

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  
1208 Magnolia Avenue, Gardena, CA 90247  
9945 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Pacoima, CA 91331  
11:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2025

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 14, 2025, 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 11:06 a.m.

The following Board Members were present: Ms. Sherlett H. Newbill, Dr. Rocío Rivas, Mr. Nick Melvoin, Ms. Karla Griego, Ms. Kelly Gonez, and Board President Scott Schmerelson.

Ms. Tanya Ortiz Franklin joined the meeting remotely at 11:15 a.m.

Student Board Member Anely Cortez Lopez was present.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho was also present.

Mr. McLean led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

**LABOR PARTNERS**

Ms. Maria Nichols, President of Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA), spoke on the recent Los Angeles fires and their impact on the District. Ms. Nichols, communicated concerns regarding the handling of the emergency by the District and requested the establishment of an emergency task force, greater communication and transparency, and just compensation for all employees.

Ms. Cecily Myart-Cruz, President of the United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA), spoke on behalf of UTLA members to express disappointment and frustration with the District's response to the recent fire emergency. Furthermore, Ms. Myart-Cruz announced UTLA's intention to sunshine their collective bargaining agreement with LAUSD and demand better support for educators, students, and staff.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Franny Parrish from the California School Employee Association (CSEA) addressed the Board and staff regarding the impact of outsourcing, particularly to companies like Amazon, which affects the stability of the District and its employees. She also urged the Board to adopt the denial of the renewal petition for Crete Academy. Additionally, she read a letter from a Library Technician at Marquez Charter Elementary School, which was severely destroyed by the LA fires. She concluded by stating that Library Technicians should not be on the flexibility list.

## STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student Board Member Anely Cortez Lopez expressed her gratitude to her peers, commending their resilience, unity, and support throughout the difficult times caused by the Los Angeles Fires. She highlighted several key areas where students are experiencing need, including health and safety, temporary housing, educational disruptions and mental health challenges. She shared student requests to alleviate the difficulties faced during these unprecedented times such as providing up-to-date air purifiers, offering flexible deadlines and extensions on assignments, allowing the option for remote learning, and continuing to promote of District resources for students and LAUSD families.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

Superintendent Carvalho acknowledged and expressed gratitude to the workers who have worked towards reopening our schools and to the first responders for their tireless work and assistance across the community. He went on to explain the challenges the District faced due to the Los Angeles fires, ravaging many parts of the city. Although guidelines were in place to model a response to a fire emergency, they did not consider an incident where there would be multiple fires with hurricane level wind speeds. Despite these challenges, the District has worked to relocate students and staff whose schools have been severely affected by the fires, safely reopen our schools by providing air filters, masks, and more, and assist students and staff who have personally been impacted by this disaster. Furthermore, Superintendent Carvalho assured that there would be a postmortem analysis to assess areas of improvement.

Board Members also expressed remarks acknowledging the terrible disaster affecting the city and gratitude for all those who have helped and supported the District and LA community.

Student Board Member also provided comments on the recent ICE raids that have brought fear to many students and the community.

The Superintendent assured that the District will protect students, staff and families regardless of their immigration status. Moreover, he reiterated that employee support is available for those who have been relocated or lost their home to the fires.

### **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS (continued)**

Board President Schmerelson requested that renewal proposals before the Board now include an updated report with the following information: the vendor, the scope of work, the day serviced at LAUSD, and a short analysis of whether this work can be done in house or not, and additional context. This report should be included for all renewal contracts over \$15 million starting in March 2025.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

#### NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION

TAB 3: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 073-24/25  
Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report, Adoption of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Irving STEAM Magnet Middle School Major Modernization Project

