

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
333 South Beaudry Ave., Board Room
10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2006

The Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry, Los Angeles, California.

President Marlene Canter called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

The following Board Members were present: Ms. Julie Korenstein, Mr. Mike Lansing, Mr. Jon Lauritzen, Mr. David Tokofsky, and President Marlene Canter. Ms. Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte arrived at 10:26 a.m.

Mr. Lauritzen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT

Ms. Wendy Kopp, President and Founder of Teach for America, a national teacher recruitment program, shared what inspires her on a daily basis. She stated that seeing the success of young teachers in low income, low achieving areas is truly inspiring. She views these teachers as true leaders.

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President Canter modified the Order of Business.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF INITIAL PROPOSALS FROM BARGAINING UNITS AND THE DISTRICT

Los Angeles School Police Association (LASPA)(Received December 13, 2005)

District's Initial Bargaining Proposals to Unit A – School Police, Unit B – Instructional Aides, Unit C – Operations-Support Services, Unit D – Office-Technical and Business Services, Unit E – Skilled Crafts, Unit F – Teacher Assistants, Unit G – Playground Aides, Unit S – Classified Supervisors (Received December 13, 2005)

California School Employees Association (CSEA) for Unit D
(Office-Technical and Business Services)(Received November 22, 2005)

Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building Construction Trades
Council for Unit E (Skilled Crafts) (Received November 22, 2005)

Initial Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2006-2007 School Year (Board of Education Report No. 133 – 05/06 - Received November 22, 2005)

President Canter announced:

An opportunity is now given to those individuals who had requested to address the Board on the Initial Proposals from the Los Angeles School Police Association (LASPA), the California School Employees Association (CSEA) for Unit D (Office-Technical and Business Services), the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building Construction Trades Council for Unit E (Skilled Crafts), and the District's Initial Proposal for United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) regarding Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2006-2007 School Year (Board of Education Report No. 133 – 05/06, received November 22, 2005, and for Unit A – School Police, Unit B – Instructional Aides, Unit C – Operations-Support Services, Unit D – Office-Technical and Business Services, Unit E – Skilled Crafts, Unit F – Teacher Assistants, Unit G – Playground Aides, and Unit S – Classified Supervisors.

There were no speakers.

Mr. Jefferson Crain, Executive Officer of the Board announced:

This was the final opportunity to address the Board on the initial proposals from CSEA for Unit D (Office-Technical and Business Services), and the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building Construction Trades Council for Unit E (Skilled Crafts) received November 22, 2005, and the District's Initial Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2006-2007 School Year (Board of Education Report No. 133 – 05/06) also received November 22, 2005.

There will be a final opportunity to address the Board on the initial proposals from the Los Angeles School Police Association (LASPA) and the District's initial proposal for Unit A – School Police, Unit B – Instructional Aides, Unit C – Operations-Support Services, Unit D – Office-Technical and Business Services, Unit E – Skilled Crafts, Unit F – Teacher Assistants, Unit G – Playground Aides, and Unit S – Classified Supervisors at the Board meeting of January 24, 2006, in the Board Room. Those persons who wish to address the Board on the proposals may call Area Code (213) 241-7002 or toll free (877) 772-6273, prior to 5 p.m. the Monday prior to the meeting or sign up at the time of the meeting.

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President Canter resumed the Order of Business.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Ms. Natalie Mejia, a senior from Franklin High School, shared her letter to Superintendent Romer. In that letter, she highlighted some of the positive experiences she had in the Transportation Academy at her school. She noted that the Academy was very similar to a small learning community, which allowed for a close relationship with teachers.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Lauritzen moved the adoption of the following reports, designated as Consent Calendar items in accordance with Board Rule 61, with the exception of Board of Education Revised Report No. 167 – 05/06:

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 166 – 05/06
Ratification of Real Estate Leases, Licenses, and Other Agreements or Instruments that are Necessary or Incidental for the Use of Real Property

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 191 – 05/06 (Via Facilities)
Authorization to Use Measures K and R Joint Use Funds at Palisades Charter High School and Amendment to the 2005 Existing Facilities Strategic Execution Plan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 175 – 05/06
Naming of Danny J. Bakewell, Sr., Primary Center

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 177 – 05/06
Naming of Dr. James Edward Jones Primary Center

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 185 – 05/06
Naming of Ellen Ochoa Learning Center

Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent the Consent Calendar was adopted with the exception noted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REVISED REPORT NO. 167 – 05/06
Certification of Measure Y Results: Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Election of 2005, Series A (2006); and a General Fund Reimbursement Resolution

Mr. Tokofsky moved the adoption of Board of Education Revised Report No. 167 – 05/06.
Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

At the request of Board Members, Mr. Charles Burbridge, Chief Financial Officer, provided a summary of the content of the report, its effect, and responded to questions.

