

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2002

An adjourned meeting of the Council of the City of Burbank was called to order this date as a joint meeting with the Burbank Board of Education in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, 275 East Olive Avenue, on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mr. Laurell, Mayor.

ROLL CALL

Present- - - - Council Members Golonski, Murphy, Ramos, Vander Borcht and Laurell.  
Board of Education Members Burnett, Hubbell, Lackey, McDonald and Raad.

Absent - - - - Council Members None.  
Board of Education Members None.

Also Present - Mr. Ovrom, City Manager; Mr. Barlow, City Attorney; Dr. Bowman, Interim Superintendent; and Mrs. Campos, City Clerk.

Flag Salute The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Hank Jannace, Director of Pupil Services.

Mayor Laurell welcomed viewers and those in attendance to the meeting, noting that the Board of Education and City Council members meet periodically to discuss items of mutual interest. Mr. Raad commented that this is the first joint meeting of which he has been a part, although he is a member of the Joint Action Group.

Oral Communications Mayor Laurell called for oral communications at this time.

Citizen Comment Appearing to comment was Mike Nolan, commenting on the joint use of facilities under the Civic Center Act and that school facilities should be made more available to the community; in opposition to the District cutting funds for physical exams for hirees; and on Mr. Golonski's suggestion for financial assistance to the School District with no discussion on the part of the City Council.

BUSD Budget Update/Possible City Support Dr. Bowman, Interim Superintendent, provided an update on the School District's budget and request for potential areas of support from the City of Burbank. Spreadsheets were provided to Board and City Council members that represented budget cuts as recommended to the Board of Education by the District's Budget Advisory Committee, as well as those that the Board of Education has recommended. Dr. Bowman noted that the Board has approved \$2,773,257 in reductions, which

is short by approximately \$220,000 of the \$3 million in necessary cuts. Dr. Bowman then reviewed the proposed assurances.

After discussion about utility rates, Mr. Golonski indicated that he does not support a 50 percent reduction in the School District's utility rate, but suggested a fixed one-time subsidy in the form of credit against the utility bill. He stated that it would then be in the District's best interest to do whatever is necessary with regards to conservation efforts. He stated that he would not want this money taken out of the utility budget, but rather identify a source in the General Fund budget and transfer it to the utility budget so that there would not be an impact on the utility payers. Mr. Ovrom stated that there are General Fund reserves (designated accounts) that could be drawn upon, and this would be backfilled into the utility funds. Mr. Laurell asked what assurances the City would have that would indicate that the District would find itself whole, budget-wise, with regards to utilities.

There was discussion relative to long-term budget projections, and it was noted that the School District cannot project as far into the future as the City because the District's budget is dependent upon State funding. Mr. Ovrom suggested that utility assistance not be the only area of discussion in terms of savings. He stated that the City and District could work together in other areas, such as consolidation of vehicle maintenance, consolidation of the City field services units, etc. There was some discussion concerning the downside of one-time assistance, noting that this could not be relied upon in the future. Mr. Golonski stated that this would be an opportunity for the District to take the time and look at various areas and make fundamental changes in some of its practices that don't directly impact students, and also work with the City to determine ways to work together in specific areas. Several concerns were expressed, including where the City is with its budget, what shared resource concepts are worthy of study, and what assurances the District can offer if the City was to provide financial assistance for 2002-2003.

There was considerable discussion about whether the City should dictate how the money is spent should the Council agree to assist the District, or whether the District should come up with a list of specific items for reinstatement after its budget cuts. Mr. McDonald stated that he would be open to