- TAB 4: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 074-24/25  
Project Approval for the Washington Irving Middle School Math Music Engineering Magnet Major Modernization Project
- TAB 6: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 149-24/25  
Define and Approve Two Projects to Provide Critical Replacements and Upgrades of School Building/Site Systems and Components and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
- TAB 8: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 151-24/25  
Define and Approve 16 Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
- TAB 9: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 101-24/25  
Donations of Money to the District
- TAB 10: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Report of Cash Disbursements
- TAB 11: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Approval of Routine Personnel Actions
- TAB 12: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Provisional Internship Permits
- TAB 13: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Request for Board Approval of Education Compact with the City of Lomita
- TAB 15: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Proposition 39 Charter Facilities Compliance for the 2025-2026 School Year - Finding and Written Statements of Reasons Why Certain Charter Schools Cannot be Accommodated on a Single School Site, and Determination of Necessity to Move
- TAB 23: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance Judy Ivie Burton Technology Academy High
- TAB 24: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance College-Ready Middle Academy 4
- TAB 25: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance Gertz-Ressler Richard Merkin 6-12 Complex
- TAB 26: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 282-23/24  
Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance Ouichi-O'Donovan 6-12 Complex

## BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

TAB 31: Ms. Newbill - Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (Res-041-24/25) (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, In May 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed nearly 15,000 Angelenos at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum on the issues of race relations and human dignity;

Whereas, Today's social, political and economic landscape reiterates the need for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s philosophies and message of nonviolence and is reflected in The King Center's theme for 2025, "Mission Possible: Protecting Freedom, Justice, and Democracy in the Spirit of Nonviolence<sup>365</sup>";

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;

Whereas, On January 20, 2025, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday will mark the 30th anniversary as a National Day of Service; 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 20, 2025, 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 20, 2025.

TAB 32: Ms. Newbill - National Day of Racial Healing 2025 (Res-042-24/25)  
(Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Whereas, The National Day of Racial Healing is an annual observance created by W.K. Kellogg Foundation in 2017 to plan for and bring about transformational and sustainable change, and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism;

Whereas, The National Day of Racial Healing is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and communities to come together to recognize our shared humanity, address the wounds caused by racism, and work toward building a more equitable and inclusive society;

Whereas, The National Day of Racial Healing creates space for people to talk openly about their personal and collective experiences and build the trust needed to advance racial equity;

Whereas, The National Day of Racial Healing invites participants to engage in meaningful dialogue and reflection on the personal and collective steps needed to foster racial healing in our communities;

Whereas, The legacy of racism in the United States is multifaceted, with colonization and enslavement setting the stage for centuries to come;

Whereas, The devastating effects of racism continue today, with many communities of color cut off from access to essentials like jobs, transportation, safe housing, healthcare and good food;

Whereas, Racial healing involves building trusting relationships that help us work together to address the impact and damage caused by racism;

Whereas, Fundamental to the National Day of Racial Healing is a clear understanding that racial healing is at the core of racial equity; and

Whereas, The National Day of Racial Healing is observed every year on the Tuesday following Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes January 21, 2025, as National Day of Racial Healing;

Resolved further, That the Board will work toward more equitable outcomes in the areas of education programs, community engagement, workforce development, procurement policy, and human resources;

Resolved further, That the Board will increase staff awareness and education, will continue to provide region wide training to educate employees on implicit bias and racial equity since each department offers services which impact efforts to provide equitable outcomes for the

community;

Resolved further, That the Board will strive to engage in open and honest dialogue with experts on the subject of racial equity and with each other during forums such as Board retreats, community forums or other appropriate LAUSD sessions;

Resolved further, That the Board will unite all of these efforts to continue to thoughtfully and effectively update, eliminate, or create internal and external policies, practices and programs that dismantle existing racial disparities with the understanding that these methods will need to be updated and improved over time; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Board encourages all students, parents, teachers, and staff to visit <https://dayofracialhealing.org/> for National Day of Racial Healing resources, information, and events;

## CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

TAB 35: REPORT OF CORRESPONDENCE (ROC-007-24/25)

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

TAB 36: MINUTES FOR BOARD APPROVAL (Min-003-24/25)

## NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION, CONTINUED

TAB 38: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 112-24/25

Request for Board Authority to Pursue a Two-Year Extension to the Waiver of a Portion of Education Code 45272(a)

Speakers addressed the Board on the following items on the consent calendar:

Tab 24: Board of Education Report No. 282-23/24, Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance College-Ready Middle Academy 4

- Eva Flores Koops, Principal of Alliance College-Ready Middle Academy 4
- Judi Nava, Student grandmother
- Amalia Rodrigues, Parent

Tab 23: Board Of Education Report No. 282-23/24, Approval of the Proposed Material Revision for Alliance Judy Ivie Burton Technology Academy High

Ms. Griego gave remarks and encouraged Alliance to bargain in good faith with its educators.

