



THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time

Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 10:00 AM (Approved Minutes)

Location

4000 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90037 (MPR)

Teleconference: TAS 2 – 119 E. 37th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90011

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Members Present: L. Rabinowitz, L. Picus, B. Brooks, B. Yost, and L. Berz

Board Members Absent: P. Morrison and M. De La Cruz

Administrative Team Present: L. Lugo, D. Kukta, C. Foley, R. French, F. Reading, T. Crowther, A. Zartner, L. Hilarides, F. Jackson, C. Ramos, A. Dominguez, J. Tonato, D. Tran, D. Albin and C. Reyes

Guest Speakers: None.

Guest Present: J. Ruley, O. Yee and P. Reyes

AGENDA

Meeting Called to Order: President Rabinowitz called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM.

Pledge of Allegiance: L. Rabinowitz

Approval of Board Meeting Agenda for June 20, 2024, Motioned: LR/LP **Approved:** Unanimously 5/0

Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes: June 5, 2024, Motioned: LP/LB **Approved:** Unanimously 5/0

Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes: May 22, 2024, Motioned: LP/LR **Approved:** Unanimously 5/0

Next Board Meeting
Board meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2024

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Board President L. Rabinowitz expressed his gratitude to everyone for attending and emphasized that the Board is prohibited from engaging with the public during the meeting. He acknowledged the concerns of many attendees regarding employee separation, clarifying that such separations are based on the organization's needs and are not necessarily reflective of an individual's performance. Stressing the importance of respect and privacy, he reminded everyone that it would be unlawful for the Board to comment on any employee matter.

L. Rabinowitz also expressed his appreciation for Ms. Grace Lee-Chang's leadership and her efforts in building a strong team that has continued to provide services to our schools during the CEO transition. He discussed the process for selecting the new CEO, expressed excitement about Mr. Melgares taking on the role on July 1, and informed the community about Mr. Melgares's CEO welcome letter, which was made available to the public.

Mr. Rabinowitz took a few minutes to acknowledge D-Day, June 6, 1944, which marked a pivotal moment in World War II when Allied forces launched the largest amphibious invasion in history on the beaches of Normandy, France. This operation was crucial in turning the tide against Nazi Germany, leading to the liberation of Western Europe and ultimately contributing to the Allied victory in the war.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Seventeen (17) comments

Teachers, parents, and former students from ACES expressed their concerns and sadness about the sudden dismissal of the ACES Principal. They requested clarification and answers about the decision.

Board President: We hear you and we thank you for your comments. Everything that we do is to provide a positive environment for your students.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:57 AM

1. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54954.5 for School Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 99
1. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54954.5 for United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA)

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION AT 11:39 AM

1. Report out any action taken in closed session. **No action taken**

Ratification of The Accelerated Schools 2024-27 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Teachers Los Angeles.

Motion: LP/LR **Approved:** 5/0 Unanimously

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STAFF PRESENTATION, REPORTS, AND ACTION ITEMS
Three (3) Public comments on item #9

1. Action item: Approval of Personnel Policy Handbook for the 2024-25 school year. **Dr. Foley mentioned that the Personnel Policy Handbook is updated annually. Motion: LP/LB Approved: 5/0 Unanimously Approved**
2. Informational Item: Report on 2023-24 Local Indicators related to the California School Dashboard (ACES). **L. Lugo shared that ACES has satisfied the performance metrics.**
3. Informational Item: Report on 2023-24 Local Indicators related to the California School Dashboard (TAS). **L. Lugo shared that TAS has satisfied the performance metrics.**
4. Informational Item: Report on 2023-24 Local Indicators related to the California School Dashboard (WAHS). **L. Lugo shared that WAHS has satisfied the performance metrics.**
5. Public hearing and action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Local Control and Accountability Plan (ACES). **Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**
6. Public hearing and action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Local Control and Accountability Plan (TAS). **Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**
7. Public hearing and action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Local Control and Accountability Plan (WAHS). **Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**
8. Action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget (ACES). **Ms. Kukta reviewed the 2024-25 budget challenges and adoption overview. The challenges are (very low) cost of living adjustment, increasing labor costs, sunseting of federal COVID funding, and structural deficits. Review of strategies to adhere to goal. Review of ACES, Home Office, and Consolidated budgets. Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**
9. Action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget (TAS) **Ms. Kukta reviewed the 2024-25 budget challenges and adoption overview. The challenges are COLA, increasing labor costs, sunseting of CARES Act funding, and structural deficits. Review of strategies to adhere to goal. Review of T—8TH (TAS) budget. Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**

The three (3) public comments requested the hiring of a Dean of Culture and emphasized the importance of not freezing this position. They pointed out that hiring a Dean of Culture demonstrates a commitment to equity and ensures that our families receive the resources they need.

10. Action item: Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget (WAHS). **Ms. Kukta reviewed the 2024-25 budget challenges and adoption overview. The challenges are COLA, increasing labor costs, sunseting of CARES Act funding, and structural deficits. Review of strategies to adhere to goal. Review of WAHS budget. Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously**

CONSENT ITEMS FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Items 1-6 Motion: LR/LP Approved: 5/0 Unanimously

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1. Revised Fiscal Policies & Procedures for ACES/TAS/WAHS
2. Ratification of Purchase of New Ford van for Food Services, Funded by Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Grant Funds
3. 2024-2025 Parent/Student Handbook (ACES, TAS, WAHS)
4. 2024-2025 Uniform Complaint Policy (ACES, TAS, WAHS)
5. 2024-2025 Title I Compact & Policy (ACES, TAS, WAHS)
6. Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (ACES, TAS, WAHS)

ADJOURN 12:03 PM

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