

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

AUGMENTED CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES

333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 10, 2005

Board Members Present:

Mr. Jon Lauritzen, Chairperson
Ms. Marlene Canter, Member
Ms. Julie Korenstein, Member
Mr. David Tokofsky

External Members Present:

Ms. Linda Guthrie, United Teachers Los Angeles
Mr. Dale McIntire, Retired, Division of Adult and Career Education
Dr. Judith Perez, Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

Staff Present:

Ms. Ronni Ephraim, Chief Instructional Officer, Instructional Services
Dr. James Morris, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Support Services
Ms. Jean Brown, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
Dr. Liza Scruggs, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
Ms. Maria Reza, Assistant Superintendent, Student Health and Human Services
Ms. Rita Caldera, Assistant Superintendent, Specially Funded Programs/Parent/Community Services
Ms. Alma Pena-Sanchez, Director, Language Acquisition Branch
Ms. Deborah Ernst, Director, Specially Funded Programs
Dr. Ted Bartell, Director, Program Evaluation and Research Branch
Dr. Steven Cantrell, Chief Research Scientist, Program Evaluation and Research Branch
Dr. Kimberle Kelly, Project Director, Program Evaluation and Research Branch

The meeting convened at 10:06 a.m.

RECOGNITION

Ms. Ephraim and Dr. Morris presented Certificate of Appreciations to Mr. James Morton and Mr. Steve Henry from the Scholastic Foundation for their time and support in assisting the Division of Instruction to store, pack, and distribute over 200,000 donated items divided among every kindergarten class in the District.

EVALUATION OF THE LOS ANGELES URBAN SYSTEMIC PROGRAM: YEAR 3 REPORT

Dr. Bartell reported that, in response to the Committee's request, Dr. Kelly would talk about the student achievement graphs contained in her report, "Evaluation of the Los Angeles Urban Systemic Program: Year 3 Report."

Dr. Kelly spoke about the method she has used to accurately portray student achievement gains on the California Standards Test (CST). This method is called value-added modeling which is a method to measure that part of the student's performance that can be contributed to the efforts of a school system during a given year. There are many factors outside the school system that influence student performance, such as parental education and socioeconomic status. Value-added modeling takes these factors into account as well as each individual student's prior test performance to compute a predicted test score. The predicted score represents how well the average student in the average school would perform.

Dr. Kelly presented two graphs that illustrated predicted scores versus value-added scores on performance on the 2004 CST in science and performance on CST in science as a function of combined professional development indicators.

Dr. Kelly and Dr. Cantrell responded to comments and questions raised by the Committee.

THINKING MAPS—STRATEGIES TO MEET DIVERSE STUDENT NEEDS

Ms. Sanchez reported that, when the Board passed the Title III Initiative in October 2002, the Initiative provided for improving and strengthening instruction for the English Learners. Additionally, the Board passed a resolution which directed Districtwide comprehensive professional development to support the English Learners. When English language development lessons for this professional development were being developed and designed, Local District 2 staff chose Thinking Maps, which they believe are an effective visual tool for learning.

Ms. Shannon spoke about the utilization of Thinking Maps in Local District 2. She pointed out that Thinking Maps are visual and verbal tools that provide teachers and students with a common language for meaningful learning. Thinking Maps promote student-centered and cooperative learning, concept development and reflective thinking, creativity, clarity of communication, and continuous cognitive development.

Ms. Mary Campbell, Coordinator, English Language Learner, Local District 2, described the Thinking Map process.

Ms. Shannon and Ms. Sanchez responded to comments and questions raised by the Committee.

RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF HIGH SCHOOL BASIC HEALTH TEXTBOOK

Dr. Morris reported that there is an established textbook adoption process in this District where a committee of practitioners review and make a recommendation on specific texts. Following the Health Textbook Committee's original recommendation to adopt the 2005 book Health published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill and its supplemental material for ninth-grade health classes, the Board asked that the Textbook Committee review additional health textbooks.

Two of the representatives from the Textbook Committee, Mr. Edward Berger, a teacher at Hamilton High School, and Ms. Lisa Thlick-Khatchadourian, a teacher at Wilson High School, spoke about the textbooks they reviewed and responded to comments and questions raised by the Committee. They noted that the Textbook Committee will make a recommendation on the health textbook this afternoon.

Mr. Lauritzen announced that, due to the advice of legal counsel, the representatives from Glencoe may not address the Committee.

SPEAKERS

The following individuals expressed their views on the health textbooks:

Ms. Amy Exelby, Public Affairs Director, Planned Parenthood Los Angeles
Martha Swiller, Executive Vice President, Planned Parenthood Los Angeles
Ms. Carla Valdez, School-Based Sex Education Coordinator, Planned Parenthood Los Angeles

A communication recommending the adoption of a high school basic health textbook will be acted upon by the Board of Education on March 15, 2005.

