

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 NOTES

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 3, 2008

Committee Members

Julie Korenstein, Chairperson
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, 31st District PTSA
Zella Knight, Parent Representative
Paul Vinetz, L.A. County Probation Department

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

Board Secretariat Contact

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OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Korenstein made brief opening remarks and announced the items to be discussed.

RECOGNITION OF DETECTIVE RAY JORDAN, LOS ANGELES SCHOOL POLICE

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

HOMELESS RESOURCES

Mr. Hector Madrigal, Director, Pupil Services Division, stated the purpose of the presentation, and provided a brief background of the Homeless Education Program. In addition, he briefly discussed the resources and services available to homeless students. Mr. Madrigal highlighted a few of the basic responsibilities of this program; such as identifying and tracking homeless youth; providing in-service training and technical assistance to school and community personnel; facilitating enrollment and equal access to all school programs and services; and informing parents and students of their educational rights and responsibilities.

Mr. Madrigal indicated that the District's student data shows 13,521 identified homeless students. Local District 7 has the largest number of homeless students, 2,229, followed by Local District 2 with 2,057. He also noted that 1,776 of the total number of homeless students are in the ninth grade; 9,780 are Hispanic; and 2,516 African-American. The Homeless Education Program provides assistance with enrollment, school supplies and transportation, tutoring and counseling. Ms. Melissa Schoonmaker, Pupil Services and Attendance Coordinator, briefly described the types of services offered to homeless students and their families; such as, transportation vouchers, tutoring, clothing, and emergency housing resources.

Mr. Madrigal and Ms. Schoonmaker responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

Committee Member Zella Knight stated that homeless families need the District's support in obtaining additional educational resources; such as, transportation, tutoring, and adult education; and she urged the Committee to propose a change of legislation for additional funding to meet the educational needs of homeless families.

Chairperson Korenstein supported Ms. Knight's recommendations, and urged the Committee to review and analyze the present situation of homeless families, especially children attending District's schools, to improve and provide better services related to transportation, school on wheels or tutoring, and adult education for parents. She asked Superintendent Brewer to support this initiative.

Superintendent Brewer noted that the District will support the educational component for homeless children and their families, but they will also need assistance in other areas. *He asked Mr. Madrigal to coordinate efforts with outside housing shelters and other agencies.*

Mr. Madrigal stated that his office will provide the Committee with a list of shelters presently cooperating with the District, and his office will meet with the Adult Education Division to review options. In addition, he mentioned that his office has unsuccessfully submitted numerous proposals to change legislation on this issue. *Chairperson Korenstein asked for a history of these legislation proposals.*

Mr. Rene Gonzalez, Assistant Superintendent, Student Health and Human Services, asked Mr. Madrigal to provide a report showing number of homeless children using District facilities, attending schools and taking public transportation, and number of homeless children the District provides transportation vouchers. Chairperson Korenstein asked Mr. Madrigal to include attendance rate.

Committee Member Marguerite LaMotte expressed her concerns about this issue and urged the Committee to support a change in legislation. *She proposed the formation of an Ad Hoc Task Force to analyze and address the needs of homeless families. She recommended inviting representatives from other agencies, the city, and the county to participate in this committee.*

SPEAKERS

Ms. Socorro Chacon, United Coalition Education; Ms. Janet Settles, School on Wheels; Ms. Rosemary Oliva, Coordinator, School on Wheels; and Mr. Bill Ring, District's Parent Collaborative Committee, supported the District and initiatives on this issue and the District's Homeless Education Program. In addition, Mr. Ring noted that the District has schools successfully running the Homeless Education Program; he recommended visiting these schools.

Ms. Holly Priebe-Diaz, Office of Human Relations Diversity and Equity, supported the Homeless Education Program and recommended that her office join the Ad Hoc Task Force Committee.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Chairperson Korenstein announced that the Committee requested an update on this item early in the year. She introduced Mr. Robert Cuen, Staff Counsel, Office of General Counsel. He presented a summary of child abuse reporting requirements, and noted that the District has approximately seven hundred thousand students; approximately twenty thousand child abuse reports are filed each year. Mr. Cuen stated that the

law requires all employees who have a reasonable suspicion of child abuse to file a report. He highlighted the main elements of the child abuse and neglect reporting requirements, and noted that all child abuse reports are confidential. Child abuse includes physical injuries, sexual abuse, neglect, and mental cruelty. Mr. Cuen mentioned that his office has on-going trainings for all school staff. To conclude his presentation, he stated that the child abuse report consists of a phone call to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or local law enforcement, immediately after receiving the information; and a written report mailed within 36 hours of receiving the information.