By general consent, the report was adopted.

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President Canter noted that in order to provide more efficiency at Board meetings, future facilities items will be acted on at the second Board meeting of each month and all others will be acted on at the first Board meeting of each month.

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President Canter modified the Order of Business.
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REGULAR CALENDAR

BOARD OF EDUCATION REVISED REPORT NO. 116 – 05/06
Approval of Valley Region Byrd High School Reconfiguration and
Amendment of the 2005 New Construction Strategic Execution Plan

Mr. Mike O’Gara representing the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council, addressed the Board on the report.

Ms. Korenstein moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

Mr. John Creer, Development Manager, and Mr. Guy Mehula, Deputy Chief Facilities Executive New Construction, responded to questions from Board Members.

Mr. Tokofsky moved to amend the report by adding the following Recommendation:

It is further recommended that the Board receive a quarterly report of efforts to obtain funding through legislation, statute or regulations to replace the \$20 million charge to bond funds.

The maker and seconder accepted the amendment as friendly.

By general consent, the report was adopted as amended.

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President Canter resumed the Order of Business.
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RECEIPT OF REPORTS FOR ACTION AT NEXT BOARD MEETING

Board of Education Report No. 192 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR): Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 193 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Project Approval for South Region Area New Middle School No. 6: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 194 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee)
Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Central Region Area New Elementary School No. 13: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 195 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Project Approval for Central Region Area New Elementary School No. 13: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 196 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Certification of the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for Central Region Area New Middle School No. 7: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 197 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Project Approval for Central Region Area New Middle School No. 7): Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 198 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Central Region Area New High School No. 13 – Former Taylor Yard site: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 199 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Project Approval for Central Region Area New High School No. 13: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 200 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – Amendment to 2005 New Construction Strategic Execution Plan to Add the New Project Definition for Valley Region Montague Charter Academy Addition: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 201 – 05/06 (via Facilities Committee) – New Construction Strategic Execution Plan 2006: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 31, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 202 – 05/06 – Lease Agreements for Radio Tower Locations: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 204 – 05/06 – Authorization to Enter into a Joint Use Agreement for the Construction of a Los Angeles County Health Center on Sun Valley Middle School Property: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 209 – 05/06 – Authorization to Negotiate and Enter into an Agreement to Extend Existing Lease at 4201 Wilshire, Suite 202, Los Angeles, for the Special Education Support Unit East: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 210 – 05/06 – Authorization to Negotiate and Exercise an Option to Renew the Existing Lease at 1001 Carson Street, Torrance, for the Division of Adult and Career Education Harbor Community Adult School: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 211 – 05/06 – Ratification of Contracts and Approval of Professional Services Contracts: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 212 – 05/06 – Authorization to Conduct Competitive Procurements for Outdoor Billboard Advertisements and Graffiti Abatement on Construction Sites: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006

With the consent of the Board, Mr. Tut Hayes was given the opportunity to address the Board regarding Board of Education Report No. 212 – 05/06

The Board recessed the meeting at 12:20 p.m., and reconvened at 1:08 p.m. The following Members were present: Ms. Korenstein, Ms. LaMotte, Mr. Lansing, Mr. Lauritzen, Mr. Tokofsky, and President Canter

Superintendent Romer, Board Members, and staff commented on the unexpected passing of Mr. John Liechty, Associate Superintendent of the Beyond the Bell Branch. They shared their thoughts on the commitment and dedication Mr. Liechty had to the well being of all children and extended condolences to his family on their loss.

RECEIPT OF REPORTS FOR ACTION AT NEXT BOARD MEETING (Continued)

Board of Education Report No. 203 – 05/06 – Amendment of Board Rule 1920 – Professional Expert Salary Rates: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 31, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 208 – 05/06 – Naming of Johnnie Cochran, Jr., Middle School: Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 24, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 213 – 05/06 – Adoption of the 2005-06 Compensation Package for District Represented Employees and Board Members: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 31, 2006

Board of Education Report No. 214 – 05/06 – (Adoption of the 2005-06 Memorandum of Understanding Between the Los Angeles Unified School District and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA): Assigned to Consent Calendar on January 31, 2006

President Canter modified the Order of Business.

