

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
333 South Beaudry Ave., Board Room  
11:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 9, 2004

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, November 9, 2004, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Ave., Los Angeles, California.

President José Huizar called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

The following Members were present: Ms. Marlene Canter, Mr. Jon Lauritzen, Mr. David Tokofsky, and President José Huizar. Ms. Julie Korenstein arrived at 1:05 p.m., Mr. Mike Lansing arrived at 1:10 p.m., and Ms. Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte arrived at 1:18 p.m.

Superintendent Roy Romer was present.

Ms. Canter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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President Huizar modified the Order of Business and passed the gavel to Ms. Canter.  
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SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Huizar presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Mary Lee Shon for her many years of service, commitment, and dedication to the children of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Mr. Tokofsky presented Ms. Angel Adagio a Certificate of Recognition for her 50 years of service as a volunteer community member at Los Feliz Elementary School.

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President Huizar assumed the Chair.  
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President Huizar recognized the following individuals for their dedication to students and service to the District: Dr. Julian Nava, former School Board President and the first Mexican-American Ambassador to Mexico, and Mr. Frank Del Olmo, a journalist now deceased, for his book that compiled many of the articles he wrote about the District.

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President Huizar resumed the Order of Business.  
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## CONSENT CALENDAR

The following speakers addressed the Board on Board of Education Report No. 120 – 04/05:

Mr. Bill Higbee representing United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA)

Mr. Sal Valdez representing UTLA

Mr. Tomas Junge representing UTLA

Ms. Helen G. Durham in place of Ms. Pat Trivers

Ms. Canter moved the adoption of the following reports designated as Consent Calendar items in accordance with Board Rule 61:

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 120 – 04/05

After School Service Providers Contract

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 121 – 04/05

Priority Implementation Plan for Measure R Early Childhood Education Program Expansion

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 122 – 04/05

Report of Warrants Issued

Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion.

Superintendent Romer, Ms. Ronnie Ephraim, Chief Instructional Officer, and Mr. John Liechty, Associate Superintendent for Extended Day Programs, answered questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and on roll call, the Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously, 7 ayes, with the exception of Board of Education Report No. 120 – 04/05 on which Mr. Lansing abstained.

## STUDENT INPUT

Student Member Rasha Kazi from Reseda High School mentioned some of the academic programs available to students, stated that the school is now shifting through the A-G requirements, and shared that the school had been recognized as having the cleanest campus in the District for a number of years. She mentioned that the school's Academic Decathlon Team took 4<sup>th</sup> place in the District's competition and the boys' volleyball team won the City Invitational Championship.

Student Member Cindy Pino from Kennedy High School mentioned some of the courses being offered at her school, and extended thanks to the Board Members for their support in rebuilding the school after the 1994 earthquake. She named some of the clubs in which students participate and shared accomplishments such as improved test scores and their drive to collect for the needy.

Student Member Leah Saltzman from Canoga Park High School stated that there are three or four generations of former students who have returned to teach. She commented on the students improving their API and AYP test scores. She mentioned the \$10,000 incentive the school

received for increasing their attendance, spoke of programs being offered, and commented about the school's ongoing construction.

Board Members thanked the students for their positive presentation.

Mr. Tim Buresh, Chief Operating Officer, responded to questions by Board Members.

The Student Members shared plans for their future education.

RECEIPT OF INITIAL NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL

Initial Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2005-06 School Year

President Huizar made the following announcement:

The Board will be receiving the District's Initial Negotiating Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) regarding Single Track and Multi-track Year-Round Calendars for the 2005-06 School Year. There will be an opportunity to address the Board on the proposals at the Board meetings of November 23, and December 14, 2004, in the Board Room. Those persons who wish to address the Board on the proposals should call Area Code (213) 241-7002 or Toll Free (877) 772-6273, prior to 10 a.m. the days of the meetings.

RECEIPT OF COMMUNICATIONS

Board of Education Report No. 149 – 04/05 – Ratification of Contract Actions and Approval of Professional Services Contract: Assigned to Regular Calendar

Board of Education Report No. 150 – 04/05 – Initial Proposal to United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) Regarding Single Track and Multitrack Year-Round Calendars for the 2005-06 School Year: Assigned to Regular Calendar for Action on 12-14-04

Board of Education Report No. 161 – 04/05 – Approval of Agreements: Assigned to Consent Calendar

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President Huizar modified the Order of Business.