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

Dr. Scruggs reported that the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic regularly-scheduled elective program based on writing as a tool of learning, inquiry method and collaborative grouping. The three main components of the program are academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities.

Dr. Scruggs noted that yesterday a number of educators from Local District 7 and central district staff visited an AVID national demonstration site at Ramona High School in the Riverside School District.

Dr. Laurie Wiebold, AVID Regional Director, Los Angeles County Office of Education, advised that AVID students are students in the middle who have four-year college potential but have not previously succeeded in a college preparatory curricular path. Students enroll in rigorous academic classes and in the AVID elective class where they receive academic support. Their self-image improves and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students. The AVID curriculum is developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors and emphasizes all students having access to college preparatory classes.

Dr. Scruggs stated there are 24 certified middle and high schools that have implemented all eleven elements of the AVID program. The eleven elements are the selection of students, the participation of both students and staff, scheduling of classes, advanced rigorous courses, a strong, relevant writing curriculum, inquiry based instruction, collaboration in instruction, high school and college tutors, data collection and analysis, school and community resources, and a site team.

Dr. Scruggs pointed out that there are 20 new schools that went into the AVID program this Fall and 16 schools are in their second year. When schools become certified, they can be considered for national recognition in terms of being an AVID demonstration school.

Ms. Ephraim, Dr. Scruggs and Dr. Wiebold responded to comments and questions raised by the Committee.

COORDINATED COMPLIANCE REVIEW REPORT

Ms. Caldera stated that the Coordinated Compliance Review (CCR) validation process was conducted from February 7 through February 18, 2005, by the California Department of Education CCR team. The central offices responsible for categorical programs were reviewed and ten school sites, including one community adult school, were visited in Local Districts 1 and 5. The validation review was the fourth and last phase in the four-year cycle that began during the 2000-2001 school year.

Ms. Ernst provided the Committee with a copy of the Notification of Findings for the 2004-2005 Phase IV Validation Review. The report summarizes the patterns of successes and concerns in relation to compliance issues.

Ms. Ernst advised that the team reviewed eleven programs. Of the 220 items reviewed, only fifteen items were found to be noncompliant. Seven of the fifteen items cited were for physical education; five items were for English Learners; two items were Career Technical Education; and one item was consolidated programs.

Ms. Ernst pointed out that a plan will be submitted by April 4, 2005, to the California Department of Education that addresses the areas of noncompliance.

Ms. Ernst responded to questions and comments raised by the Committee.

NONAGENDA SPEAKERS

The following individuals spoke on accountability issues:

Ms. Lorena Jaramillo, a parent

Ms. Berta Orrosticta, a parent

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

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Committee Members

Jon Lauritzen, Chairperson
 Marlene Canter
 Julie Korenstein
 Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte
 Linda Guthrie, United Teachers Los Angeles
 Judith Perez, Ed.D. Associated Administrators of
 Los Angeles
 Dale McIntire, Retired DACE

Superintendent's Representatives

Maria G. Ott, Ph.D.
 Sr. Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services
 Ronni Ephraim
 Chief Instructional Officer, Instructional Services
 Jean Brown
 Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
 James Morris, Ed. D.
 Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
 Liza Scruggs, Ph. D.
 Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
 Santiago Jackson, Ph. D.
 Assistant Superintendent, Division of Adult
 and Career Education

AGENDA

INSTRUCTIONAL INITIATIVES	PRESENTERS	PRESENTATION TIME	DISCUSSION TIME
1. <u>Discussion of Evaluation Reports</u> Evaluation of Structured English Immersion Program Evaluation of Urban Systemic Program			15
2. Recommended Adoption of High School Basic Health Textbook	Dr. Jim Morris Edward Berger <i>Teacher, Hamilton HS (LD 3)</i> Lisa Thlick-Khatchadourian <i>Teacher, Wilson HS (LD 5)</i>	10	20
3. Thinking Maps-Strategies to Meet Diverse Student Needs	Sue Shannon <i>Superintendent, Local Dist. 2</i> Alma Pena-Sanchez <i>Director, Language Acquisition Branch</i>	15	20

4. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)	Dr. Liza Scruggs Dr. Laurie Wiebold <i>Los Angeles County Office of Education</i>	10	10
5. Coordinated Compliance Review Report	Rita Caldera <i>Assistant Superintendent Specially Funded Programs/Parent/ Community Services</i> Deborah Ernst <i>Director, Specially Funded Programs</i>	10	20
6. Public Comments	Persons who wish to address the Committee may sign up at this meeting.		