

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Student Health & Human Services  
Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity

Commission on Human Relations

January 14, 2021

6:30 – 8:00

TELECONFERENCE – zoom meeting

A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call and introductions
- III. Approval of November meeting
- IV. Reports of standing committees
- V. Standing updates/reports/Commissioner proposed items:
  - a. Human Relations Awards
  - b. Anti-hate initiative for LA County
  - c. Housing Task Force
  - d. American Indian Education Program
  - e. Educational Equity
  - f. School Culture
  - g. Civic Engagement
  - h. Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity
- VI. Public Comment (2-minutes)
- VII. Adjournment

Meeting schedule (subject to change by commission vote)  
Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

2021 –February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED  
Student Health & Human Services  
Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity

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Minutes

**PRESENT**

Abelsson, Mark	selected
Blanshay, Linda	Museum of Tolerance
Chiasson, Judy	staff
De La Rosa, Gary	at large
Hudson, Cristina	staff
Jacobs, Bud	
Edwards, Kathryn	LACOE
Kakassy, Allan	McKenna (1)
Laguna, Joel	UTLA
Perez, Kevin	Gonez
Watts, Joyce	selected

**ABSENT**

Crouch, Perry	Vladovic (7)
Reimers, Sarah	Melvoin (4)
Richardson, Joan	CSEA
Perez, Linda	CSEA
Richardson, Joan	CSEA
Rivlin, Shelley	Schmerelson (3)
Toma, Robin	LA County HRC
Villa-McDowell, Terri	Commission on Human Relations (substituting )

**VACANT**

Garcia (2)  
Goldberg (5)

Quorum met at 6:44 p.m.

Roll call and grounding activity- word/intention for the year.

November minutes approved by Bud Jacobs , seconded by Linda Blanshay with no corrections.

**Reports on Committees:**

**Housing Task Force :** **Shelley Rivlin** sent an email stating that she is working on setting up a meeting with Nury Martinez. Kevin states the committee did not meet in November; nothing to add at this time.

**Human Relations Awards-** **Bud Jacobs** states there will be a hiatus from the award programs. Will bring it up in the spring. Cristina Hudson will contact Bud Jacobs to see about the possibility of offering the awards program virtually.

**American Indian Education Program-** **Allan Kakassy** shared that there is disappointment with leadership and lack of guidance to hire and set up standards for hiring personnel. Number of

students is fewer than six hundred because parents do not return the 506 form, identifying their child as Native. One person is hired and she is interested in identifying students. Joyce Watts will follow up with Allan regarding this matter.

**School Culture/Educational Equity** - J. Watts reported regarding scheduling retreat. Joel announced that the state of California has released the 3rd draft with a focus on the four main groups (Native American, African American, Mexican American/Chicano/Latino, Asian American). Joel was part of board hearing. There is an ethnic studies mentorship. Allison Yoshimoto Towery has been having town halls and taking notes on what the community would like. Discussion about only four main groups chosen and excluding other groups. HS grad requirement (Ethnic Studies) by 2023/24.

Watts wondered if excluding white serves to normalize whiteness. Allan meeting with Estevan Leva in DOI who now is leading the ethnic studies.

Relevant news articles, shared by Joyce: [LA Daily News](#), Board Resolution [Ethnic Studies for All](#)

**Kathryn Edwards** shared about students' current levels of social emotional needs. She shared that there have been losses (deaths) of students and they are struggling and there is a serious need as well as a need for parent engagement. Parents need support with technology so that they can assist the students. LD Central called K. Edwards to connect regarding providing equity for the most vulnerable students (African American students).

**Civic Engagement** – Gary De La Rosa has sent resources to Human Relations, Diversity & Equity. Gary De La Rosa asked other members if there was any information about the movement to open sports, Let Them Play Rally on January 15. LAUSD sports are currently not open due to increased COVID cases.

#### **Human Relations, Diversity & Equity:**

Judy Chiasson provided information. Joyce Watts requested data, information regarding how LAUSD students are doing. Questions will be emailed to Judy prior to next meeting.

Joel Laguna reported that the past month and currently covid has affected his students (illness of parents, death of relatives ...).

Bud Jacobs would like someone from office of Communication from the district to provide information to share with the commissioners.

Joyce Germaine Watts would like a speaker from SHHS to address attendance, vaccinations, social emotional health of students.

Judy Chiasson reported that shared SHHS and DOI partnered on a Return to School Guide that fuses social-emotional well being of staff and students into classroom instruction. Also give a brief overview of the webpage for Human Relations, Diversity & Equity and invited commissioners to join the zoom Open House January 15 at 3 p.m.

<https://achieve.lausd.net/human-relations#calendar62258/20210114/month>

zoom link 872 8055 6722 password: 021109

Public Comments:

Museum of Tolerance courses available, new open enrollments courses. MLK courses on Monday. <https://www.museumoftolerance.com/> LACOE and Museum of Tolerance are collaborating and providing trainings.

**Action items:**

All – commissioners requested presentations from Communications and SHHS. Please submit questions to Judy so guests will be prepared.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday, February 11, 2021 - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. via Zoom.

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<https://zoom.us/j/91508346278?from=addon>

A G E N D A

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|------|--|------|
| I.   | Call to Order                                    |      |
| II.  | Roll Call and introductions                      | 6:40 |
| III. | Approval of minutes                              | 6:45 |
| IV.  | Reports of standing committees                   |      |
|      | a. Housing Task Force                            | 6:50 |
|      | b. Educational Equity and School Culture         | 7:00 |
|      | c. Civic Engagement                              | 7:10 |
|      | d. American Indian Education Program             | 7:20 |
|      | e. Human Relations Awards on hiatus              | 7:30 |
|      | f. Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity | 7:40 |
| V.   | Public Comment (2-minutes)                       | 7:50 |
| VI.  | Adjournment and announcements                    | 7:55 |
| I.   | Public Comment (2-minutes)                       |      |
| II.  | Adjournment                                      |      |

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