

Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education
Paul Robeson Building
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Minutes (Long)

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

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 6:01 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 student matters.

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

09-3116 Reinstatement Hearing - Student K

09-3118 Readmission Hearing - Student M

10-2109 Admission Hearing - Student Z

E. Recess to Closed Session

Chairperson Spearman recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 6:03 P.M.

F. Reconvene to Public Session

Chairperson Spearman reconvened the meeting to Public Session at 6:38 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



[10-2165](#) Minutes - Safety Committee - August 17, 2010

Approval by Safety Committee of Its Minutes of August 17, 2010.

Attachments: [10-2165 - Minutes - Safety Committee - August 17, 2010](#)

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.

L. Unfinished Business



[09-2460](#) Presentation of Attendance & Truancy Plan for 2009-2010

Presentation of the Attendance & Truancy Plan for the 2009-2010 School Year.

Attachments: [09-2460 - Presentation of Attendance & Truancy Plan for 2009-2010.ppt Document\(s\)](#)

Tabled to a Date Certain



10-0622

District's Chief of Police - Opening of Schools - Safety Report

Staff report on District's Restorative Justice Practice.

Attachments: [10-0622 - Together We Can Presentation.ppt](#)

Pete Saran, Chief of Police Services, reported on several matters.

Staffing

Chief Sarna said of the 80 Oakland Police Officers laid off by the City of Oakland, he interviewed almost 20 and selected two officers (Alexis Nash and John Keating) to be hired and they were on-board the first day of school. He said in light of the SSO cuts, the addition of the two officers will allow him to be more mobile in the field and proactive in terms of visiting Middle Schools and Elementary Schools with Tactical Officers. He said the current staffing levels in the field are very good.

Chief Sarna reported that Officer Gloria Beltram is currently in the Police Academy and almost done with her training of six months. Officer Beltram will be graduating from the Sheriff's Academy in October and will join the District's Police force going through field training.

Chief Sarna said the additional staffing level will also allow for the deployment of Late Tactical Units. He said the District now has coverage during the evening hours responding to alarms, checking suspicious persons and able to suppress burglaries.

Police Services Data

Chief Sarna said the department has a year's worth of data from the new data system of last year. He reported in two weeks to one month he will be able to see how things are looking. He said the data will show if things are the same, if calls for service are increasing or if there are more crimes against person's incidents. He said it will be exciting to look at the data to see what types of changes and responses the department can develop to meet the data.

Police Services Youth Summer Program - "Together We Can"

Chief Sarna said the Youth Summer Program was very successful at the Police Services new facility at Cole Middle School. He said the way the program got started was once they moved into Cole Middle School, there were a lot of neighborhood children intrigued about what was going on there. He said almost daily the children would come over and ask to sit in the Police Cars, to sit on the Motorcycles and watch the Officers work out in the gym. He said he began to look at the parking lot and determined Police Services should start its own Youth Program this summer. He said within two weeks the department had raised the money through some charitable people who are able to help them and the Officer's themselves donated money and time. The Legal Department and the Risk Management department were extremely supportive and helpful. Chief Sarna shared some pictures taken during the Summer Program with Committee Members. He said the program had up

to 50 children a day and some days more. The children participating in the program received breakfast and lunch everyday with help from the Nutritional Services Department. Every day the children all wore a Yellow T-shirts [their uniform] provided by the Masons of the Scottish Rite Temple. Children ages 5-13 were served in the Summer Program. Children ages five, six and seven had to be accompanied by a parent and dropped off. Children over the age of seven were able to drop in at any time. He said the program served the neighborhood which is lacking in services. The program was at no cost to the parents providing a resource to parents for children who might have been doing nothing all summer. Sandboxes were built and the children participated in field trips the West Oakland Fire Department and the Oakland Zoo. The children were taken to the Nike Shoe Outlet in San Leandro and each were treated to new pair of shoes for school. John Sasaki from Channel Two News was in the store at the time and treated every child to lunch at Panda Express afterwards.

