

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
1:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 27, 2009

The Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District, met in regular session on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Chairperson Tamar Galatzan called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

The following Members were present: Ms. Yolie Flores Aguilar, Ms. Mónica García, Ms. Marguerite P. LaMotte, Ms. Nury Martinez, Dr. Richard Vladovic, Mr. Steve Zimmer and Chairperson Tamar Galatzan.

Superintendent Ramon Cortines was present.

Dr. Vladovic led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Galatzan modified the Order of Business.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BUDGET UPDATE

Superintendent Cortines provided an overview of the budget. He explained that under the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) guidelines, the District is expected to submit a 3 year budget plan. The First Interim Financial Report will be provided to the Board, on December 8, 2009, and will be for Board action on December 15, 2009. Superintendent Cortines stated that the District will continue to experience cuts in the Central and Local District offices, and that bargaining unions are a critical part of the solution in dealing with reduced funding.

Ms. Megan Reilly, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the State budget. She stated it was important for the community to understand that the State's budget directly affects the District's budget. According to a report issued by the State's Department of Finance, revenues expected in the month of September 2009 were short by \$830 million, thus creating an imbalance in the budget. The September shortfalls are in addition to the State's deficit of approximately \$900 million. The State's estimated shortfall is \$1.9 billion.

Ms. Reilly pointed out that although the State unemployment rate had not increased in the month of August, 39,000 jobs were lost. In addition, non-residential construction permitting was down 47% and residential permitting was down 30%. She added that several proposed actions in the State budget are now being challenged in the courts. Ms. Reilly stated that the State's Legislative Analyst Office provided a forecast that identifies the State's current deficit at \$7.5 billion, and expects a \$15 billion deficit for each of the following 2 years.

Ms. Reilly responded to questions from Board Members regarding the possibility of employee furlough days.

- - -
Chairperson Galatzan resumed the Order of Business.
- - -

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PRESENTATION ON APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE RESOLUTION

Superintendent Cortines discussed his visit to 74th Street Elementary School, a school with an Academic Performance Index (API) of 828. He indicated that the school's API was a result of principal leadership, teacher dedication, parent involvement and investments from organizations like Target.

Mr. Matt Hill, Administrative Officer, discussed the application and selection process to implement the public school choice resolution. He provided an overview of the past 60 days. He stated that the focus has been on education quality, parent and community engagement, and urgency. Criterion was established to create a list of schools that will participate in the public school choice resolution. Schools must have all of the following characteristics: (1) Program Improvement Status of 3+ years, (2) Zero or negative growth in API for the 2008-09 year, (3) Less than 21% proficiency in either Math or English Language Arts, and (4) Greater than 10% dropout rates. Mr. Hill identified 12 Focus Schools and 24 new schools that will participate in 2009-10. He identified third party nonprofit partnerships with organizations such as the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, UTLA, AALA, City of Los Angeles, and UniteLA.

Mr. Hill stated that a brochure was created to highlight key elements of the District's different school models, such as the traditional, pilot, iDesign, Magnet, Dependent Charters, and Independent Charter Schools.

Mr. Hill stated that the Workforce Stability Taskforce is reviewing existing workforce language in the resolution and will be making recommendations to the Board on November 24, 2009. An accountability matrix was created to track academic performances, graduation rates, college and career readiness, parent engagement and safety. The Local District Superintendent and the Office of Innovation and Charters will review all schools twice a year. A report will then be submitted to the Board and Superintendent annually. All schools will be up for renewal on a five-year cycle.

Mr. Hill concluded his presentation providing a timeline for the Public School Choice Process development.

Superintendent Cortines and Mr. Hill responded to questions from the Board Members regarding management and operation of the school budget.

OLD BUSINESS FOR ACTION

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 104 – 09/10
Use of Grants for the Critically Overcrowded Schools (COS) Program

Ms. Flores Aguilar moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Garcia seconded the motion.

After discussion and on roll call, the report was adopted, 4 ayes, 3 noes, Ms. LaMotte, Dr. Vladovic, and Mr. Zimmer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Ms. Naomi Hyman	Senior Center Writing Class
Mr. John Walsh	Separation
Mr. Dave Peters	MOU Rescission
Mr. David Lyell	MOU Rescission
Ms. Audrey Linden	Duffy Motion
Mr. Mark Seigle	Substitute MOU
Mr. Bill Meyerhoff	Substitute MOU
Mr. Matthew Kogan	Adult Education
Mr. Michael Novic	Tenure for Adult Education Teachers
Mr. Jerome R. Robinson	Due Process
Ms. Gloria E. Caro	PARS/PERS
Mr. Manuel Aldana	Education

Earlier in the meeting, Hon. Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles City Council Member, addressed the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. LaMotte moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ms. Ronnie Fey Parker, Director of Counseling, and Mr. Christian Dixon, 74th Street School Kindergartener. Ms. Martinez seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: **April 13, 2010**

TAMAR GALATZAN
CHAIRPERSON

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD