

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

AUGMENTED SCHOOL SAFETY, STUDENT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE NOTES  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Board Room  
1:00 p.m., Thursday, May 11, 2006

Board Members Present:

Ms. Julie Korenstein, Chairperson  
Ms. Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Member  
Mr. Jon Lauritzen, Member  
Mr. David Tokofsky

Outside Committee Persons Present:

Mr. Lawrence Jarmon, Community Representative

Staff Present:

Mr. Dan Isaacs, Chief Operating Officer  
Mr. Angelo Bellomo, Director, Office of Environmental Health and Safety  
Deputy Chief Nancy Ramirez, School Police  
Ms. Michelle King, Assistant Superintendent, Student Health and Human Services  
Ms. Marilyn Wells, Director, Food Services  
Ms. Cheri Thomas, Facilitator, Coordinated School Health

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The meeting convened at 1:31 p.m.  
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BODY MAKEOVER PROGRAM – TAB 5

Mr. Michael Thurmond, who has appeared on several television programs; Extreme Body Makeover, Home Shopping Network, presented a program to the Committee to take weight off of school-age children. He explained how he has worked with the Montebello Unified School District and the Parks and Recreation Department. He has been able to appeal to students by showing rapid results of body change with their own bodies through exercise and diet. He explained to the Committee that in order to see changes in our schools it has to be a systemic approach with the involvement of teachers, parents and the cafeteria.

Mr. Thurmond has founded the non-profit American Health and Physical Fitness Foundation and is prepared to offer his services to our District. He requested that one pilot school be named where he would provide trainers to teach students about diet and exercise.

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Mr. Thurmond responded to questions made by Committee Members.

Mr. Isaacs directed Mr. Thurmond to speak to Mr. Michael Eugene, Business Manager and to Ms. Marilyn Wells, Director of Food Services, to discuss the possibilities of working together.

#### CELL PHONE POLICY – TAB 1

In February, Ms. Jeri Durham, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, came before the Committee with results of a one-year running pilot program on Cell Phone Use Policy in Schools. She presented the following recommendations to the Committee for revising the policy:

- Cell phones, etc., cannot be used by students or even seen at any time during the school day or during school activities but may be used prior to the start of the school day and after the close of the school day.
- Exceptions may be made by the principal for health reasons.
- The preference is for one consistent policy applied District wide vs. having local school sites with more stringent policy.
- Students should be able to access phones in school offices in cases of emergency.
- There should be consequences for violations of policy. Students who violate the policy will have their cell phones confiscated.
- Schools must establish a procedure to provide safekeeping of confiscated items.

Ms. Durham responded to comments and questions made by Chairperson Korenstein, Committee Member Lauritzen, Mr. Isaacs and Ms. King. Mr. Isaacs commended Ms. Durham for her leadership and her commitment for examining and responding to the need of a current Cell Phone Use Policy.

#### PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS – TAB 2

Dr. Kim Uyeda gave a condensed version of a presentation she had made to a Pandemic Flu Summit, which was part of a national movement to give preparedness of the influenza virus on the state and local level. Dr. Uyeda gave a history of this virus.

Dr. Uyeda reported that a pandemic influenza is a global outbreak influenza strain that will spread rapidly among individuals, which has no immunity in the existing population and the emergency will overload our health systems and will have some health consequences to our educational system. Dr. Uyeda furnished the Committee with a Pandemic Planning Checklist that the District uses. It included:

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### Planning and Coordination

- To address pandemic influenza preparedness as part of district's all-hazard emergency management plan. It will incorporate pandemic influenza preparedness into existing school operations, teams, and plans.
- Contribute to the local health department's operational plan for surge capacity of healthcare and other services to meet the needs of the community (organization structure and lines of authority, communications, declaration of state of emergency).
- Funding and also recognizing that school district employees are disaster service workers as defined in the California Government Code.

### Continuity of Student Learning and Core Operations

- Address the potential impact of a pandemic on student learning, school closings, and extracurricular activities (The District is currently experiencing addressing scenarios of excessive absenteeism among students and staff).

### Infection Control Policies and Procedures and Communications Planning

- Implement effective infection prevention policies and procedures that help limit the spread of influenza.

### Communication Planning

- Develop plan for communication with staff, students and families.

Dr. Uyeda explained the difference between a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, and a biological disaster, such as the pandemic flu. A natural disaster compromises the physical natural structure and the biological disaster compromises the human natural structure. She ended her overview by stating that parents should take an active role in pandemic influenza preparedness, a common concern is the Avian Flu, which is passed along by birds and animal species.

Dr. Uyeda responded to questions and comments made by Committee Members. Questions asked by Chairperson Korenstein included, "What are the forms of the transmission of influenza," and "Is there a vaccine for the virus." Ms. King requested that Dr. Uyeda share with the Committee what the District currently does with seasonal influenza so the Members can be aware of what the District does and what needs to be done to mitigate the impact and initiate influenza preparedness.