directives on a funding subsidy by the City. Mrs. Burnett and Mrs. Lackey expressed support for the concept of identifying a broader umbrella of needs rather than a specific list. Mr. Laurell and Mrs. Ramos were not supportive of the City coming up with specifics, but want a commitment from the District for community-based programs (e.g. PeaceBuilders) and a one-time subsidy, after ironing out some of the specifics of this proposal and also looking at some long-term cost-saving areas of mutual benefit. Mrs. Murphy stated that she is more comfortable waiting until after the November election to see what the City's position will be with regards to its budget, that she is hesitant to say what the District should do with any money given to it by the City, and needs to have some assurances from City staff that such assistance will not have an adverse effect on the City's financial position. Mrs. Hubbell expressed support for the District coming up with a priority list if funding from the City is available and if the Council would support that. Mr. Vander Borght stated that he is supportive of broader directives rather than specific demands for the spending of any money given to the District, supportive of community oriented programs, and also concerned about the City's budget, but recognizes the need to assist the District. He stated that he is very supportive of energy conservation measures and wants to see a true bottom line commitment on the part of the School District in this area.

In recapping responses from Council and Board members, Mr. Laurell noted four votes of support from Council members to move forward with some sort of subsidy package to the School District, and recognized Mrs. Murphy's concern about being cautious with the City's budget. Mr. Golonski stated that he doesn't want to dictate how the funds would be used, but he would like to hear specifics from the Board – perhaps with three packages – one at \$750,000, one at \$500,000, and one at \$260,000.

Mr. Ovrom suggested that, although the Council would be adopting its budget on June 25<sup>th</sup>, it could be amended after that date if the Board did not have proposals by then.

Mr. Golonski asked for more specificity with regards to assurances, rather than that the District and City would work together or will continue to talk. The use of school facilities is one issue that needs to be addressed, with specific agreement on the District's part to provide space for specific programs.

Mrs. Murphy expressed agreement with this particularly because of the overwhelming need in the community for childcare.

South San  
Fernando Park/  
Community  
School Update

Mr. Flad, Park, Recreation and Community Services Director, provided background information on the South San Fernando Park/Community School project. The plan is for a two-story building, outdoor basketball court, parking, play area, and open space. Philip Clifford, Capital Projects Manager, stated that demolition has taken place, a topographic survey has been done, a soil survey will be completed within the next two weeks, architectural design will be done with review by the District, and architects should be on board by early October 2002, with construction to begin by June 2003, if everything is approved. Mr. Golonski suggested including District staff representation and/or a Board member to discuss the first floor use on this project.

Joint Use of  
Facilities  
Relationship

Mr. Flad provided an update on the joint use of facilities, noting that elementary and middle school principals have provided input relative to vandalism, rules violations, and litter, but felt that the programs held at school sites were of great benefit to children in the community. It was noted that indoor classroom space is needed, large room/auditorium space is needed, the request to place after school care programs on site at Roosevelt and Bret Harte schools, as well as use of restrooms at McKinley during the summer. Other items discussed were sports programs and the need for aquatics programs and outdoor basketball courts, performing arts space, teen and family counseling space, and new community programs. In the area of joint development/improvements, the list included tennis court lights at John Burroughs High School, outdoor basketball courts, track and field at the high schools, and the tennis courts at Luther Burbank Middle School. In the area of joint development/new construction, the list included additional restrooms, after school program buildings, field lighting, and use of fields by the Burbank Hap Minor League. Mr. Flad noted that funding and priorities have not been discussed relative to these issues, but stated that it would be helpful if the Board/Council would provide some direction in terms of priorities. Mrs. Murphy expressed support for after school and summer camp programs, and also for jointly funding a security program

where school campuses are policed at night and on weekends. Mr. Golonski noted that there is a District employee who patrols the school sites after school hours. Mr. Vander Borcht expressed support for outdoor basketball courts and tracks and fields at the high schools. Mrs. Burnett stated that some of the items listed could be put on the fast track and taken care of right away, such as the restrooms at McKinley. Mrs. Lackey agreed that there are things that are time sensitive and need immediate attention, and City and District staffs should continue to work together to prioritize them. Mrs. Ramos spoke about supporting community use in terms of performing arts, counseling, and after school programs, and about the costs associated with the use of school facilities for these activities. She asked why it costs so much for groups to use these facilities when the purpose for which they request the use of facilities is, in many cases, for the very students who attend the particular school or schools, and is for the benefit of the community. She felt that the facilities should be more available to community use and at a more reasonable cost.

