

**Los Angeles Unified School District
Parent and Community Services
Community Advisory Committee
Minutes
January 21, 2021**

I. Call to Order

Lisa Mosko, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Andrea Yahudian, CAC Member, led the Pledge of Allegiance at 1:06 pm.

III. Public Comment

Ariel Harman-Holmes, Parliamentarian, oversaw public comment at 1:08 pm. In recognition of the lack of pertinent SpEd services, Carla Suarez-Capdet shared that LAUSD needs to do more for students who receive special education services. CAC Member Paul Robak extended his appreciation to the parents who shared their public comment as their testimonies in advocating for their children were powerful.

IV. CAC Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Mosko began her report by recognizing how distance learning and social distancing have adversely impacted students. The report also covered what topics the CAC meeting will cover including the Significant Disproportionality Plan, which CAC Members Bryan Davis and Charlotte Henderson have contributed. She welcomed LAUSD Board of Education Member Dr. George J. McKenna III and voiced how the recent socio-political climate has impacted LAUSD and the CAC community.

V. Greetings from LAUSD Board of Education Member

Dr. George J. McKenna III, LAUSD Board of Education Member, introduced himself and acknowledged the current education landscape and how it adversely impacted students with disabilities. As his primary purpose was to listen, he heard and answered questions from the CAC members.

Following Dr. McKenna's session, Jonathan Fratz shared his input as he was recognized late for public comment.

VI. Roll Call/Establish Quorum

Yoo Eun Kim, Secretary, conducted roll call for the establishment of the quorum. A quorum was established with 24 members.

VII. Seating of Alternate as Representative for 2020-21 School Year

Solea Franklin, CAC Alternate, was seated to replace Angela Thudium; Isabel Martinez, CAC Alternate, was seated to replace Caryln Dobrow.

VIII. Division of Special Education Update

Marco Tolj, Director, Lilia Moran, Coordinator, and LaTanya Tolan, Specialist, shared an update from the Division of Special Education. As of Jan 11th, 32,300 IEP meetings have been conducted, and the number continues to go. The Division of SpEd Department launched its new website earlier this month, and Director Tolj showed how parents can navigate the website to reach key information and resources. Under the Safer at Home Campus Closure plan that started in December, there have been no student programs on campus such as childcare, athletic conditioning, in-person tutoring, assessments and any in-person services for our students eligible for Special Education. The staff is working to transition in-person services such as tutoring and assessment to virtual online services. Reminders on the Parent Portal were

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provided. Director Tolj went over the Alternate Dispute Resolution-In Schools (ADR-S) which aims to facilitate the early resolution of issue(s)/concern(s) regarding disputed component(s) of the IEP informally and efficiently. The Division of Special Education plans to share its findings on ADR-S in June.

IX: Presentation: SPED Disproportionality Initiative

Dr. Aaron Jeffrey, Director of Special Education, shared an overview of the SPED Disproportionality Initiative. LAUSD was found to be significantly disproportionate given the high number of African American/Black students qualified for special education with the eligibility of Emotional Disturbance. African American students with special education services are three times more likely to be suspended. It is the requirement for LAUSD to set aside 15% of certain funds to address the disproportionality.

Director Jeffrey shared the identified root causes including implicit bias, lack of coordination of services, and unsuccessful literacy integration. Efforts to bridge the gap are underway as he revealed the Coordinated Early Intervening Services Plan, which includes the implementation of district-wide implicit bias training and the establishment of four Intensive Diagnostic Educational Centers. Thirty focus schools in Local Districts South and West have been identified. Moreover, input from parents and other stakeholders is needed as the plan has yet to receive final approval from the state. Director Jeffrey wants to receive as many parents' voices as possible. He will share a google group survey for parents to sign up. A Q&A session followed.

Vice Chairperson Mayra Zamora moved to extend the meeting and complete the agenda. CAC Member Patrick Bromark seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed with 22 "yes" votes and 1 "abstain" vote.

