

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
1:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 10, 2009

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, February 10, 2009, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

President Mónica García called the meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

The following Members were present: Ms. Tamar Galatzan, Ms. Julie Korenstein, Ms. Marguerite P. LaMotte, Dr. Richard Vladovic, and President Mónica García. Ms. Marlene Canter and Ms. Yolie Flores Aguilar arrived at 1:21 p.m. and 1:18 p.m., respectively.

Superintendent Ramon Cortines was present.

Dr. Vladovic led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Dr. James Morris, Chief of Staff, welcomed the students to the Board.

The following students shared their experiences in Washington, D.C., while attending the inauguration of President Barack Obama:

Ms. Asia Taylor, Foshay Learning Center
Ms. Chanel Hall, Foshay Learning Center
Mr. Alistair McMillan, Carthay Elementary Center
Ms. Stephanie Calix, Canoga Park High School (presented a documentary entitled "My First Vote")
Ms. Jessica Bercow, Lawrence Middle School
Mr. Nasser Baker, Kipp Academy of Opportunity
Ms. Alexis Mann, Kipp Academy of Opportunity
Ms. Kayla Fontineau, Kipp Academy of Opportunity
Mr. Michael Solomon, Millikan Middle School and Performing Arts Magnet
Mr. Joseph Victorian, Millikan Middle School and Performing Arts Magnet
Mr. Trevor Vincent, Millikan Middle School and Performing Arts Magnet
Mr. Stone Spelman, Millikan Middle School and Performing Arts Magnet
Ms. Avigayil Finley, Millikan Middle School and Performing Arts Magnet
Mr. Joseph Gonzalez, Maywood Academy High School

Ms. Flores Aguilar also shared her experiences.

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President García modified the Order of Business.
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BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTION FOR ACTION

Ms. Korenstein moved the following resolution in Celebration of Black History Month 2009:

Whereas, Black History Month is a national tradition originally established in 1976 in response to the inadequate and oftentimes biased depiction of black history and African American communities in history books and schools curricula of the era;

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District stated that the academic performance of African American students demands urgent action by the District;

Whereas, Current research supports the effectiveness of a culturally relevant educational approach to engaging and motivating higher academic performance in low-achieving students;

Whereas, Black History Month is a vehicle to promote cultural relevance in our schools and offers an excellent opportunity to focus the energy, attention, commitment, and action of the entire educational community on closing the achievement gap for African American students;

Whereas, We celebrate the election of this country's first African American President, Barack Obama, and are reminded that our nation is now stronger and more hopeful because he has opened the doors for a new generation of leaders; and

Whereas, Black History Month is an opportunity for all students in the District to enrich their educational experience and to deepen their understanding of American history; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes February as Black History Month; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board directs the Superintendent to work with all schools of the District to recognize and celebrate Black History Month through culturally relevant activities and through in-depth discussions of historically relevant topics.

Ms. Galatza seconded the motion.

Mr. Dan Alba from the District's Human Relations Council addressed the Board.

After discussion and by general consent, the resolution was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 242 – 08/09 Approval to Purchase and Install Photovoltaic Solar Panel Arrays at Eight Los Angeles Unified School District Sites

The following speakers addressed the Board on the report:

Ms. Pam Hamashita, Canoga Park High School
Mr. Bill Ring

This item was held open until later in the meeting.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Joseph Parfrey, Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters, addressed the Board on the report.

Mr. Randy Britt, Director, Sustainability Initiatives Unit, Facilities Services Division, and Superintendent Cortines responded to questions from Board Members regarding energy conservation funds, identification of schools, solar film, installation training, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power funding, options, timelines, and Department of State Architect approval.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

President García resumed the Order of Business.

INSTRUCTIONAL ITEMS

ENGLISH LEARNERS UPDATE

Opening remarks and an overview of the presentation were delivered by Dr. Judy Elliott, Chief Academic Officer. She also introduced Ms. Mary Campbell, Administrator, Language Acquisition Branch.

