

BSEP PLANNING & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 11 2014

BUSD Offices –Technology Room 126
2020 BonarStreet, Berkeley, CA 94702

P&O Committee Members Present:

Sergio DuranArts Magnet Ty Alper,
Tim Frederick, Cragmont
Boyd Power, Emerson
Shauna Rabinowitz, Jefferson
Danielle Perez, John Muir
Chris Martin, LeConte (co-Chair)
Catherine Huchting, Malcolm X
Lea BaecheleBrabo, Oxford
Dan Smuts, Rosa Parks (Rep)
Keira Armstrong, Washington

Beery mentioned that she was contacted by a Berkeley side reporter about district kids being in the district. The reporter had questions about BSEP and how state funding works. Beery said she did not know when the piece would be published but wanted the P&O Committee to be aware that it would be. Coplan added that the article may clear up some myths about this topic.

5. Approval of Minutes 2.25.14

MOTION CARRIED (Smuts/Glimme) : To approve the meeting minutes of the February 25, 2014 P&O Committee Meeting. The motion was approved with a showing of 14 hands, with no objections, and 2 abstentions.

6. Public Comment

Georgette Cobb and Karen Hughes of the Berkeley ATOD—Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Task Force spoke to the P&O Committee about the high rates of substance use by Berkeley youth and gave statistics from the California Healthy Kids Survey done in 2012 that indicated that students in the BUSD middle schools and high schools have higher rates of drug and alcohol use than the national and state averages. They stressed the importance of having strong counseling support available to students. Cobbs and Hughes wanted to ask the P&O Committee to consider adding a dedicated FTE counselor at BHS and a shared FTE counselor for King and Longfellow in addition to the counseling being provided currently which is shared.

giving a presentation to the Board to help them understand the trajectory of the fund, how the program has grown and how ~~it~~ impacted the program.

McCulloch noted that people in the district formed the Berkeley Community Arts Team last year and, along with an outside consultant, did a survey of parents and staff members at school sites and of arts organizations in the district. They also did a mapping of where the arts are and are not taught in the schools. McCulloch went on to say that approximately 98% of the people that responded were in favor of arts education, and almost as many people supported the statement that arts are an essential part of the core curriculum at any school. She stated that the arts help with parent engagement and student engagement, where students that were struggling in other subjects were much more successful in the arts and that was the ~~point~~. The information will be published, and some of it will be included in the presentation to the School Board. There was a brief discussion regarding facilities because the art and science rooms have virtually disappeared and McCulloch stated that would be part of her report. Music is being taught in hallways and on stages during lunch and arts from a cart. Glimme added that the reason why the art and science classrooms were turned into regular classrooms was due to the tremendous growth in enrollment in a short period of time.

Hensley mentioned that one of the FAQs could include a response as to why there is not BSEP arts funding at the high school, and McCulloch said that the Measure was written for grades 4-8 and not specifically meant to leave at the high school. Lazio said that the people interested in programs at the high school could make a proposal to obtain site fund monies.

Beery and McCulloch announced that the Performing Arts Showcase was coming up on March 23, 2014 at BHS Community Theater 13:30pm. Over 500 students will be performing in chorus, bands, orchestras, and jazz bands. Beery added that there would be a new BSEP banner that will be unfurled at this event, as planned by the Communications Team. The BSEP Public Awareness Committee will meet Tuesday, March 18, 2013.

8. Recommendation for BSEP Funds in FY 2014-4: Class Size Reduction (BSEP Resource 0841)

Natasha Beery, BSEP Director

Beery provided the following handouts:

- Recommendation for Allocation of BSEP Class Size Reduction Funds in FY 2014- from Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services to the BSEP Planning & Oversight Committee, dated February 25, 2014

Beery stated that at the last meeting Neil Smith, Superintendent of Educational Services, brought the proposal for CSR fund expenditures for next year and usually the recommendation are discussed again at the next meeting after the presentation. However, in discussions with Superintendent Evans and Deputy Superintendent Cleveland about how to align BSEP decision making process with LCFF/LCAP process has become clear that adjusting the timing of decisions would improve alignment. Cleveland recommended that the P&O not take action on the recommendation of the CSR allocation tonight's meeting to give the process enough time so that the other parts of various budgets being decided could be determined. One of the parts under consideration was the reduced middle school math class size, which may have an option of going to 24:1, which would be less costly than the 20:1. Cleveland said that another part that was being changed was moving R1² into the Special Ed budget, which could result in some savings, about \$580K

Priorities (narrative for items with attached costs 3-34) that laid out the some of the programs that aligned with District goals and listed them along with costs to complement them. Evans stated that the programs could be paid for from different funds: Base Grant, BSEP or other sources. Beery noted that the total for all the programs was about \$9M and the Supplemental LCFF funding is at \$2.4M.

Evans explained that Number 8, Intervention Coordinator and Support at BHS