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Board of Education Report No. 168 – 04/05 – Naming of North Hollywood Primary Center No. 4 as Bellingham Primary Center: Assigned to Consent Calendar

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President Huizar resumed the Order of Business.

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Board of Education Report No. 162 – 04/05 – Submission of Title I Carryover Request Form:  
Assigned to Consent Calendar

Board of Education Report No. 163 – 04/05 – Authorization to Negotiate and Enter into an  
Agreement to Renew the Existing Lease at 3300 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles [Peer  
Assistant Review]: Assigned to Consent Calendar

Board of Education Report No. 166 – 04/05 – 2004 Refunding General Obligation Bonds:  
Assigned to Consent Calendar

SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

President Huizar introduced Mr. Buresh who made a presentation on the Employee Absence Management Program. He indicated that over \$400 million was spent on employees' absence last year. It is anticipated that the same amount will be spent again this year. Mr. Buresh explained that the high rate of absenteeism drastically impacts learning in the classroom as well as the various missions performed by classified employees throughout the District. He further added that staff in the Human Resources Division is doing a lot of work manually trying to stay on top of the issues, which is not an effective use of District resources.

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President Huizar passed the gavel to Ms. Canter.

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Mr. Buresh proceeded to identify options being pursued for attendance improvement, such as the Stay at Work Policy and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Policy. He indicated that the District is out of compliance with FMLA making it necessary for the establishment of a Leave Management Assistance Unit in order to understand what the law requires and allows the District to do. Mr. Buresh suggested purchasing a substitute management technology system to be used throughout the District. This would be tied into the rest of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Better Tools for Schools system and to the interim absence management reporting system. He commented on Wellness Communication, a small investment in technology, which will allow the District to leverage a lot of the Wellness tools currently available. Mr. Buresh stated that the initial budget for attendance improvement was \$4 million, but this anticipated generating a \$6 million savings to the District.

Mr. Mike Dreebin, Elementary Vice President, UTLA, addressed the Board on Mr. Buresh's presentation.

Mr. Buresh responded to questions by Board Members and Superintendent Romer.

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Vice President Canter modified the Order of Business.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Ms. Elizabeth Mejia	Rethinking Columbus Day/Curriculum Issues
Ms. Xochitl Ramos representing Harmony Keepers	Rethinking Columbus Day/Curriculum Issues
Ms. Gloria Caro	District Procedures
Mr. Felipe Valdivia	Relevant Education
Ms. Gloria Orantes	School Concerns
Ms. Ruth Sarnoff	Accountability
Ms. Vera Diaz, in place of Marlene Blanco	Problems at Los Angeles High School

Dr. Maria Ott, Deputy Superintendent, responded to questions by Board Members regarding Ms. Orantes' presentation.

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Vice President Canter resumed the Order of Business.  
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ITEMS POSTPONED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 108 – 04/05, Section I, Attachment A  
Agreement for Professional Services

This report was postponed to the Regular Board Meeting of January 11, 2005.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 132 – 04/05  
Designation of the Site Located at the Southeast Corner of Washington Boulevard and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
as the Preferred Site for the Location of the New Central Region Elementary School No. 13

The following speakers addressed the Board on the report:

- Eva Shepherd
- Maria Ibarra
- Mario Martinez

Mr. Lansing moved that the report be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion.

Mr. Tom Calhoun, Central Region Development Manager, Facilities New Construction, made a presentation on the report.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

REGULAR CALENDAR

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 127 – 04/05  
Approval of Agreements and Donation of Money

Mr. Lansing moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

Mr. Dwayne Johnson, Director of the Contracts Administration Branch, responded to questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 136 – 04/05  
Amendment to the Policy for the Use of Measure K Joint-Use Funds

Mr. Lansing moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Mr. Guy Mehula, Deputy Chief Facilities Executive, New Facilities; Mr. Paul Escala, Education Policy and Program Manager, New Construction; and Dr. Roberta Benjamin, Director of Charter Schools, responded to questions by Board Members.

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President Huizar assumed the Chair.

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Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 137 – 04/05  
Measure R Charter School Expansion Policy

This report was postponed to the Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2004.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 140 – 04/05  
Authorization to Negotiate and Enter into a Lease Agreement at 1541 Wilshire Boulevard,  
Los Angeles Facilities Technology Program Management Group

Ms. LaMotte moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

On roll call, the report was adopted, 6 ayes, and 1 no, Mr. Tokofsky.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 141 – 04/05  
Authorization for Temporary Borrowing Between Funds

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lansing seconded the motion.

