

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
3:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, 2025
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Board Room, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Committee Members

Ms. Karla Griego, Chairperson
Dr. Rocío Rivas, Board Member
Mr. Scott M. Schmerelson, Board Member

District Members

Ms. Deneen Cox, Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Jose Soto, Executive Director of Special
Education
Ms. Alesha Haase, Administrator of Instruction,
Division of Special Education

Board Secretariat Contact

Ms. Miriam Gonzalez
Tel: (213) 241-7002
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External Representatives

Mr. Ary Martin Flores, Board District 2, Student
Dr. Samantha Toews, Associate Professor, CSUN
Ms. Marcia Scott, CSEA & Human Resource Specialist
III, Certificated Assignments and Support Services
Ms. Elizabeth Thomas-Parker, SEIU, Vice President
Mr. Gavin Mirigliani, AALA
Ms. Leila Reyes, Parent
Ms. Amy Bogartz, UTLA

Method for Accessing the Meeting and Providing Public Comment

There are three ways members of the public may access this Committee Meeting: (1) online ([Granicus stream](#) or join the [zoom webinar](#)), (2) by telephone by calling (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and entering the Meeting ID: **836 6097 2478**, or (3) in person.

The Board of Education encourages public comment on the items on this agenda and all other items related to the District. Any individual wishing to address the Board must register to speak using the Speaker Sign Up website: <https://boardmeeting.lausd.net/speakers>, and indicate whether comments will be provided over the phone or in person. Registration will open 24 hours before the meeting. A maximum of **10** speakers may sign up for general Public Comment, and each speaker will have **two** minutes to present. Each speaker will be allowed a single opportunity to provide comments to the Committee.

Speakers who do not register online to provide comments may use the following alternative methods to provide comments to Board Members:

- Email all Board Members at boardmembers@lausd.net;
- Mail comments via US Mail to 333 S. Beaudry Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90017; and
- Leave a voicemail message at (213) 443-4472, or fax (213) 241-8953. Communications received by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting will be distributed to all Board Members.

Speakers registered to provide public comments over the phone need to follow these instructions:

1. Call (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Meeting ID: **836 6097 2478** at the beginning of the meeting.
2. Press #, and then # again when prompted for the Participant ID.
3. Remain on hold until it is your turn to speak.
4. Call in from the same phone number entered on the Speaker Sign Up website. If you call in from a private or blocked phone number, we will be unable to identify you.
5. When you receive the signal that your phone has been removed from hold and/or unmuted, please press *6 (Star 6) to be brought into the meeting.

Please contact the Board Secretariat at (213) 241-7002 if you have any questions.

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks Ms. Karla Griego
Chairperson

II. Committee Presentations

1. World Down Syndrome Awareness Day
and World Autism Awareness Month.....Dr. James Koontz
Coordinator
Moderate Severe and Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Programs

2. Empowering Students with Disabilities:
The Role of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)
and Assistive Technology (AT) in Communication and Learning.....Ms. Erin Hong
Language and Speech (LAS) Coordinator

Ms. Nashana Steele
Language and Speech (LAS) Specialist

Ms. Tiffany Pierangelo
Augmentative and Alternative Communication Consultant

Ms. Megan Hapeman
Augmentative and Alternative Communication Consultant

Mr. Steve Kim
Assistive Technology /IT Coordinator

Ms. Malika Ferrell
Assistive Technology Assessor

Mr. Anthony Morales
Assistive Technology Assessor

III. Q&A and Discussion

IV. Closing Remarks Ms. Karla Griego
Chairperson

V. Public Comment

VI. Adjournment

Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations shall be made 24 hours prior to the meeting to the Board Secretariat by calling (213) 241-7002.

Materials related to an item on this agenda distributed to the Board of Education are available for public inspection at the Security Desk on the first floor of the Administrative Headquarters, and at:
<https://www.lausd.org/boe#calendar73805/20250327/event/71855>