

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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Including Closed Session Items  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room  
9:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2016

The Los Angeles Board of Education acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District met in special session on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, at 333 South Beaudry, Los Angeles, California.

Board President Steve Zimmer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

The following Board Members were present: Dr. George J. McKenna, Mr. Scott M. Schmerelson, Dr. Richard Vladovic, and President Steve Zimmer. Dr. Ref Rodriguez arrived at 9:06 a.m. Ms. Mónica Ratliff arrived at 9:21 a.m., and Ms. Mónica García arrived at 9:22 a.m.

Superintendent Michelle King was present.

OPEN SESSION ITEM

Board Member Resolution for Initial Announcement

A. Mr. Schmerelson – Closure of Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility (Res-040-16/17)  
(For Action November 15, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.)

Whereas, The methane gas blowout detected on October 23, 2015 from Well SS25 in the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility of Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) lasted for 112 days until finally controlled on February 18, 2016;

Whereas, SoCalGas failed to disclose the methane release for the first three days and was fined \$4 million by the Los Angeles County District Court;

Whereas, 8,400 families, over 20,000 individual residents, were displaced and sickened by fumes which contained carcinogens including benzene, formaldehyde, trichloroethylene, mercaptan and vanadium;

Whereas, Over 1,800 students at two Los Angeles Unified School District schools, Porter Ranch Community School and Castlebay Lane Affiliated Charter Elementary School, were relocated due to health risks to students, teachers, and staff;

Whereas, The five-mile residential relocation zone included twenty District schools;

Whereas, With the release of 109,000 tons of methane, Los Angeles was the site of the largest man made greenhouse-gas disaster in the history of the United States, doubling the amount of methane pollution emitted by all sources across the entire Los Angeles basin;

Whereas, It has come to light that SoCalGas and the California Public Utilities Commission were well aware of the risks that led to the gas blowout;

Whereas, There are 114 storage wells remaining at the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility and 39 of the remaining wells were drilled in 1954 or earlier and are over 60 years old;

Whereas, A representative from SoCalGas admitted in 2014 testimony before the California Public Utilities Commission that “a negative well integrity trend seems to have developed since 2008,” meaning that well casings are hitting a breaking point due to their age and high intensity use;

Whereas, An agent of SoCalGas testified before the Air Quality Management District Hearing Board that there are, on average, two leaks a day at the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility;

Whereas, The Environmental Protection Agency classifies the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility as the third most polluting gas storage field in the country;

Whereas, According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, at least one member of eighty-one percent of households in the area reported health symptoms before the blowout was capped, and sixty-three percent of households had at least one member report symptoms after the blowout was capped;

Whereas, Residents near the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility are still getting sick in the aftermath of the gas blowout due to contaminated homes and continued air pollution. The Aliso Canyon Storage Facility is still leaking despite being currently closed for injection. Since blown out Well SS25 was capped, there have been three leaks large enough to require public notification by the facility and these instances of air pollution are causing upticks in health problems for nearby residents, students, and school staff;

Whereas, SoCalGas continues to evade responsibility to public health and is now in litigation with the South Coast Air Quality Management District over the funding of a long-term health study;

Whereas, The District was not properly notified by SoCalGas, or its agents, of the blowout of Well SS25 or the following instances of air pollution;

Whereas, The State of California, per the summer and winter *Aliso Canyon Gas and Electric Reliability Action Plans*, adopted 28 rule and operational changes to the gas system and electric grid to ensure energy reliability without Aliso Canyon in the summer and winter seasons;

Whereas, A Technical Assessment published by Powers Engineering concludes that, based on the 28 adopted rule changes, the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility is not necessary to meet the energy demands of Southern California;

Whereas, Since January 2016, without affecting energy reliability, there have been no new gas injections and no stored gas has been used for energy generation;

Whereas, On November 1, 2016, Southern California Gas Company requested regulatory approval to begin the process to resume injection operations at the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, In order to protect public health and the safety of our schools, parents, students, teachers and staff, the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District requests that the California Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources, the California Public Utilities Commission, and Governor Jerry Brown decommission the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility.

