

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

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATIONAL EQUITY COMMITTEE
333 South Baudry Avenue – 1st Floor Board Room
1:00 p.m., Thursday, October 16, 2008

Committee Members

Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Chairperson
Marlene Canter
Yolie Flores Aguilar

External Representatives

Judith Perez, AALA Representative
Julie Washington, Elementary
Vice-President, UTLA Representative
Gregg Solkovits, Secondary Vice-President
UTLA Representative
Steven Frankel, Ed.D., President
Steven Frankel, Inc.
Francisco Torrero, Parent Collaborative
David Tokofsky

District Staff

Judy Elliott, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer
Vivian Ekchian, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer
Liza Scruggs, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Support Services
Jerry Thornton, Inspector General

Board Secretariat Contact

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

The meeting convened at 1:24 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Marguerite LaMotte made brief opening remarks and announced that the Board, through a Resolution, designated October as College Awareness Month.

COLLEGE AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES

Dr. Liza Scruggs, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Support Services, introduced Ms. Brenda Cortez, Assistant Principal, Loren Miller Elementary School; Mr. Antonio Reveles, College Counselor, Bell High School; and Ms. Alma Salazar, Director, Education and Workforce Development, UNITE-LA.

Dr. Scruggs noted that this presentation is only a highlight of some of the activities during College Awareness Month, such as:

- October 1: Ms. Ronni Parker, Director, Secondary in College and Career Counseling, made a Parent Collaborative presentation, which was very successful.
- October 6: The Board of Education introduced an initial announcement of the resolution regarding October to be designated as the College Awareness Month.
- The PSAT was given to most of the 9th, 10th and 11th graders at most of the schools.

Dr. Scruggs listed a few other activities taking place during the month of October. She invited Ms. Cortez to talk about her article, “*The Future of Education*”, which was published in the September/October issue of the “Principals” magazine. Her article talks about the different ideas she implemented at her school regarding college preparedness from kindergarten to fifth grade. Ms. Cortez briefly described the different activities for parents and students to understand the planning process for graduation. Dr. Scruggs talked about college and career preparedness activities for middle school students. She stated that some of them

already took the PSAT in October and some will be taking it on October 18, 2008. For the first time, the District will be administering another college readiness test for eighth and ninth graders, from December 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009, called EXPLORE. She provided details about this assessment test; and stated that there will be professional development for teachers, counselors, and administrators; and students will be provided with a world work map to help them determine what they need to be successful in high school, college, and in their future career. Dr. Scruggs noted that there are other programs available to help students.

Mr. Reveles discussed his role as a college counselor and provided an overview of the type of assistance available to students and parents to planning to be successful in college and obtain grants. Ms. Salazar provided a background on the CASH for College initiative, and discussed the program in detail. She announced that the fall convention for CASH for College workshop will take place on December 4 and 5 at the Convention Center in Los Angeles. During this convention, expert college counselors and volunteers provide students and family members valuable information and help them to fill out the proper admission and grants forms to attend college. Ms. Salazar stated that the CASH for College organization provides assistance and workshops throughout the year. To attend a workshop parents and students can go to www.calgrant.org for information.

Dr. Scruggs, Mr. Reveles, and Ms. Salazar responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

Board Member Yolie Flores Aguilar expressed concerns about the low college going rate in schools having high CASHEE passing rates and low dropout rates, such as Elizabeth Learning Center. *She asked for support from the Committee and the Board to conduct an analysis and evaluation, and find solutions to help these schools.*

Chair LaMotte in response to Board Member Yolie Flores Aguilar asked Dr. Lim to prepare and provide an evaluation of this issue.

SPEAKERS

Mr. Bill Ring, Parent Collaborative, supported these initiatives, and expressed concern regarding the lack of parent involvement, and adequate resources at schools for parents and students.

Ms. Yolanda Beckles, parent, talked about lack of proper means of communication, parent involvement and accountability from parents.

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS ON SAT AND CST

Dr. Cynthia Lim, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Planning and Assessment, provided an update on questions raised by this Committee during the last Committee meeting. In addition, she presented additional material with graphs and tables in response to their concerns.

