

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

Commission on Human Relations
April 8, 2021

Minutes

PRESENT

Abelsson, Mark	selected
Crouch, Perry	Franklin (7)
Chiasson, Judy	staff
De La Rosa, Gary	at large
Vigil, Cristina	staff
Jacobs, Bud	Beutner
Kakassy, Allan	McKenna (1)
Watts, Joyce	selected
Rivlin, Shelley	Schmerelson (3)
Laguna, Joel	UTLA
Karras Wilson	
Blanshay, Linda	Museum of Tolerance
Perez, Linda	CSEA
Richardson, Joan	CSEA

GUESTS

Keith Abrahams	Student Integrated Services
Susan Hawk	Title 6 Indian Educ. Program
Sharnell Blevins	Ortiz Franklin staff

ABSENT

Toma, Robin	LA County HRC
Edwards, Kathryn	LACOE
Perez, Kevin	Gonez
Reimers, Sarah	Melvoin (4)

VACANT

Garcia (2)
Goldberg (5)

Check in- favorite thing about spring.

Quorum met at 6:38 p.m.

Meeting in honor of Tongva elder, Julia Louise Bogany July 16, 1948 - March 28, 2021 (Gary De La Rosa).

Keith Abrahams and Susan Hawk introduced themselves and presented about their program: Title VI Indian Education program. Program's goal is to provide a culturally responsive education for American Indian students at LAUSD. Form 506 and eligibility in the program explained. Currently there are 503 students who are enrolled in program and meet the criteria. This is down approximately by 50 students (reduction of 506 students has been noted across the United States, and thus funding will stay same). The parent committee determines the funding allocation and oversight of Title VI program. Consultation with local tribes (three local) will take place to decide on activities, services etc. Navajo and Sioux as well as three other tribes contacted to discuss regarding budget recommendations about activities and services. Objectives are to increase school graduation, attendance, parent participation, college and career readiness ...85% need to be direct services to students: native language instruction, culturally responsive academic enrichment, substance abuse prevention, suicide prevention...The program has had college application workshops, financial aid workshops, LAUSD College Fair (May 8)... Total allocated to this program is \$140,000.

Questions provided prior answered. M. Abelson asked: How is funding allocated? Answer: It's a formula grant based on the per pupil spending.

Judy Chiasson asked: Do you work with Division of Instruction for tutoring?

Answer: Yes, plus we have tutoring offered by American Indian College students from UCLA and American Indian Community partners at the Indian Education Center and local tribe, Torres Martinez Tribal TANF.

Allan K. thanked the presenters for the extensive presentation to the commissioners.

Karras W. shared that an LAUSD Title VI student was recently accepted to USC.

Linda B. shared about personal stories available via the Museum of Tolerance. Can offer honorariums to elders and their stories. lblanshay@wiesenthal.com

Joyce W. states she is struggling to understand the low funding to Title VI. She will get in touch with Allan and Karras to offer support to Title VI. *Exterminate all the Brutes* is a program she recommends watching. Response from K. Abrahams: He would appreciate any advocacy regarding greater budget/support.

Joan Richardson expressed that she enjoyed the presentation. Asked if her children would qualify as she is an Appalachian Indian from Louisiana. Answer: Yes, only letter recognizing tribe is needed.

Dr. Perry Crouch: How many students that are in Title VI broken down by local district? Answer: Will be provided.

Joel Laguna: Title VI called regarding one of his students but none of the students were working. Joel will email Susan regarding how to contact student.

Judy C.: thanked presenters for their time and presentation. Judy shared that there are lessons on the Human Relations, Diversity and Equity for teachers and we are always looking for material and to send creators of content our way.

March minutes approved by Shelley Rivlin , seconded by Bud Jacobs with no corrections.

Reports on Committees:

Housing Task Force : **Shelley Rivlin** reported she had a great committee meeting that was well attended. Highlight was Dr. Denise Miranda who gave a slide show overview of what they are doing and programs. Kids First pilot program, N. Perez shared with committee members.

Human Relations Awards- **Cristina Vigil** shared that the nomination form was shared on schoology with staff/teachers and thus far, there have been 39 responses from fourteen middle schools and high schools. Phone contact with Bud to review criteria for nomination. Plan is to provide certificate and recognition via zoom.

School Culture/Educational Equity - Joel Laguna reported that he followed up with Mr. Leyva and K. Jackson regarding Ethnic Studies . Timetable -school year 2022-23 to make Ethnic studies course available and to make this class a requirement starting in school year 2023-24. This will add 5 credits to the graduation requirement. Currently there are seven courses that qualify for this requirement. This

requirement is a semester long course. Training regarding teaching this course- English Language Arts credential /Social Studies credential at a minimum. Considering offering a micro credential to teach this course. There is now a schoology group to provide resources for K-8th grade, resources have been added for all enrolled (about 3000 teachers).

Civic Engagement – Gary De La Rosa No new business at this time.

Shelley Rivlin reported that BM Scott Schmerleson passed a resolution to support that the seal of Civic Engagement on their high school diplomas.

Human Relations, Diversity & Equity:

Judy Chiasson provided information about roll out to return to school campus'. All staff will be in the schools to support. The Roadmaps for educators and for parents are pending superintendent approval. An abundance of funding to support Black students and various other positions (social workers). Support will be provided for students and staff during the challenging times of returning to school.

Announcements

Shelley Rivlin reminded us that today we commemorate Yom HaShoah- Holocaust Remembrance Day in order not to forget the approximately six million Jews, including LGBTQ and various minorities and marginalized people who were killed during the Holocaust.

Mark Abelson moved to adjourn the meeting and Judy Chiasson seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next meeting Thursday, May 13, 2021 - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Upcoming meeting – 2nd Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

2021 –June 10

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

Commission on Human Relations
May 13, 2021
6:30 – 8:00

<https://zoom.us/j/98092232365?from=addon>

A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order
 - II. Roll Call and introductions 6:40
 - III. Approval of April meeting 6:45
 - IV. Reports of standing committees
 - V. Standing updates/reports/Commissioner proposed items:
 - a. Housing Task Force 6:55
 - b. Educational Equity and School Culture 7:05
 - c. Civic Engagement 7:15
 - d. Human Relations Awards 7:25
 - e. Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity 7:40
 - VI. Public Comment (2-minutes) 7:50
 - VII. Adjournment and announcements 7:55
- Meeting schedule (subject to change by commission vote)
Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
2021 –June 10