Ms. Campbell began the presentation summarizing student achievement data. In order for the District to exit Program Improvement, all subgroups must meet the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) indicators in English Language Arts and math. Annual progress for English Learners is measured by Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO). The District did not meet these targets.

She discussed collaborative data analysis and instructional planning. She reviewed the roles of the Local District Superintendents and Central Offices in the development of an action plan.

Ms. Campbell concluded the presentation with a discussion of next steps.

Ms. Campbell and Dr. Elliott responded to questions from Board Members regarding content areas, instructional delivery, best practices, strategy, prioritization, resources, tracking of students, instructional needs, agenda items, disaggregated data, No Child Left Behind, accountability, and redesignation.

NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION (continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 225 – 08/09
Project Approval for Central Region Early Education Center No. 2

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Galatzan seconded the motion.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the report:

Ms. Maria Leon
Ms. Maria Dominguez
Ms. Esther Rosas

By general consent, the report was adopted. Ms. Canter was absent.

President García modified the Order of Business.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 228 – 08/09
Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed
South Region Elementary School No. 9 Project

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Galatzan seconded the motion.

Ms. Alejandra Muñoz addressed the Board on the report.

Mr. Rod Hamilton, Regional Development Manager, and Mr. Tom Watson, Office of Environmental Health and Safety Consultant, responded to questions from Board Members regarding relief of schools, paying for median, electrical transformers, and mitigation measures.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted. Ms. Canter was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 232 – 08/09
Approval of the Relocation Plan for South Region Elementary School No. 9

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 229 – 08/09
Project Approval for South Region Elementary School No. 9

Dr. Vladovic moved that the reports be adopted. Ms. Flores Aguilar seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Canter was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 230 – 08/09
Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed
South Region Elementary School No. 10 Project

Ms. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Galatzan seconded the motion.

Mr. Omar Spry addressed the Board on the report.

Mr. Hamilton responded to questions from Board Members regarding the revised rendering with elevations.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted. Ms. Canter was absent.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 231 – 08/09
Project Approval for South Region Elementary School No. 10

Ms. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion.

Mr. Hamilton responded to questions from Board Members regarding asphalt and grass areas.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 233 – 08/09
Approval of Charter for Nueva Esperanza Charter Academy

Ms. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion.

Ms. Berta Orrostieta addressed the Board on the report.

Drs. Ref Rodriguez and Jacqueline Elliott, Co-Chief Executive Officers and Co-Founders, Partnership to Uplift Communities Schools (PUC), responded to questions from Board Members regarding accessibility for all students.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 234 – 08/09
Approval of Charter for Santa Rosa Charter Academy

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 235 – 08/09
Agreements and Amendments

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion.

Mr. David Wyles addressed the Board on the report.

Ms. Roberta Fesler, General Counsel, and Dr. James Morris, Chief of Staff to the Superintendent, responded to questions from Board Members regarding outside legal counsel, budget, in-house staff, and financial responsibility.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted. Ms. Galatzan was absent.

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President García resumed the Order of Business.
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BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 226 – 08/09
Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed
Central Region Elementary School No. 22 Project

The following speakers addressed the Board on Board of Education Report Nos. 226 – 08/09 and 227 – 08/09:

Mr. Jim Kennedy, Office of City Councilman Bill Rosendahl
Ms. Christine Corley
Mr. Stephan Zeitoun
Ms. Linda Weber
Ms. Diana Duque-Miranda
Ms. Mary Taylor
Mr. Steve Soboroff
Sweet Alice Harris
Mr. Steve Donell
Mr. Joseph Harbouk, Loyola Marymount University
Dr. Irene Oliver, Loyola Marymount University
Ms. Kathy Knight, Sierra Club & Ballona Ecosystem Education Project
Ms. Patricia McPherson, Grassroots Coalition
Mr. Terry Marcellus, Westchester Playa Neighborhood Council
Mr. Ernest Roberts, PV Jobs
Ms. Irene Camarena
Ms. Patricia Sinclair, Playa Capital Company
Ms. Gwen Vuchsas

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Galatzan seconded the motion.