IMPLICATIONS OF 2008 CST RESULTS FOR KEY BOARD POLICIES

Dr. Randy Ross, Director of Educational Policy, Board of Education, discussed the implications of the 2008 CST results for key District Board policies, such as Proficiency+ for all, A-G Curriculum, and Hope on the Horizon. He noted that the growth in student performance for 2008 indicates positive implementation of these policies, but the proficiency gap remains wide. The closure of the gap requires for the District to continue addressing the issue of teacher dynamics and quality.

Mr. Ross provided a comparative analysis to review the District's performance on California Standards Tests (CST) for 2008 and used California Standard Test (CST) data to examine the implementation of related Board policies. His presentation included detailed tables and graphs showing the results of this analysis. In addition, he presented recommendations on how to improve teacher effectiveness and the distribution of effective teachers.

Dr. Ross responded to questions and concerns from Committee Members.

Committee Members had an in-depth discussion on this issue.

EQUAL PROTECTION AND CIVIL RIGHTS SUMMIT

Mr. Hector Madrigal, Director, Pupil Services, made a few remarks and thanked Chair LaMotte and Board Member Yolie Flores Aguilar for sponsoring the *Support Equal Protection and Civil Rights for all Students in the District Resolution*, approved by the Board in 2007. He noted that this Resolution attempts to address the racial and social injustices, which continue to exist in the educational community and society as a whole. The Resolution targets students who have been historically subject to discrimination, such as, homeless and foster students, students on probation, and ethnic minority students.

Mr. Madrigal introduced Ms. Rochelle Montgomery, Associate General Counsel, and Mr. Julio Fonseca, Coordinator, Student Discipline. Ms. Montgomery provided a brief history and background regarding this Resolution. She stated that this Resolution intends to evaluate the various programs the District has in existence and propose solutions. She indicated that Chair LaMotte recommended the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to address the issues addressed in the Resolution. One of the first steps the Ad Hoc Committee proposed was to hold a public summit. Mr. Fonseca provided a brief historical background regarding the Resolution, drafted by Ms. Montgomery. In addition, he announced that the Equal Protection and Civil Rights Summit will be held on October 18, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. at Bancroft Middle School. The objective of this summit is to provide insights to District staff from the community and stakeholders, and to identify methods and tactics to reverse the trends of racism, inequities, and social injustices within the District. Day Schools.

SPEAKERS

Ms. Yolanda Beckles, parent, expressed concerns regarding school report cards and its contents, periodic assessment, and cultural pedagogy.

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The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.
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AGENDA

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| 1. Opening Remarks | Marguerite LaMotte, Chairperson | 5 min. |
| 2. College Awareness Month Activities | Dr. Liza Scruggs, Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Support Services
Brenda Cortez, Assistant Principal
Miller Elementary School
Antonio Reveles, College Counselor
Bell High School
Alma Salazar, Director, Education and Workforce
Development, UNITE-LA | 20 min. |
| 3. Follow-up Questions on SAT and CST | Dr. Cynthia Lim
Interim Assistant Superintendent
Planning and Assessment | 15 min. |
| 4. Implications of 2008 CST Results for
Key Board Policies | Dr. Randy Ross
Board of Education Director of Educational Policy | 20 min. |
| 5. Equal Protection and Civil Rights Summit | Hector Madrigal, Director Pupil Services
Dr. Jose Fonseca, Coordinator
Student Discipline Proceedings Unit | 15 min. |
| 6. Speakers – Persons who wish to address this committee may sign-up at this meeting. | | |
| 7. 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.

If you or your organization is seeking to influence a purchasing, policy, site selection or any other LAUSD decision, registration may be required under the District's Lobbying Disclosure Code. Please visit www.lausd.net/ethics <<http://www.lausd.net/ethics>> to determine if you need to register or call the LAUSD Ethics Office at: 213-241-3330.

*Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board of Education, including those submitted after the initial distribution of materials, are available for public inspection at the Security Desk on the first floor of the Administrative Headquarters, at the meeting, and at:
<http://beta.laschoolboard.org/node/115>*