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, December 12, 2017, at the Los Angeles City Board of Education Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Board President Mónica García called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

The following Board Members were present: Ms. Kelly Gonez, Dr. George McKenna, III, Mr. Nick Melvoin, Dr. Ref Rodriguez, Mr. Scott Schmerelson, Dr. Richard Vladovic and Board President Mónica García. Student Board Member Mr. Benjamin Holtzman was present.

Associate Superintendent Ms. Vivian Ekchian was present.

Dr. Vladovic led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Ekchian in recognition of the many individuals, partners, and staff members that were instrumental to assisting the District, students, and their families respond to the wildfires that impacted many areas of the District.

STUDENT VOICES

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT’S STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Holtzman began his presentation stating that the mission of the Student Involvement, Development and Empowerment Unit (SIDE) is to increase student voices by ensuring that students have the power to inform, influence and shape reforms, policies and practices to be reflective of the realities, needs and solutions from the student perspective. SIDE focuses on student leadership and empowerment.

Mr. Holtzman detailed the application process to run for the Student Board Member position and encouraged his peers to apply.

The Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council is comprised of students from each Local and Board District and meets with the Superintendent and District staff to be the voice of District students in relation to District policies, programs and practices. Mr. Holtzman described some of the areas that the current Council has provided input to the District, including improvement to the student experience survey, discussions with the Food Services Division about menus, and with Pupil Services on ways students can help to increase attendance.

Ms. Danielle Rawls has been on the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council for three years and is a senior at Westchester High School. Ms. Rawls stated that the Council works on sustainable projects that will impact students in positive ways and support the District’s goals. Each member of the Council is responsible for a project at their school. Project areas include attendance, school culture and climate,
and college and career readiness. Ms. Rawls lead a project focused on facilitating restorative justice at Westchester High School.

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President García modified the Order of Business.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF BARGAINING UNION INITIAL PROPOSALS

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION BARGAINING PROPOSALS FOR 2017-2018 SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT (040-17/18)

LOS ANGELES SCHOOL POLICE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION BARGAINING PROPOSALS FOR 2017-2018 SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT (041-17/18)

Initial bargaining proposals are made public before negotiations began.

CONSENT ITEMS

Items for action below to be adopted by a single vote:

NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION:

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 152-17/18
Facilities Contract Actions

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 247-17/18
Report of Cash Disbursements, Request to Reissue Expired Warrants, Reimbursement of the Controller’s Revolving Cash Fund, and Donations of Money

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 255-17/18
Capital Facilities Fund (Developer/Impact Fees) Annual and Five Year Accounting Reports

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 258-17/18
2017-18 First Interim Report and Multi-Year Projections and Fiscal Stabilization Plan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 222-17/18
Routine Personnel Actions

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 098-17/18
Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define and Approve Three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 218-17/18
Resolution to Exempt the Proposed Ulysses S. Grant Senior High School Comprehensive Modernization Project from Local Land Use Regulations under California Government Code Section 53094(b)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 219-17/18
Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ulysses S. Grant Senior High School Comprehensive Modernization Project
BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 220-17/18  
Project Approval for the Ulysses S. Grant Senior High School Comprehensive Modernization Project

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 224-17/18  
Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Approve 
Four Project Definition Proposals that Address Critical School Safety and Repair Needs

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 225-17/18  
Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define and Approve 
17 Board Member Priority and Local District Priority Projects

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 226-17/18  
Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Approve 
Four Project Definition Proposals to Address State Requirements for the 
Removal of Certain Relocatable Buildings

BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION:  
Dr. McKenna, Ms. Gonez, Dr. Rodriguez, Mr. Melvoin – Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (Res-023-17/18) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Whereas, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. devoted his life to the struggle for justice and equality;  

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was universally recognized as a proponent of nonviolence in the pursuit of freedom and justice in the United States;  

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1964 in recognition of his outstanding leadership in pursuit of that goal,  

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day has been recognized as a national holiday since 1984 and became a National Day of Service in 1994 by the passage of the King Holiday and Service Act by the US Congress;  

Whereas, The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service is a part of United We Serve, President Obama’s national call to service initiative;  

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. firmly believed that the road which led to justice, equality, and a new sense of dignity for millions of Black people, opened for all Americans a new era of progress and hope;  

Whereas, The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service, calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to the most pressing national and local problems; and  

Whereas, Our students, parents, and staff will benefit from all projects and programs that increase participation in long term community service; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes the third Monday in January as a day of service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his principle of justice for all;

