

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

SPECIAL MEETING ORDER OF BUSINESS

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room

3 p.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Report Postponed from Regular March 28, 2006, Board Meeting

1. Board of Education Revised Report No. 302 – 05/06
Office of the General Counsel
(Revised Lobbying Disclosure Code) Approves revisions to the Lobbying Disclosure Policy requiring individuals or entities which are compensated by a client or individuals or entities which are expecting to expend \$10,000 or more to engage in activities to influence LAUSD officials to register as lobbyists.
2. Board of Education Report No. 338 – 05/06 (Direct)
Instructional Services
(Recommended Adoption of High School Core and Advanced Placement History/Social Science Textbooks) Approves high school history and social science textbooks listed in Exhibit A.

Adoption of Regular Calendar – Special Meeting of April 4, 2006

Regular

3. Board of Education Report No. 365 – 05/06
Chief Operating Officer
(Naming of Miguel Contreras High School) Approves naming of Central Los Angeles High School No. 10 site as Miguel Contreras High School.
4. Board of Education Report No. 366 – 05/06
Chief Operating Officer
(Naming of Panorama High School) Approves naming of East Valley Area New High School No. 3 site as Panorama High School.

Directs

5. Board of Education Report No. 367 – 05/06 (Direct) **STAFF HAS REQUESTED THAT THIS ITEM BE POSTPONED TO 4-25-06**
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
(Naming of Maywood Elementary School) Approves naming of Maywood Elementary School No. 5 site as Maywood Elementary School.

6. Board of Education Report No. 368 – 05/06 (Direct)
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
(Naming of Middleton Primary Center) Approves naming of Middleton Primary Center.

Board Member Resolutions

7. Mr. Tokofsky – Textbook Selection Process (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

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 form 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 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 and wants 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 has not been developed nor pursued at this point in the process;

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

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

Resolved, That the following policies, guidelines or textbooks listed (see Tab 2, Board of Education Report No. 338 – 05/06, Exhibit A, and beyond) guide local districts and schools in their selection process:

- A. Advanced Placement courses instructors must select from either Exhibit A or any text referenced in College Board course syllabi or College Board course trainings, institutes or instructional support materials, and
- B. After a selection process that requires explicit references to a school and local districts' exam results and schools' needs, World History, U.S. History, Geography, Economics, and Government/Politics course instructors may select from any text that legally met state standards, and

- C. A 4th year of social studies, be added to the District high school curriculum as a 9th grade elective in ethnic studies, geography, psychology, anthropology, sociology or others listed in the approved electives list; and those textbook adoptions be forwarded with a month to the Board, and
- D. The middle school and elementary text and curriculum be sent to and be approved by the Board of Education prior to May 1, and
- E. The History Alive text be ascribed as a supplemental series.

Initial Announcements

8. Mr. Lauritzen – Charter Schools

Whereas, Under the California State Education Code, charter schools are recognized as legal entities that are required to be reviewed and approved if they plan to operate within a school district's boundaries;

Whereas, Charter schools are considered to be an important part of the public educational system, and were originally established to:

1. Improve pupil learning.
2. Increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low-achieving.
3. Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
4. Create new professional development opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.
5. Provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system.
6. Hold the schools established under this part accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes, and provide the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability.
7. Provide vigorous competition within the public school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools.

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District has approved or will soon approve an unprecedented 100 charter schools, which place a tremendous work load on our charter office in terms of oversight and review;

Whereas, The District has had little opportunity to assess the effect of Charter schools in relation to traditional school enrollment, traditional school attendance, student selection, racial and socioeconomic balances, segregation of charter school students, and other potential impact areas; and

Whereas, The charter office and the Program Evaluation Research Branch need time to evaluate the value, performance and effect of charters on the district; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District declare a one-year moratorium, effective May 1, 2006, on the approval of new charter applications;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent be directed to restructure the charter office to provide better oversight and support to charters already approved by the Board;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent initiate a study of the effect of charter schools on the District, and evaluate best practices, both academically and fiscally, and present this report to the Board for review within 6 months; and be it finally

Resolved, That pending the findings of the study, the Superintendent present a comprehensive plan for possible implementation of the aforementioned best practices in our non-charter schools throughout the District.

Announcements

Adjournment

Please note that the Board of Education may consider at this meeting any item referred from a Board Meeting five calendar days prior to this meeting (Education Code 54954.3(b)(3))

The Board of Education may also refer any item on this Order of Business for the consideration of a Standing Committee of the Board of Education which meets on the Tuesday or Thursday immediately after this meeting.

Members of the public who wish to address the Board regarding items on this agenda should contact the Board Secretariat in person or by calling (213) 241-7002 or toll free (877) 772-6273 prior to 5 p.m., the Monday, prior to the meeting to determine if they may be added to the speakers' list. Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations shall be made 24 hours prior to the meeting to the Board Secretariat.

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Please note that if you are being compensated for speaking before the Board or with a Board Member or other District staff – as a salesperson, vendor, advocate, lobbyist, lawyer, or even concerned citizen, you may be required to register as a lobbyist with the LAUSD Ethics Office (check www.lausd.net/ethics or call (213) 241-1814).