Mr. Richard Knott, Controller, responded to questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 142 – 04/05  
Ratification of Advertised Contracts, Change Orders, Completion of Contracts,  
Award of Unadvertised and Informal Contracts, Rejection of Bids,  
and Award of Architectural and Engineering Contracts

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Canter seconded the motion.

Mr. Terry Dillon, Deputy Director, Facilities Contracts, made a presentation on the report.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 147 – 04/05  
Adoption of Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Demolition and  
Reconstruction of Ramona Opportunity High School

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 148 – 04/05  
Approval of Demolition, Design and Reconstruction of  
Ramona Opportunity High School Project

Mr. Lauritzen moved that Board of Education Nos. 147 and 148 – 04/05 be adopted. Ms. Canter seconded the motion.

Mr. Mehula responded to questions by Board Members regarding Board of Education Report No. 148 – 04/05.

Following discussion and by general consent, the reports were adopted.

DIRECT

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 164 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Approval of Routine Personnel Actions

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 165 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Approval of Nonroutine Personnel Actions

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

At the request of staff, the maker and seconder of the motion agreed to amend the report by changing the funding source for Red Team to No Child Left Behind, Title I Program Improvement School.

Dr. Ott responded to questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted as amended.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 167 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Liability Insurance Claims

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 169 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Student Expulsions

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Korenstein seconded the motion.

Dr. Ott responded to questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 170 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Student Application for Admission

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 171 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Student Reinstatements

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 172 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Various Purchasing Transactions

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion.

Ms. Anne Fischer, Chief Procurement Officer; Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager; Mr. Kevin Reed, General Counsel; Mr. Richard Sheehan, Special Counsel to the Board; Mr. George Silva, Director of Purchasing; Dr. James Alther, ITD, Strategic Planning; and Mr. Richard Deeb, General Counsel, responded to questions by Board Members.

On roll call, the report was adopted, 7 ayes with the exception of Contract No. SPO-SHS-#2-07-04, NEC Unified Solutions, Inc., on which Ms. Korenstein abstained and Mr. Lauritzen and Ms. LaMotte voted no.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 173 – 04/05 (Direct)  
Approval of Revised Project Definition and Amendment of New Construction  
Strategic Execution Plan for Phase I Project – South Los Angeles Area New High School No. 3

Ms. Canter moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion.

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President Huizar passed the gavel to Ms. Canter.  
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Mr. Ed Van Ginkle, Senior Development Manager; Mr. Rod Hamilton, Regional Development Manager, Facilities Division; Mr. Reed; and Mr. Mehula responded to questions by Board Members.

Following discussion and by general consent, the report was adopted.

### BOARD MEMBERS RESOLUTIONS

#### ACTION

Mr. Lansing, Mr. Tokofsky, and Ms. LaMotte's motion regarding Structural Budget Deficit Action Plan (Noticed September 28, 2004) was postponed and assigned to the Budget and Finance Committee:

Whereas, The Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles have implemented one-time budget solutions amounting to nearly \$1.3 billion over the last two years in order to balance its fiscal year budget;

Whereas, One-time solutions such as elimination of unfilled positions and redirection of funding have run their course and will not be an option for the Board in fiscal year 2005-06;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District faces an impending structural deficit conservatively estimated to be \$500,000,000, due to anticipated costs of health benefits, deferred maintenance, workers' compensation and reserves related to economic uncertainties, emergencies, paid leave/vacation time and replacement of aging equipment; and

Whereas, The Superintendent and the Board must address this structural deficit immediately to ensure greater flexibility in drafting short and long term fiscal solutions as well as to avoid the real potential of becoming insolvent and going into receivership; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop short and long term fiscal solutions to the District's ongoing structural deficit for presentation to the Board at a Committee of the Whole meeting in December 2004; and be it

Resolved further, That such solutions include a range of potential actions the Board may take to address the structural imbalance in the short and long term.