Resolved further, That on Monday, January 15, 2018, we encourage all students, parents, teachers, and staff to observe this MLK National Day of Service by engaging in volunteer activities to help our community become a better world; and be it finally

Resolved, That schools provide students and parents with suggestions of appropriate instructional and community activities that can be conducted during and following the MLK National Day of Service on January 15, 2018.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS:

Report of Correspondence (044-17/18)

Mr. Crain made the following statement:

Reference is made to Board of Education Report No. 191-17/18, dated November 14, 2017, wherein the Board adopted the resolution declaring that the Sogam Cooperative Parking, Inc. is wholly owned by the District, appointing Corporate Officers, authorizing the officers to execute all reasonable documents needed to transfer the land currently owned by SOGAM to the District, execute a parcel map, and thereafter dissolve SOGAM.

The Board has fixed this meeting as the time and place for the public hearing upon the question of such declaration.

An opportunity is now given to anyone present to file with the Board petitions protesting the proposed declaration, signed by at least ten percent of the qualified electors of the District as shown by the affidavit on one of the petitioners.

No petitions being filed, a motion is now in order to adopt the resolutions authorizing the actions identified.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Authorization of Activities Necessary to Enable a New Parcel Map to be Recorded for the Legacy High School Complex Site and Various Street Vacations, Dedications, and Easements to be Executed

MINUTES FOR BOARD APPROVAL:

November 14, 2017, Regular Closed Session, 9:00 a.m.
November 28, 2017, Special Closed Session, 11:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Motion finding Ms. Kelly Gonez absent due to Board Business from the Special Board meetings (11 a.m. and 1 p.m.) of November 28, 2017 (047-17/18)
Dr. Rodriguez moved that the Consent Items be adopted with Board of Education Report No. 258-17/18 being amended to strike “current or” from the Action Proposed section. Dr. McKenna seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Ms. Gonez regarding career technical education programs.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic regarding certification language.

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Ekchian regarding Board of Education Report No. 258-17/18 and the District’s qualified certification.

Dr. Scott Price, Chief Financial Officer, presented the First Interim Financial Report and the Fiscal Stabilization Plan to the Board. The District’s qualified certification means that the District may not be able to meet its financial obligations in the upcoming years and must therefore submit a Fiscal Stabilization Plan.

Dr. Price reviewed the timelines associated with the budget and changes made to the District’s Fiscal Stabilization Plan since June 2017. He discussed the relation to the ending balance reserve percentage and the impact of declining enrollment on the budget. The District has a structural deficit because new expenditures are outpacing new revenues. Dr. Price explained the District’s Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenue from 2013-14 through 2020-21.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic and Ms. Gonez regarding enrollment decline projections and the impact on LCFF, fiscal health, and public education funding.

Dr. Price responded to questions from Mr. Melvoin regarding the structural deficit, reserve amounts, one time funding, post-employment benefits, and the impact of a qualified certification.

Remarks were heard from Ms. García regarding management and budget uncertainty.

The following speaker addressed the Board on Consent Items:

Mr. David Tokofsky on Board of Education Report No. 258-17/18, 2017-18 First Interim Report and Multi-Year Projections and Fiscal Stabilization Plan and Authorization of Activities Necessary to enable a New Parcel Map to be Recorded for the Legacy High School Complex Site and Various Street Vacations, Dedications, and Easements to be Executed (045-17/18)

Mr. Armando Herman on Board of Education Report No. 258-17/18, 2017-18 First Interim Report and Multi-Year Projections and Fiscal Stabilization Plan

Following speakers and Board Member discussion, the Consent Items were adopted by general consent, with Board of Education Report No. 258-17/18 being adopted as amended. Ms. Gonez recorded an abstention on Minutes for Board Approval (046-17/18).

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

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President García resumed the Order of Business.

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Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes 1 p.m., 12-12-17
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

BUDGET UPDATE

Dr. Scott Price, Chief Financial Officer, presented during the Consent Item discussion.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Remarks were heard from Superintendent Ekchian regarding attendance challenges.

Ms. Erika Torres, Executive Director, Student Health and Human Services (SHHS), and Dr. Michelle Castelo Alferes, Director, Pupil Services, lead a presentation on attendance improvement initiatives and best practices. Attendance is a complex issue driven by multiple factors, including health, wellness, connectedness, and sense of safety. SHHS has worked with the Information Technology Division to acquire data related to these risk factors to predict chronic absenteeism.