Ms. Yi Hwa Kim, Director, Environmental Health and Safety, Mr. Edwin Van Ginkel, Senior Development Manager, New Construction, Ms. Rena Perez, Director, Master Planning Demographics, Mr. Watson, and Superintendent Cortines responded to questions from Board Members regarding environmental concerns, demographic projections, enrollment in District schools, growth rates, methane levels, mitigation measures, equipment monitoring and maintenance, land donation, Department of Toxic Substance Control approval, mitigation measures, maintenance costs, magnet schools, declining enrollment, and reconciliation of data.

After discussion and on roll call, the report was adopted, 4 ayes, 1 no, Ms. LaMotte, and 2 abstentions, Ms. Korenstein and Dr. Vladovic.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 227 – 08/09

Project Approval and Authorization to Accept Dedication of the Proposed Project Site from Playa Capital Company, LLC, for Central Region Elementary School No. 22

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted with an amendment to add the following recommendation:

That the school will have a magnet component if the community demographics do not meet projections.

Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Mr. John Anderson, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, responded to questions from Board Members regarding tsunami zone mitigation measures.

After discussion and on roll call, the report was adopted as amended, 4 ayes, 3 abstentions, Ms. Korenstein, Ms. LaMotte, and Dr. Vladovic.

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President García modified the Order of Business.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Ms. Cleo Ray	African American Students
Ms. Zella Knight	Parental Involvement
Mr. Walter Waddles Richardson	Parental Involvement
Ms. Lorena Jaramillo	Education
Mr. Andy Vizcara	Education
Ms. Maria Ortiz	Franklin HS
Mr. Oliver Garcia	Energy Conservation
Ms. Anna Zamora	Closing of Sellery Moore Special Education Center
Ms. Jacqueline Smith-Conkleton	Parental Involvement

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President García resumed the Order of Business.

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NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION (continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 237 – 08/09

Various Purchasing Transactions

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted with an amendment to withdraw the contract for cleaning supply purchases. Ms. Canter seconded the motion.

Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager, responded to questions from Board Members regarding greening of cleaning supplies, school bus fuel, and matching funds.

After discussion and on roll call, the report was adopted as amended unanimously, 7 ayes.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 236 – 08/09
Provisional Internship Permits

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 239 – 08/09
Routine Personnel Actions

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 240 – 08/09
Nonroutine Personnel Actions

Ms. Canter moved that the reports be adopted with an amendment to Board of Education Report No. 239 – 08/09 to include a 4214 appointment and increasing the number of actions to 1,452. Ms. Flores Aguilar seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted, with Board of Education Report No. 239 – 08/09 being adopted as amended.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 238 – 08/09
Early Intervention for School Success (EISS) Professional Learning Communities Grant

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 241 – 08/09
Student Expulsions

Ms. Galatzan moved that the report be adopted with the amendment to change the recommendation for Case No. 015A to deny enrollment. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Superintendent Cortines responded to questions from Board Members regarding the amendment.

After discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted as amended.

MOTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

CERTIFICATION OF MEASURE Q RESULTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

This item was withdrawn.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

Ms. Korenstein moved that the recommended disposition of the items of correspondence as indicated in the Report of Correspondence be approved. Ms. Flores Aguilar seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President García announced that the February 19, 2009, Ad Hoc Committee meeting has been canceled.

Dr. Vladovic announced that there will be a Committee of the Whole – Audit Business and Technology Committee meeting on February 19, 2009, at 2 p.m. in the Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mr. Andres Bermudez, “The Tomato King.” Ms. García seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: April 28, 2009

MONICA GARCIA
PRESIDENT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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