REGULAR CALENDAR (Continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 133 – 05/06
Initial Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and
Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding
Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2006-2007 School Year

Mr. Lansing moved that the report be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Korenstein was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REVISED REPORT NO. 165 – 05/06
Ratification of Contract Actions and Approval of Professional Services Contracts

Mr. Lauritzen moved that the report be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 159 – 05/06
Memorandum of Understanding with United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA)
and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding Single Track
and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2006-2007 School Year

This report was postponed to January 31, 2006.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 176 – 05/06
State-Monitored Schools Notification for Immediate Intervention Underperforming
Schools Program (II/USP) and High Priority Schools Grant (HPSG) Schools

Mr. Lauritzen moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Mr. Harry Gerst, Director of the SB-IX, Public Schools Accountability Act Program, responded to questions from Board Members.

By general consent, the report was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

DIRECT REPORTS

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 188 – 05/06 (Direct)
Student Expulsion Issues

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 189 – 05/06 (Direct)
Student Reinstatements

Mr. Lauritzen moved that Board of Education Report Nos. 188 and 189 – 05/06 be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 187 – 05/06 (Direct)
Provisional Internship Permit

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 190 – 05/06 (Direct)
Various Purchasing Transactions

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lansing seconded the motion.

Ms. Megan Klee, Chief Information Officer, and Mr. James Alther, Director of Strategic Planning, Implementation, E-Rate and Measure K Programs, responded to questions from Board Members.

Mr. Tokofsky moved the following amendment:

That Exhibit F, Contract with Edulink Systems, Inc., be withdrawn, and that the report as amended be adopted.

Mr. Lansing accepted the amendment as friendly.

By general consent, the report was adopted as amended.

President Canter resumed the Order of Business.

STUDENT INPUT

Student Member Lydia Alvarado from Banning High School thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to share events and concern at her school. She noted that Banning has a number of small learning communities, which give the students a sense of belonging. She commented on the many educational and extracurricular activities that take place at school. She expressed concerns regarding the amount of graffiti at her school, when repair of fire damage will be completed, and what the students and school could do to have the gymnasium painted with the school colors.

Mr. Dan Isaacs, Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Chuck Burbridge, Chief Financial Officer, and Mr. Bruce Kendall, Deputy Chief Executive Existing Facilities, responded to questions from Board Members

Student Member Jessica Anderson from Gardena High School shared the success of their after school programs, the academies, and various clubs. She noted the improvement of attendance and the rise in the standardized test scores. She expressed concerns regarding the lack of availability of counselors.

Student Member Lexi Manghera from San Pedro High School commented on the dedication and determination of the school's students in athletic competitions. She also stated that she had been shocked and hurt at the negative and rude remarks made by District personnel regarding a past incident when she and school staff had attended an athletic conference in December.

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President Canter modified the Order of Business.
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SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

RECOGNITION OF GLENN GRITZNER

Superintendent Romer recognized Mr. Glenn Gritzner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, and presented him with a certificate of recognition upon his separation from the District. The Superintendent and Board Members shared their good wishes for his continued success.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Rowena Lagrosa, Executive Officer of Educational Services, introduced Ms. Lucy Okumu from the Legislative Affairs Office, who will be assuming the duties of Special Assistant to the Superintendent.

LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL BAND 16TH CONSECUTIVE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

Ms. LaMotte commended the Los Angeles High School Band on winning the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Organization competition and winning the Los Angeles City School competition for the 16th consecutive year. On behalf of the Board, Ms. LaMotte presented a certificate of recognition to Ms. Darnela Davidson, Director of the Los Angeles High School Band and Color Guard, and the band members. On behalf of the Band and Color Guard, a t-shirt and plaque, which featured a picture of the entire band, was presented to Ms. LaMotte.

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Ms. LaMotte welcomed her Staff Liaison, Ms. Lannie Foster, back from her leave of absence.

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DIRECTS (Continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 206 – 05/06 (Direct)
Approval Nonroutine Personnel Actions

Mr. Lansing moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Ms. Rowena Lagrosa, Executive Officer, Education Services, responded to questions from Board Members.