Benefits of the Summer Program:

- The program allows children at a young age to develop positive relationships with Police Officers. Chief Sarna said most of the time when you have contact with the Police it is a negative experience. He said in the program all the encounters with Police Officers will be a positive one at a young age.
- He said relationships with families were developed during the Summer Program that will carry on as the children move throughout school.
- The program allows Chief Sarna to evaluate his Officers up close and to see how the Officers interact with children, especially the new hires.
- The program allows veteran Officers to mentor the new Officers in terms of correcting the children when they are mis-behaving. He said overall, the benefits have been unbelievable.

Chief Sarna said the portable for Police Services at Cole Middle School is moving forward. He said the portable will enable him to transition this program to a year-round program, an afterschool program and a summer program. He said he envisions having after school tutoring, mentoring and a neighborhood children's library there.

Director Spearman said she is so appreciative and requested Chief Sarna make the same presentation to the Full Board next week at the Board Meeting. She said the Safety Committee will prepare a letter to John Sasaki thanking him for his participation on the Nike Field Trip and providing lunch to the students.

Chief Sarna said it would be great if the Board could recognize the Narisso Family and Mr. Houston for the contributions they made.

Chairperson Spearman said she would submit that request to President Yee and see when the Board can recognize those individuals.

Chief Sarna said he feels this program fits into Dr. Smith's vision of Full Community Schools.

Chairperson Spearman asked Chief Sarna are there plans for a teenage program?

Chief Sarna said eventually.

Chairperson Spearman requested for his next report that Chief Sarna provide the committee with a status report on funding for additional SSOs at the school sites.

Referred to Board of Education

10-1968 Safety Committee Work Plan

Discussion of and possible Adoption by the Safety Committee of its Work Plan for remainder of Calendar Year 2010.

Chairperson Spearman requested Directors Hodge and Gallo submit to her anything they would like to see on the Work Plan that was not on the previous Work Plan.

Tabled to a Date Certain

10-2091 Report - Office of Family & Community Services - Student Services Plan - School Year 2010-2011

Presentation by the Director of Family and Community Services of its Student Services Plan - School year 2010-2011.

Tabled to a Date Certain



10-2092 Report - Office of Family & Community Services - Student Suspension Data - School Year 2009-2010

Presentation by the Director of Family and Community Services of the 2009-2010 Student Suspension Data.

Attachments: [10-2092 - Suspension Comparison - 2008-2009 vs 2009-2010.pdf](#)

Adrian Kirk, Director, Family & Community Office, distributed to Committee Members the Suspension Comparison of 2008-2009 versus 2009-2010 (from August 31st to November 30th). He said the numbers for suspensions are not looking like he would like for them to look. He said he cannot say the District is improving greatly in the area of suspensions. Mr. Kirk referred Committee Members to page 10 of the report that shows a comparison of 2008-2009 versus 2009-2010. He said the data has not changed tremendously between 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, but the numbers are still not where we would like for them to be. There is still a degree of disproportionality and far more ADA lost than what we would like to see.

Committee Member Comments

Chairperson Spearman said she would like to know the percentage of suspensions for each ethnic group in the District.

Mr. Kirk said he will get the information for Chairperson Spearman.

Chairperson Spearman said some of the information is starting to be disturbing to hear that 100% of certain schools suspensions were African-Americans Students. She asked "How could that be?"

Mr. Kirk said that is certainly something the department is trying to chase down. He said

one of the things he noticed in the report is the rates of suspension are fairly similar across the city regardless of the size of the African-American or Latino Student population. He said a school that has a large percentage of African-American Students will still suspend a large number of students. He said we need to get at how to discipline differently. He said suspension seems to be a blunt instrument that is over applied.

Chairperson Spearman said it is also indicative of racial intolerance. She said there are some schools where the African-American Student population is not a substantial population and neither are the Latino Students. She said something is wrong and you cannot attribute it to the children, it is an adult issue.

Mr. Kirk said this is an adult issue and he is looking at this as a training and coaching issue. He said he believes schools are using the instruments they have in their Tool Boxes. He said if we can put some other things at their disposal, we can see some changes. He said we are working on that within the Family & Community Office and will be coming back to this Committee with some proposals for the District.