X. Presentation: Behavior

Jacqueline Mora, Coordinator, Behavior Support, Division of Special Education, provided an overview of behavior support during distance learning. She shared how staff are supporting students with behavioral needs and the professional development opportunities available for staff and families. Prompting in the Digital Classroom for Student Engagement Topics included:

- 1) Prompting
 - Actions that guide or assist students to give a correct response or engage in a specific behavior
- 2) Gestural Prompt
 - Students can observe staff's actions
 - When staff can easily motion towards an object or correct response
- 3) Visual Prompt
 - Picture or cue the students see which provides information about the correct response or the desired behavior
- 4) Verbal Prompt
 - When students can understand spoken words and follow directions
- 5) Modeling Prompt

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- Introducing a new task to a student
- When a student does not respond to gestual, visual, or verbal prompting

Resources were provided. Attendees saw a live module resource. Q&A session followed.

XI. Approval of Minutes December 16, 2020

Chairperson Mosko shared the meeting minutes for the December CAC meeting. CAC Officer Yoo Eun Kim moved to accept the minutes with any corrections, additions, and deletions necessary to address minor grammatical and clerical errors. CAC Officer John Perron seconded the motion. The motion passed with 16 “yes” votes and 1 “abstain” vote.

XII. Parent and Community Services Update

Antonio Plascencia, Jr., Director, Office of Parent and Community Services, shared updates from this department. Antonio began the meeting by extending his best wishes and condolences to individuals who have been adversely impacted by the pandemic. He reminded members about the LAUSD Hotline at 213-443-1300. The number is for families who have any questions and general needs including assistance with grab-and-go. The number is open every weekday from 6 am to 6 pm and every Saturday morning.

Director Plascencia shared the meeting norms, code of conduct, and rules of decorum in order to build an inclusive community. Four step meditation process was outlined. He discourages members from providing personal information and engaging in the meeting conversation while driving.

Other updates included success of the COVID-19 testing procedures, the working plan to distribute vaccines at local community sites and meet-and-greet sessions focused on student achievement. Moreover, Director Plascencia extended the opportunity for CAC Members to be involved with the budget development conversations. The report concluded with a reminder on upcoming LAUSD Board of Education meeting dates/times.

XIII. Updates

CAC Officers Ariel Harman-Holmes, Mayra Zamora, and John Perron and District Admin. Marco Tolj provided updates on the ad hoc committees and working groups. Officer Harman-Holmes established a series of priorities that the committee will address: narrowing the rules of Robert’s Rule, transitioning from one officer group to another, involvement of CAC membership into choosing new members, setting clarity on the number of CAC meetings, term limits for members, electronic meeting protocols, and addition of Standing committees. Director Tolj shared that in their last meeting members went over the why behind the Local Plan and the purpose behind the work.

Officer Zamora shared that her group was outlining what the IEP presentation and training will look like. Officer Perron shared that his group has been working on the CAC Ambassador slides which include a draft of mission statement, continuous improvement goals, and other information pertinent to their objectives.

XIV. New Business for Possible Action at Future Meetings

CAC Officer Ariel Harman-Holmes asked attendees to share what should become a standing committee as she is part of the Bylaws Committee. CAC Member Carl Peterson shared that he wants to place an item on the agenda of the next CAC meeting urging the LAUSD School Board to reinstate the Special Education

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Committee. CAC Member Maria Ortiz wants all schools with exceptional needs to have workshops and send representatives to the committee. She wants the committee to be expanded in order to share information.

XV. Announcements from members and PCS staff

CAC Member Perron wanted to set aside time wherein non-member participants can participate. CAC Officer Zamora encouraged CAC members to attend the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) study group as the LCAP is being revised. CAC Chairperson Mosko shared that she wants to see CAC members attend the board meetings and email board members on things that can be improved. Dora reminded the CAC board about the rights to receive training. Norma E Gonzalez includes more parents in the committee to be public with the school.

XVI. Adjournment

Lisa Mosko, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Yoo Eun Kim