Ms. Torres reviewed the following essential elements to addressing attendance:

- System-wide prevention and early intervention
- Positive, safe school culture
- Meaningful and supportive relationships
- Parent engagement
- Community partnership and collaboration
- Leadership and vision.

Ms. Torres detailed the District’s attendance improvement efforts, including an attendance awareness campaign, attendance dashboards, outreach to families and community, and partnership with Parent and Community Services Branch.

The District’s Attendance Improvement Program (AIP) targets chronic absenteeism in Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grade 9. Ms. Torres reviewed the outcomes of the AIP in 2016-17.

Dr. Alferes highlighted schools in each Board District and Local District that have shown significant improvement in attendance and detailed best practices from each school.

Mr. Rudy Mendoza, Principal, Banning High School, shared the best practices at his school that have resulted in a 3.2 percent decrease in chronic absenteeism.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Schmerelson regarding relationships with school staff, school and District culture and policies, and government relations and funding.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic and Mr. Melvoin congratulating the staff at Banning High School, SHHS, and Pupil Services, local control, attendance goals, and evaluation of various programs.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding the importance of peer influence, support and counseling and incentives. Ms. Gonez congratulated the highlighted schools and remarked on the need for more disaggregated data.
OLD BUSINESS FOR ACTION

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 213-17/18
Board Rule Revisions

This item was postponed to the Regular Board meeting of January 16, 2018.

NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 133-17/18
Procurement Actions

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted with the amendment to withdraw Contract No. 4400005942, Grant Thornton LLP. Mr. Melvoin seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna recognizing the accomplishments of Team HEAL, a nonprofit that provides full-time Certified Athletic Trainers to under-served public high school athletic programs.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Dr. Clarence Shields, Team HEAL
Dr. Jonathan Schreiber, Team HEAL

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic regarding Team HEAL and the special education independent monitor.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the report was adopted as amended, 7 ayes with Dr. Vladovic recording a no vote on Contract Nos. 4400002923-3 and 4400002923-4, Dr. David Rostetter.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 257-17/18
Resolution Approving an Upcoming General Obligation Bond Sale Not to Exceed $1.4 Billion and the Selection of the Finance Team, including Underwriters, Financial Advisor, Bond and Tax Counsel, and Disclosure Counsel

Dr. Rodriguez moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic regarding the costs associated with selling bonds.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 223-17/18
Provisional Internship Permits

Mr. Melvoin moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic regarding the District creating its own university to train teachers.
After comments and by general consent, the report was adopted.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 248-17/18
Delegation of Authority to Apply for Non-Formula Grants of $1 Million or More

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Melvoin seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic opposing the delegation.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Melvoin, Dr. Vladovic, and Dr. Rodriguez regarding Board approval of grants, fiduciary oversight, and the District’s need for revenue.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the report was adopted, 6 ayes, 1 no, Dr. Vladovic.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 250-17/18
Instructional Calendar for the 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-2021 School Years

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Melvoin seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding feedback from constituents, data integrity, and impacts on instruction.

This item was tabled to allow action on a time certain item.

Later in the meeting, remarks continued from Dr. Vladovic, Dr. Rodriguez, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Melvoin, and Dr. McKenna regarding parental support of a later start date, survey design results, approving the calendar for multiple school years, impact of differing length semesters, increased instructional time, local control, and calendar options.

Dr. McKenna moved that Exhibit D, Option 3, which calendars the first day of instruction on August 27, 2018, and the last day of instruction on June 24, 2019, be adopted. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Ms. Gonez and Mr. Melvoin regarding academic remediation needed after the winter break, cultural norms, survey data, and consistency.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic and Mr. Melvoin regarding test scores, academic benefits, parental input, and recommendation from the Superintendent.

Remarks were heard from Ms. García regarding the challenges of being a large school district.

Superintendent Ekchian responded to questions from Ms. García regarding the historical background of instructional calendar development.

Dr. Derrick Chau, Senior Executive Director, Division of Instruction, and Superintendent Ekchian addressed the Board regarding the operational and instructional aspects of the school calendar.
Dr. Chau responded to questions from Dr. Vladovic regarding community college start dates.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding credit recovery and remediation.

Ms. Zsuzsuanna Vincze, Director, District Operations, and Superintendent Ekchian responded to questions from Ms. García and Mr. Melvoin regarding instructional calendars in other school districts, ability for schools to choose their own calendars, pilot schools, bargaining union negotiations, and operational costs.

