

Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education
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Minutes (Long)

Tuesday, January 05, 2010

4:00 PM

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

Safety Committee

***Jumoke Hodge, Chairperson
David Kakishiba, Member
Alice Spearman, Member***

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Jumoke Hodge called the meeting to order at 4:09 P.M.

B. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: David Kakishiba and Jumoke Hodge
Absent: Alice Spearman

C. Modification(s) To Agenda

None.

D. Adoption of Committee Minutes

09-3500 Minutes - Safety Committee - December 8, 2009

Approval by the Safety Committee of Its Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2009.

A motion was made by David Kakishiba, seconded by Jumoke Hinton Hodge, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

E. Adoption of the Committee General Consent Report

F. Unfinished Business

09-2974 District's Restorative Justice Practices

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 0910-0120 - Restorative Justice Practices Among Youth and Adults Impacting District's School Climate, Discipline Policy and Procedures.

Attachments: [09-2974_Resolution_Restorative_Justice.pdf](#)

Laura Moran, Chief Services Officer, gave the staff report. Ms. Moran reported the District's Safety Team has held one meeting to talk about the Board's feedback. She said one of the things they looked at was trying to put in some special goals and some measurable goals. One of the measurable goals they wanted was a reduction in suspensions and a reduction in the disproportionate suspensions. She said part of what they are looking at is some other kind of predictive measure such as the number of preventions and interventions taken with the student prior to suspension. There will be a session with All City Council and they will gather feedback. A session is scheduled next Tuesday with the Network Officers to get their input. Ms. Moran said if Director Spearman is not here today she could set up an individual meeting with the Committee Chairperson and herself and we could get Director Spearman's input.

Chairperson Hodge asked Mr. Rakestraw if that was ok?

Mr. Rakestraw said Ms. Moran could not have a meeting with two members of the committee.

Ms. Moran said she would set up an appointment to meet with Director Spearman individually.

Chairperson Hodge suggested Ms. Moran invite Director Spearman to the All City Council Meeting.

Mr. Moran said at the next Safety Committee Meeting she would bring the feedback.

Committee Comments

Chairperson Hodge said as we talk about Restorative Justice it is really the framework, not a program. She said in ways it is difficult to measure because some of the outcomes we are looking for are right relationships. She said Principals and Teachers want to feel like the District supports them around interventions they deem appropriate such as a suspension. She said what was important for her as we move forward in the Resolution that we are talking about a shift in culture; not just with young people. She said she feels the emphasis should be on adults. Chairperson Hodge wanted to know what was the underlying emotion and what is the relationship that's not right? She said they feel there is not this right relationship with the District supporting them. They feel like they are not in right relationship with the kid because the kid keeps acting out and their interventions are not working. She said if Restorative Practices cannot help those Teachers and Principals to expand or do their craft better, we shouldn't be doing it. She said it was important for her to see the adults talking with multiple stakeholders helping them to see this Restorative push in philosophy that we are trying to bring into the District should make them absolutely supported by the District.

Mr. Moran said all the Principals had a brief introduction to Restorative Practices in the summer. She said having them exposed to the testimonials of other Principals, they were

very inspired. She said a lot of the Principals have embraced the concept. Part of the challenge they are facing is many of them try many different strategies to support students and families. She said there is a certain point in which they feel they have done everything they could. Ms. Moran gave an example of a student after the third fight; someone was bleeding; and they had tried multiple interventions; the Principal feels they have to put a serious consequence to send a message. Ms. Moran said she thinks they want to know that is ok because they are on the front line dealing with the students every day. She said she wants to be sensitive to that because they are on the front line. She said each Principal should get a through training in Restorative Justice and look at what the other skills or resources they need to make this true for them at their school. She said one thing Cole School had Rita Alfred there full time. She said discipline was taken off the Principal because if something happened with the students or teachers you had someone on site full time who really took every incident as a learning opportunity to embed that new practice. She said she wished we had someone on site to apply the practices in real time.

Chairperson Hodge said Ms. Alfred took time and effort over a couple of year's time to train the Principals. She said it cannot be dependent on the Rita Alfred's; it has to be dependent on a change in culture in the mind set of young people and adults on campus. She said if Restorative Framework was operating and functioning, Principal's would feel fine, justified and clear when they got to the suspension after the third fight. She said we should not be sending a message that we won't ever suspend.

Director Kakishiba said if the Cole experience is one promising model and experience the District has had, the experience should be lifted up. He said one way to look at Restorative Justice and the Resolution presented is that it is another District policy and we will have a checklist of what we will do. We will figure out things already happening that somehow fits into the framework. If the Cole experience is a real positive experience one thing that could come up is some kind of impact measures we want to think about. Director Kakishiba suggested a three or five school pilot where schools are completely immersed in the training and where the coaching and role modeling of Restorative Justice Practices is throughout the school. He said that might be a way to kick it off so that people to get a clear message that this is a bigger deal than just a checklist.

Chairperson Hodge said she liked that idea; said we need the Cole story lifted up.

Discussed

G. New Business

10-0004 Report - District Police Services Department

Oral Report on the mission, functions, responsibilities, and related issues, of the District's Police Services Department.

Pete Sarna, OUSD Chief of Police Services, gave a report on the department's accomplishments over the last six months.

1. *The District has achieved release from the PERB Order.*
2. *The District recently passed an audit by the Police Officers Standard and Training*

(POST) for the State of California; we will become a fully POST certified agency. This is important in terms of risk management.

