

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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

United Way
523 West 6th Street, First Floor, Pacific Club, Suite 100
Los Angeles, CA
10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 4, 2010

The Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District, met in special session on Thursday, March 4, 2010, at United Way, 523 West 6th Street, Pacific Club Room, Los Angeles, California.

President Mónica García called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

The following Members were present: Ms. Tamar Galatzan, Ms. Nury Martinez, Dr. Richard Vladovic, Mr. Steve Zimmer, and President Mónica García. Ms. Yolie Flores arrived at 10:15 a.m. Ms. Marguerite P. LaMotte was absent.

Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines was present.

Dr. Vladovic led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Ms. Myrna Castrejon, California Charter School Association
Mr. Bill Ring, Parent
Ms. Zella Knight, Parent

Open Session

Ms. García called upon Ms. Megan Reilly, Chief Financial Officer, to begin the presentation on the Budget. Ms. Reilly distributed a document titled “Sharing Solutions to Close LAUSD’S \$640 Million Budget Gap”. Ms. Reilly reviewed the material contained in the document and how she arrived at the figures included. She spoke specifically on the possibility of reducing the number of instructional days. She emphasized the cuts the Superintendent is working to prevent and what programs he is trying to restore.

The Superintendent arrived at 10:30.

Board Members discussed the issue of revenue enhancement including advertising on campus, and the reauthorization of IDEA. Dr. Vladovic discussed specific amounts for cuts that would allow for the budget to be balanced.

The Superintendent was asked to determine any and all funds that the General Fund may be prefunding, anticipating alternative revenue, that could be curtailed now and restarted in the future. There was discussion regarding the unequal funding of schools and the ultimate resolution of the Rodriquez Consent Decree. Board Members asked for a future meeting related just to this topic.

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At 11:36 a.m., the Board Recessed the public portion of the
Special Board Meeting to convene the Closed Session.
Closed Session discussion began at 11:40 a.m. and ended at 12:00 p.m.
Ms. LaMotte was absent during the closed portion of the meeting.
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The Board reconvened the public portion of the Special Board meeting at 12:13 p.m. The following Members were present: Ms. Yolie Flores, Ms. Tamar Galatzan, Ms. Nury Martinez, Dr. Richard Vladovic, Mr. Steve Zimmer, and President Mónica García. Ms. Marguerite P. LaMotte was absent.

Mr. Crain announced there were no reportable actions, taken by the Board, as a result of the closed session discussion.

Ms. García introduced Karen Polacheck and Carl Cohn to lead the Board of Education in a discussion of vision elements and core values and how to align these with the District's efforts.

Mr. Cohn began the discussion speaking about the relation between the budget cuts and the Board's vision. Board Members gave several connections to choices they have made and the budget.

Mr. Cohn said one definition of a leader is someone who is able to take people somewhere that they would not ordinarily go. Ms. Polacheck added that sometimes in crisis is found opportunity.

Ms. Polacheck said that she and Mr. Cohn would work to take the "dreams" expressed by the Board at the meeting and match them with the vision elements to try to capture what was said today. The goal is for the Board to buy in and be able to communicate the District vision. The meeting ended with Ms. Polacheck assigning homework to be done prior to the group meeting again. She asked for the Board Members to start thinking about how the Board can communicate the message that the District decisions are being made for the best interests of children.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Vladovic moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Flores seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. LaMotte and Ms. Galatzan were absent.

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: **May 11, 2010**

MONICA GARCIA
PRESIDENT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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