

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

SCHOOL SAFETY, STUDENT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room  
10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 12, 2009

Committee Members

Julie Korenstein, Chair  
Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte

External Representatives

Inola F. Henry, United Teachers Los Angeles  
Lawrence Jarmon, Community Representative  
Neal Kleiner, Associated Administrators  
of Los Angeles  
Diana Dixon Davis, 31<sup>st</sup> District PTSA  
Zella Knight, Parent Representative  
Paul Vinetz, L.A. County Probation Department  
Hattie McFrazier, United Teachers Los Angeles

District Staff Members

Dave Holmquist, Chief Operating Officer  
Earl Perkins, Assistant Superintendent School Operations  
Lawrence Manion, Chief, Los Angeles School Police  
Yi Hwa Kim, Interim Director  
Office of Environmental Health and Safety  
Rene Gonzalez, Assistant Superintendent  
Student Health and Human Services  
Hector Madrigal, Director, Pupil Services

Board Secretariat Contact

Noemi Fernandez (213) 241-7002  
E-mail: [noemi.fernandez@lausd.net](mailto:noemi.fernandez@lausd.net)

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The meeting convened at 10:12 a.m.  
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OPENING REMARKS

Chair Julie Korenstein made brief remarks and introduced the first item to be discussed.

UPDATE ON LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Mr. Neil Gamble, Director, Maintenance and Operations Branch, provided a brief update on lead in drinking water. He discussed concerns and challenges, actions taken, and provided recommendations. He noted that the goal of his office is to eliminate lead in drinking water above the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level requirement. He highlighted that in 1988, the District tested approximately 2,865 water fountains at 112 school sites. The findings showed that 12% of the drinking water taps were above the action level. At the time, the District instituted the flushing policy of running the faucet for 30 seconds prior to first use of the day. In 1999, a follow-up study was conducted and the findings showed that flushing effectively reduced lead levels below the action level established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition, the findings indicated that elevated action levels exist in water fountains and water faucets; the suspected sources include brass fixtures, lead solder, and water meters. Maintenance and Operation Branch instituted a multi-phase program to address these concerns.

The first phase of the multi-phase program was designed to identify where elevated action levels exist; conduct comprehensive testing of all potable water outlets; map test results at each school; and post test results by school on the OEHS website. Mr. Gamble informed the Committee that sampling of water taps began in November 8, 2008, and will be completed by April 1, 2009.

Mr. Gamble noted that:

- 128,000 samples were drawn,
- Testing of approximately 720 schools was completed,
- Only 14% of fountains had elevated action levels, and approximately 3% must be shut off.

In addition, he provided a list of possible corrective actions, which include replacing bubbler and associated feed piping with non-brass alternatives, replacing other brass fittings (valves, meters), epoxy coatings, and removing fountains or faucets. He also stated that random sampling will continue to ensure that levels remain below Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action levels.

Mr. Gamble responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

Chair Korenstein raised concerns regarding the removal of fountains in the classroom and shutting down water fountains in schools.

### SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Mr. Randy Britt, Director, Sustainability Initiatives Unit, Facilities Services Division, made an in-depth presentation on the sustainability plan indicating that last year a Steering Group was created, headed by the Chief Facilities Executive, Chief Operating Officer, and the Chief Academic Officer. In addition, Working Groups were also created to develop and generate ideas and projects to bring forward to the Steering Group for review and approval. The groups were composed of expert staff on areas, such as, facilities, workforce development programs, regulatory affairs, communications, environmental, health and safety, transportation, procurement, food services, and academics.

Each Working Group generated their goals, strategies, metrics, and recommended funding sources. For example, the AB 32 Working Group's goal is to reduce the District's Carbon footprint by 10% by 2012; the strategies to implement include energy conservation, renewable energy installations, and encourage carpooling and mass transit. The potential funding sources include Measure Q Bond and the Air Quality Management District (AQMD).

The Transportation Working Group's goal is to maximize fuel consumption reduction and alternative fuel opportunities. The funding sources recommended are from Measure Q Bond and external grant funds. Some of the strategies include:

- Utilization of enhanced bus routing software, resulting in increased efficiency and lower emissions;
- Vehicle life cycle planning, introducing alternatively fueled vehicles as older vehicles are replaced, such as, moving out diesel buses and replacing with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG);
- Reducing and reusing transportation waste by continuing to recycle, and increasing efforts when possible;
- Using Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), and propane (also known as liquefied petroleum gas) for fuel;
- Conducting bio-diesel pilot study on heavy-duty diesel buses and trucks; and
- Utilizing cleaner burning gasoline.

Mr. Britt provided a summary of each Working Group's goals, strategies, metrics, and funding sources recommendations.

Mr. Britt and Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager, Business Services, and Ms. Veronica Soto, Director, Contractor Relations and Small Business Program, responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

### NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager, Business Services, introduced Ms. Florence Simpson, Senior Supervisor, Food Services Branch, who made the presentation on National Nutrition Month. She noted that this is the second year that the District celebrates the National Nutrition Month. She highlighted that the month of March will focus on nutrition education and promoting healthy lifestyles for students. She illustrated the different activities and contests the students will be engaged throughout the month. Ms. Simpson acknowledged this year's partners: American Dietetic Association, Beyond the Bell, Nursing Services, School Operations, Network for a Healthy California-LAUSD, California Project LEAN, Employee Wellness, Physical Education, American Diabetes Association, and The Dairy Council of California.

Mr. Eugene, Mr. Barrett, Mr. and Ms. Simpson responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members. Committee Members had an in-depth discussion on this item.

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The meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m.  
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AGENDA

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| 1. Opening Remarks   | Julie Korenstein  | 5 min.  |
| 2. Update on Lead in Drinking Water  | Neil Gamble, Director<br>Maintenance and Operations   | 15 min. |
| 3. Sustainability Plan   | Randy Britt, Director<br>Sustainability Initiatives Unit<br>Facilities Services Division          | 20 min. |
| 4. National Nutrition Month  | Dennis Barrett, Director<br>Food Services<br>Florence Simpson, Senior Supervisor<br>Food Services | 20 min. |
| 5. Speakers – Persons who wish to address this Committee may sign-up at the meeting. |   |         |
| 6. Adjournment   |   |         |

*This Committee may consider and act upon motions, Board Reports, or other business referred to it by the Board of Education or Committee of the Whole, with respect to any properly posted matter at a meeting immediately preceding this committee meeting, where the time between that meeting and this committee meeting is less than 72 hours. Members of the public are encouraged to review the order of business or agenda for the meetings of the Board of Education or Committee of the Whole. For more information visit [www.laschoolboard.org](http://www.laschoolboard.org) -School Safety, Student Health and Human Services.*

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*Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations shall be made 24 hours prior to the meeting to the Board Secretariat at 333 S. Beaudry Ave., 24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017, or by calling (213) 241-7002 or toll free (877) 772-6273.*

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