

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

SPECIAL MEETING REVISED ORDER OF BUSINESS

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room and Room 24-173

1:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 2, 2006

A. Roll Call of Members

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Public Comment on Items to be Discussed at This Meeting

D. Open Session

Special Reports and Presentations

Taft High School Academic Decathlon Team

Board Members Resolutions

Action

1. Mr. Tokofsky – Textbook Selection Process (Noticed April 25, 2006) **ADOPTED**

Whereas, Public schools are widely recognized as the foundation of a free and democratic society;

Whereas, The teaching of history and all social sciences along with the textbooks, methods and discussions in these courses from a core content of our public schools;

Whereas, The students of the Los Angeles Unified School District are among the most diverse in origin race, aspirations and skills;

Whereas, The textbook selection process ought to inventory of District teacher academic background, experience, majors, knowledge in order to determine which concerns teachers might have for professional support and training, and thus to inform the selection guidelines;

Whereas, The textbook selection process ought to require a coherent, course-long, professional training from publishers meeting faculty needs in order to enrich any text series selected and to better inform such a textbook selection;

Whereas, A course of study, a periodic assessment, and an end of course examination akin to the California Golden State exam is an essential compliment to a core text;

Whereas, A comprehensive inventory of textbooks and publishers currently in use by teachers and the academic and financial reasons for previous adoptions ought to inform any textbook selection process; and

Whereas, Empirical data involving result from state assessments, AP exams, students reading levels, and other school districts successes shall guide selection; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That after a comprehensive review of student assessment results, an inventory of District teacher academic background, experience, majors, and knowledge will be made in order to determine which concerns teachers might have for professional support and training, and to inform the selection guidelines, then the Superintendent will provide to the Board of Education, by August 30 of each year, an annual textbook adoption work plan. The plan will include a description of the texts to be adopted, the selection process, and the criteria for selection.

2. Mr. Tokofsky – Recognition of the National Days of Remembrance in Honor of Holocaust Victims, Survivors, Rescuers and Liberators April 23rd to April 30th, 2006 (Noticed April 25, 2006) **ADOPTED**

Whereas, The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political, dissidents also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny;

Whereas, The history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments;

Whereas, It has been nearly 60 years since the Holocaust yet to survivors, the Holocaust remains real and ever-present, but for some others, sixty years makes the Holocaust seem part of ancient history;

Whereas, On April 12, 1951, the Knesset (Israel's parliament) proclaimed Yom Hashoah U'Mered HaGetaot (Holocaust and Ghetto Revolt Remembrance Day) to be the 27th of Nissan. The name later became known as Yom Hashoah Ve Hagevurah (Devastation and Heroism Day) and even later simplified to Yom Hashoah;

Whereas, In Israel, the Knesset made Yom Hashoah a national public holiday in 1959 and in 1961 a law was passed that closed all public entertainment on Yom Hashoah. At ten in the morning, a siren is sounded where everyone stops what they are doing, pull over in their cars, and stand in remembrance;

Whereas, The Days of Remembrance were set aside by the United States Congress when it established the Days of Remembrance as our nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust April 23–30, 2006 including the International Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, April 25th;

Whereas, Yom Hashoah has been observed with candlelighting, speakers, poems, teach-ins and singing;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District family must always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution and tyranny;

Whereas, We in the District community should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

Whereas, It is incumbent upon those who educate students for the future to illuminate the past, including its darkest hours so that such horrors are not repeated; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District ~~joins communities, organizations, and countries around the world in recognizing~~ recognized April 23–30, 2006, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, ~~and~~ in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaims that we shall continue working to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

3. Mr. Tokofsky – Support for the Metropolitan Transit Authority Memorandum of Understanding for Ramona High School Redesign (Waiver of Board Rule 72) **ADOPTED**

Whereas, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa negotiated a compromise proposal between the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), the City of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Unified School District incorporating the MTA's desire to build the Eastside metro line as well as to fulfill the MTA's signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the District;

Whereas, Two MOUs were signed on March 29, 2002, and another on January 15, 2003, by Roger Snoble, Chief Executive Officer of the MTA, indicating the MTA's preference in redesigning the existing Ramona Opportunity High School rather than moving the school to another site at a greater cost and greater disruption than the new school;

Whereas, The MTA has bought the homes and land to the east of Ramona High and relocated the families indicating the MTA's acknowledgement of the MOU plan and design;

Whereas, The District has finished its design plans for the existing school under the MOU pledge and these designs have cleared the state offices required for proceeding with school construction;

