

(Alt)	Cragmont	Lea Baechle Brabo, Oxford
Dawn Paxson, Emerson/Willard		Bruce Simon, Kingco-Chair)
Shauna Rabinowitz, Emerson		Larry Gordon, Berkeley High
Danielle Perez, John Muir (co-Chair)		John Lavine, Berkeley High
Catherine Huchting/Malcolm X		Catherine Lazio, Berkeley High
		Christine Staples, BHS (Alt)



- There'sconcer

and space in the 2020 Bonar Street building became available. This small office will provide space for Charity DaMarto, Supervisor of Family Engagement and Isabel Parra, District Translator, as well as a corner for parents and children. The cost does not represent a huge change in direction or expense and thus



Simon noted that the voters have voted for the Measure and smaller class sizes a teachers to the district. Lavine noted that despite metrics, the common perception was that smaller class sizes are better and larger class sizes are worse and politically approach the refunding of the Measure, a shift away from this paradigm is difficult.

Beery noted that there were differences of opinion about how small a smaller class size needs to be. A very tiny handful of districts have made it to 20:1 even with supplemental funding. A question that could be raised was: what are the trade-offs in putting large sums into achieving specific class sizes, is there some way the money might be focused on achieving the [differentiated instruction/individualization] goals of CSR. Meanwhile these questions are becoming urgent not just BSEP Measure planning and the current CSR budget but in the best way to use facilities because our district is growing.

Paxson noted that it was not just class size but a combination of different class offerings (music, art) that adds a qualitative component and teachers consider these as "tools" for the students with different learning abilities and styles. Scuderi said that it has been shown that lowering the class size alone is not the answer referred to the Gates Foundation pulling funding from the small school movement because those schools didn't do anything different programmatically or layer on any supports. Smaller class sizes just make already effective teachers more effective because they have more time with students individually.

Staples asked if it might be cost effective to have a classroom aide up the teacher to have time to work with small groups. It might solve the psychological problem for parents (in lieu of smaller class size) by providing teacher support and not require an extra classroom.

Scuderi confirmed that in February there would be a preliminary look at next year's enrollment. There was a discussion about enrollment and Evans assured the committee that the District is verifying student residency including home visits. A working group and the policy committee are putting together recommendations for this for the Board. Bachelor Brabo confirmed that there were 436 home visits this year and 76 were denied. Beery said that students are being asked to register going from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and also may be asked to do so to 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Evans stated that 200 of 700 fifth grade families have reregistered so far. Bachelor Brabo confirmed that there are 1192 students enrolled in the district with approved permits that do not live in the city of Berkeley (502 of them are McKinney-Vento/Homeless Education Act students and 168 are children of staff). She also stated that data is being gathered to dispel myths and create an accurate inventory of students. Evans stated that the process will tighten up

current combo classes to solve class size issues moving from 20:1 to 24:1 is not a good option when the teachers are dealing with new curriculum changes.

Nitschke presented the BUSEP Enrollment Trends: 1997 Present (Color Graph) and noted that the black line was the average for BUSD in the middle. Reconfiguration got rid of the earlier K3, 4-6, 7-8, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and 10-12 at BHS facilities. Basically the K3 schools tended to have higher enrollment and the schools lower. The brown line represents Malcolm X, which had 640 students as a school. The City of Franklin information was difficult to tease out for 1996 to 2000 for use of facilities in house Cragmont, Rosa Parks, and Thousand Oaks.

#### 10. Technology Program Budget Revision moved to the end of the meeting

Jay Nitschke, Director of Technology

The following handout was provided:

- BUSD Memo to BSEP Planning & Oversight Committee, From: Jay Nitschke, Director of Technology, dated January 27, 2015: Recommendation for additional expenditure of funds from the Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 for Technology in 2014-15

Nitschke presented the above budget revision to provide additional funds for up to 17 Tech Teacher Leader positions for the second semester of the 2014 school year with stipends of \$902 per position for a total of \$15,334. Providing Tech Teacher Leader positions would help increase teacher capacity at the school sites by providing professional development in the area of technology.

No motion to approve the Technology Program Budget Revision was made due to lack of quorum. This was tabled until the next meeting of the P&O Committee.

#### 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:05 p.m.

The next P&O meeting will be held February 10, 2015.

Minutes submitted by Linda Race, BSEP Staff Support