After discussion and on roll call vote, Dr. McKenna’s amendment failed, 5 noes and 2 ayes, Dr. McKenna and Dr. Vladovic.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of no.

On roll call vote, the report was adopted, 4 ayes and 3 noes, Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rodriguez, and Dr. Vladovic.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

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President García modified the Order of Business.
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BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Mr. Melvoin moved that Board Rule 72 be waived to allow action on Res-022-17/18. Ms. García seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

Mr. Melvoin moved the following resolution:

Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Garcia - Strengthening Protections for Victims of Harassment (Res-022-17/18)

Whereas, In recent weeks, women and men of courage in a broad range of industries, including government, politics, business, and entertainment, have come forward with personal accounts to expose a pervasive culture of work-related sexual harassment, assault, and inappropriate behavior;

Whereas, In the wake of these stories, all organizations should be reaffirming that sexual harassment and misconduct have no place in our institutions and the Los Angeles Unified School District must declare our commitment to make our District, including our schools and central offices, a place where every person feels safe and supported;

Whereas, Just as there is a heightened responsibility to ensure a safe environment where children are learning, it is equally important that our teachers, employees, and all District staff have safe workplaces, free from any type of harassment (sexual or otherwise);
Whereas, It is the intent of the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District to work with our Superintendent, advocates, and stakeholders to review our current anti-harassment policies and update them as appropriate to ensure and verify that victims are heard, their claims are appropriately investigated by trained personnel, and the accused are afforded due process protections;

Whereas, If an employee, applicant, paid or unpaid intern, volunteer, or independent contractor has experienced any type of harassment, he or she should feel comfortable making a complaint without fear of re-victimization or retaliation;

Whereas, Equal Rights Advocates, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization focused on women's rights, recommends a centralized place to file complaints of harassment as the most effective tracking method; and

Whereas, The District does not have a centralized method for tracking all harassment complaints lodged at the school site level; nor are school-based managers required to report such claims to the District’s Equal Opportunity Section; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Superintendent shall create and provide to the Board a report detailing the number of complaints reported in the past five years school- and District-wide to determine the scope of the issue;

Resolved, That the Superintendent will immediately, and no later than January 2, 2018, establish and publicize to all District staff a hotline by which complaints or concerns regarding harassment may be raised (anonymously, if permitted by law);

Resolved, That the Superintendent will convene internal and external stakeholders and advocates to review and revise all applicable anti-harassment policies within 120 days; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the above-referenced review should consider updates related, but not limited to the following issues:

- timelines for victims to report their claims and investigators to investigate,
- training for investigators,
- third-party investigators,
- centralized investigation and tracking of claims,
- investigations based on the sufficiency of the evidence and not the responsiveness of victims,
- grounds for appeals,
- guidelines, tools, and resources for best practices in harassment prevention, investigation, and treatment of victims,
- communication strategy and protocol related to sharing these revised policies and codes of conduct,
- technology that can provide for easier and more accurate reporting, investigation, and tracking of harassment claims, including a phone hotline, website, app, or text messaging,
- anti-retaliation protections,
- reporting by and protections for whistleblowers,
- source of settlement payments,
• periodic reporting to the Board of Education on the status of claims.

Ms. García seconded the motion.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Ms. Melodie Kruspodin, Peace Over Violence
Ms. Maryam Zar, Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women

Remarks were heard from Mr. Melvoin regarding the purpose of the resolution, sexual harassment, and the District’s efforts.

With the consent of the resolution’s mover and seconder, the amendment to add the following bullet points was accepted as friendly:

• the process for reporting claims related to members of the Board of Education
• revamp the sexual harassment training video.

Remarks were heard from Ms. García clarifying the amendment.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding development of policies and systems related to sexual harassment in the workplace and the role of the Board.

Remarks were heard from Ms. Gonez regarding urgency and accountability.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Melvoin and Mr. Schmerelson regarding fear of retaliation, complicity, and budget impacts.

Mr. David Holmquist, General Counsel, responded to questions from Mr. Melvoin regarding the proposed complaint hotline.

Further remarks regarding the role of the Board were heard from Dr. McKenna.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Rodriguez and Mr. Melvoin regarding protection and costs.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Holtzman regarding the reporting incidents.