Whereas, Mayor Villaraigosa pledged City monies, along with Superintendent Roy Romer's pledge of monies, to create a joint use fund of \$5 million for the redesigned new school;

Whereas, Continued delays cost both the MTA and the District up to \$2 million per month which could only drive the cost of the project up higher;

Whereas, The young female students at Ramona High as well as their infants and soon to be born children are among the Counties most neglected young people; and

Whereas, Ramona is one of the unique support institutions in the District for the Eastside of Los Angeles's most needy students and infants; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Superintendent of Schools stand ready to fulfill the deal crafted and agreed upon during the October 24, 2005, meeting with Los Angeles Mayor Villariagosa, Superintendent of Schools Roy Romer, and Supervisor Gloria Molina as follows:

- (a) The MTA will make an initial capital contribution of \$20 million as originally agreed,
- (b) The City of Los Angeles will make an initial \$1 million contribution and the District will make an initial \$4 million contribution to possible joint use ventures that the City will identify and propose to the District, and
- (c) The MTA and the District will share equally all costs incurred in excess of the total \$5 million for joint use.

Initial Announcements

4. Ms. LaMotte - Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Whereas, The United States has the highest teenage pregnancy rate and births of all developed countries;

Whereas, Approximately one million teenagers become pregnant each year and nearly four out of every ten young women become pregnant at least once before the age of twenty;

Whereas, Despite the recent decline in teen birth rates, teen pregnancy remains a significant problem that impacts every community. Almost 55,000 teenagers will have babies in California this year;

Whereas, Sexually transmitted infections affect men and women of all backgrounds and economic levels, they are most prevalent among teenagers and young adults, affecting nearly two-thirds of youth under 25 years of age;

Whereas, As mandated under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, which was to assure that at least 25% of communities have teen pregnancy prevention programs in place. This strategy presented a comprehensive new plan to prevent teen pregnancies by strengthening, integrating, and supporting pregnancy prevention programs and other youth-related activities;

Whereas, Each day more teens are making the decision to get healthy, stay healthy, and take responsibility for their behavior;

Whereas, Teens are most likely to develop healthy sexuality in an environment that includes age-appropriate and comprehensive sex education, positive role models, and access to contraception for those teens that are already sexually active; and

Whereas, To reduce the high rate of teen pregnancies in Los Angeles will require an even deeper commitment by adults, schools, community leaders, and policy makers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District declares its support of activities which promote healthy teen sexuality and declares the month of May, “Teenage Pregnancy Awareness Month.”

5. Ms. Korenstein – School Nurse Day, May 10, 2006

Whereas, Our children are our most valuable resource, and educational achievement is directly affected by their health and well-being;

Whereas, Our school district continues to enroll more students with multiple and severe health handicaps;

Whereas, The number of students with unmet health needs is increasing and interfering with normal developmental milestones and academic success;

Whereas, School nurses are charged with the responsibility of addressing these critical issues and providing diligent care for the health, development and disease control of all students through implementation of our health services program; and

Whereas, School nursing services include health assessments, interventions, education and referrals, development and supervision of specialized health care plans for medically involved students, and networking with community agencies; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District declares May 10, 2006, as “School Nurse Day” and commemorates the unique contribution of our school nurses to the total education program

E. Closed Session Items

1. Conference with Legal Counsel

Existing Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9(a))

Ernest Kettenrig v. Los Angeles Unified School District
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 343665

S.H.E. Construction, Inc. v. Los Angeles Unified School District
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 283106

Los Angeles Unified School District v. Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 323137

Chanda Smith v. Los Angeles Unified School District
United States District Court Case No. CV 93-7044-RSWL (GHKx)

Los Angeles Unified School District v. Jose and Silvia Topete, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 348887

Los Angeles Unified School District v. Melendez, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 348720

2. Personnel (Government Code §54957)

Public Employment:

Superintendent of Schools

Public Employee Evaluation:

Superintendent of Schools

Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

3. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code §54957.6)

Negotiator: Superintendent Romer

Employee Organizations:

Associated Administrators of Los Angeles
California School Employees Association
Los Angeles City and County School Employees' Union (SEIU Local 99)
Los Angeles County Building and Construction Trades Council
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Teamsters
United Teachers Los Angeles
District Represented Employees and Contract Management Personnel

4. Approval of Notes

F. Recess into Closed Session

G. Reconvene to Open Session

Report on any actions taken

H. Adjournment

Members of the public who wish to address the Board regarding these items should contact the Board Secretariat in person or by calling Area Code (213) 241-7002 or toll free (877) 772-6273, extension 128, prior to 8:30 a.m. the day of the meeting to determine if they may be added to the speakers' list.

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