

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room  
10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 13, 2020

**Committee Members**

Ms. Kelly Gonez, Chairperson  
Mr. Nick Melvoin, Board Member

**District Members**

Dr. Dean Tagawa, Early Childhood Education  
Division  
Ms. Martha Borquez, Local District Northeast  
Ms. Devora Navera Reed, Office of General  
Counsel

**External Representatives**

Ms. Kim Pattillo Brownson, First 5 LA  
Ms. Lisa Salazar, Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Mr. Max Arias, SEIU Local 99  
Ms. Stacy Lee, Children Now  
Ms. Elsa Jacobsen, Child360  
Ms. Carolyne Crolotte, Early Edge California

**NOTES**

The meeting convened at 10:35 a.m.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee Chair Kelly Gonez welcomed everyone in attendance. Mr. Nick Melvoin, shared comments regarding the meeting's agenda and his plan to visit Kentwood Early Education Center. Ms. Gonez shared her experience visiting an Expanded Transitional Kindergarten classroom at Fair Avenue Elementary. She highlighted the items on the agenda and introduced Ms. Colleen Pagter, Legislative Liaison, Office of Government Relations, to discuss the Governor's budget proposal.

**GOVERNOR'S JANUARY BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020**  
**ADOPTED LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Ms. Pagter announced the Board adopted the Government Relations legislative priorities and legislative guiding principles on December 3, 2019. She highlighted two of the legislative priorities related to early education. One being the summer babies' proposal, which would allow districts to enroll students who turn five in July and August in Expanded Transitional Kindergarten, and the second is the mandatory Kindergarten proposal which would make Kindergarten mandatory. Authors are currently working on the two bills.

Ms. Pagter briefly reviewed the budget process and timeline. She discussed some of the Governor's budget proposals related to early education such as the establishment of the

Department of Early Childhood Development under the California Health and Human Services Agency and the development of the Adverse Childhood Experience Cross-Sector Training Program. In addition, she discussed the special education proposal such as the \$250 million ongoing funds for children ages 3 to 5 with exceptional needs, and \$75 million for the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program.

Ms. Pagter responded to questions and concerns from committee members. In reference to the proposal for mandatory Kindergarten, Mr. Melvoin asked how many of the District's first graders had attended Kindergarten. Ms. Pagter said she would research and provide the information at a later time.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

Dr. Dean Tagawa, Executive Director, Early Childhood Education Division, commented about his morning visit at Locke Early Education Center and discussed Preschool Collaborative Classrooms. He spoke about the upcoming grand opening of a sensory garden at Gates Early Education Center and he also mentioned an upcoming partnership meeting where staff will explore the Division's existing relationships with outside partners and the professional development components. He stated the professional development trainings provided to early education teachers are also provided to early education principals. In addition he discussed upcoming events and trainings held at various Early Education Centers (EEC). He discussed the effectiveness of professional development and spoke of the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), a third party evaluation. Within the QRIS, staff evaluates the EEC's. He briefly reviewed the elements for the rating process and highlighted the District's score from 2014-15 to 2019-20. Schools for 2019-20 are still going through the review process.

Dr. Tagawa responded to questions from committee members regarding professional development, paid trainings, the QRIS, and Sobrato Early Academic Language (SEAL) trainings. Committee members and external representatives discussed the SEAL trainings and the professional development offered by the District.

Dr. Tagawa introduced Dr. Blair Paley and Ms. Jolie Delja from the Nathanson Family Resilience Center, UCLA Geffen School of Medicine, to discuss the Strategies for Enhancing Early Developmental Success (SEEDS) training and its modules. Dr. Paley discussed their work in partnership with the District and the Department of Mental Health to support the youngest learners in the District and their families. SEEDS training offers trauma informed programs for early childhood professionals and for families. The goal is to help promote family school readiness. The trauma informed programs for the early childhood professionals and for families are multi session models. The idea is to provide opportunities for the participants to build relationships with one another.

Ms. Delja stated SEEDS is a set of practices, it is not a curriculum. SEEDS is play based and helps to create connections between people. In addition, SEEDS helps to promote workforce wellbeing. Ms. Delja discussed the importance of play and why it is so powerful in SEEDS.

Dr. Tagawa, Dr. Paley and Ms. Delja responded to comments and questions from committee members regarding SEEDS training for Community Representatives at Early Education Centers, children with challenging behaviors or mental health disabilities that have not been diagnosed, and financing for SEEDS. The committee members and representatives shared comments regarding the SEEDS training and data.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public speakers to address the committee.

#### CLOSING REMARKS

Ms. Gonez presented the following discussion questions to the committee:

For early educators, what professional development and trainings would best support your work in the classroom?

Because of the teacher shortage, what can we do in terms of building the pipeline for early childhood educators here in Los Angeles?

Committee members and external representatives shared remarks in response to the discussion questions.

Ms. Gonez announced the next Early Childhood Education Committee meeting will be Thursday, April 23, 2020, and the Legislative Advocacy Committee meeting will be Thursday, March 19, 2020.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gonez adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.

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Materials related to an item on this Agenda distributed to the Board of Education are available for public inspection at: <http://laschoolboard.org/02-13-20LAEE>.