

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room  
1:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 17, 2023

The Los Angeles Board of Education acting as the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at the Administrative Offices, Board Room, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Michael A. McLean, Executive Officer of the Board called the meeting to order at 2:23 p.m.

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

Student Board Member Nathaniel Shin was present.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho was present.

The pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Coliseum Street Elementary School, Board District 1.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

LABOR PARTNERS

Nery Paiz, Associated Administrators Los Angeles, discussed the consolidation of the new region offices, safety of employees at the Beaudry Building and Pico due to the ongoing number of positive COVID-19 cases, Partnership schools, and Res-011-22/23, Remembering and Honoring the Holocaust.

Gil Gamez, Los Angeles School Police Officer's Association, discussed the need for more police officers to help protect the school bus yard.

Adriana Salazar Avila, Teamsters Local 572, discussed the concerns for food service managers working in unacceptable conditions, and the innovative steps taken by the Board to provide cooling relief at school cafeteria kitchens.

Mr. Shin provided a brief update of the My Voice Survey. The purpose of the survey is to create a powerful tool for student empowerment.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION:**

- Tab 1.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 129 – 22/23  
Procurement Actions
  
- Tab 2.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 054 – 22/23  
Facilities Contract Actions
  
- Tab 3.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 121 – 22/23  
Define and Approve Six Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and Amend  
the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
  
- Tab 4.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 122 – 22/23  
Define and Approve the 7th Street Elementary Arts Integration Magnet School Retaining Wall  
and Parking Lot Asphalt Replacement Project and Amend the Facilities Services Division  
Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
  
- Tab 5.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 123 – 22/23  
Define and Approve a \$30 Million Districtwide Program for Cooling Relief at School  
Cafeteria Kitchens and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to  
Incorporate Therein
  
- Tab 6.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 124 – 22/23  
Define and Approve Five Proposition 39 Co-Located/Shared Facilities Improvement Projects  
and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
  
- Tab 7.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 125 – 22/23  
Define and Approve Two Charter School Facilities Upgrade Projects and Amend the  
Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
  
- Tab 8.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 137 – 22/23  
Resolution of Intention to Dedicate Easements, Required for the Construction of the South  
Region Elementary School No. 2 Project, at Wisdom Elementary School
  
- Tab 9.      BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 141 – 22/23  
Report of Cash Disbursements, Donations of Money and Materials
  
- Tab 11.     BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 136 – 22/23  
Approval of Routine Personnel Actions

## BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Tab 13. Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Ms. Goldberg – Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (Res-009-22/23) (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, a national call to service initiative established by President Obama;

Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. firmly believed that the pursuit of justice, equality, and a new sense of dignity for millions of Black people, and opens, 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 acts of 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 16, 2023, 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 16, 2023.

Ms. Goldberg announced Board Rule 72 was waived because the item was placed on consent.

Later in the meeting remarks were heard from Dr. McKenna regarding Martin Luther King, Jr.

Tab 15. Mr. Schmerelson, Dr. McKenna, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Ms. Goldberg – Remembering and Honoring the Holocaust (Res-011-22/23) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Whereas, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 – six million were murdered; Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and millions more, including men identified as gay, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny;

Whereas, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments;

Whereas, Los Angeles Unified School District students should understand and remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, racism, persecution, and tyranny;

Whereas, the Los Angeles Unified School District should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society;

Whereas, the United States Congress established Days of Remembrance as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust, and these have been set aside to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples;

Whereas, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 16, through Sunday, April 23, 2023, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom HaShoah, April 17, 2023- April 18, 2023 and also the declaration that January 27, 2023 shall be known as International Holocaust Remembrance Day; and

Whereas, this year marks the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz by Russian troops and the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the liberation of Dachau by American troops; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District does hereby recognize the week of Sunday, April 16, through Sunday, April 23, 2023, as Days of Remembrance;

Resolved further, That the District shall hold a moment of silence on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and that relevant and appropriate instructional resources shall be made available to all P-12 educators to utilize on this day; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Board further proclaims that we, the Los Angeles Unified School District community, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

Ms. Goldberg announced Board Rule 72 was waived because the item was placed on consent.

Later in the meeting remarks were heard from Mr. Schmerelson regarding the Holocaust.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

Tab 16. Report of Correspondence (ROC-006-22/23)

## SPECIAL REPORTS

Tab 17. Receipt of the 2021-22 Annual Audited Financial Report (020-22/23)

The following speakers addressed the Board on consent items:

Board of Education Report No. 124 – 22/23, Define and Approve Five Proposition 39 Co-Located/Shared Facilities Improvement Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein

- David Tokofsky, Community Member

Report of Correspondence (ROC-006-22/23)

- Maria Daisy Ortiz, Parent

Res-009-22/23, Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

- Bless Muslar, Student

Res-011-22/23, Remembering and Honoring the Holocaust (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

- Debby Berman, The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
- Orna Wolens, The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
- Mihran Kalaydjian, Community Member
- Jesse Sosa, Teacher

Board Members commented and asked questions on the consent calendar.