Mr. Jass Stewart, Chief of Strategy & Innovation of Alliance College-Ready Public Schools stated that all Alliance speakers waive their speaking time for items on the consent calendar.

Tab 31: Ms. Newbill, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Griego, Ms. Gonez, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Ms. Cortez Lopez - Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (Res-041-24/25) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

- Lucy Garcia, Climate Curricula Committee of the Climate Reality Project Los Angeles
- Carlos Montes, Centro CSO

Ms. Newbill and Dr. Rivas made remarks on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's legacy and the resolution.

Tab 38: Board of Education Report No. 112-24/25, Request for Board Authority to Pursue a Two-Year Extension to the Waiver of a Portion of Education Code 45272(a)

- Diana Guillen, Parent Advisory Committee
- David Tokofsky, Community member

Mr. McLean read the following statement:

Before action is taken on Board Report No. 112-24/25, Request for Board Authority to Pursue a Two-Year Extension to the Waiver of a Portion of Education Code 45272(a)).

This constitutes a public hearing on Report No. 112-24/25, Request for Board Authority to Pursue a Two-Year Extension to the Waiver of a Portion of Education Code 45272(a)), and a maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

- Juan Carlos Delgado, Parent Advisory Committee
- Maria Luisa Palma, Oleada, Inc.
- Maria Daisy Ortiz, Community Member

Board President Schmerelson moved that the consent calendar be adopted.

Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

Board President Schmerelson addressed the topic of Charter school denials and approvals, clarifying the implications of "yes" and "no" votes. He further explained the options available to Charter schools for appealing the Board's decision on denials.

Mr. Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Director of the Charter School Division, provided a brief overview of the criteria the District uses for the charter school renewal petition applications. He discussed the concerns that can lead to non-renewals and highlighted the relevant information the Charter Schools Division considers prior to making a recommendation to the Board.

On roll call vote, and with the following exception, the Consent items were adopted, 7 ayes.

- Tab 11: Board of Education Report No. 282-23/24, Approval of Routine Personnel Actions, attachment D was withdrawn.

Later in the meeting, Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Tab 32: Ms. Newbill, Dr. Rivas, Mr. Schmerelson, Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Griego, Ms. Gonez, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Ms. Cortez Lopez - National Day of Racial Healing 2025 (Res-042-24/25) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Ms. Newbill and Dr. Rivas made remarks about the resolution.

**NEW BUSINESS FOR ACTION**

Tab 1: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 127 – 24/25  
Approval of Procurement Actions

Dr. Rivas and Mr. Schmerelson made remarks.

Mr. Schmerelson requested data regarding the percentage and the number of schools that have chosen to purchase pouches or other methods of storing cellphones, by board district.

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. The vote was 7 ayes.

Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Tab 2: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 100 – 24/25  
Approval of Facilities Contract Actions

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- David Tokofsky

Mr. Melvoin raised comments and concerns, which were addressed by Ms. Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive.

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 6 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Schmerelson).

Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Schmerelson recorded a vote of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 5: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 101-24/25  
Define and Approve Seven Playground and Campus Exterior Upgrade Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein

Board Members raised questions and concerns, which were addressed by Ms. Tokes.

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Rivas seconded the motion.



On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 5 ayes, 2 absent (Mr. Schmerelson and Mr. Melvoin).

Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Schmerelson and Mr. Melvoin recorded votes of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 7: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 150-24/25  
Authorization to Finalize Negotiations and Execute a Renewal License Agreement for Use of  
Radio Tower Space at Palos Verdes 1, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Ms. Newbill raised questions, which were addressed by Mr. Soheil Katal, Chief Information Officer.

Ms. Gonez moved that the report be adopted. Mr. Schmerelson seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 5 ayes, 2 absent (Mr. Melvoin and Ms. Griego).

Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Melvoin and Ms. Greigo recorded votes of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 14: BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT NO. 135-24/25  
Request for Approval of 2025 Advocacy Agenda and Guiding Principles and Priorities

Board Members and Student Board Member, Anely Cortez Lopez raised questions and concerns addressed by Ms. Martha Alvarez, Chief of Legislative Affairs and Governmental Relations, and Mr. Andres Chait, Chief of School Operations

Dr. Rivas moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 6 ayes. 1 absent (Ms. Griego).