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CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (Purpose and Authority)

Mr. Jefferson Crain, Executive Officer of the Board, announced that the following items would be discussed in closed session:

B. Conference with Legal Counsel

Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

Jagielski-Bazzell, et al. v. Los Angeles Unified School District, et al.  
United States District Court, Central District of California Case No. 2:15-CV-2921 BRO(GJSx)

Community Coalition of South Los Angeles, et al. v. Los Angeles Unified School District, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS 156259

J.M.G., et al. v. Los Angeles Unified School District  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 521713

P.S., by and through GAL, Priscilla Ramirez, v. Los Angeles Unified School District  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 502027

Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2))

1 Case

C. Personnel (Government Code Section 54957)

Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

Employee Evaluation

Inspector General

Superintendent of Schools

D. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6)

Negotiator: Mr. Najeeb Khoury  
Employee Organizations:

Associated Administrators of Los Angeles  
California School Employees Association  
Los Angeles County Building and Construction Trades Council  
Los Angeles School Police Association  
Los Angeles School Police Sergeants and Lieutenants Association  
Service Employees International Union, SEIU Local 99  
Teamsters  
United Teachers Los Angeles  
District Represented Employees and Contract Management Personnel

E. Student Discipline Matters (California Education Code Sections 48918(c), (f))

F. Approval of Notes

SPEAKERS

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item indicated:

Ms. Gemma Burgos	Personnel
Mr. Matthew Kogan	Personnel

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The Board recessed the public portion of the closed session meeting at 9:10 a.m. Closed session discussion began at 9:12 a.m. and ended at 3:15 p.m. All Board Members were present for the closed session discussions.

The Board reconvened the public portion of the closed session meeting at 3:19 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Ms. García, Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rodriguez, Mr. Schmerelson, Dr. Vladovic, and Mr. Zimmer. Ms. Ratliff arrived at 3:20 p.m.

Mr. Crain announced the following reportable actions:

- The Board of Education approved the expulsions of students in case numbers 032-16/17, 033-16/17, 034-16/17, 035-16/17, 036-16/17, and 037-16/17, with the recommended dispositions. The Board of Education additionally approved the conditional enrollment of the student in case number 009A-16/17, with the recommended disposition.

The vote was 7 ayes.

- The Board of Education authorized the initiation of the dismissal action of 1 high school teacher, 2 Special Education Assistants; 1 Area Bus Supervisor; and 1 Bus Dispatcher.

The vote was 7 ayes.

- The Board of Education authorized settlement in the case of Jagielski-Bazzell, et al., v. Los Angeles Unified School District, et al., United States District Court, Central District of California; Case No. 2:15-CV-2921 BRO(GJSx). Terms and conditions will be available upon the finalization of the settlement.

The vote was 7 ayes.

- The Board of Education authorized settlement of the case J.M.G., et al., v. Los Angeles Unified School District; Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 521713. Terms and conditions will be available upon the finalization of the settlement.

The vote was 6 ayes; 1 no, Dr. Vladovic.

- The Board of Education approved notes from previous meetings.

The vote was 7 ayes

On motion by Ms. Ratliff, seconded by Dr. Rodriguez, and by general consent the meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: FEBRUARY 14, 2017

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STEVEN ZIMMER  
PRESIDENT

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JEFFERSON CRAIN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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The vote was 7 ayes.

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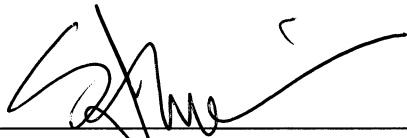
The vote was 6 ayes; 1 no, Dr. Vladovic.

- The Board of Education approved notes from previous meetings.

The vote was 7 ayes

On motion by Ms. Ratliff, seconded by Dr. Rodriguez, and by general consent the meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

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