Dr. Uyeda reported that seasonal influenza is a shifting strain of a virus that changes. Normally there is a vaccination available. The biggest role the District plays with the employees and students is to educate them in precautions to take to prevent from getting the flu. As part of its planning, Nursing Services conducts an absence survey to determine how many students are out sick at any given time. Committee Member Jon Lauritzen commented that this presentation informs the District about the importance of emergency preparedness plans.

## STUDENT WELLNESS POLICY – TAB 3

Ms. Michelle King, Ms. Marilynn Wells and Ms. Cheri Thomas jointly presented the Student Wellness Policy to the Committee. Ms. King began by sharing that Public Law 108265, the Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act was enacted June 30, 2004. This Act included a local school wellness policy provision, which requires every school district participating in federally subsidized nutrition programs to develop and implement a local wellness policy by the first day of the 2006-07 school year. The District's Coordinated School Health Office and a council consisting of the Student Health and Human Services Division, in collaboration with Nutrition Services, Instructional Services, Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services, and Parent Community Services Branch have developed a comprehensive wellness policy. Ms. King read the names of all the representatives on the Council as well as other participants in the development of the policy. Ms. King made a recommendation to the Committee that each school site have a coordinated committee or that they use the Safety Committee on their school site to address the wellness needs of their students.

Ms. Wells presented a review of the nutritional services section within the Food Services Branch. Ms. Wells informed the Committee that research has found that there is a strong connection between academic achievement and good nutrition and that nutrition standards are set at federal, state and local levels. She told the Committee that the school breakfast provides one-quarter of the recommended dietary allowances and lunch provides one-third. She said the fat content of the meals does not exceed 30 percent calories from fat or 10 percent calories from saturated fat, when averaged over one week. Besides reporting on the nutritional and fat content of meals, her overview also included fruits and vegetables, sodium content of meals, additives and criteria for evaluating the nutritional quality.

Ms. King and Ms. Wells both spoke about the sections of the report on Nutrition Services; Physical Education; Health Education; Health Services; School Counseling, Psychological Service, and Social Services; Safe Environment; Staff; Parent and Community Involvement; and Fundraising. They elaborated on the subtopic Means and Practices for Promoting Wellness for each section.

Ms. King and Ms. Wells responded to comments made by Committee Members Marguerite LaMotte, Jon Lauritzen and Julie Korenstein. Some of the questions made were: "Is there a central structure for parent workshops to insure the topics like the Wellness Policy will be discussed at the school level," and "Do we have people monitoring to know that this is happening," by Committee Member Marguerite LaMotte; "Were teachers and administrators involved in the development of the Wellness Policy," Mr. Dan Isaacs; "Was there any direction in Board Policy of the minimum standard on fat content," asked by Chairperson Julie Korenstein.

A discussion was held on the State Law requiring high school students take four years of physical education and that the Los Angeles Unified School District adopted policy in 1981, to

allow high school students to only take two physical education classes with an option of taking more. Mr. Isaacs suggested this item be further discussion at a Curriculum Committee Meeting.

### SPEAKER

Ms. Barbara Hupp, teacher at Salvin Elementary, spoke on the importance of quality, daily physical education.

### TEEN DATING – TAB 4

Ms. Leah Aldridge, Associate Director, Youth Violence Prevention, Policy & Training, Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women, made a presentation on the contents of a training given to administrators on Teen Dating Violence. Ms. Aldridge gave an overview of dating and sexual violence among teens, identifying the impact of dating violence on school safety and academic achievement, school responsibility for addressing dating and sexual violence, and policy strategies for addressing teen dating violence. Ms. Aldridge informed the Committee of dating and sexual violence statistics. She shared some cases where female students reported being physically or sexually abused by a dating partner.

Ms. Aldridge reported that students from Marshall, Monroe and Cleveland high schools were surveyed by their peers. Some of the questions asked were:

How often do you believe teen violence occurs among teens?  
How serious a problem is teen violence at your school?  
Have you seen or heard of any of your peers being a victim of teen violence?

She supplied the results and mentioned that most teens do not report being physically or sexually abused.

Additional topics contained in Ms. Aldridge's training were: Impact of Sexual and Dating Violence on Schooling, It's Threat to Academic Achievement and to School Safety; a School's Legal Obligations and Potential Liability; What Schools Can Do; Intervention-Prevention Strategies.

Ms. Aldridge requested that the District adopt policy and protocol around teen violence and included a draft of such that her organization had put together.

Chairperson Julie Korenstein and Committee Member Marguerite LaMotte both made comments. Chairperson Julie Korenstein suggested that this item be presented at a Regular Board Meeting.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment speakers.

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The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.  
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