Student Board Member Cortez Lopez recorded an advisory vote of aye.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Griego, recorded a vote of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 16: Board of Education Report No. 152-24/25  
Denial of the Renewal Petition for Crete Academy

Mr. McLean read the following statement:

Tab 16, Board of Education Report No. 152-24/25, Denial of the Renewal Petition for Crete Academy. Before action is taken on Board Report, Denial of the Renewal Petition for Crete Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes a public hearing on Report No. 152-24/25, Denial of the Renewal Petition for Crete Academy, and a maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online.

Brett Mitchell, Co-Founder of Crete Academy, gave a brief presentation on their mission to break the cycle of homelessness in South Central Los Angeles by supporting the most vulnerable children, particularly those who are unhoused and living in poverty. Crete Academy ensures that students' basic needs, including housing, medical, mental, and dental, are met.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Barrington Moore, Crete Academy
- Hattie Mitchell, Crete Academy
- David Ritcherson, California Charter School Association
- Japera Jiles, Crete Academy
- Andrew Ramirez, Crete Academy
- Andrea Palmer, Parent
- Erica Garcia, Parent
- Aketzali Asueta Garcia, Student
- Nya Lewis, Crete Academy
- Stephanie Moore, Parent
- Theadora Smith, Parent
- Tiffany Price, Crete Academy
- Brett Mitchell, Crete Academy
- Kaylie Cortez, Crete Academy
- Carl Petersen, Community Member

The following Board Members raised questions and concerns: Ms. Gonez, Mr. Melvoin and Ms. Newbill, which were addressed by Mr. Cole Gutierrez and Mr. Mitchell.

After discussion, Dr. Rivas moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Newbill seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 5 ayes. 1 no (Mr. Melvoin) and 1 absence (Ms. Ortiz Franklin).

Later in the meeting, Ms. Ortiz Franklin recorded a vote of no.

The final vote was 5 ayes and 2 noes (Mr. Melvoin and Ms. Ortiz Franklin).

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following speakers addressed the Board on the subjects indicated:

Nyla & Xitlalic, Students	Lawrence Middle School Incident
Aliza Franklin, Parent	Lawrence Middle School Incident
Maria Luisa Palma, Oleada Inc.	Student Incident Data
Keyshaun Hammler, Student	Lawrence Middle School Incident
Joelle Higgins, Student	Support for Black Student Achievement Plan
Mr. Thomas, Community Member	Lawrence Middle School Incident
Janae read a statement by Jayde	LA Fires/Lawrence Middle School Incident

Santini-Roan, Parent	LA Fires/Lawrence Middle School Incident
Emmanuel Nwalozie, Student	Lawrence Middle School Incident
Ms. Jordan, Educator	School Violence
Monica Arazola, Parent	Request for increased Translation Units at Schools
Maria Daisy Ortiz, Community Member	
Diana Guillen, Parent	Budget Transparency
Sierra Leone, Student	Support for Psychiatric Social Worker
Layla King, Student	Support for Black Student Achievement Plan
Mireya Segovia, Parent	Support for the Renewal of LA Leadership Academy
Armonie, Student	Support for Black Student Achievement Plan
Terra Welch, Parent	Lawrence Middle School Incident

Tab 17: Board of Education Report No. 153-24/25  
Denial of the Renewal Petition for Ivy Bound Academy of Math, Science and Technology Charter Middle

Dr. Steve Bluestein, Director of Ivy Bound Academy, provided a brief overview of the school, which has been serving students since 2007. Over its 17 years of operation, Ivy Bound Academy has consistently received high marks during annual oversight visits. Mr. Bluestein also highlighted a recent shift in the student demographics and acknowledged the challenge posed by the pandemic, which has affected student performance. Mr. Bluestein concluded by requesting approval for Ivy Bound's renewal.

