

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

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
11:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 28, 2024

The Los Angeles Board of Education acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District met in special session on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at the Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Michael McLean, Executive Officer of the Board, called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m.

The following Board Members were present: Mr. George McKenna III, Dr. Rocío Rivas, Mr. Scott Schmerelson, Mr. Nick Melvoin, Ms. Kelly Gonez, Ms. Tanya Ortiz Franklin, and Board President Jackie Goldberg.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho was also present.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Tab 1: Budget Discussion

Board President Goldberg spoke briefly about the purpose of the special meeting.

Superintendent Carvalho made introductory comments on the budget presentation. He mentioned that it aims to provide a comprehensive explanation of the reserve and the elements of the end-of-year fund balance.

Mr. Saman Bravo-Karimi, Senior Executive Director of Finance Policy gave a brief presentation on the budget, focusing on the components of the 2023-2024 ending balance. He highlighted that these balances are one-time, already allocated for future costs, and restricted or committed to specific programs. He also discussed the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenue, which is highly dependent on Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) and enrollment levels. Lastly, he talked about Total General Fund Revenue, which was greatly boosted by one-time funds such as COVID relief and FEMA reimbursement.

Board Members expressed questions and concerns that were addressed by Mr. Bravo-Karimi, Superintendent Carvalho, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. Karla Estrada and Deputy Superintendent of Business & Operations, Mr. Pedro Salcido.

Board Members requested the following from District Staff:

Provide an analysis comparing LCFF distribution allocated to schools versus the School Equity Needs Index (SENI) norm-based, from an equity standpoint.

Provide detailed data on per pupil allocation.

- Specific dollar amounts of the lowest and highest per pupil spending in each school category (e.g., elementary, high school).

- This data should include all funds.

Provide a policy for school site vendors establishing that they will not be renewed unless the District can demonstrate their impact on the outcomes.

Provide a consistent, and fair carry-over policy.

Provide information on how staff determines the allocation for each budget to ensure sufficient funds and carryover.

- Detail what policy or procedure is used.

Provide information on the main drivers of District deficit spending.

- Identify what they are and what actions can be taken to mitigate their impact.

Provide a strategy for reserve funding.

- Detail what policy guides the allocation of surplus funds to areas such as those labeled “committed”.

Greater budgetary transparency

- More frequent updates on expenditures.
 - Information on money spent in real time.
- Earlier budget discussions that occur before the regular budget meetings.
- Use of Artificial Intelligence to make budget information more accessible.
 - Create a tool or portal to access budget information in real time.
 - Incorporate public feedback in the creation of such a tool or portal.
- Create a glossary/index on the website that organizes budget information so that staff and the public can easily access personalized information about a specific school.
 - School information should include details on unfilled positions

Greater transparency on special education, particularly the decision-making process for closing a program or service.

- A policy about how those changes are made, who can intervene, whether intervention should be available, and how parents are supported when a program/service is closed.

Provide a strategy on using and allocating paraprofessionals, specifically Teacher Aides, for greater student achievement.

- Include information on what funds can be used to pay these professionals.

Provide information on policy solutions to ensure full-time employment for classified employees and their access to healthcare.

Provide information on the procedures used to help schools recover from a negative balance.

Provide Board Members with the same budget and financial information that principals receive.

- This should include any memos or updates on guidelines that are sent to schools.

Provide an analysis of budget data that demonstrates the progress being made toward achieving District goals.

- Information on budget as compared to the Strategic Plan Pillars.

Provide live training for Board Members and the public on accessing the budget information and resources on our website.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speakers addressed the Board:

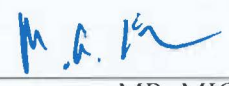
Maria Luis Palma, Parent	Budget Transparency
Erlinda Morita, Parent	Support for School Police
Diana Guillen, Parent	Support for School Police
Abraham Romero, Parent	Support for School Police
Maria Daisy Ortiz, Parent	Budget Transparency
Jocelyn Chairez, Former Student	Support for School Police
David Tokofsky, Community Member	Budget
Verenice Miron, Parent	Parent Involvement
Araceli Hernandez, Parent	Support for School Police
Monica Arrazola, Parent	Support for School Police
Isabel Gonzalez, Parent	Disapproval of Board Members
Juan Magandi, Parent	Disapproval of Board Members
Norma Gonzalez, Parent	Support for School Police

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Goldberg and approved by general consent the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: January 14, 2025


MS. JACKIE GOLDBERG
PRESIDENT


MR. MICHAEL MCLEAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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