



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Parent, Community and Student Services
Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Minute Template

I. Welcome/Call to Order:

Kathy Kantner, CAC Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

The flag salute was led by Carla Vega, CAC Member.

III. Parent, Community and Student Services Update: Ms. Rowena Lagrosa stated that through outreach and transparency, the CAC, parents, and PCSS were coordinating activities to prepare for the May 14 2016 CAC meeting. She hopes lots of parents will show up. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Brenda Manuel. The PAC will meet for the next 2 days and will hear progress reports on students with disabilities, foster youth, graduation and attendance rates etc. Right now Smarter Balanced Assessments are being administered at school sites

IV. Public Comment: *Five speakers, two minutes each*

The public was allowed a limited time of two (2) per speaker to address the membership (Pursuant to Board Rules 131-137).

There were no public comments but one member wanted to read a letter from his child at Hamilton High School. In the letter the child praises Ms. Tracy Reed his Resource Teacher for being so dedicated and for having changed his life. This parent has in turn written to the Board and Michelle King pointing out that whenever an employee of LAUSD does a good job, they should be praised.

V. CAC Activities

Kathy Kantner talked about the 5 hour Local Plan Review Recommendation session the week prior. The CAC members have 30 days from April 13th to submit their comments. Kathy Kantner agreed to compile the recommendation into a written report. The CAC Parent Summit will be on Saturday, May 14th at Mendez HS. She mentioned volunteers are still needed, so she passed around a sign-up sheet. Regarding the CAC Newsletter, she encouraged people to submit ideas and articles for the upcoming summer issue. She also asked the members for support with revising the CAC brochure.

VI. Chairperson's Report:

No report given for the Early Education/ Parent Engagement Committee

VII. Roll Call/Establish Quorum:

Members were seated and roll was conducted by Geo Cable, CAC Secretary at 10:33 a.m.

Quorum was established with 20 members present.

VIII. Minutes:

A vote to approve minutes was facilitated by Kathy Kantner, CAC Chair. It was asked if there were any corrections, deletions or additions; followed by discussion. Linda Hall, CAC member made a motion to approve the minutes from **March 16, 2016** with the necessary corrections, deletions or additions. Rosa Villegas, CAC member seconded the motion.

17 were in favor, 0 were against 0 abstained. The motion passed with 2 people not voting.

IX. Presentations:

Advances in Autism Intervention Research at UCLA: From Lab to Community

Amanda Gulsrud, from UCLA explained the UCLA/LAUSD partnership in autism research in elementary school relationships. One in 68 children has an autism spectrum disorder and among boys it's 1 in 42. UCLA and LAUSD work to recognize problems early and foster social support as autistic students are usually more solitary. In the process they interviewed 1800 LAUSD kids and found out for example that their favorite game was tag which is usually not allowed at most schools.

Girls hide better their behavior (camouflage) than boys who are more solitary. Volunteers help them integrate and hope that what they learn at school will apply at home, thus they try to also reach out to parents.

Some members asked whether such measures could be implemented with other children besides autistic ones, and also for Middle and High Schools as well.

Academic support for diverse learners: Claudia Valladarez, Parent Educator Coach from the NE and Gabriel Mendez, Parent Educator Coach from LD Central made a presentation on the different learning modalities and how to support your child at home and at school. Their goal is to empower parents to understand their children's learning style. Every child has a preferred way of learning, for example, the auditory child may not necessarily look at you while you're talking, but he is learning through listening

X. Announcements from members and PCSS Staff

The Announcements were facilitated by Jacqueline Smith- Conkleton, Vice Chairperson.

A CAC member, Reginald Green stated that he was upset at what went on at the LAUSD Board meeting when people unfairly criticized PCSS. He said that PCSS was an advisory body and it's doing its best to reach out to parents and schools. He recommended people write letters to support the Board and praise what a good job Mr. Alvarenga and Leah were doing. He asked about the newsletter and was told that it was delivered electronically to all Local Districts and that they also forwarded copies to schools. Mr. Alvarenga stated that one year they tried mailing the newsletter but it cost \$10,000. This year only a few members got the print version in order to save money.

There will be a Public Hearing in the Board Room of LAUSD on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 and the parents will be asked if they have had a good experience with their child's special education program.

Regarding the upcoming Parent Summit, it is hoped that maybe next year there will be two.

The 5K run is this coming Saturday April 23, and the COBA is also on the same date.

XI. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourn at 1:03 p.m.

These notes were respectfully submitted by Geo Cable CAC Secretary.