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Denial of the Renewal Petition for Ivy Bound Academy of Math, Science and Technology Charter Middle. Before action is taken on this Board Report Denial of the Renewal Petition for Ivy Bound Academy of Math, Science and Technology Charter Middle, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Amir Alimardani, Ivy Bound Academy
- Steve Bluestein, Ivy Bound Academy
- Julie Chou, Ivy Bound Academy
- David Tokofsky, Community Member
- Shawn Huntsinger, Ivy Bound Academy
- Jennifer Roberson, Ivy Bound Academy
- Carl Peterson, Community Member
- Jared Duron, Ivy Bound Academy
- Eric Lopez, Ivy Bound Academy
- Rayna Lambova, Ivy Bound Academy
- Aida Flores, Parent
- Erica Panilla, Parent

Dr. Rivas moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Griego seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 6 ayes, 1 absence (Ms. Gonez).

Later in the meeting, Ms. Gonez recorded a vote of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 18: Board of Education Report No. 154-24/25  
Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Corazón Academy

Ms. Angella Martinez, Chief Executive Officer of Kipp SoCal Public Schools, gave a brief presentation on KIPP Corazón Academy. She discussed the school's strong commitment to the community and its focus on academic excellence. Additionally, Ms. Martinez highlighted the students' consistently high English Language Arts and Math performance. Lastly, she requested the Board's approval to renew KIPP Corazón Academy.

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Tab 18, Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Corazón Academy. Before action is taken on this Board Report 154-24/25 Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Corazón Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing, Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Corazón Academy. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Ruth Cazarez, Parent
- David Tokofsky, Community Member
- Jennifer Arraga, KIPP Corazón Academy
- Carl Peterson, Community Member

Dr. Rivas raised questions and concerns, which were addressed by Mr. Jose Cole-Gutierrez.

Dr. Rivas moved that the report be adopted. Ms. Newbill seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 6 ayes, 1 absence (Ms. Gonez).

Later in the meeting, Ms. Gonez recorded a vote of aye.

The final vote was 7 ayes.

Tab 19: Board of Education Report No. 155-24/25  
Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Philosophers Academy

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Tab 19, Board of Education Report No. 155-24/25. Before action is taken on this Board Report,

Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Philosophers Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing, Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Philosophers Academy. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

Ms. Angella Martinez shared a presentation on KIPP Philosophers Academy, a rapidly improving school in Watts. She discussed the school's academic performance, highlighting growth in reading and math and overall improvement in English Language Arts and Math. Based on this progress, Ms. Martinez requested that the Board approve the renewal of KIPP Philosophers Academy.

Dr. Rivas raised concerns and called for strong oversight to ensure progress in closing the achievement gap and addressing the needs of student groups that are not meeting standards.

*Later in the meeting, Dr. Rivas clarified that her comments were directed at KIPP Scholar Academy, not KIPP Philosophers Academy.*

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- David Tokofsky, Community Member
- Carl Peterson, Community Member

Remarks were heard from Dr. Rivas.

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

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 7 ayes.

Tab 20: Board of Education Report No. 156-24/25  
Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Scholar Academy

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Tab 20, Board of Education Report No. 156-24/25. Before action is taken on this Board Report, Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Scholar Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing on that report, Approval of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Scholar Academy. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

Ms. Angella Martinez shared a presentation on KIPP Scholar Academy, an award-winning performing arts middle school. In addition to fostering creativity through the arts, KIPP Scholar also promotes an environment of academic success. Students have demonstrated growth in English Language Arts and Math, which exceeds growth in the District and State. Ms. Martinez requested that the Board renew the petition for KIPP Scholar Academy.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- David Tokofsky, Community Member

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

On roll call vote, the item was adopted, 7 ayes.

Tab 21: Board of Education Report No. 157-24/25  
Denial of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Sol Academy

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Tab 21, Board of Education Report No. 157-24/25. Before action is taken on this Board Report, Denial of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Sol Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing on that report, Denial of the Renewal Petition for KIPP Sol Academy. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

Ms. Angella Martinez shared a presentation on KIPP Sol Academy, a California Distinguished School in East Los Angeles. She explained that while recent performance has been low, the school's oversight record dating back to 2017 shows higher results in English Language Arts and Math in most years. Despite ongoing challenges, the school continues to make progress in both subjects. Ms. Martinez asserted that it is not in the best interest of students to close KIPP Sol and urged the Board to vote no on the recommendation to deny the renewal petition.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Karla Davalos, KIPP Sol Academy
- Rosa Belen Guevara, KIPP Sol Academy
- Michelle Espinosa, Parent
- Carla Contreras, Parent
- Jose Diaz, KIPP Sol Academy
- Arlette Morales, KIPP Sol Academy
- Evan Martinez & Sebastian, KIPP Sol Academy
- Guadalupe Rivera, Parent
- Nancy Soriano, Parent
- Edward Ornelas, KIPP Sol Academy
- Gabriel Gomez, Parent
- Betzabeth Salinas, KIPP Sol Academy
- Lee Rosenberg, Attorney
- David Tokofsky, Community Member

Dr. Rivas raised questions about the fairness of the process, the accuracy of the verified data and whether the school had been notified early on about its declining performance.

