



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 8.1i

**Meeting Date:** January 21, 2016

**Subject:** Approve Minutes of the December 11, 2015, Special 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 December 11, 2015, Special Board of Education Meeting.

**Background/Rationale:** None

**Financial Considerations:** None

**LCAP Goal(s):** Family and Community Engagement

**Documents Attached:**

1. Minutes of the December 11, 2015, Special Board of Education Meeting

<p><b>Estimated Time of Presentation:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Submitted by:</b> José L. Banda, Superintendent</p> <p><b>Approved by:</b> N/A</p>
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work which will be drivers for the LCAP and the Strategic Plan. He stated that priority deliverables will help determine the drivers. Having a work plan in place will allow us to see how everything will unfold over the next five years.

Superintendent Banda gave an address on equity to bridge the opportunity gap. He described strategic planning and spoke about the direction we would like to take with our strategic plan. He said that tonight's work with the Board will provide a foundation so that we can move forward as a district. Superintendent Banda said he and staff will be listening closely to the Board's directions. He discussed equity and Smarter Balanced testing in the District. He said there are differences between the Local Control Accountability Plan and the Strategic Plan, although there should be a lot of overlap.

Cathy Morrison spoke on what we have learned so far by going over design team activities, which included a needs assessment summary, community meetings, and surveys. She also went over data resulting from community meetings and surveys.

Mr. Visaya made a comment that the counselors need to look more deeply into what students are doing in the classroom.

Second Vice President Ryan commented on equity and stressed the importance of having equity at the center of all that we do, given the diversity of the District. She feels the Strategic Plan needs to align with the acknowledgement in the Local Control Funding Formula that equity needs to ensure that each subgroup make gains so that we ultimately close the achievement gap.

President Woo said that broad recommendations and goals are important, but in order to be effective we want to be more laser-focused on the application so that we can guarantee more successful outcomes.

President Pritchett said she is glad we are iWoo se iWoo s5(d)-4(er)-5( t)-6(o)-4( b)-4(e ef)-6(f)-6(ect)n o962



Superintendent Banda said it has some great components, but the question is to think back when this created and see if they still hold true in terms of what we are trying to do with our students. He mentioned a global focus and perhaps aspiring higher in preparing our students.

Member Cochrane said that mission statements do not typically give good arrows to follow, and she finds this to be true in the current mission statement. She feels it does not tell her that her mission as a Board member is to enable graduates from this District to pass entrance exams to get into state colleges. She knows this is a detail, but feels the current mission statement is too broad, verbal, ~~specific~~. She feels being broad makes the mission more difficult to obtain.

Superintendent Banda said that all mission statements tend to be broad and are more of an aspiration of what would like to be seen overall. We will flesh the mission statement out later in a document that says what that really means.

Member Arroyo said that he would like, in an effort to frame the dialogue, to preface each of the five commitment categories with "what is the purpose of". The purpose of a mission statement is to be so synthesized in a common statement that, without specifying all the details that go behind it, it gives the point of where we are going. Citing some of Member Cochrane's comments, he gave an example of "the mission is to win the race" or "be one of top ten finishers" or "win the Olympics". So it should not be vague, but seen with the proper lens which is, in our case, what is the purpose of a strategic plan. He requests that as the Board looks at all the different components that we ~~identify~~ the focus.

Second Vice President Ryan agrees with much of Members Cochrane and Arroyo's statements and said perhaps a ~~re~~crafting of a mission statement is an exercise that should be done ~~at~~ Board meeting. Core components of successful ~~mission~~ statements that she has seen are those that capture the essence of the values the district is trying to communicate, inspire the targeted constituencies, and unify stakeholders around the work. She feels the current mission does not do these ~~things~~ and needs revisiting.

Mr. Jerrel spoke about branding and making that brand accessible to constituents through different types of documents to achieve clarity.

Member Woo gave the Wikipedia definition of a mission statement and said that based ~~on~~ that it appears we have our mission and vision statements switched. He suggested keeping in mind "a simple statement of purpose" regarding the mission statement. He suggested "We are here to prepare and graduate students ready to be productive ~~citizens~~". We can then look at pieces in terms of how we prepare students. One example would be ~~by~~ giving them the fundamentals for college and career and do it in a manner that is equitable.