Mrs. Burnett responded, noting that this was addressed a year or more ago when it was realized that the District was subsidizing groups for the use of school facilities. Mr. Raad stated that the Board needs to revisit the use of facilities issue and try to develop creative ways to make facilities available to certain groups.

Mr. McDonald stated his support for groups using facilities and expressed interest in looking into working cooperatively with the City on this issue. Mrs. Hubbell expressed interest in after school and childcare programs, and suggested working with Goldie Bemel, Director of Child Development Programs, so as not to interfere with programs that already exist. She also expressed interest in addressing the aquatic programs as soon as possible and working with the Adult School in creating new programs. Mrs. Lackey commented on before and after school academic support groups that currently work with students and the importance of this continuing.

Update on  
Energy  
Conservation  
Improvements/  
Programs for  
BUSD Facilities

Mrs. Meyer, Marketing Manager of Burbank Water and Power (BWP), with assistance from Mrs. Fletcher, Customer Service Manager for BWP, provided an update on discussions that City and District staff have had regarding energy conservation. She stated that the City and District have had a long-standing

partnership, and that the City has provided annual discounts on water costs, annual discounts on electric costs, \$500,000 in discretionary conservation funds, and \$120,000 in conservation rebates. She gave special recognition to Mohammad Kashani-Jou, Project Manager for the District, who provided a list of potential energy-saving projects. Ms. Meyer reviewed the opportunistic projects, including dual-pane windows, solar water heating systems for the high school pools, district-wide centralized automated irrigation system, and energy management systems. She also reviewed energy technology and demonstration projects, including solar photovoltaic installation and fuel cells, which are both very costly even with up to 50 percent in grant funding available. Ms. Meyer discussed conservation behaviors, noting that to significantly reduce energy use and monthly energy bills, there are two basic and parallel paths that the BUSD should follow: One is to replace non-energy-efficient equipment with energy-efficient items, and the second is in the area of changing behaviors and getting teachers, students, and staff to be continually conscientious and knowledgeable in their conservation practices.

Mrs. Hubbell stated that the District is doing everything it can with energy conservation within its budget restraints and that staff is doing everything possible to obtain additional grants. She stated that the Third Street side of Burbank High School does have dual-paned windows. Mrs. Burnett expressed appreciation for the partnership with the BWP.

Overview of  
Youth Solutions  
Summit  
Rec.

Mr. Flad provided background information on the Youth Solutions Summit and reviewed its recommendations. He asked for direction relative to the recommendation of a middle school grant program. This grant program would allow each middle school the flexibility of adopting and implementing programs that offer maximum effectiveness given each school's particular needs, while ensuring the implementation of programs designed to meet the goals and objectives outlined by the Mayor's Youth Task Force, Youth Solutions Summit Report, and City Council.

A discussion regarding the Peace Colors Program for middle schools followed. Mr. Jannace, Director of Pupil Services, stated that a plan for this program would be presented to the Board of Education sometime this summer, noting that the

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program is flexible and could be tailored to meet the specific needs of a particular school. It was also noted that the name could be changed if so desired. Mr. Golonski expressed support of having a program in place for the middle school level. Mrs. Burnett suggested that staff review the recommendations of the Youth Solutions Summit to determine which things should be pursued and those that should not.

Dr. Bowman stated that a safety/security survey had recently been conducted at all sites, and the results will be shared with every school site staff when they return in August.

There was consensus that a site-specific grant program be implemented. Mrs. Ramos suggested that the next Joint Action Group agenda include a discussion item about the Project Citizen program. Mrs. Murphy stated that this would be a more appropriate topic for the Mayor's Youth Task Force.

Mr. Golonski acknowledged the students for their dedication and hard work into this process and the positive outcome of their hard work. He noted that the Council has allocated \$500,000 for youth and suggested \$150,000 could be allocated to the middle school grant program.

Adjournment      There being no further business to come before the Council and the Board of Education, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

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Margarita Campos, City Clerk

APPROVED AUGUST 20, 2002

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Mayor of the Council  
of the City of Burbank