson Spearman said the District can't make any more SSO cuts. She said she believes the District will have a severe safety problem with any additional SSO cuts.

Chief Sarna said there was nowhere else to cut in terms of O & M.

Director Gallo said the District has to do things differently. He said we are at a different time and have to recognize that, accept it, and can't continue to do what we have been doing. He suggested Chief Sarna look at truancy because the District has a high truancy rate. Director Gallo had several questions for Chief Sarna: What can the District do differently to accomplish its safety goal? What is the cost to maintain the current staff? How does the District maintain cooperation with OPD?

Director Gallo said the District has to think out of what it has been doing to see how it can best serve the students.

Director Hodge asked Chief Sarna based on the homicide statics in Oakland over the last ten years, was there something that could be identified for potential pockets of dollars at the State level looking at high crime neighborhoods within Oakland? Director Hodge wanted to know if the State has programs or is the District in a special position based on some of the data that says the District needs special assistance.

Chief Sarna said given the budget crisis in Sacramento, he is not sure where those pockets of dollars would be found. He said it is time to make the argument that the funding is not equitable. He said the District deals with challenges that have nothing to do with the District that affect our students. Our students have to travel through gang infested neighborhoods and deal with issues that students in neighboring school districts don't have to think about. He said at the end of the day, the budget that funds his department that allows the District to deal with a lot of those issues come out of the same budget that should be paying teacher salaries and purchasing textbooks. He said in reality, our students' education is being funded at lower levels than neighboring district and it is time to make that argument to Sacramento or Washington this is not fair.

Director Gallo noted the Facilities Department was asked to demonstrate what they are currently doing with a limited number of people, to demonstrate what a quality program will look like with what we currently have, and what it may look like next year. He said the District is ready to go back to the taxpayers because of the Strategic Plan. He said Safety is a selling point and as a taxpayer he would vote for it this time. He said what Chief Sarna said is critical in terms of the taxpayers and the business community seeing that the department is picking up students who are loitering or walking the streets. He said one of the criticisms in the past has been the reason the department was dismantled was the officers wanted to be police officers and not student officers. They wanted to issue tickets for parking, chase speeders, and etc., where the Board wanted the officers at the school sites protecting the students. He said the District has an opportunity this time around to get the message through to the voters.

Director Hodge noted she is a member of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee and she will share this information the Chair of the committee.

Discussed

11-0038

Review - Board Policy and Administrative Bulletin - 5142.3 - Safety and Dating Violence

Presentation from the Superintendent of Schools or designee on effectiveness of Board Policy and Administrative Bulletin - 5142.3 - Safety and Dating Violence.

Chairperson Spearman stated the Policy was enacted in 2006. She proposed the item be placed on the next committee meeting agenda for action.

Director Hodge said there have been situations where professionals had inappropriate behavior with students. At the elementary school they get tagged and labeled with sexual harassment, etc., and said she had some concerns around young people.

Adrian Kirk said the Policy as stated is responding to Education Code 32228 almost exclusively devoted to preventing, training, instructing, and etc., but not to punishment or response after the fact. He requested the committee look at what the Policy cites as motivation and what it truly does.

Chairperson Spearman requested Mr. Kirk bring back some recommendations. Chairperson Spearman said to General Counsel Minor if the Education Code Section is not germane to this Policy, there needs to be a referral to move it.

General Counsel Minor said one of the things she found difficult in the District is to recreate the facts and circumstances that were in front of people when they made the various decisions. She said when she looked at the Policy after Chairperson Spearman brought it to her attention, and went back and looked at the Board Memo that accompanied the Policy and the provision in the Education Code Mr. Kirk is referring to, there is a big disconnect which she cannot close the gap. She said that is because she does not know what the facts and circumstances were in 2006 that drove the Policy. She said she had not gone over to the instructional side to make the inquiry about what's in the curriculum that may otherwise be addressing that provision in the Education Code. She said it is very likely that it is being addressed in some way, but she does not know what that is and does not see a need to put curriculum details in a Board Policy in that way.

Discussed



11-0040

Safety Committee 2011 Work Plan

Adoption by the Safety Committee of Work Plan for Calendar Year 2011, as specified herein, and incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

Attachments: [Document\(s\)](#)

Chairperson Spearman said she would add Safety and Dating Violence Policy to the Work Plan for February 1, 2011 and proposed at one of the meetings in March to have Kevin Gran from the Measure "Y" Initiative to make a presentation on some of the intervention strategies they are doing in hopes that Measure "Y", Family Services and the District can start doing some collaboration work around the intervention work being done.

Chairperson Spearman said any changes to the 2011 Draft Committee Work Plan can be made at the next committee meeting.

Discussed

M. New Business



11-0039

Report - Provisions of Health Services to District Pupils

Presenation of a Report from the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, on the provision of health services to District pupils, including but not limited to identification of and benefits of services provided to pupils, the criteria for service to pupils, which pupils are over/underserved/not-served by the health service programs, service plans, and recommendations to address known issues.

Attachments: [BP and AR - 5142.3 - Safety and Dating Violence.pdf](#)

Chairperson Spearman requested in March Mr. Kirk provide information on how many MOUs the District has and how the MOUs can be restructured starting in 2011-2012 that will include service to all students.

Tabled to a Date Certain



11-0139

Review - Board Policy and Administrative Regulations - 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion

Review - Board Policy and Administrative Regulations - 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion - for compliance with Education Code.

Attachments: [BP_5144 Suspension and Expulsion - Due Process.pdf](#)
[AR_5144 - Suspension and Expulsion Process.pdf](#)

Tabled to a Date Certain

N. Public Comments on All Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Committee

There were no Public Speaker Cards submitted.

O. Superintendent of Schools or Designee's Committee Liaison Report

None.

P. Introduction of New Legislative Matter

Chairperson Spearman requested Chief Sarna present his report on Texting to the Full Board on January 26, 2011.

Q. Adjournment

Chairperson Spearman adjourned the meeting at 7:51 P.M.

Prepared By: _____

Approved By: _____