

**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Rachel Greene, Chair**

Tenth District PTSA

**Bevin Ashenmiller, Vice-Chair**

LAUSD Student Parent

**Karen Krygier, Secretary**

L.A. City Controller's Office

**Araceli Sandoval-Gonzalez, Executive Committee**

Early Education Coalition

**Tracy Bartley**

31<sup>st</sup> District PTSA

**Jeffrey Fischbach**

CA Tax Reform Assn.

**Melanie Freeland**

American Institute of Architects

**Margaret Fuentes**

LAUSD Student Parent

**Greg Good**

L.A. City Mayor's Office

**Chris Hannan**

L.A. Co. Federation of Labor AFL-CIO

**Michael Keeley**

CA Charter School Association

**Dolores Sobalvarro**

AARP

**Alvin Trotter, Jr.**

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

**Guy Zelenski**

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

**Celia Ayala (Alternate)**

Early Education Coalition

**Connie Yee (Alternate)**

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

**Jose Zambrano (Alternate)**

Tenth District PTSA

**(Vacant)**

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

**Joseph P. Buchman – Legal Counsel**

Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

**Lori Raineri and Keith Weaver – Oversight Consultants**

Government Financial Strategies

**Timothy Popejoy**

Bond Oversight Administrator

**Perla Zitle**

BOC Staff

---

**RESOLUTION 2020-9**

**BOARD REPORT NO. 311-19/20**

**AMENDMENT TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION  
STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO APPROVE THE DISTANCE LEARNING  
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Information Technology Division (ITD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to approve the definitions, allocate funds, and take the associated action(s) for the Distance Learning Project as described in Attachments A, B, and C.

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes the following actions:

- Move \$1,057,414 from the "Technology Infrastructure and System Upgrades" SUP category of need to the "Upgrade and Equip with 21st Century Technology" SUP category of need.
- Allocate \$77,400,000 bond funding from the "Upgrade and Equip with 21st Century Technology" SUP category of need to complete the Distance Learning Project.
- Approve execution of the Distance Learning Project.

WHEREAS, the SUP includes a spending target to address "Upgrade and Equip with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology"; and

WHEREAS, the Distance Learning Project is a component of the District's response to the COVID-19 Emergency and will provide continuity of learning while schools are closed by assigning computing devices, which will continue to be part of the schools' instructional program, to students in grades TK-12; and

**Bond Oversight Committee**

333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 ♦ Phone: 213. 241.5183 ♦ Fax: 213.241.8354 ♦ [www.laschools.org/bond](http://www.laschools.org/bond)

## **RESOLUTION 2020-9**

### **AMENDMENT TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO APPROVE THE DISTANCE LEARNING PROJECT**

WHEREAS, District Staff anticipates that the proposed SEP amendment will facilitate implementation of the ITD SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the ITD SEP; and

WHEREAS, while the District is operating under emergency powers granted to the Superintendent and actions subject to other governmental authorities, the oversight responsibilities mandated by the state constitution, education code, bond measure language and the MOU between the District and the Committee remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the California Constitution and the Education Code, the purpose of any citizens' oversight committee is to inform the public concerning the expenditure of bond revenues, and actively review and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayers' money for school construction projects; and

WHEREAS, in May 2018, the BOC did not adopt a recommendation supporting a proposed Empowered Learners project, which similarly aimed to provide a device to each student (that project had a total budget of \$150M, and the Distance Learning Project has a total budget of \$77.4M); and

WHEREAS, in response to the Empowered Learners project, the BOC sent a letter to the Board of Education and the Superintendent expressing several critical concerns. These concerns included lack of a plan to provide equitable access, lack of data supporting the instructional benefits of online learning, lack of a plan to replace devices after expiration of their useful life, questions regarding the legal permissibility of students taking bond fund purchased devices home, and concerns regarding the use of long-term bond issuance to purchase devices with useful lives of five years; and

WHEREAS, the above concerns expressed by the BOC in regard to Empowered Learners remain and have not been adequately addressed by the District, even as the District continues to use bond funds for the purchase of computing devices for students;

WHEREAS, in particular, the BOC has not received an adequate response to the question about the legal permissibility of using bond funds to purchase computing devices or other technology that leaves school grounds and is taken home by students; and

WHEREAS, it concerns the BOC that approval of the Distance Learning Project will exhaust the remaining bond funds currently allocated for ITD projects in the School Upgrade Program; and

WHEREAS, even though the BOC has the above concerns regarding this project and others of similar purpose, it recognizes the severe and critical nature of the need to provide instructional resources to students as part of the District's response to the COVID-19 epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the BOC recognizes the exceptional efforts of the District to address the many instructional and public health needs of LAUSD students. As such, the BOC recommends the Distance Learning Project with the following conditions listed below.