Mr. Melvoin moved that the consent items be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion, which on roll call vote was adopted, 6 ayes, 1 absent, Ms. Gonez.

Mr. Shin recorded an advisory aye vote.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Carvalho introduced Andres Chait, Chief of School Operations, and Frances Baez, Chief Academic Officer, to update the Board on the December 2022 acceleration days.

The Superintendent shared comments. Board Members commented and asked questions about the presentation, and requested staff provide additional data.

Ms. Goldberg made an announcement regarding an error made at the February 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Annual Meeting. Ms. Goldberg erroneously appointed herself as the Board Representative to the Council of Great City Schools. Ms. Goldberg corrected the error and appointed Board Member Gonez.

### **BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTION FOR INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The following resolution will be for action at the February 7, 2023 Regular Board Meeting:

Tab 14. Dr. McKenna – Celebration of Black History Month 2023 (Res-010-22/23)

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 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 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 107<sup>th</sup> Year;

Whereas, The 2023 theme for Black History Month established by the ASALH is “Black Resistance;”

Whereas, African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since our arrival upon these shores;

Whereas, Black people have sought ways to nurture and protect Black lives, and for autonomy of their physical and intellectual bodies through armed resistance, voluntary emigration, nonviolence, education, literature, sports, media, and legislation/politics;

Whereas, By resisting Black people have achieved triumphs, successes, and progress as seen in the end of chattel slavery, dismantling of Jim and Jane Crow segregation in the South, increased political representation at all levels of government, desegregation of educational institutions, the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History in DC and increased and diverse representation of Black experiences in media;

Whereas, The representation, identity, and diversity of Black people have been revered, stereotyped, and vilified from the days of enslavement to our own time;

Whereas, Black History Month aims to mitigate the persistent and ongoing failure to acknowledge the contributions of Black Culture, Black Inventors, Black Artists, Black Artisans, Black Advocacy Black Leaders, and Black Civic Engagement to American history and society;

Whereas, Black people continually remain optimistic and confident about the path ahead while leading the courageous, yet hard fought fights for the rights, liberties, and freedoms that many marginalized communities are now beneficiaries;

Whereas, Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the country, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated; and

Whereas, Our democracy's founding ideals were exclusionary when they were written, but Black Americans have continuously fought to make them true; 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, Black Inventors, Black Artists, Black Artisans, Black Advocacy Black Leaders, and Black Civic Engagement;

Resolved further, That the Board embeds the study of Black History into the core curriculum of its Ethnic Studies and African American History courses so that this critical learning lives in the minds of our students beyond the month of February;

Resolved further, That the Board direct the superintendent to convene a committee or working group to identify strategies and tactics to align resources targeted toward eliminating anti-racist educational practices and closing the gap of academic achievement outcomes for Black Students, and, be it finally

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

### **NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION**

Tab 10. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 135 – 22/23  
Provisional Internship Permits

Dr. McKenna moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Schmerelson seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the report was adopted, 6 ayes, 1 absent, Ms. Gonez.

Mr. Shim recorded an advisory aye vote.

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President Goldberg modified the Order of Business

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following speakers addressed the Board on the following topics:

- Maria Palma, Community Member, LCAP study group sessions
- Marcela Garcia, Parent, DELAC comments and recommendations
- Robina Suwol, California Safe Schools, District Integrated Pest Management Policy
- Diana Guillen, Parent, District collaboration with parents
- Juan Mangandi, Parent, District collaboration with parents
- Ryan Storms, Community Member, District Integrated Pest Management Policy

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President Goldberg resumed the Order of Business

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### **NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION**

Tab 12. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 142 – 22/23  
Proposition 39 Charter Facilities Compliance for the 2023-2024 School Year-Finding and Written Statements of Reasons Why Certain Charter Schools Cannot be Accommodated on a Single School Site

The following speakers addressed the Board:

- Amy Held, Larchmont Charter
- Kellie Jackson, North Valley Military Institute
- Daniel Epstein, North Valley Military Institute
- Jeanette Ballesteros-Robles, Community Member
- Kevin Troy, Attorney



Mr. Schmerelson moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

Board Members commented and asked questions about the report. Mr. José Cole-Gutiérrez, Director, Charter Schools Division, responded to questions from the Board.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the report was adopted, 6 ayes, 1 absent, Ms. Gonez. Mr. Schmerelson recorded a yes vote for all schools listed in Appendix A except for North Valley Military Institute, for which he recorded a no vote.

Mr. Shim recorded an advisory aye vote.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schmerelson moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Sol Bialik, a former District employee; Judge Judith Chirlin, a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge; and Martha Mollett Mortensen, a former teacher. Mr. Melvoin moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Joëlle Dumas, a Venice community member and educator. Dr. McKenna moved that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dr. Owen Knox, a former teacher and community leader.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: **June 20, 2023**

  
MS. JACKIE GOLDBERG  
PRESIDENT

  
MR. MICHAEL McLEAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD