

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room

4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 17, 2019

Committee Members

Mr. Scott M. Schmerelson, Chairperson
Dr. George J. McKenna III, Board Member

External Representatives

Ms. Letetsia Fox, CSEA President
Mr. Juan Flecha, AALA President
Mr. Paul Robak, Parent
Ms. Yolanda Ford-Swinton, Parent
Ms. Vicky Martinez, Parent
Ms. Launa Bogartz, Parent

District Staff

Mr. Antonio Plascencia, Interim Administrator, Office of Parent and Community Services
Ms. Diane Panossian, Director, Office of Parent and Community Services
Mr. Gonsalo Garay, Administrator, PACE Unit, Local District Northwest
Ms. Patrizia Puccio, Administrator, PACE Unit, Local District Northeast
Ms. Katrina M. Campbell, Chief Business and Compliance Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
Ms. Pia Escudero, Executive Director, Division of Student Health and Human Services
Mr. Marcos A. Hernandez, Principal, Ellen Ochoa Learning Center

NOTES

The meeting convened at 4:01 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Committee Chair Scott Schmerelson welcomed everyone and expressed his thanks to Board President Dr. Richard Vladovic for bringing back committee meetings. Mr. Schmerelson asked that committee members introduce themselves. He spoke about the purpose and his vision for the committee.

BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTION FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Schmerelson announced Resolution 015-19/20, Building Support for Our School Communities: Increasing Equity and Access for Schools and Parents by Growing Parent Organizations, was referred to the Parent Engagement Committee at the October 1, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

With respect to the resolution, Mr. Schmerelson asked committee members to consider the following: how will this resolution support or affect parent engagement in LAUSD, what will be

the budget impact of implementing this resolution, and how can the District leverage existing resources?

Committee members discussed the resolution. Board Members Mr. Schmerelson and Dr. McKenna requested clarification and data. Committee members expressed some concerns regarding the costs to the District and the source of the funds.

The following speakers addressed the committee on the resolution:

Ms. Barbara Smith, 31st District PTA President
Ms. Gwendolyn Landry, Parent warrior

Mr. Schmerelson asked the following, what does it mean when the District is the fiscal agent for booster clubs? He would like an answer when the resolution is submitted to the Board for approval.

Mr. Crain called on the external representatives for their recommendations to the Board. All external representatives had reservations regarding the resolution going forward to the Board. Four of the six external representatives recommended the Board not approve the resolution. Two of the representatives recommended the resolution go forward with amendments. Dr. McKenna said he would submit his amendments in writing. He recommended the Board not approve the resolution as written. Mr. Schmerelson stated he had many questions and amendments. He recommended the resolution be presented for action at the next regular board meeting.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AT LAUSD

Mr. Antonio Plascencia, Jr., Interim Administrator, and Ms. Diane Panossian, Director, Office of Parent and Community Services discussed how they support parent and family engagement in the District.

Mr. Plascencia highlighted the responsibilities of the Office of Parent and Community Services such as the Parent and Family Center Modernization Program, District Volunteer Program, study groups, school site council training, policy and program development, and strategic planning. He spoke briefly about the vision of family engagement and said family engagement needs to be a consistent practice that evolves. He briefly highlighted the Legislative findings and declarations of California Education Code Section 51100. He discussed the rights of parents and guardians such as, the ability for families to observe in the classroom, being able to meet with their child's teacher, volunteer, receive notification on a timely basis if their child is absent, receive State test results, have choice of schools, and have a safe and supportive learning environment.

Mr. Plascencia discussed the School Site Councils. He highlighted some of the School Site Council responsibilities and spoke about the composition of School Site Council stakeholders. Another advisory body that presents recommendations to the School Site Council is the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC). The ELAC monitors from an equity lens, how the District is reclassifying students, and how the District is following those students that are reclassified over

time. He highlighted some of the ELAC responsibilities and spoke about the composition of ELAC stakeholders. In addition, Mr. Plascencia discussed the Family Engagement Policy, requirements under the Local Control Accountability Program (LCAP), and school volunteer programs.

Ms. Diane Panossian, Director, Office of Parent and Community Services, discussed family engagement at the local district and central level. Ms. Panossian stated most of the work of family engagement at the local district centers around leadership building through the local district study groups, and capacity building at school sites. She highlighted the Title I Study Group, LCAP Study Group, English Learner Study Group, African American Study Group, and some of the various school site supports.

Ms. Panossian discussed the District's Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and highlighted some of the mandates in the policy. In addition, she briefly discussed the Title I LCAP Federal Addendum. The Office of Parent and Community Services also operates three District level parent committees: Community Advisory Committee (CAC), District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC), and the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). Ms. Panossian discussed the responsibilities of each committee and the composition of each committee.

Ms. Panossian stated the work of family engagement at the local district and central office levels has been influenced and guided by Board resolutions adopted by the Board. She briefly highlighted two of the resolutions. She announced upcoming events on family engagement.

The following speakers addressed the committee on the resolution:

Ms. Maria Daisy Ortiz, Parent
Mr. Roberto Fonseca
Mr. Juan Godinez, Parent
Ms. Zella Knight

PROMISING PRACTICES AT SCHOOLS

Mr. Antonio Plascencia introduced Ms. Marissa Martinez, Principal, Brooklyn Avenue School, to present on Family Engagement. Ms. Martinez provided her insight and experience, and discussed her practices regarding family engagement. She discussed parent involvement, family action teams, school annual plans, parent passports and parent centers. Ms. Martinez responded to questions from committee members. Committee members commented on Ms. Martinez's presentation.

Mr. Antonio Plascencia introduced Mr. Jose Soto, Principal, Gulf Avenue STEAM School and Magnet Center, who discussed his practices for promoting family and community engagement. He discussed providing a welcoming environment, transparency, aligning resources to student needs, and creating school and community partnerships and opportunities. Mr. Soto responded to questions from committee members. Committee members commented on Mr. Soto's presentation.

WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTS AT SCHOOLS

Mr. Marcos Hernandez, Principal, Ellen Ochoa Learning Center, discussed welcoming environments at schools. He discussed his practices for providing a welcoming environment to families and the community. He discussed home visits, building relationships with parents, and the Parent Academy Program. Committee members commented on Mr. Hernandez's presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the committee on the subjects indicated:

Dr. John Fernandez, Full Rights for Immigrants Coalition	October 19, 2019 March to Commemorate the defeat of Proposition 187
Mr. Nathan Chung, Student	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Ms. Zoe Chung, Student	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Ms. Esther Chung, Parent	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Mr. Christopher Fratz, Student	Parent Engagement
Mr. Jonathan Fratz, Student	Parent Engagement
Ms. Victoria Estrada	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Ms. Grace Jimenez, Parent	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Ms. Erika Marais, Parent	Assembly Bill 329, Sex Education
Mr. Allan Kakassy, Human Relations Commission	Parent Engagement
Ms. Linda Perez	Parent Engagement
Mr. Clinton Frosh, Parent	Parent Engagement

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schmerelson thanked everyone for their participation. He announced the next Parent Engagement Committee meeting is December 19, 2019. He adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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Materials related to an item on this Agenda distributed to the Board of Education are available for public inspection at: <http://www.laschoolboard.org/10-17-19Parent>