3. Chief Sarna has re-written the departments policies and procedures and they have been reviewed by the Legal Department. They are currently working to finalize the documents.
4. Chief Sarna developed a data system that allows him to track everything that happens in the District that is police related and what the officers do on a daily basis.
5. Reorganization of the department along geographic lines so that the officers are accountable geographically; it is also aligned with the Oakland Police Department. Part of that reorganization was bringing the School Security Officers Program under Police Services.
6. The department has built a High School Safety Division and the major high schools are run by one manager to increase the amount of oversight.
7. Worked with all the major high schools to help them develop their customized Safety and School Climate Plans.
8. Partnerships with the Oakland Police Department are ongoing. Chief Sarna said he has an appointment scheduled to meet with Oakland Police Chief Anthony Batts later this month.
9. Joined the Youth Gang Task Force with Measure Y.
10. Realignment the Police Department from an organization with little direction to an organization that has a very clear mission statement that says "We exist to support the educational mission of the District." He said everything they do stems from the mission statement.

Chief Sarna brought up the District's Police Services Department website on the screen for everyone to see and reviewed some of the data collected by the department with Committee Members. The type of police incidents that the department responds to falls into five major categories.

1. Crimes against persons.
2. Drug and alcohol incidents.
3. Non criminal conduct - truancy, disruptive behavior and fighting.
4. Other service call - 911 calls, missing children and mental illness calls.
5. Property crimes - burglary and other thief's and weapon offenses.

He said he feels the department is being very responsive in terms of meeting the needs of calls for service in the District. The majority of the calls they respond to are from Principals and Teachers. The demand for service by day of the week is about the same with the exception of Saturday and Sunday when school is not in session there is less demand.

Ms. Moran said we now have an on-line tool called "Because We Care" for all our customers to give us feedback right away. She said Chief Sarna can go into the system and send emails to people we have dealt with on certain incidents afterwards. We collect data on the quality of experience people are having with our Police Officers.

Chief Sarna said his idea would be to automate that. He explained when the officer fills out the incident report they would put in the email address of the primary person they dealt with on the scene. Once the incident is submitted, it will automatically send an email to that person.

Next Steps for the Department

1. Chief Sarna said the department hopes to play more of a leadership role on the Truancy Task Force and become more involved in truancy.
2. Finalize and train officers on the new policies and procedures once we finalize things with Legal.
3. Continue to pilot intensive Gang Intervention at Fremont High School and start a new collaborative there.
4. Shift the focus of the grade training from Middle Schools to Elementary Schools.
5. Continue to mentor and train officers in Restorative Justice Practices.
6. Integrate what we do more closely with the Family and Community Office.
7. When we finish moving Police Services he would like to build a 24 hour monitoring center in our Police Facility that will be monitored by an individual who can do preventative patrol via camera and dispatch officers when needed.

Committee Discussion

Chairperson Hodge wanted to know if charter schools were covered by District Police Services.

Chief Sarna said the department does respond to charter schools.

Ms. Moran said we are in conversation with David Montes de Oca. She said maybe next year we can get the charter schools as a whole to pull some resources to fund a full time officer if they want.

Director Kakishiba asked how many Police Officers the District has.

Chief Sarna said 13 including him.

Chairperson Hodge wanted to know if Chief Sarna planned to increase the number of officers or additional support staff connected to the unit.

Chief Sarna said he is exploring ways to bring money to the District to be able to fund additional personnel. He said he would like the School Security Officers to become more like the Measure "Y" Street Outreach Worker Program so that it feels less like a Security Guard position and more like a Community Outreach Worker on the campus to work with the students.

Director Kakishiba wanted to know the current location of Police Services.

Chief Sarna said the department is located in a portable behind Shipping and Receiving on High Street but the department will be moving to Cole School.

Ms. Moran said they have worked with Tim White and the Superintendent regarding moving to Cole School this year. She said the site will also serve as the District's Center for Emergency Preparedness.

Discussed

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

There were no public speaker cards submitted.

I. Chairperson's Statement Disclosing Item(s) To Be Discussed in Closed Session Today

Chairperson Hodge stated the meeting would recess to Closed Session to hear student matters.

J. Recess to Closed Session

Chairperson Hodge recessed the Public Session to Closed Session at 4:53 P.M.

K. Closed Session Item(s)

Pupil Matter(s)

Admission(s)

09-3514 Admission Hearing - Student G

09-3515 Admission Hearing - Student H

09-3516 Admission Hearing - Student I

09-3518 Admission Hearing - Student J

09-3520 Admission Hearing - Student K

09-3521 Admission Hearing -Student L

09-3522 Admission Hearing -Student M

09-3523 Admission Hearing - Student N

Readmission(s)

08-2987 **Readmission Hearing - Student X**

09-0378 **Readmission Hearing - Student D**

09-1190 **Readmission Hearing - Student I**

Expulsion(s)

09-3524 **Expulsion Appeal Hearing - Student O**

09-3525 **Expulsion Appeal Hearing - Student P**

09-3526 **Expulsion Appeal Hearing - Student Q**

L. Reconvene to Public Session

Chairperson Hodge reconvened the Public Session at 5:11 P.M.

M. Second Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: David Kakishiba and Jumoke Hodge

Absent: Alice Spearman

N. Chairperson's Statement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session and the Vote(s) of Members of the Board of Education, If Any**O. Introduction of New Legislative Matter**

None.

P. Adjournment

Chairperson Hodge adjourned the meeting at 5:13 P.M.

Prepared By: _____

Approved By: _____