By general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD MEMBERS RESOLUTIONS

ACTION

Mr. Tokofsky's motion regarding Parcel Tax was postponed to the Regular January 24, 2006:

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles directs the Superintendent and staff to prepare appropriate budget, content, argument and election materials for a District or countywide parcel tax in the June or November election if Governor Schwarzenegger's State of the State speech does not indicate the Governor's compliance with earlier Proposition 98 guarantees, "deals" and statutory arrangements; and be it

Resolved further, That the Superintendent return to the Board prior to February 1 with complete and election-ready materials.

MOTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. LaMotte moved the following motion regarding a Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators Senate Bill 435 (Watson) and Senate Bill 148 (Bergeson):

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles declares that having conducted extensive recruitment throughout the community, state, region, and nation, having offered employment to all fully-credentialed candidates who applied and who have met District standards and qualifications in the designated subjects, and having implemented and operated alternative programs for teacher credentialing, there are insufficient fully-credentialed teachers to meet the staffing and instructional needs of the Los Angeles Unified School District, and it is necessary to employ teachers with emergency permits under provisions of Education Code 44300.

Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

Ms. LaMotte moved the Appointment of a Member to the Bond Oversight Committee:

Resolved, That Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles ratify the appointment of Christopher Espinosa, representing the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, to the School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee.

Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Ms. Canter introduced the following motion regarding Raising Awareness of College Financial Aid Options, for action on January 31, 2006:

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District is the second largest district in the country responsible for educating over 700,000 students;

Whereas, The priorities of the District are to promote high academic achievement and a college-going culture in every school;

Whereas, A fundamental principle in sustaining a college-going culture is the belief that college is an achievable goal for all students;

Whereas, The cost of a college education is beyond the means of many families;

Whereas, 72% of the District's students are on the free or reduced lunch program;

Whereas, Approximately 70% of District students are first generation college-bound;

Whereas, Sources of financial aid are available; and

Whereas, It is the role of the College Counselor to make available information about financial aid and assist seniors with financial aid applications; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education for the City of Los Angeles declares January and February as Financial Aid Months in which college counselors and school staff focus their work efforts to encourage all eligible seniors to apply for financial aid;

Resolved further, That high school campuses will continue to work with AVID, community based organizations, and college and university representatives to assist students with financial aid applications; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District will continue its partnership with the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, UNITE-LA, the Mayor's Office, and the California Student Aid Commission to conduct Cash for College financial aid workshops to increase opportunities for students.

Ms. Canter and Mr. Lauritzen introduced the following motion regarding Mentoring Awareness Month for action on January 31, 2000:

Whereas, It is the mission of the Board of Education to close the achievement gap and increase graduation rates;

Whereas, The Board strives to not only create life-long learners, but responsible, concerned citizens;

Whereas, Research shows that students who participate in mentoring programs feel more confident about their ability to do well in school and feel better about their future and their relationship with family and community;

Whereas, Research shows that students who participate in mentoring programs are less likely to begin using illegal drugs, skip school, and engage in violence;

Whereas, The goals of mentoring programs align closely with the goals of the Los Angeles Unified School District and especially with the community involvement and career counseling attributes of Small Learning Community design;

Whereas, The District currently works with multiple mentoring organizations to provide individual and group mentoring to students during and in addition to the school day; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles recognizes January as National Mentoring Month in an effort to raise awareness about mentoring;

Resolved further, That the Board encourages members of the community to become mentors by connecting through the District's Beyond the Bell Division, the Partnerships and Adopt-A-School Office and community-based organization's online resources;

Resolved further, that the Superintendent or his designee works closely with school-site administrators, external organizations, the Mayor's Office, and City Council, to increase the number of school-based mentoring opportunities and to integrate offsite mentoring programs into the schools where possible;

Resolved further, That the Board directs the Superintendent to charge local district directors to work with school-sites to help facilitate an increased number of school-based mentoring programs; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board directs the Superintendent to provide secondary schools that are reorganizing into Small Learning Communities with opportunities to partner with mentoring organizations or businesses that would support SLC goals in order to facilitate increased mentoring opportunities.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

Mr. Lansing moved that the recommended disposition of the items of correspondence as indicated in the report be approved. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lansing moved the approval of the Special, December 15, 2005, 10:30 a.m. minutes of the governing board of the Los Angeles Unified School District. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

President Canter resumed the Order of Business.

RECEIPT OF REPORTS FOR ACTION AT NEXT BOARD MEETING (Continued)

Board of Education Report No. 216 – 05/06 – Revocation of Renaissance Academy Charter High School Charter: Assigned to Regular Calendar on January 24, 2006.