After discussion and by general consent, the resolution was adopted as amended, 6 ayes, 1 abstention, Dr. McKenna.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

The final version of the resolution reads as follows:
Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Gonez - Strengthening Protections for Victims of Harassment
(Res-022-17/18)

Whereas, In recent weeks, women and men of courage in a broad range of industries, including government, politics, business, and entertainment, have come forward with personal accounts to expose a pervasive culture of work-related sexual harassment, assault, and inappropriate behavior;

Whereas, In the wake of these stories, all organizations should be reaffirming that sexual harassment and misconduct have no place in our institutions and the Los Angeles Unified School District must declare our commitment to make our District, including our schools and central offices, a place where every person feels safe and supported;

Whereas, Just as there is a heightened responsibility to ensure a safe environment where children are learning, it is equally important that our teachers, employees, and all District staff have safe workplaces, free from any type of harassment (sexual or otherwise);

Whereas, It is the intent of the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District to work with our Superintendent, advocates, and stakeholders to review our current anti-harassment policies and update them as appropriate to ensure and verify that victims are heard, their claims are appropriately investigated by trained personnel, and the accused are afforded due process protections;

Whereas, If an employee, applicant, paid or unpaid intern, volunteer, or independent contractor has experienced any type of harassment, he or she should feel comfortable making a complaint without fear of re-victimization or retaliation;

Whereas, Equal Rights Advocates, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization focused on women's rights, recommends a centralized place to file complaints of harassment as the most effective tracking method; and

Whereas, The District does not have a centralized method for tracking all harassment complaints lodged at the school site level; nor are school-based managers required to report such claims to the District’s Equal Opportunity Section; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Superintendent shall create and provide to the Board a report detailing the number of complaints reported in the past five years school- and District-wide to determine the scope of the issue;

Resolved, That the Superintendent will immediately, and no later than January 2, 2018, establish and publicize to all District staff a hotline by which complaints or concerns regarding harassment may be raised (anonymously, if permitted by law);

Resolved, That the Superintendent will convene internal and external stakeholders and advocates to review and revise all applicable anti-harassment policies within 120 days; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the above-referenced review should consider updates related, but not limited to the following issues:
• timelines for victims to report their claims and investigators to investigate,
• training for investigators,
• third-party investigators,
• centralized investigation and tracking of claims,
• investigations based on the sufficiency of the evidence and not the responsiveness of victims,
• grounds for appeals,
• guidelines, tools, and resources for best practices in harassment prevention, investigation, and treatment of victims,
• the process for reporting claims related to members of the Board of Education
• communication strategy and protocol related to sharing these revised policies and codes of conduct,
• technology that can provide for easier and more accurate reporting, investigation, and tracking of harassment claims, including a phone hotline, website, app, or text messaging,
• anti-retaliation protections,
• reporting by and protections for whistleblowers,
• source of settlement payments, and
• periodic reporting to the Board of Education on the status of claims,
• revamp the sexual harassment training video.

Mr. Melvoin moved that Board Rule 72 be waived to allow action on Res-019-17/18. Ms. García seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

Mr. Melvoin moved that the following amended version of the resolution be adopted:

Mr. Melvoin - Setting LAUSD Legislative Priorities (Res-019-17/18)

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Government Relations (OGR) has brought forth a set of legislative priorities (Legislative Priorities) to be approved by the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District today for the 2017-2018 legislative year;

Whereas, Some recently adopted Board Resolutions already have been incorporated by OGR into the District’s Legislative Priorities for 2018, but others have not; and

Whereas, Ensuring that the annual Legislative Priorities include all District legislative positions Board Resolutions directing action on pending legislation would increase transparency and accountability to the District’s stakeholders and families; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Superintendent and OGR will support and commit resources only to the annual Legislative Priorities and to any legislative positions articulated in Board Resolutions passed after the annual approval and prior to the Board approval of the next annual Board approvals of Legislative Priorities; and, be it finally

Resolved, That in the second year of a two-year legislative cycle, OGR should include in their annual Legislative Priorities all legislative positions approved of in Board Resolutions from the preceding year.
Dr. McKenna seconded the motion.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Melvoin and Dr. McKenna regarding the resolution, limitations and flexibilities.

Remarks were heard from Dr. Vladovic, Mr. Melvoin, Dr. McKenna, and Ms. García regarding Board resolutions, Board priorities, and process.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Holtzman regarding the resolution.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the resolution failed, 4 noes, 2 ayes, Mr. Melvoin and Ms. García, and 1 abstention, Ms. Gonez.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

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President García resumed the Order of Business.

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NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION (continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 253-17/18
Legislative Priorities for 2018

Mr. Melvoin moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion.