Second Vice President Ryan said that she had the same ~~initial~~ reaction to Member Woo's comments. She had written down the following: Every student graduates prepared to contribute as engaged citizens in a diverse and competitive world.

Member Arroyo noted that he had been part of the previous process on this matter, and there is an idea of having a document that is illustrious and eloquent

Board, Superintendent, Cabinet, and stakeholders in the community, but for students, parents, teachers, and English learners as well. For him, we are a district in transition. We want to be at a certain height, are not there yet, and it will take a process to get there. It can be broken down into phases where we are in stage one and as we progress and improve and fix the culture of the District, customer service, etc., in getting to excellence, we engage parents and students who then become part of the dialogue. They will see improvement happening along with stakeholders, partners, universities, the city, etc., and then everyone starts to believe. Otherwise, it becomes a self-defeating purpose as the goal is so far out there that it is not connecting to the reality of everyday work that needs to be done. Therefore he supports a more modest, realistic approach and feels this fits in more with what Second Vice President Ryan was saying regarding how the message needs to inspire.

Dr. Rogers reminded the Board that staff is asking for guidance from the Board as we move forward with the Strategic Plan and asked if this is the language that they want in the Strategic Plan and the LCAP.

Member Arroyo said he is not saying that he does not want to make changes now, but during his thoughts out all are coming up with ideas to help the Superintendent come up with tools he can use, such as how branding was mentioned earlier.

Member Cochrane has full confidence in the staff and Superintendent to craft a mission statement and redo current vision and core values based on the suggestions and products that staff bring up. She feels that trying to do this first is putting the cart before the horse. It was her understanding that today's workshop would be to put ideas out so that Dr. Rogers can craft it into a plan that has hard facts within it. She asked for clarification on the process.

Superintendent Banda thanked Member Cochrane for pointing that out and for mentioning that we are getting close to the end of the workshop. He noted that another Board member mentioned earlier that perhaps this is something we can do at a later stage. So we are happy to do this. The next phase of this will be to come up with Board priorities and deliverables. All agreed to move to the next phase and circle back to this later.

Dr. Rogers then went on to the fifth commitment item, priority deliverable. He asked the Board to list the things that they feel must be done over the next five years. Each Board member gave their items which were recorded and listed together by Ms. Morrison.

Dr. Rogers asked Superintendent Banda if he had any comments and/or guidance on the list. Superintendent Banda said that there are patterns in the list including equity, college and career readiness, and having high quality teachers.

Dr. Rogers thanked the Board for the guidance they have given tonight. He said they have been working with the drivers of college and career readiness, operational excellence, family and community empowerment, and safe, clean, and healthy schools. He feels those drivers still work for us, and as they continue with community dialogue they will be looking for community feedback, reaction, commitment, and support to these items.

Member Arroyo noted that principals have a good vantage point and a tremendous amount of insight from which they can provide a wealth of information about what is working and what could be improved. He suggests a method be developed by which the Superintendent and staff can more readily get information and ideas from people that are management and other critical positions. Ms. Morrison replied and gave an example of involvement. Dr. Rogers said he agrees that the principals are absolutely involved. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents regularly engage the principals at the regularly scheduled

principals' meetings about this.

Member Arroyo asked if, beyond the surveys, there was a way for people to anonymously convey messages. Ms. Morrison responded, and Dr. Rogers said that messages are typically sent to him.

Superintendent Banda thanked all that were able to attend the workshop, staff for their work, and the Board for their input. He said that this is a process, that he will be circling back on this, and giving the Board opportunity to take a look at this more as it forms.

Member Woo said this was a great workshop, and the more that we can continue to do this and hone down what the strategic plan is, the better it will be for District.

President Pritchett said that she agrees with Member Woo and thanked the staff for their hard work. She looks forward to future meetings.

#### 4.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

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José L. Banda, Superintendent

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