



City Manager's Office

2 X 2 COMMITTEE MEETING BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 7, 2026
11:00 am – 12:30 pm
2180 Milvia Street, 6th Floor, Redwood Room
Berkeley, CA 94704

Hybrid Option: [Zoom Link](#)
Webinar ID: 817 6759 6450 Passcode: 743248

Committee Members:

Councilmember Terry Taplin
Councilmember Brent Blackaby

Jennifer Shanoski, BUSD Board Director
Jen Corn, BUSD Board Director

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person attendance and virtual participation. If you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person.

Remote participation by the public is available through Zoom. To access the meeting remotely using the internet: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device and use: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81767596450?pwd=rs0fWmSXB1ACsRIIAns8TUQmLfbpGc.1>
Webinar ID: 817 6759 6450 **Passcode:** 743248. To request to speak, use the “raise hand” icon on the screen. To join by phone: **Dial 1- 669-900-9128** and enter **Webinar ID:** 817 6759 6450, **Passcode:** 743248. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54653. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager, at 510-981-7000.

This is a meeting of the 2 x2 Committee of the Berkeley City Council and the Berkeley Unified School District. Since a quorum of the Berkeley City Council may actually be present to discuss matters with the 2 x 2 Committee, this meeting is being noticed as a special meeting of the Berkeley City Council as well as the 2 x 2 Committee meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda for May 7, 2026
4. Approval of Minutes for March 19, 2026 (Attachment 1)
5. Public Comment (15 min)
6. Discussion Items
 - 6.1 Transportation and Afterschool Access Constraints (25 min)
 - 6.2 School Site Safety (25 min)
 - a. Drop-Off/Pick-Up and Traffic Management
7. Adjournment



COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at (510) 981-6418 (V) or (510) 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various scents, whether natural or manufactured, in products and materials. Please help the City respect these needs.



**2x2 Committee Meeting Minutes
Berkeley Unified School District &
Berkeley City Council**

March 19, 2026
2180 Milvia Street, Redwood Room, 6th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
2:30 - 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:36 PM

2. Roll Call

Present: Councilmember Taplin, Councilmember Blackaby, Director Corn, and Director Shanoski

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda for March 19, 2026

- Agenda approved (3-0)

4. Approval of Minutes for October 2, 2025

- Minutes approved (3-0)

5. Public Comment

Speakers emphasized the importance of afterschool care as a critical support for families, particularly in promoting stability and equity. Key concerns included the need for a clear and coordinated plan, expanded program capacity, reliable transportation options, and consistent, year-round staffing. There was also interest in strengthening collaboration between the District and the City, including potential partnerships with external providers to help address capacity gaps. Overall, speakers stressed the urgency of implementing meaningful improvements ahead of the next school year.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Joint Board Room Use of Technology Update

Presenter: Max Eissler, Director of Technology, Berkeley Unified School District

Staff provided an update on the BUSD Board Room A/V system, noting its complex configuration and history of technical issues. Most previously reported problems—including system lockups, connectivity failures, and audio issues—have been resolved through equipment replacements, software fixes, and the addition of a backup internet connection. A few intermittent issues remain but are manageable and do not appear to be systemic. Given the age and complexity of the system, a full refurbishment is recommended, with estimated costs of approximately \$300,000. A selection committee has reviewed proposals and identified a preferred configuration, and BUSD has secured funding for the project. A formal procurement process is underway, with planned implementation targeted for July 2026.

6.2 Afterschool Care Update

Presenters:

- Joya Balk, Director Categorical & Special Programs
- Kelly DeTorres, Expanded Learning Program Manager
- Brazil McIntyre, Afterschool Program Supervisor

The afterschool care update was presented within the broader vision of aligning with the BUSD mission of academic excellence and student success, as well as the LEARNS vision of providing safe, structured, and enrichment-based programming. The work was framed as an ongoing system improvement effort, grounded in strong collaboration between BUSD and the City. Presenters acknowledged several key challenges, including demand exceeding available capacity, staffing instability affecting program quality and safety, communication gaps with families, and the absence of a cohesive long-term plan. At the same time, progress in SY 2025–26 was noted, including expanded collaboration with the City, increased program access, and improvements in communication, staff development, and operational infrastructure. Additional efforts included regular coordination meetings, development of safety protocols, and exploration of nearby facilities to help address transportation barriers.

Significant emphasis was placed on community engagement through the “Engage Expanded Learning” campaign, which gathered input from staff, students, and families through focus groups, surveys, and shadow days. Preliminary participation included 271 parents/caregivers, 83 LEARNS staff, and 26 site staff, with findings highlighting

ongoing uncertainty among families regarding program access. Moving forward, strategic priorities include maximizing on-site capacity, improving communication, strengthening programming, investing in staff retention, and re-envisioning the staffing model. However, constraints remain, including staffing vacancies, an outdated enrollment system, and ASES grant requirements. Planning for SY 2026–27 will focus on site-based capacity adjustments, prioritizing TK–K students, and providing clearer communication to families.

Committee discussion further emphasized transportation as a key barrier to access, continued unmet demand across programs, the need for timely and transparent communication to families regarding placement status, and the importance of collaboration between BUSD and the City, including potential alignment of services and increased focus on preventative safety measures.

7. Action Items

7.1 Identify Future Agenda Items

- **Transportation and Afterschool Access Constraints** – Review current barriers, capacity impacts, and potential solutions, including coordination with City programs and transportation options.
- **School Site Safety (Drop-Off/Pick-Up and Traffic Management)** – Discuss traffic flow, safety concerns near school sites, and strategies to improve student and family safety during arrival and dismissal times.

7.2 Identify Next Meeting Date

- Tentatively scheduled for May 7 at 11:00 AM

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 3:46 PM