Ms. LaMotte and Mr. Tokofsky's motion regarding Adherence to the Promotional Examination Process (Noticed September 28, 2004) was postponed and assigned to the Human Resources Committee:

Resolved, That the Los Angeles Unified School District implement and utilize a merit based promotional examination system for all certificated promotional administrative

classifications with five or more positions, and who are members of the Associated Administrators of Los Angeles;

Resolved further, That any circumvention of this motion by means of Administrative Regulations 4213 and 4214 receive approval by the majority of the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles;

Resolved further, That the Board directs the Superintendent to bring back within 60 days a proposal for an examination process, which would include:

- An assessment center
- Confidential tracers
- A ranked list incorporating a rule of five
- A process by which qualified candidates on an existing list would be integrated into newly established lists; and be it finally

Resolved, That if this proposal is not acceptable, the Superintendent must submit a proposal to the Board to eliminate all promotional examinations and allow local and general superintendents to make all administrative assignments.

Ms. LaMotte and Mr. Tokofsky's motion regarding Promotion and Transfer of Principals and Teachers (Noticed September 28, 2004) was postponed and assigned to the Human Resources Committee:

Whereas, There has been no policy directing the promotion and transfer of principals and teachers from low performing schools (API 1-3) to central district positions after school has officially opened at the beginning of the school year;

Whereas, One of the goals of this District is to eliminate the achievement gap;

Whereas, Removing teachers and principals for promotions once school has begun disrupts the teaching-learning process for the school and adversely affects the academic performance and achievement level of the school;

Whereas, Long-range planning is imperative in effectively operating our schools; and

Whereas, If a waiver is granted, the assigned principal will not leave the school until a permanent principal has been assigned; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That assignments, which require the transfer of a principal or teacher, must be made prior to the opening of school to minimize disruption to the school's learning environment; and be it

Resolved further, That this motion may be waived only after an exhaustive search has been done for personnel whose transfer would not negatively impact the instructional or operational environment of the school. Waivers must be approved by the local district and general superintendents and a school-community meeting hosted by the local district must be called to communicate the proposed change.

Mr. Lauritzen and Mr. Tokofsky's motion regarding Deferred District PHBAO Schools (Noticed October 6, 2004) was postponed and assigned to the Budget and Finance Committee:

Whereas, Funding for Targeted Instructional Improvement Grant (TIIG) is the court-ordered desegregation and voluntary integration program funding to reduce the harm of racial isolation;

Whereas, Calahan Elementary School, Lorne Elementary School, Mayall Elementary School, Plainview Elementary School, Holmes Middle School, and Lawrence Middle School have qualified as PHBAO schools, but received no PHBAO resources; and

Whereas, New schools opening this year are receiving PHBAO resources; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles directs the Superintendent to fund the six schools that have qualified as PHBAO schools, and provide all TIIG resources that are allocated for PHBAO schools for fiscal year 2004-2005.

#### INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Tokofsky's motion on Class Size Reduction was assigned to the Budget and Finance Committee:

Whereas a previous Board of Education, on April 30, 2002, voted 4-3 to choose to increase class size by 2 students in each of grades 4-12 in order to balance a budget;

Whereas, the Board instructed the Superintendent on November 12, 2002, to report in 60 days to the board about returning class size in grades 4-12 to 2001-2002 norm levels;

Whereas, the Board also asked for the above Superintendent's report to cover other key class size issues such as science lab class size, PE class size and funding for other class size issues;

Whereas the Superintendent and Board are on record supporting small learning communities and "its personalization of learning"; and

Whereas many secondary teachers now teach 200 students daily; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education hereby now reduce class size in grades 4-12 by 2 students at the mid-term 04-05.

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

##### REPORT OF CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Korenstein moved that the recommended disposition of the items of correspondence as indicated in the report be approved. Mr. Tokofsky seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

MISCELLANEOUS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Huizar moved the approval of the following minutes of the governing board of the Los Angeles Unified School District:

1:00 p.m., Special Meeting, September 21, 2004  
10:00 a.m., Regular Meeting, October 12, 2004  
9:00 a.m., Closed Session, October 26, 2004

Mr. Lauritzen seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Korenstein announced:

That the School Safety, Health and Human Services Committee Meeting on November 16, 2004 has been cancelled.

Mr. Huizar moved:

That Ms. Korenstein, Member of this Board of Education, be found absent from the Special Meeting of November 2, 2004, due to hardship.

Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Mr. Lansing was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tokofsky moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mr. William H. Fuller, a former Special Education teacher at Grand View Elementary School. Mr. Fuller was always known for bringing his actor friends to read dramatic works to the students.

Ms. LaMotte seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted. Ms. Korenstein and Mr. Lansing were absent.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

APPROVED BY BOARD: June 13, 2006

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JOSE HUIZAR  
PRESIDENT

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JEFFERSON CRAIN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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