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)
3075 Wilshire Blvd., 5th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010
800-540-4000

LAPD Child Abuse Unit
150 N. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-485-4700

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

DISCIPLINE FOUNDATION POLICY

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

DISTRICT-WIDE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Mr. Earl Perkins, Assistant Superintendent, School Operations, and Mr. Paul Ishimaru, Chief Technical Director, ITD, and Connect-ED point person, presented a brief background and overview of the District-wide notification system, Connect-Ed, implementation plan, and stated that the system has three major components; general notification, attendance, and emergency communication. Mr. Ishimaru noted that his office will be completing training to approximately 75% of all school staff within a few months; and the system will be ready to rollout to all schools this year.

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

SPEAKER

Mr. Bill Ring, District's Parent Collaborative Committee, commented on this issue and asked the Committee to consider parents using the system to communicate with schools on different issues.

FOOD SERVICES BRANCH UPDATES – CAFETERIA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CMS)

Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager, noted that this item will be presented to the Board for approval on April 8, 2008. He noted that the Cafeteria Management System (CMS) has all the components needed to have a successful food service program, quality food, access to meals, and an efficient process. In addition, he briefly summarized and highlighted the main goals of the presentation, and stated that the Cafeteria Management System (CMS) will help to increase meal participation and relieve operational burden at school sites. This will be accomplished by implementing the point of sale technology system. Mr. Eugene indicated that Food Services Branch will continue to create capacity and access for all

students; however, he noted that there is still a gap, approximately, 75% of all students are eligible for free or reduced meals but the participation rate is under 40%. The Cafeteria Management System will reduce this gap, increase student participation, and relieve workload and food costs in schools. Mr. Eugene introduced Mr. Dennis Barrett, Director, Food Services Branch.

Mr. Barrett presented a short video clip outlining the main elements of the Cafeteria Management System. In addition, he noted that the overall cost of the project will be approximately \$43 million, of which \$10 million will be applied to software, implementation services, and annual maintenance services. He indicated that there will be an estimated annual benefit of \$17 million. He also discussed in detail the process and components of the system; such as, improving accuracy and increasing eligibility of meal application processing; eliminating meal tickets; recording student purchases; improving menus analysis; and reducing food costs. He stated that there will be mandatory training, surveys, testing, and constant feedback throughout the training and support process. Mr. Barrett mentioned that the expected full implementation timeline is approximately thirty months.

Mr. Dave Bailey, Director, Food Services Branch, presented a brief update on the food and menu improvements.

Mr. Eugene and Mr. Barrett responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Mr. Bill Ring, District's Parent Collaborative Committee, noted that the District has a Council Program for students focusing on conflict-resolution. This program focuses on teaching students about realities. In response to Mr. Ring's comments, *Chairperson Korenstein asked for this item to be included in the next meeting.*

Ms. Lydia Grant, parent, updated the Committee on several issues related to student safety; such as, the construction of a Home Depot which affects surrounding schools in the Sunland area. She indicated that Home Depot continued construction without notifying the District. In addition, she expressed concerns about issues at Mt. Gleason Middle School related to lead paint on the walls and traffic. She asked the Committee to look into these issues.

Mr. Clint Simmons expressed concerned about toxic substances to which students are exposed due to the Expo Line removing dirt in the areas surrounding Dorsey High School and Foshay Learning Center. He asked the Committee to follow up on this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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AGENDA

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| 1. Opening Remarks | Julie Korenstein | 5 min. |
| 2. Recognition of Detective Ray Jordan
Los Angeles School Police | Chief Larry Manion, LASPD | 5 min. |
| 3. Homeless Resources | Hector Madrigal, Pupil Services
Melissa Schoonmaker,
Homeless Education Program | 20 min. |
| 4. Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Requirements | Robert Cuen, Office of General Counsel | 20 min. |
| 5. Discipline Foundation Policy | Rene Gonzalez , Assistant Superintendent
Student Health and Human Services
Nancy Franklin , Coordinator
Behavior Support | 20 min. |
| 6. District-Wide Notification System | Earl Perkins, Assistant Superintendent
School Operations
Paul Ishimaru | 20 min. |
| 7. Food Service Branch Updates –
Cafeteria Management System | Laura Benavidez, Deputy Director
Food Services | 20 min. |
| 8. Speakers – Persons who wish to address this Committee may sign-up at the meeting. | | |
| 9. 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 -School Safety, Student Health and Human Services.

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