

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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 2nd Floor, Room 202
1:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 7, 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 Tuesday, September 7, 2010, at the Administrative Offices, 2nd Floor, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

President Mónica García called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

The following Members were present: Ms. Yolie Flores, Ms. Tamar Galatzan, Ms. Nury Martinez, Mr. Steve Zimmer, and President Mónica García. Ms. Marguerite P. LaMotte and Dr. Richard Vladovic arrived at 1:21 p.m.

Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines was present.

Open Session

President García commenced the Strategic Roadmap discussion by stating that, “We are what we have been waiting for”. She reiterated that the goal for the District is 100% graduation, Proficiency+ for all, 100% attendance, engaged parents and families, and safe schools. She stated that the objective of this special meeting is to agree on common language and understanding of the Strategic Roadmap by using existing practices as examples, share understanding of 1 year and 3 year objectives for each strategy, and reach a shared agreement on how the Board and District leadership teams will work together in 2010-11 to implement the Strategic Roadmap.

Mr. John Deasy, Deputy Superintendent, provided an overview of the Strategic Roadmap development. He stated that the roadmap focuses on the following four fundamental strategies to personalize learning for all students: (1) using data to drive standards based instruction, (2) supporting all employees, (3) budgeting for student achievement, and (4) creating and supporting quality schools.

Ms. Judy Elliott and Dr. Cynthia Lim defined Using Data to Drive Standards-Based Instruction as the use of data to drive standards-based, effective instruction for all students, coupled with support and intervention, when students need extra assistance or accelerated learning. Ms. Elliott identified the first and third year objectives of standard based instruction, specifically, the standards, assessments, reporting tools, and training and professional development.

Mr. Matt Hill, Administrative Officer, Office of the Superintendent, outlined the structure of the meeting. He indicated that after each presentation, the Board Members and staff would have the opportunity to break into small groups to discuss District strategies.

Group 1 would be led by Mr. Noah Bookman, Office of the Superintendent, the members of the group were: Ms. Galatzan, Ms. Martinez, Local District Superintendents Ms. Linda Del Cueto and Ms. Alma Pena-Sanchez, and other executive District staff.

Group 2 would be led by Mr. William Bass, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the members of the group were: Mr. Cortines, Dr. Deasy, Ms. García, Local District Superintendents Mr. Roberto Martinez and Dr. Dale Vigil, and other executive District staff.

Group 3 would be led by Dr. Drew Furedi, Office of the Superintendent, the members of the group were: Ms. LaMotte, Mr. Zimmer, Local District Superintendents, Mr. Gay Harvard and Dr. George McKenna III, and other executive District staff.

Group 4 would be led by Ms. Rachel Bonkovsky, the members of the group were: Ms. Flores, Dr. Vladovic, Local District Superintendents Ms. Rowena Lagrosa and Mr. Michael Romero, and other District staff.

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At 1:43 p.m. Board Members and staff met in the small groups.

At 2:25 p.m. the whole group reassembled.

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Mr. Hill introduced Ms. Sharon Robinson, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, who discussed the Creating and Supporting Quality Schools Strategy. She stated that Creating and Supporting Quality Schools means analyzing multiple data points to differentiate and align efforts to ensure schools deliver high quality education to all students; in addition to capturing and sharing effective practices across all of our schools regardless of school models. Mr. Hill discussed the one and three year objectives for differentiated support, personalization, accountability, public school choice, and sharing effective practices for quality schools.

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At 2:44 p.m. Board Members and staff met in the small groups.

At 3:29 p.m. the whole group reassembled.

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Ms. Vivian Ekchian, Chief Human Resource Officer defined the strategy of Supporting All Employees as the use of data to personalize the support that all District employees need to serve students, from professional development and training, to creating measureable performance goals. Ms. Ann Young-Havens, Interim Personnel Director, discussed the employee development cycle for certificated and classified employees.

Ms. Ekchian stated that to have world class leaders the District must first train them and meet their professional development needs. Ms. Ekchian discussed career stages and the aligned and supportive infrastructure of both certificated and classified employees.

Ms. Young-Havens stated that the Personnel Commission is dedicated to identifying effective practices around pay for performance for classified management employees, supporting the existing certificate and mentor program for School Administrative Assistants, and supporting on-site degree programs for classified staff.

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At 3:44 p.m. Board Members and staff met in the small groups.

At 4:20 p.m. the whole group reassembled.
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Ms. Megan Reilly, Chief Financial Officer defined the Budgeting for Student Achievement strategy as the making of the budget process more transparent, aligning resources for greater impact and equity and giving schools the ability to target resources to meet their school needs, bringing funding and decision-making closer to schools and classrooms. She stated the four key areas to a transparent budget are transparency, flexibility, accountability and support, and equity.

Mr. Chris Downing, Administrator, School, Family and Parent Community Services, highlighted the School Site Council training video in partnership with UTLA, AALA, and parent groups. The video focused on using student data to develop budgets.

Ms. Reilly and Mr. Downing concluded their presentations by discussing the one and two year goals for transparency, flexibility, support and accountability, and equity.

Superintendent Cortines modified the structure of the meeting and asked that the group not break into small groups and continue with the staff presentations.

Dr. Vigil discussed demographics at Franklin High School and at the Los Angeles High School of Arts. He answered questions regarding school size and training of Local District staff.

Mr. Downing and Superintendent Cortines discussed upcoming trainings.

President García thanked all present for taking the time to attend and for taking on a new challenge. She shared a quote from Mr. Mark Gerzon that she learned in her small group, "Learning requires that we embrace the possibility that we will know something at the end of the day that we did not know when we awoke that morning, it means crossing borders and putting our identity on the line." She stated that this meeting has served to identify and align the goals and common language of the Strategic Roadmap.

President García presented a draft Board Meeting plan. She stated that the plan was recommended by Mr. Hill and Ms. Michelle King, Chief of Staff, and provides structure to the Board meetings. The plan suggests that the Board meet the first Tuesday of each month in Closed Session and if necessary in a Special Charter meeting. At the second Tuesday the Board would meet in regular session to discuss operational items. For the third Tuesday the Board would meet for the Committee of the Whole. Finally, on the fourth Tuesday the Board would meet in regular session for a strategic and budget update. President García reiterated that the plan was in draft form and would be available for discussion in future meetings.

Dr. Deasy also thanked all the facilitators, Local District Superintendents and District Staff for their participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Martinez moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: April 12, 2011

MONICA GARCIA
PRESIDENT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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