



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of Parent and Community Services
Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome/Call to Order:

Mr. Cornejo, PAC Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:03 am and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

The flag salute was led by Lilian Ramos, PAC Member.

III. Announcement from Members/Alternates and PCS Staff.

Member Beckles shared that she spent the weekend in San Pedro attending trainings from an organization called Innovate Public Schools with parents from all over the country. The Parent Institute runs this organization. It was very informative and she hopes the district will use their expertise. A handbook in English and Spanish translated by PCS is in your packet.

Member Robak said that he received "connect ed" message from his daughter's Middle School a 6th grade boy collapse and died during PE. Member Estrada recognized PCS staff for doing an amazing job and their dedication in helping members. Member Lee asked members to please sign up for the African American sub-committee and they will meet following the PAC meeting.

Parent Ambassador Update

Evelyn Aleman Macias, Public Relations Officer, gave a report. PA has developed a power point for all members to deliver the same message when presenting at any event. She gave a handout regarding Parent Ambassadors' work and activities. Mrs. Aleman challenged all PAC members to go to their LD and talk to the Parent Engagement Coordinator and talk about the work we do here, member Beckles pointed out that PAC is not known at school sites.

IV. Office of Parent and Community Services Update:

At 10:25, Dr. Lugo told members that a letter by Interim Superintendent Ekchian regarding safety was in their packets. She proceeded to show a one- minute video on the subject. She announced that DELAC March 15 meeting had been canceled as PCS staff have to offer support to some schools if walk- outs organized by students might take place. Yesterday at the Board we had a re-enactment of the walk-outs in 1968 at East LA in commemoration of the 50th anniversary, some of the original students were there, is was very powerful. Parent engagement is very important at all school sites. Parent Ambassadors have to receive the training before they go to schools so that the same message is spread. As PAC members we are all ambassadors every day with a common goal of 100% Graduation.

V. Establish Quorum

Members were seated by local district and roll call was conducted by the Vice Chairperson Mills, at 10:21 a.m. Quorum was established with 30 members present. This is an official meeting. The alternates were seated at 10:30 am

Mr. Cornejo announced that 5 members have resigned from the PAC so we have to seat the alternates.

VI. Public Comment

Public Comment: *Five speakers, two minutes each*

The public was allowed a limited time of two (2) minutes per speaker to address the membership

Members of the public were given an opportunity to address the committee. 0 public comment was given.

Public member Godinez didn't sign up on purpose and wanted to speak.

VII. Minutes Approval (Action Item)

The February 15, 2018 notes were tabled without an objection until the next PAC meeting scheduled for March 22, 2018.

Member Ortiz referred to PCS update. "How are schools preparing their budget regarding parent participation?" Dr. Lugo said that LA schools are using the Parent Engagement Policy from last year. Once the Board approves the new policy it will take effect next year.

VIII. Unfinished Business

Parent, Community and Student Engagement- Selection of Top 5 Comments

Leah Brackins, PCS senior facilitator, said that the top 5 comments made earlier by PAC members in each local District group had been typed, translated and blown up by PCS staff and there will be a gallery walk to vote for the top 5 overall comments for 100% Graduation.

Member Beckles interjected saying that she read a 220-page report, and she thought the process was flawed. She said, "we are working based on a presentation made by District staff that was contradicted by the Superintendent at her meeting". 118 schools are at 0% growth. At 10:45 member Beckles made a motion that the recommendations on the LCAP that the PAC had made to date be recalled until there is meaningful consultation supported by data, with evidence to assist the membership make consistent and well thought out recommendations. The motion was seconded by member Fonseca. Chair Cornejo gave time for members to talk for or against the motion. A long debate ensued. "I don't think that we are going to achieve change if we don't present anything". Dr. Lugo tried to answer a member, but member Fonseca called it a point of order that she could not interfere in the debate.

After the debate, at 11:15 am there was a roll call vote. 16 members were in favor, 8 against, and 9 abstained. Chair Cornejo ruled that since 16 was less than the majority, motion was denied, but member Fonseca made a point of order asking the Chair not to count abstentions when taking a vote, but it was later decided that the motion passed until verified by District Legal Counsel.

A second motion was made by member Denise Grande-Harris seconded by member Beckles to establish a subcommittee to develop an improved process for completing our task, with

opportunities for deeper understanding and more meaningful contribution, and that this revised process be proposed to the PAC membership at the next meeting on March 22nd". The membership agreed by a unanimous yes vote reached by consensus.

At 11:49am Chair Cornejo introduced the next presenter Dr. Whitman.

- **Comment Development for LCAP Goal : 100% Graduation**

No comments were developed at this time.

IX. Presentation: African American Student Support

Dr. Robert Whitman, Director, Access, Equity and Acceleration (AEA), Division of Instruction

Dr. Whitman started his presentation by asking members to list 5 things that if taken from them, they will not be the same person as they are today. He then pointed out that many kids have things taken from them like a father or mother. He added that black students have a 34% suspension rate even though they are only 8% of the enrollment at LAUSD. The AEA has an advisory for African American student in order to close the achievement gap, examine the extent to which District policies and practices for accelerating the academic achievement of said students. They have identified 214 highly gifted blacks but only 9 students are attending gifted programs.

At 12:22 he took questions and addressed members' concerns about a lack of funds. He said he was addressing the Board at next Tuesday's meeting. There were no public comments on this issue and at 12:42 Vice Chair Christine Mills announced that there was now a lack of quorum as only 20 members were present.

An Ad Hoc committee to improve the PAC process and make recommendations was formed by asking interested PAC members to sign up by Local District and category. The following

members volunteered: Denise Grande-Harris, Paul Robak, Joseph Carter, Maria Daisy Ortiz, Yolande Beckles, Laura Baz, Yahaira Martinez, Kahllid Al-Alim, Lilian Ramos, Jazmin Garcia, Lluvia Sainz, Raquel Toscano, Jacquelyn Smith Conkleton and Roberto Fonseca.

Mr. Cornejo announced that an LCAP Process Development Ad Hoc Committee meeting will be on Thursday, March 15, 2018 from 10 am to 2 pm. at the Office of Parent and Community Services.

X. PAC Committee Reports/Updates

- **Bylaws Committee**

No report was given.

- **Foster Youth Committee**

No report was given.

XI. Chairperson's Report

Report was tabled.

XII. Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings

No topics were submitted.

XIII. Adjournment (Action Item)

Chairperson Jose Cornejo adjourned the meeting at 12:45 pm then announced that STRS had \$221 billion in assets and this committee recommends asking them to divest from weapons manufacturers.

These notes were respectfully submitted by Marilyn Morales, PAC Secretary.