Chairperson Spearman asked Mr. Kirk to make sure the Suspension Rate Report is sent to all Board Members.

Director Gallo said he is interested in how the District gets to a competitive level on the students future and how do we handle the other students that need a different setting? He said if he expects you to do well, you are going to do well. He said he asks his Principals "are we providing the information necessary to the student and family in the schools?" He said if not, that is our fault as a District and a service provider. He said if I am providing that service I am providing a beautiful school and a great setting.

He said the real issue for him is the community, the information that is given to them and using it. He said that is where the challenge lies.

Mr. Kirk said in the Family & Community Office they are trying to pull all of the work they do together in as a coherent whole, so the work they are doing around Truancy ties into the work around Attendance, that generally ties into the discipline work, that ties into the Engagement Work, that ties back to what other departments are doing including College and Career Readiness and Instructional Services. He said there is a lot of emphasis that he is putting on the Engagement Work alone. He said you will hear educators say there are parents that do not care what is happening with their children or a child is bad child and does not care what happens to him or herself. He said he does not believe either is true. He said if the parents, students and the school are more engaged in a full conversation around Discipline, Attendance and Academics we are also helping families with how they can participate in moving the student forward. He said everybody has a role to play and there is an expectation on the student but the conversation does not stop there. He said the conversation comes back and we look at the plan again. He said when a Principal tells you if we move this student off the campus it will make a huge difference, he said he would bet that campus is spending a lot of time and energy around that student in certain ways. He said don't wait until it is a problem, convene the family and start a conversation now. He said we control where the conversation goes and head off the problems.

Chairperson Spearman asked Mr. Kirk for the next Committee Meeting to come back with some corrective actions or discussions the Committee may want to look at and talk about

with Ms. Santos, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction, Leadership, and Equityty-in-Action. Chairperson Spearman also asked for a report on the enrollment data so far.

Opening of School

Chairperson Spearman said she heard this week the line at the Family & Community Office was around the corner, down the street and around the corner. She asked Mr. Kirk was the line outside the building today?

Mr. Kirk said today it was surprisingly light. He said over the last three week the department provided service to at least 150 people a day. Last week it was at 200 or better per day. Yesterday there were 375 people. Today he said he did not have a count. He said it was relatively light, but he believes the number was below 200 persons. He said the majority of parents have come through and have a school placement. He said he would get back to the committee with the count and what the campuses look like. He said in terms of getting families in and getting them registered, it seems to be working. He said one of the things the department has been asked to do is to have some satellite enrollments. He said they have been abysmal, even with public relation. He said every time they go out they don't get people to come out. He said it seems to be happening centrally and quickly. He said they wish people would act earlier.

Bus Passes

He said there is a lot of concern around the Bus Passes. He said AC Transit has thrown in with the other public transportation systems using a Photo ID Card for Youth Passes called the "Clipper Card". He said it is inconvenient right now because everybody is starting school and there are a limited number of Transit Staff who work on the Clipper Cards. AC Transit has one per who collects the data, who sends the information out to a third party contractor, who produces the "Clipper Cards". He said the turnaround time to receive the Clipper Card is four weeks. He said AC Transit will not sell a Temporary Pass except in partnership with the District. He said tomorrow and Thursday at the Family & Community Office between the hours of 2:30p.m.-6:30p.m. AC Transit will be there and will register students for the Clipper Card, take their picture, send the data off and they will sell a Paper Pass as a Special Sale. He said in the Family & Community Office they are trying to work with AC Transit and with MTC to come up with a way to exchange data and load cards for our students to keep a regular flow of information. He said right now the agencies want to charge the District \$1 per student per month for that service.

Discussed

Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

Jumoke Hodge present at 7:12 P.M.

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

M. New Business

None.

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 asked Mr. Kirk for the next Committee Meeting to come back with some corrective actions or discussions the Committee may want to look at and talk about with Ms. Santos, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction, Leadership, and Equityty-in-Action. Chairperson Spearman also asked for a report on the enrollment data so far.

Q. Adjournment

Chairperson Spearman adjourned the meeting at 7:20 P.M.

Prepared By: _____

Approved By: _____