Ms. Gonez requested clarification on the criteria used to recommend one school for denial and another for approval with benchmarks.

Mr. Jose Cole-Gutierrez addressed the questions and concerns raised by the Board Members. Ms. Martinez and Mr. Cole-Gutierrez addressed questions from Ms. Gonez regarding the school's

improvement plan to address its declining academic performance and how pre-pandemic data was used in the analysis.

Mr. Melvoin gave remarks and proposed a motion for renewal with the following benchmark:

That the school should demonstrate academic growth in ELA for all students and for the majority of significant student groups as reported in the dashboard ELA Performance Indicator by achieving a distance from standard that has increases or increased significantly over the course of the charter term or achieve a distance from standard that is equal to or higher than the respective student group state average distance from standard for ELA and Math.

Ms. Griego raised questions and concerns, which were addressed by Mr. Cole-Gutierrez.

Mr. Melvoin moved that the motion to renew the petition for KIPP SOL with the benchmarks be adopted. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the motion failed. 4 noes and 3 ayes (Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Gonez and Ms. Ortiz Franklin).

Dr. Rivas moved that Board Report no. 157-24/25 be adopted. Ms. Griego seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 4 ayes and 3 noes (Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Gonez, and Ms. Ortiz Franklin).

Tab 22: Board of Education Report No. 158-24/25  
Denial of the Renewal Petition for Los Angeles Leadership Academy

Ms. Arina Goldring-Ravin, Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles Leadership Academy, provided an overview of the school, a unionized, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited institution that has served the Lincoln Heights community for 27 years. This academy offers a variety of programs, including STEM, culinary arts, visual and performing arts, college and career readiness, and sports. Ms. Goldring-Ravin emphasized the importance of collaboration and stressed that denying the renewal petition would not be in the best interests of students.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Silvia Saravia, Parent

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

Tab 22, Board of Education Report No. 158-24/25. Before action is taken on this Board Report, Denial of the Renewal Petition for Los Angeles Leadership Academy, a public hearing must be held.

This constitutes that public hearing, Denial of the Renewal Petition for Los Angeles Leadership Academy. A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on the item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item (continued):

- David Tokofsky, Community Member
- Danielle Lohr, Los Angeles Leadership Academy
- Cesar Garcia, Student
- Omar Joseph, California Teachers Association
- Zoe Taquez Ugalde, Student
- Viviana Eufrasio, Los Angeles Leadership Academy
- Neredia Lopez, Los Angeles Leadership Academy
- Joseph Lopez, Student
- Ashley Reyes, Student
- Tim Petty, Los Angeles Leadership Academy
- Fatima Gonzalez, Los Angeles Leadership Academy
- Carl Peterson, Community Member
- Mona Field, Los Angeles Leadership Academy

Mr. Melvoin gave remarks and suggested that schools that are up for renewal should see the individual resident schools that they are being compared against ahead of time.

Mr. Schmerelson asked Mr. Cole-Gutierrez to delineate the reasons for denial.

Mr. Cole-Gutierrez enumerated the findings and analysis.

Mr. Melvoin moved a motion to renew the petition for the Los Angeles Leadership Academy for a five-year term to be adopted. Ms. Ortiz Franklin seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the motion failed. 5 noes, 1 aye (Mr. Melvoin) and 1 absent (Ms. Gonez).

Dr. Rivas moved that report no. 158-24/25 be adopted. Ms. Newbill seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. 5 ayes, 1 no (Mr. Melvoin) and 1 absent (Ms. Gonez).