Mr. Jeffrey Dunn, Director, Office of Government Relations, reviewed the list of the District’s legislative priorities for 2018. Areas discussed included special education funding and increasing per pupil funding.

Mr. Dunn responded to questions from Ms. Gonez, Dr. Vladovic, and Mr. Melvoin regarding LCFF and special education funding, offset taxes, health benefits, mandated costs law, and IDEA funding.

Mr. Melvoin moved that the report be adopted with amendments to revise Priority 12 to read “…update the charter school renewal eligibility criteria to prioritize the academic performance of students and to align …” and to strike Priority 16 related to Senate Bill 808 (Mendoza).

Mr. Dunn responded to questions from Mr. Schmerelson regarding special education funding.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna, Mr. Melvoin, and Mr. Schmerelson regarding charter school authorization, charter school appeals process, Board authority, and due process.

Remarks were heard from Ms. García regarding Senate Bill 808 (Mendoza), types of schools, the DREAM Act, and ethnic studies.

Mr. Dunn responded to questions from Ms. Gonez regarding legislative process and deployment of resources.

Remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna and Ms. García regarding overcrowding and oversight of charter schools.

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes 1 p.m., 12-12-17
The following speakers addressed the Board:

Ms. Julia Calomas, Parent  
Mr. Zenzontl Kuauhtzin, PUC Schools  
Ms. Cassy Horton, California Charter Schools Association

Ms. Gonez seconded the amendment by Mr. Melvoin.

Remarks were heard from Mr. Holtzman and Ms. Gonez regarding charter school authorization, student achievement, and consistency.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the amendment was adopted, 4 ayes and 3 noes, Dr. McKenna, Mr. Schmerelson, and Dr. Vladovic.

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of no.

Mr. Dunn and Superintendent Ekchian responded to questions from Mr. Schmerelson regarding offset tax and sponsoring bills.

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

Mr. Holtzman recorded an advisory vote of aye.

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President García modified the Order of Business.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Mr. Peter Cabrera, Wilson Mules Alumni Assoc.  Performing Arts Center at Wilson HS  
Ms. Yoli Garcia, Wilson Mules Alumni Assoc.  Performing Arts Center at Wilson HS  
Ms. Dora Vazquez, Parent  UTLA Negotiations  
Ms. Karina Lopez, Parent  PLAS/Roosevelt HS  
Mr. Joe Macias, Parent  Academic Concerns  
Ms. Evelyn Alaman, Parent  Academic Concerns  
Ms. Lucy Macias, Student  South Los Angeles School Needs

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President Garcia modified the Order of Business.

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BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

The following resolutions will be for action January 16, 2018:

Dr. Rodriguez, Dr. Vladovic - Creating a Birth to Eight Roadmap for Success in Los Angeles (Res-020-17/18)

Whereas, Research has shown that children who are proficient readers in third grade are four times more likely to graduate than those who are not;

Whereas, High quality early-learning experiences set young learners on a pathway to future academic success;

Whereas, In 2015, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the National Research Council (NRC) released a seminal report, \textit{Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation}, which provides a detailed blueprint for national, state, and local leaders to ensure that professionals working with young children are well prepared to most effectively support every child’s growth and development;

Whereas, In early 2016, First 5 California and the California Department of Education Early Education and Support Division convened key stakeholders in the field of early care and education to engage in an intensive and robust process to consider the most relevant IOM/NRC recommendations in relation to key priorities facing California’s early childhood workforce and, as a result, developed a plan for achieving these priorities;

Whereas, A child’s foundation, built in the early years through their involvement in quality early education programs, establishes a path to improved high school graduation rates while reducing the risks of criminal involvement;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District’s 2016-19 Strategic Plan recognizes building a solid foundation for early learners as a key objective in order to reach its goal of 100% graduation;

Whereas, The Division of Early Childhood Education has implemented a new California State Preschool Learning Foundations aligned curriculum, resulting in the improvement in the number of students who score benchmark in the Desired Results Developmental Profile assessment;

Whereas, The District’s Early Language and Literacy Plan (ELLP) has resulted in ELLP schools’ improvement in the percentage of students who score benchmark and above on the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills assessment;

Whereas, The District is building upon its College Promise to include a “Primary Promise,” creating a Pre-kindergarten through college pathway through the Campaign for Grade Level Reading to address determinants of early school success while assuring ongoing partnership through the LA Compact;

Whereas, Other school districts across the country have made significant progress, and, in some cases, have seen successful outcomes, toward creating and implementing an early-learning and literacy roadmap, including Boston's \textit{Thrive to 5} and Denver and Detroit's \textit{Birth to 8 Roadmap}; and
Whereas, Members of the District’s Early Childhood Committee identified early literacy and the creation of a birth to eight initiative as a priority in order to build a solid foundation for early learners; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District directs the Superintendent and Division of Early Childhood Education to organize a steering committee that includes, among others, city, county, community and family partners, in order to create and implement the District’s Birth to Eight Roadmap for Success and present it to the Board in August 2018.

