

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

Commission on Human Relations  
September 14, 2023  
AGENDA

Abelsson, Mark, Selected  
D'Alessandro, Valentina, LA County HRC  
De La Rosa, Gary Superintendent at large  
Espinoza, Sayra, UTLA  
Friedman, Matthew, ADL  
Hyland, Irene, AALA  
Jacobs, Bud, Superintendent  
Palladin, Luboff, Melvoin (4)  
Perez, Linda, CSEA  
Richardson, Joan, CSEA  
Rivlin, Shelley, Schmerelson (3)  
Valladares, Claudia, Goldberg (5)  
Watts, Joyce, selected

STAFF  
Zoeckler, Susanna HRDE  
Chiasson, Judy, HRDE

ABSENT  
Blanshay, Linda, Museum of Tolerance  
Crouch, Perry, Franklin (7)  
Kakassy, Allan. McKenna (1)  
Robledo, Olivia, Gonez (6)  
Williams, Jamaal, LACOE

VACANT  
Rivas (2)

- I. Call to Order 6:00  
Meeting commenced at 6:15 with quorum
- II. Roll Call and introductions 6:05  
Welcomed new members Irene Hyland of AALA and Syra Escudero of UTLA
- III. Approval of August minutes 6:07
- IV. Interest survey completion and discussion 6:10
- V. Reports of standing committees, standing updates/reports/Commissioner proposed items:
  - a. Housing Task Force 6:30  
Shelley Rivlin is working with a facility in the Valley that provides housing for women and children escaping unsafe conditions. The director wants the children to continue their education but doesn't want to place them in a school temporarily and potentially increase their vulnerability for being abducted by their abuser. Irene Hyland recommend operations coordinator who will assist in getting students into a virtual academy.
  - b. Human Relations Awards 6:40  
Susie Zoecker presented on the Human Relations Award. She has connected with the Student Empowerment Unit who will help increase visibility. She is also posting monthly spotlights on past recipients.
  - c. Educational Equity and School Culture 6:50  
Equity. Joyce Watts and the Equity committee are looking for priorities and direction from the Executive Committee as they proceed. If there is no strategic plan or guidance, they may consider working independently. Rivlin asked Watts, as an content area expert to take the

initiative not wait on the commission. Commissioner Watts shared the most alarming stat that NONE of the African American students at LA High met Math standards.

- d. Civic Engagement 7:00  
Bud Jacobs inquired as to any effort to get students to vote. HRDE has some lessons, there is Rock the Vote, but is unsure of any coordinated efforts by the District.  
Consider reaching out to Senator Padilla who works with Rock the Vote to increase voter registration
- e. Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity 7:10  
Shared about the October 5 book distribution and the recent anti-gay trolls
- VI. Public Comment 7:20
- VII. Adjournment and announcements 7:40

Meeting schedule Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. (subject to change by Commission vote)

2023: October 12, November 9

2024: January 11, February 8, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13