## **RESOLUTION 2020-9**

### **AMENDMENT TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO APPROVE THE DISTANCE LEARNING PROJECT**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Construction Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee recommends that the Board of Education adopt amendment of the Information Technology Division Strategic Execution Plan to approve the Distance Learning Project, listed above as described in Board Report 311-19/20, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference.
2. The BOC recommends that District staff provide a monthly written project report to the Board of Education and shared with the BOC that includes the number, cost, source of funding, and types of devices purchased by grade level, by school, Local District and Board District. The report should also include any other additional information maintained by the District that would inform the public and the BOC about the implementation of this project and its intended purpose and effect. The report should include a total reporting of all devices in the District, by source of funding devices, and those newly procured for this project. The report should also include reporting of data supporting project metrics and procedures established by the District to implement the project (including inventory control) and to measure instructional impacts.
3. That the Board of Education and the Superintendent commit to any project audit, technical evaluation and/or other appropriate third-party evaluation of the project as requested by the District's Office of the Inspector General.
4. That the District utilize every opportunity to obtain funding and reimbursement of bond funds for the procurement of devices from federal, state, local, non-profit and private sector resources available for this purpose. Status of this effort should be included in the monthly reporting to the Board of Education and the BOC.
5. That prior to the District proposing new IT bond projects for approval, the Superintendent submits a forward looking, multi-year IT Strategic Plan to the Board of Education. The Plan, which would also be shared with the BOC, should identify IT priorities for the bond program, including the impacts of the Distance Learning Project on both short and long-term priorities. The Plan should include implementation options and consideration of alternative financing mechanisms for device and other technology replacement based on the useful life of these assets.
6. This resolution shall be transmitted to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education and posted on the Bond Oversight Committee's website.

## **RESOLUTION 2020-9**

### **AMENDMENT TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO APPROVE THE DISTANCE LEARNING PROJECT**

7. The District is directed to track the above recommendation and to report on the adoption, rejection, or pending status of the recommendations as provided in section 6.2 of the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding between the Bond Oversight Committee and the District.

VOTED on April 2, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: **12**

ABSTENTIONS: **1**

NAYS: **1**

ABSENCES: **0**

*/Rachel Greene/*

Rachel Greene  
Chair

*/Bevin Ashenmiller/*

Bevin Ashenmiller  
Vice-Chair



## Board of Education Report

---

**File #:** Rep-311-19/20, **Version:** 1

---

### **Amendment to the Information Technology Division Strategic Execution Plan to Approve the Distance Learning Project**

**April 14, 2020**

#### **Information Technology Division**

#### **Action Proposed:**

Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Information Technology Division (ITD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to approve the definitions, allocate funds, and take the associated action(s) for the Distance Learning project as described in Attachments A, B, and C.

The proposed actions are as follows:

- Move \$1,057,414 from the "Technology Infrastructure and System Upgrades" SUP category of need to the "Upgrade and Equip with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology" SUP category of need.
- Allocate \$77,400,000 bond funding from the "Upgrade and Equip with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology" SUP category of need to complete the Distance Learning Project.
- Approve execution of the Distance Learning project.

#### **Background:**

On January 14, 2014, the Board of Education approved the establishment of the SUP, the next phase of the District's Bond Program, which will modernize, build and repair school facilities to improve student health, safety and educational quality. The Board's action approved the overarching goals and principles, funding sources, specific categories of need, and spending targets for the SUP. As proposed projects are identified, they are submitted to the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) for consideration and the Board of Education for approval.

The SUP includes a spending target to address "Upgrade and Equip with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology." The intended outcome of the proposed project to be executed within this spending target is:

- Distance Learning Project: This project is a component of the District's response to the COVID-19 Emergency and will provide continuity of learning while schools are closed by assigning computing devices to students in grades TK-12. Upon the reopening of schools, the devices will continue to be part of the schools' instructional program. \$77,400,000 Bond Funds.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

Staff anticipates that the Board will amend the ITD SEP to define the new project described herein and allocate \$77,400,000 of Bond Program funding. This project will help the District provide continuity of learning while schools are closed - due to crisis and outside of traditional schools hours (evenings and weekends).

#### **Board Options and Consequences:**

Failure or delay of approval will postpone the execution and/or implementation of the proposed project and the associated benefits to students, parents, and schools.

**Policy Implications:**

This action is consistent with the District's long-term goal to address unmet school needs as described in Proposition BB and Measures K, R, Y and Q.

**Budget Impact:**

The proposed project has a total budget of \$77,400,000 of Bond Program funding. The bond funds will be allocated from the "Upgrade and Equip with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology" SUP category of need in the ITD SEP.

At the end of the devices' useful life, 5 years, if the District wishes to continue providing students access to learning opportunities outside of the traditional school setting, there will be a need for an equivalent amount of funds to perform another refresh of devices. The source of funding once identified will be amended to the ITD Strategic Execution Plan.

**Student Impact:**

The impact of this solution on students is as follows:

- Continuity of learning when schools are closed - due to crisis and outside of traditional schools hours;
- Computing devices assigned to students who have not already been assigned one in grades TK-12;
- Internet access provided to students that do not have internet access at home via District programs and partnerships.

**Issues and Analysis:**

The School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC), at its April 2, 2020 meeting, considered this item. Staff has concluded that this proposed SEP Amendment will facilitate the implementation of the ITD SEP, and therefore it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the ITD SEP.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Project Definition

Attachment B - Bond Oversight Committee Resolution

Attachment C - Presentation Slide Deck

**Informatives:**

None

**Submitted:**

March 26, 2020

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**APPROVED BY:**

---

AUSTIN BEUTNER  
Superintendent

---

MEGAN K. REILLY  
Deputy Superintendent, Office of the Deputy  
Superintendent

**REVIEWED BY:**

**APPROVED & PRESENTED BY:**

---

DAVID HOLMQUIST  
General Counsel  
\_\_\_ Approved as to form.

---

SOHEIL KATAL  
Chief Information Officer

**REVIEWED BY:**

---

TONY ATIENZA  
Director, Budget Services and Financial Planning  
\_\_\_ Approved as to budget impact statement.