Mr. Melvoin – LAUSDATA: Los Angeles Unified Sharing Data for Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability (Res-021-17/18)

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District, is committed to openness and transparency based on the belief that open government improves democratic functioning and fuels innovation and collective problem solving;

Whereas, The District’s commitment aligns with, and follows the lead of, the City of Los Angeles, which seeks to be the most open and transparent city in the United States. Both the Mayor’s Office through its Open Data website (openbudget@lacity.org) and the City Controller’s Office through its Control Panel LA website (https://controllerdata.lacity.org/), provide large amounts of open datasets for public users to download and analyze to better understand and conduct research regarding the city’s operations and finances;

Whereas, Although the District already publishes significant amounts of information via its website and in response to requests, those data are not yet centralized or consistently provided in formats that can be utilized for further analysis;

Whereas, Over the last several years, new and emerging data practices and technology have enabled local governments, including school districts, to improve their transparency and accountability through open data. For example, New York City’s Open Data website (https://data.cityofnewyork.us/browse?category=Education&provenance=official) allows the public to search datasets by agency, keyword, or category, and includes over 400 datasets related to its Department of Education, ranging from SAT, AP, and test results to detailed budget reports, some of which have been accessed by the public up to 20,000 times.

Whereas, Increasing access to data empowers stakeholders to participate in governance with greater understanding and impact. It fosters creative new thinking about solving our most intractable challenges through public-private partnerships and promoting a culture of data sharing between our own District departments and other civic resources; and

Whereas, Providing open data is a first step on the path towards transparent practices, and to building trust and accountability in the District as a civic institution; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Superintendent will facilitate the creation an LAUSD Open Data Portal website that will serve as the central source for open data, and will designate an Open Data Officer within the District to oversee the ongoing implementation of the portal. All datasets determined to be accessible to the public shall be made available on this portal (to the extent permitted by law and subject to valid privacy, confidentiality, security, and other legal restrictions);
Resolved further, That the District will obtain the assistance of a cost-effective vendor with expertise in open government data and user experience design to establish the LAUSD Open Data Portal. The vendor should be familiar with and implement industry best practices such as the Open Policy Data Guidelines published by the Sunlight Foundation (https://sunlightfoundation.com/opendataguidelines/), the Open Data Field Guide published by Socrata (https://socrata.com/open-data-field-guide/), or the Open Data Guide published by Open Data Handbook (http://opendatahandbook.org/guide/en/);

Resolved further, That the Open Data Officer, along with the selected vendor, will propose an Open Data Policy for board adoption, which will include a process for publishing open data to ensure that all appropriate datasets are identified for public disclosure. Datasets regarding student performance, budget and finance, and facilities should be prioritized for disclosure.

Resolved further, That each relevant District Division shall work with the Open Data Officer to make all appropriate data sets available online, and update its public data on a frequent basis (preferably automatically). The Open Data Officer and Divisions shall work with community stakeholders to identify—in a continuous manner—additional data sets that are not yet available but may be of value for public review and collaboration, and shall make best efforts to ensure that such data be identified and shared;

Resolved further, That the LAUSD Open Data Policy shall also ensure that:

- Datasets are shared in a secure fashion consistent with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws to ensure that student privacy is not compromised;
- Datasets are centralized and easy to locate;
- Datasets are downloadable, machine readable and, where appropriate, provided in a non-static format;
- Datasets are searchable using common sense search terminology; and
- A mechanism is established for users to suggest datasets for release;

Resolved further, That the Open Data Officer will collaborate with relevant District staff to take proactive efforts to increase awareness of open datasets, establish useful, easy-to-understand applications employing these datasets (such as dashboards, infographics, or interactive online tools), and collaborate with local entities (civic-minded software developers, universities, start-ups, non-profits, civic organizations, etc.) to experiment with new technologies, visualizations, and applications with the goal of identifying cost-effective solutions to improve our schools;

