

DELAC PRESIDENT'S REPORT PRESENTATION

JANUARY 12, 2017

Good morning to all,

I want to welcome every one of you to this new cycle of meetings for this committee that is very important since it represents English Learner students.

We are beginning a new year and stand before a series of changes that must not go unnoticed and as parents, we have the privilege of having an effect in a positive way in our children's future. The recommendations that we will make need to be based on our conscious and when we do business, we must not think as individuals, but on behalf of the half a million students in LAUSD who are under Title I or III.

It is a year of changes and PCSS is not the exception. Change is good since it can bring innovation, work styles and practices. That will test our experience as leaders, our level of tolerance and engagement. We are starting a new cycle, the elections are behind and our passion must give way to concrete work.

We will have to deal with a series of circumstances: with a new Department of Education, a new government, with a clear objective of privatizing education— which is to say that education will no longer be perceived as a human right, but instead as goods that need to have a price—if as parents we do not increase our level of participation and organization. In the future only, those that can pay can study.

A new government that will affect education and many families' stability, especially those that lack immigration status and that have students in LAUSD.

We will have to deal with increasingly aggressive campaigns from Charter School investors who will focus their attacks on public education and the academic progress results.

We will have to advocate for improvements on the literacy standards in the early years to forge a solid foundation of knowledge and instruction for our students in schools.

As parents, we will have important challenges. First, recognizing our differences, academic levels, beliefs, values, principles, personal visions, families and communities, but these differences must not do away with the richness, the knowledge that each one possesses, and the value of sharing with our colleagues in a generous way.

It is necessary that parents start proposing about academic instruction of our children, taking into consideration actual instruction, where our children are reduced to passive receivers, with fragmented curricula, many of our students distanced from reality, bullying, absences, school dropouts and defying attitudes.

We need to nurture greater virtues in our youth, make them analytical and support their creativity to solve real problems in the community, which will allow them to think for themselves and not be passive learners and only learn to think how others want them to.

No parent, regardless of the differences, can call another an enemy since we all share the same objective, goals and sacred mission: to be here representing individually our children, but conscious that we were elected to think on behalf of all the LAUSD students.

At the PCSS level, we continue with the proposal to assign \$49 to each DELAC meeting. We believe that is reasonable to motivate greater participation, debate of ideas, plans and proposals.

We see with hope the changes and hope to have greater openness with the new interim director. Starting anew and bringing new bringing greater intelligence that benefits students, parents and LAUSD.

We will continue fighting to avoid parents being criminalized, sending threatening letters on behalf of principals and coordinators against parents with a critical perspective.

We will propose the onset of new successful projects to raise the level of analysis, reasoning and proposals for parents.

We seek to engage ourselves with the new law Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA that will be implemented this month. This was signed by President Obama on December of 2015 replacing No Child Left Behind Act or NCLB.

We remain alert to make proposals in schools with the new funds available for LAUSD because of the passing of Proposition 55 and the responsibility through Proposition 58.

Dear colleagues and partners:

I only have one last calling and to take advantage of the calling I want us to unite, because the challenges are greater than our differences. If we follow with this, the acknowledgement of new generations will be our reward, but, if we continue in our divide, those same generations of students and parents can sue us.

Have a happy beginning of the year.

With all humbleness,

Juan José Mangandi

Chairperson