Tab 34: Charter Petitions for Public Hearing (035-24/25)

Mr. McLean read the following public hearing statement:

This constitutes a public hearing for:

- Puente Charter
- Justice Street Academy Charter
- Community Magnet Charter Elementary, and
- Center for Advanced Learning

A maximum of 15 individuals who wish to address the Board on this item will be heard. Those who wish to speak should sign up online. Speakers will be called by name.

The following speakers addressed the Board on the item:

- Diana Juarez, Puente Charter
- Isabel Calderon, Puente Charter



- David Tokofsky, Community Member
- Jerome Greening, Puente Charter
- Brenda Meza, Puente Charter
- Stephanie Beltran, Center for Advanced Learning
- Tomasa Martinez, Parent
- Elisa Galindo, Parent
- Antonieta Garcia, Parent

Tab 37: Receipt of the 2023-2024 Annual Audit Financial Report (036-24/25)

Mr. McLean announced that no action is to be taken on this item but noted that the Superintendent and Board President have comments regarding it.

Superintendent Carvalho explained that the Annual Audit Financial Report is a routine but important process, as it validates the accuracy of the District's financial data and reports. He noted that this report reviews the unaudited financials for 2023-2024, which were presented in September, along with other elements to provide an external assessment of the District's financial reporting. Although a presentation was initially scheduled for today, it was decided that the presentation would be sent to the Board, due to the late hour, and individual meetings could be arranged if further discussion is needed.

Mr. Mclean announced that the meeting will recess until the following day, Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 9:50 a.m. to hear the last item, Tab 39, Board of Education Report No. 201-24/25, Adoption of Authorization to Execute Certain Contracts Without Advertising or Inviting Bids to Respond Effectively to the January 2025 Severe Windstorm and Fire Conditions; Resolution Declaring Emergency Conditions Exist at Los Angeles Unified Schools and Offices.

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The Board recessed the Regular Board meeting at 8:42 p.m.

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The Board reconvened the Regular Board meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 9:59 am.

The following Board Members were present: Ms. Sherlett H. Newbill, Dr. Rocío Rivas, Mr. Nick Melvoin, Ms. Karla Griego, Ms. Kelly Gonez, and Board President Scott Schmerelson.

Ms. Tanya Ortiz Franklin joined the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho was also present.

Tab 39: Board of Education Report No. 201-24/25  
Adoption of Authorization to Execute Certain Contracts Without Advertising or Inviting Bids to Respond Effectively to the January 2025 Severe Windstorm and Fire Conditions; Resolution Declaring Emergency Conditions Exist at Los Angeles Unified Schools and Offices

Superintendent Carvalho emphasized the importance of this item due to the level of inspections being conducted at schools and the expedited nature of the work required. He highlighted the District's commitment to protecting and enhancing the accountability measures specific to the Board. As

previously stated, monthly updates will be provided regarding the contracts issued. Additionally, the District will ensure, that contracts are awarded to entities on the approved benches, to the extent possible. He also noted that the District will maximize the utilization of its own resources, including workforce.

Board Members gave remarks.

Superintendent Carvalho responded to a question from Dr. Rivas regarding the services that would be covered under these contracts.

Dr. Rivas proposed amending the third Resolve in the Resolution Declaring Emergency Conditions, appended to Board Report 201-24/25, to the following:

Authorize the Superintendent and/or his designee(s) to take any and all actions necessary to give effect to Emergency Contracts to help ensure student and staff safety, and the continuation of public education, which emergency delegation will expire on June 30, 2025, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by public action of the Board of Education.

After discussion, Dr. Rivas moved to amend Board Report 201-24/25. Ms. Gonez seconded the motion.

On roll call vote the amendment was adopted. The vote was 7 ayes.

Ms. Newbill shared comments and inquired about the procedures that would follow the documents' expiration in the event of another emergency.

Ms. Devora Navera Reed, General Counsel, addressed the question, stating that a special meeting would be convened if the District required an emergency delegation.

Superintendent Carvalho also shared comments.

After discussion, Ms. Gonez moved that the amended Board Report 201-24/5 be adopted. Ms. Newbill seconded the motion.

On roll call vote, the item was adopted. The vote was 7 ayes.

### ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD: May 13, 2025**



MR. SCOTT SCHMERELSON  
PRESIDENT



MR. MICHAEL MCLEAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD

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