Resolved further, That the initial Open Data Portal will be established and available to the public within 120 days; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Superintendent will report to the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District on the status of the District’s open data efforts every 60 days through a written informative, including an analysis of what data sets are being frequently accessed and whether data sets that do not yet exist are being requested.
Whereas, Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in United States history;

Whereas, Carter G. Woodson, a Harvard trained historian, like W.E.B. DuBois before him, believed that truth would not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice, and as a result announced “Negro History Week” in 1925 to raise awareness of the contributions of African Americans;

Whereas, It is commonly stated that Carter G. Woodson selected February as the month to host “Negro History Week” because it encompasses the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, whose birthdays are February 12th and 14th respectively;

Whereas, Carter G. Woodson believed that history was created by great people and not simply great men; he envisioned the study and celebration of Black people as a race, not simply as the producers of great men and emphasized the contributions of countless Black men and women who contributed to the advancement of human civilization;

Whereas, Since 1976, the commemoration was extended from a week-long event to the entire month of February;

Whereas, Every United States President has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month and other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history;

Whereas, The legacy of Carter G. Woodson lives on in the continued work of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), an organization now in its Centennial Year;

Whereas, The 2018 theme for Black History Month established by the ASALH is “African Americans in Times of War”;

Whereas, The story of America cannot be told without reflecting on places where African Americans made history in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as The Kingsley Plantation, DuSable’s home site, the numerous stops along the Underground Railroad, Seneca Village, Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, and Frederick Douglass’ home;

Whereas, The story of the struggle for equal citizenship for African Americans can be documented by the significance of landmarks such as Mary McLeod Bethune’s home in Washington, D.C., 125th Street in Harlem, Beale Street in Memphis, and Sweet Auburn Avenue in Atlanta;

Whereas, Over the past century, Black American life, history, and culture have become major influences throughout America in music, art, literature, politics, athletics, education, and diplomacy and has become appreciated by the global community; and
Whereas, The respect that fellow citizens have for one another determines the values of our country and reinforces the premise that Black life matters; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes February as National Black History Month;

Resolved further, That the Board acknowledges that all people of the United States are beneficiaries of the wealth of history given to all by Black culture; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Superintendent will work with educators, librarians, all the schools of the District, and the community to recognize and celebrate this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that generate in-depth discussion of the complex factual history of the United States and the legacy of Black Americans.

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President Garcia modified the Order of Business.

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NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION (continued)

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 024-17/18
Independent Analysis Unit 2017-18 Annual Work Plan

Dr. Rodriguez moved that the report be adopted with the amendment to adopt Version 2 of the report. Mr. Melvoin seconded the motion.

Mr. Melvoin moved that the report be amended to revise Attachment A, Item 2, Timelines and Deliverables section to read “Three Two topical informatives on (1) the structural deficit and (2) staffing ratios will be delivered as available depending on the progress of the analysis, but in any case, not later than May 31. One topical informative on enrollment decline will be delivered as available depending on the progress of the analysis, but in any case not later than May 31.” With the consent of the report’s mover and seconder, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

Remarks were heard from Ms. Gonez and Dr. Vladovic regarding bilingual programs, staffing ratios, and availability of funds.

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

Mr. Holtzman was absent.

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President Garcia resumed the Order of Business.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS: COSTS AND LIABILITIES

Mr. Glenn Daley, Director, Independent Analysis Unit (IAU), lead a presentation analyzing the costs and liabilities associated with the District’s health and welfare benefits. Currently, health and welfare costs and the accrued liability for other postemployment benefits (OPEB) are growing and crowding out other priorities.

Finding the right balance of present and future compensation is a challenge for the District. Mr. Daley discussed the pros and cons of various strategies to meet this challenge. These strategies include pay as you go, pre-funding, cost reductions, and hybrid strategies.

Mr. Daley responded to questions from Board Members regarding hybrid strategies, political advocacy, years of service, use of cost savings, flexibilities, liabilities, changes to employee benefits, and pre-funding recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Melvoin moved that the meeting be adjourned in recognition of the holiday season, in recognition of the departure of Mr. Ankur Patel from the Board District 3 office, in memory of Mr. Bev Martin, former District administrator, in memory of San Francisco mayor Hon. Ed Lee, and the retirement of Ms. Noemi Fernandez from the Office of the Board Secretariat. Dr. Vladovic seconded the motion, which by general consent was adopted.

Mr. Holtzman was absent.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: NOVEMBER 13, 2018

MS. MONICA GARCIA
PRESIDENT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes 1 p.m., 12-12-17 21