At the request of President Canter, Mr. Greg McNair of the Charter School Office clarified that parents and the community of the Renaissance Academy Charter High School will be notified that the Board will be considering the revocation of the charter at the next Board meeting, and that assistance will be provided by the Charter School Office if there are questions or concerns.

Mr. Tokofsky excused himself from the meeting during the consideration of Board of Education Report No. 160 – 05/06.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 160 – 05/06
Amendment to Preferences Set Forth in the Animo Venice Charter High School Charter

Mr. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lansing seconded the motion.

Mr. McNair responded to questions from Board Members.

On roll call, the report was adopted 4 ayes, 1 no, Ms. LaMotte. Mr. Tokofsky was absent.

The Board recessed at 3:19 p.m. and reconvened at 4:23 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Ms. Korenstein, Ms. LaMotte, Mr. Lauritzen, Mr. Tokofsky, and President Canter.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REVISED REPORT NO. 168 – 05/06
Approval of Agreements and Amendments

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Korenstein was absent.

President Canter modified the Order of Business.

BOARD MEMBERS RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

ACTION

The following speakers addressed the Board regarding Ms. LaMotte’s motion to Ensure that the Path to Leadership Within LAUSD’s Management Structure is Visibly Open to Talented and Qualified Individuals of Every Race and Ethnicity:

Mr. Celes King representing King Central Self Development

Dr. Lawson Bush representing Tehuti Educational Consortium

Mr. Unai Montes-Irueste

Mr. Marvin Arias and Mr. Clayton Pucket in place of Mr. José País

Ms. Luz Morales and Ms. Sandra Lewis

Mr. Miguel Noh and Mr. Joe Flores

Mr. Raul Preciado

Dr. Anthony Samad and Mr. Jimmy Valentine

Ms. Yesenia Lopez

Mr. Kiyo Fukumoto

Superintendent Romer requested that Mr. Justo Avila, Administrative Coordinator, Certificated Personnel Services Branch, provided information regarding diversity throughout the District from the school to administrative levels and colleges throughout the state.

Superintendent Romer, Mr. Avila, Mr. Kevin Reed, General Counsel, and Ms. Maribel Medina, Special Counsel to the Board, responded to questions from Board Members.

Ms. LaMotte moved:

Whereas, The Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution and the California Constitution both mandate equal protection and equal opportunities of all individuals regardless of race or ethnicity;

Whereas, Public education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments and the very foundation of good citizenship;

Whereas, Today, education is a principal instrument in awakening children to cultural value, in preparing children for later professional training, and in helping children adjust normally to their environment;

Whereas, The resident population of Los Angeles Unified School District is more than 50 percent minority and the District's student population is more than 90 percent combined minority;

Whereas, Los Angeles County is home to some of the world's most renown educational institutions such as the University of California Los Angeles, University of Southern California, Loyola Marymount University, and the California State Colleges that graduate qualified administrators of all races and ethnicities;

Whereas, The senior staff of the District play a critical role in advising the Superintendent and ultimately the Board of Education on educational teaching techniques, implement educational programs, and often represent the District in its dealings with the community;

Whereas, A more diverse management team would greatly enhance educational planning and strategies based upon its unique understanding of the diverse life experiences of students in the District;

Whereas, The Board of Education is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all students perform at a high level and this can only be accomplished utilizing the skills of the best and brightest District staff;

Whereas, Assuring that employment and promotion opportunities in the second largest school district in the country are transparent, open and available to all segments of American society, including people of all races and ethnicities, represents an objective which should be paramount to this District;

Whereas, Students who attend Board meetings or view those meetings on television and see and hear the people identified by the District as its best educators and managers must have role models who demonstrate that leaders come from all races, ethnicities, genders and backgrounds;

Whereas, The California Education Code has charged the governing Board of the District with the duty of hiring qualified District employees, including Superintendents, committed to upholding the Equal Protection Clauses of both the California and the United States Constitutions;

Whereas, The Board has relied on the Superintendent's good faith efforts to hire and promote individuals of all races and ethnicities and during his tenure not one certificated African or Asian American male has been promoted above the level of local district director;

Whereas, The District must lead by example to cultivate a diverse work force, including senior management positions, that promotes cross-racial understanding and helps break down negative stereotypes; and

