

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATIONAL EQUITY COMMITTEE NOTES

1:00 p.m., Thursday, January 10, 2008

Committee Members

Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Chairperson
Marlene Canter

External Representatives Present

Julie Washington, Elementary
Vice-President, UTLA Representative
Linda Guthrie, Secondary Vice-President
UTLA Representative
Steven Frankel, Ed.D., President
Steven Frankel, Inc.
David Tokofsky, AALA Representative

Board Secretariat Contact

Noemi Fernandez
Tel: 213-241-7002
Email: noemi.fernandez@lausd.net

District Staff Present

Ronni Ephraim, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Professional Learning, Development, and Leadership
Roger Buschmann, Chief Human Resources Officer
Sharon Curry, Assistant Superintendent
Specially Funded/Student Integration
Michelle King, Interim Deputy Chief Instructional Officer,
Secondary
Alma Peña-Sanchez, Interim Deputy Chief Instructional
Officer, Elementary
Noma LeMoine, Ph.D., Director
Closing the Achievement Gap/AEMP Program
Liza Scruggs, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Support Services
Maria Wale, Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Support Services

The meeting convened at 1:52 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Marguerite LaMotte made brief remarks and introduced the first item to be discussed.

K-12 INITIATIVE: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Ms. Alma Peña-Sanchez, Interim Chief Instructional Officer, Elementary Instruction, announced that Mr. Jesus Limon, former Director, Language Acquisition Branch will conclude the Elementary instruction presentation from last month's meeting; and Mr. Richard Burrows, Director, Arts Education Branch, will make a presentation on the Arts Education Ten-Year Plan. In addition, Ms. Peña-Sanchez indicated that her office provided to Committee Members a package with the answers requested by the Committee Members at the December 20, 2007 meeting. Mr. Limon announced that he would not be making a presentation at this meeting because the Evaluation and Research Branch is working on the data previously requested by the Committee. Chairperson LaMotte invited Mr. Limon to complete his presentation at a future meeting.

ARTS EDUCATION TEN-YEAR PLAN

Ms. Alma Peña-Sanchez noted that the District's Arts Education Ten-Year Plan is on its eighth year since its inception in 1999. She mentioned that the Arts Education Plan has established partnerships between the District and the arts community, which aligns community resources to the District's learning goals. Ms. Peña-Sanchez introduced Mr. Richard Burrows, Director, Arts Education Branch. Mr. Burrows provided a brief background and history of the District's Arts Education Plan and goals. He presented an in-depth overview of the plan including, funding, elementary and secondary arts plans and programs, professional development, community partnerships, and arts assessment technique, which are part of the Ten-Year Plan. He noted that in 1999, the District had 54 elementary pilot Arts Programs Schools (APS). Today, the District has 340 of the 501 elementary and primary centers. He indicated that the State has provided additional funding for the arts education program; \$25.4 million, approximately \$43 per pupil, from SB 1131, a one-time funding, which is entirely distributed to schools.

In addition, he stated that AB 1811, on-going funding, provided \$11.3 million in augmented resources, approximately \$17 per pupil. Mr. Burrows indicated that the funds are distributed directly to the schools in absence of a District plan. He informed the Committee that his office will need a Board action to allow for exemption from individual school based funding distribution to allow funding to go to a central source. He stated that this funding will be used to expanding the APS sites, developing the Secondary Initiative, and piloting Demonstration Media Arts Classrooms.

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

Chairperson LaMotte requested Mr. Burrows form a taskforce as he prepares his recommendations for the Board.