Whereas, The stakeholders of this District, including students, staff, teachers and administrators, must have confidence in the openness and integrity of the District's leadership and of the process by which those leaders are selected; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That for all of the foregoing reasons, the District has a compelling educational and governmental interest in a diverse work force at all levels, and particularly at the most senior levels, of the District management structure;

Resolved further, That this motion does not call for quotas or any fixed number or percentage, but does require a goal of diversity be attained through good faith efforts in filling vacancies in senior management positions;

Resolved further, That within 30 days of the adoption of this motion, the Superintendent deliver to the Board a plan that will enable the District's senior staff to reflect the diversity that characterizes the community and students that the District serves;

Resolved further, That the plan provide for an individualized assessment of candidates for senior staff positions where race and ethnicity are taken into consideration along with other elements of diversity in a flexible, non-mechanical way, and where an individual's race or ethnicity is not the predominant factor; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District will review the plan annually to consider any adjustments and to assess its continuing vitality.

Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

Mr. Lansing moved the following amendments to the third and fourth "Resolved," which were accepted as friendly:

Resolved further, That within 60 days of the adoption of this motion, the Superintendent deliver to the Board a plan that will enable the District's certificated senior staff to reflect the diversity that characterizes the community and students that the District serves;

Resolved further, That the plan provide for an individualized assessment of candidates for certificated senior staff positions where race and ethnicity are taken into consideration along with other elements of diversity in a flexible, non-mechanical way, and where an individual's race or ethnicity is not the predominant factor; and be it finally

By general consent, the motion was adopted.

The final "resolves" are as follows:

Resolved, That for all of the foregoing reasons, the District has a compelling educational and governmental interest in a diverse work force at all levels, and particularly at the most senior levels, of the District management structure;

Resolved further, That this motion does not call for quotas or any fixed number or percentage, but does require a goal of diversity be attained through good faith efforts in filling vacancies in senior management positions;

Resolved further, That within 60 days of the adoption of this motion, the Superintendent deliver to the Board a plan that will enable the District's certificated senior staff to reflect the diversity that characterizes the community and students that the District serves;

Resolved further, That the plan provide for an individualized assessment of candidates for certificated senior staff positions where race and ethnicity are taken into consideration along with other elements of diversity in a flexible, non-mechanical way, and where an individual's race or ethnicity is not the predominant factor; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District will review the plan annually to consider any adjustments and to assess its continuing vitality.

President Canter resumed the Order of Business.

DIRECTS (Continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 205 – 05/06 (Direct)
Approval of Routine Personnel Actions

Mr. Benny Bernal addressed the Board regarding the report.

Mr. Lauritzen moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion.

Mr. Robert Fisher, Assistant Director, Employee Services/Relations Section, and Ms. Anita Ford, Personnel Director of the Personnel Commission, responded to questions from Board Members.

On roll call, the report was adopted, 5 ayes. Ms. Korenstein was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 207 – 05/06 (Direct)
Liability Insurance Claims

Ms. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

Mr. David Dizenfeld was given the opportunity to address the Board regarding the report.

Mr. David Holmquist, Director of Risk Management and Insurance Services, and Ms. Medina responded to questions from Board Members.

By general consent, the report was adopted. Ms. Korenstein and Mr. Lansing were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Ms. Elena Arias	Parent Involvement
Ms. Laura Flores	Parent Involvement
Ms. Petra Villanueva	Parent Involvement
Mr. Alex Kenefick	Bike Racks
Mr. Davy McClay and Ms. Velasquez	Mayor v. LAUSD
Mr. Adrian Fercu	His Dismissal from North Hollywood High School
Ms. Ivonne Cruz	Euclid Elementary School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Lauritzen moved:

That special Board Meetings be called for 10 a.m., January 26, at the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and at 10 a.m., on January 31, in the Board Room.

Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Korenstein and Mr. Lansing were absent

Mr. Lauritzen announced:

The January 26, 2006, meeting of the Select Committee on CAHSEE, A-G Requirements, Graduation Rates has been cancelled.

Mr. Tokofsky announced:

There will be a Special Committee of the Whole meeting in the Board Room at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 2006, regarding School Design.

Ms. LaMotte moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mr. Rashad Ali, student at Manual Arts High School, Mr. John Liechty, Associate Superintendent, and Ms. Flora Cole, Community Activist and Parent Organizer. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Korenstein and Mr. Lansing were absent.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: April 25, 2006

MARLENE CANTER
PRESIDENT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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