MATHEMATICS ADOPTION PROCESS

Dr. Esther Sinofsky, Director, Instructional Media Services, presented several staff members who work on the mathematics adoption process: Mr. Gary Dominitz, Coordinator, Elementary Mathematics, Dr. Melanie Tucker, Specialist, Elementary Mathematics, Mr. Nader Delnavz, Interim Director, Secondary Mathematics, and Mr. Moss Benmosche, Specialist, Secondary Mathematics. Dr. Sinofsky provided a brief overview of the high school textbook adoption process. She stated that California Education Code (Ed Code) requires a Board process for the adoption of grades 9 -12 textbooks that will be purchased with State textbook funding. In addition, the Ed Code requires that districts select courses of study adopted by the State for K-8, the district has to select the same subject's textbooks for the high school level. She stated that mathematics is the core course for K-8 this school year, therefore, the District is adopting texts for mathematics for the 9-12 grade levels. Dr. Sinofsky outlined the core mathematics curriculum, such as geometry, Algebra II, AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, and AP Calculus BC, in addition, to elective courses. She briefly described the process of selecting the textbook publishers. She informed the Committee that the mathematics textbooks will be ready for review by the public by the end of January. She mentioned that the Textbook Committee's recommendations for the basic textbooks will be outlined in Exhibit A of the Board Report which will be submitted to the Board at its February 26 regular meeting. Dr. Sinofsky noted that UTLA and the Local Districts recommended teachers who are currently teaching the courses to serve on the teacher evaluation committees.

Dr. Sinofsky, Mr. Dominitz, and Dr. Tucker responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

Chairperson LaMotte questioned whether the public and the publishers have access to review the District textbook adoption process. Dr. Sinofsky responded that the District does not publish a memorandum presently with this information. *Chairperson LaMotte asked whether this could be done. Dr. Ronni Ephraim, Deputy Superintendent, Professional Learning, Development, and Leadership, responded that her office will work on this request.*

In response to Chairperson LaMotte's question about textbook funding, Dr. Ephraim responded that the textbook total funding is approximately \$85.6 million: funding for math textbooks is over \$56 million; funding for elementary school textbooks required for Open Court is about \$21.5 million; funding for K-12 history and social studies is approximately \$6.5 million, and the money for FOSS kits is about \$1.4 million.

External representative David Tokofsky asked whether the textbook committee will have as part of its recommendations whether schools could apply for a waiver to use a textbook other than the recommended text. *Chairperson LaMotte asked Dr. Ephraim to provide this information at a future meeting.*

Chairperson LaMotte introduced Dr. Liza Scruggs, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Support Services. Dr. Scruggs informed the Committee that the second "College Prepared-Career Ready, *Financial Aid: Paying for College*" will be broadcast on Monday, January 21, 2008, at 10 a.m. and 8:00 pm, on KLCS/TV.

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

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333 South Beaudry Avenue – Board Room
1:00 p.m., Thursday, January 10, 2008

Committee Members

Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Chairperson
Marlene Canter

External Representatives

Evaristo Barrett (Associated Administrator
of Los Angeles Representative)
Julie Washington, UTLA, Elementary, Vice-President
Linda Guthrie, UTLA, Secondary, Vice-President
Steven Frankel, Ed.D. President
Steven Frankel, Inc.
Francisco Torrero, Parent Collaborative
David Tokofsky Ex-Officio Member

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AGENDA

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| 1. Opening Remarks | Marguerite LaMotte, Chairperson | 5 minutes |
| 2. K-12 Initiative: Language Acquisition | Alma Pena-Sanchez, Interim Chief Instructional Officer, Elementary Instruction | 25 minutes |
| 3. Arts Education: Ten-Year Plan | Richard Burrows, Director, Arts Education Branch | 25 minutes |
| 4. Mathematics Adoption Process | Dr. Esther Sinofsky, Director, Instructional Media Services
Gary Dominitz, Coordinator, Elementary Mathematics
Dr. Melanie Tucker, Specialist, Elementary Mathematics
Nader Delnavaz, Interim Director, Secondary Mathematics
Moss Benmosche, Specialist, Secondary Mathematics | 25 minutes |
| 5. Speakers – Persons who wish to address this committee may sign-up at this meeting. | | |
| 6. Adjournment | | |

The 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 meeting of the Board of Education or Committee of the Whole. "For more information, go to <http://www.laschoolboard.org>, Curriculum and Instruction Committee."

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

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