

## NENC Education Committee Meeting Minutes March 3, 2021

1. **Call to Order.** 5:02
2. **Roll Call and determination of a quorum. Members of the committee: Adam Brown (Alternate), Rafael De La Rosa, Anthony Forsmark, Joe Kozul, Betsy Manchester, Christopher Meredith, Carl Petersen (Chair).**

De La Rosa, Forsmark, Kozul, Manchester, Meredith, and Petersen were present.

3. **Approve Minutes from the February 2021 meeting. Can be found at <https://bit.ly/3kmlGoF>.**

Forsmark moved to approve, De La Rosa seconded. Passed 6-0-0

4. **Public Comments from stakeholders for non-agenda items.**

There were no comments from the one member of the public logged in.

5. **Comments/Reports from Representatives of Public Officials: LAUSD BD 3 (Tara Vahdani).**

February is Women's History Month.

LAUSD and California Department of Education offer State Seals of Biliteracy. This is awarded to seniors who can read, speak and write in a language other than English.

Nominations for Teacher of the Year are due on March 5.

The LGBTQ+ Parent and Caregiver Support Group meets on a monthly basis.

Educators were eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine on March 1. The district is running four sites and is prioritizing elementary school staff.

Agreement with labor partners about the reopening of campuses is, hopefully, imminent. The pace of reopenings will depend on the number of COVID cases in Los Angeles. Parents will have a choice between hybrid learning and 100% online learning.

The district offers free COVID testing for household members of LAUSD students and employees. To schedule an appointment visit [DailyPass.LAUSD.Net](https://DailyPass.LAUSD.Net).

Grab and Go centers are still open and will continue to operate once hybrid learning starts, although the operating hours may change.

Campuses are open to the public again. Visitors must wear a mask.

Tara will next present at the June Education Committee meeting and the April NENC meeting.

- 6. Discuss LAUSD's Grab and Go program and Board Member Scott Schmerelson's request that the City of Los Angeles reimburse the school district for meals served to adults as part of this program.**

The district is still waiting on guidance from the county. FEMA might be an additional source of funding for the program.

- 7. Discuss the possibility of encouraging an NPG to provide sports equipment as part of the Grab and Go program.**

Tara will reach out to the local district. The program will have to be aimed at our area. Materials must be borrowed as city rules do not allow neighborhood council to give away items of value.

The deadline for NPGs in this fiscal year is rapidly approaching.

- 8. Update and discussion on motion sent to the NENC Board: "The NENC encourages the City of Los Angeles to request that the LAUSD encourage stakeholder participation by reinstating the Parent Engagement and Special Education Committees."**

Letter was sent to the City Council and copied to the LAUSD.

Board President Gonez is in discussions with Scott Schmerelson's office.

Tara says that letters from Neighborhood Councils, the motion from the Community Advisory Council (CAC) and the "flood of phone calls and emails that board members have received in recent weeks" have helped to bring pressure to resurrect these committees. The Special Education Committee should meet in March.

- 9. Update and discussion on the motion sent to the NENC Board: "The NENC is concerned about the harm being caused to LAUSD students by charter schools improperly using the PROP-39 colocation process and urge the City of Los Angeles to do everything possible to assist the LAUSD in recouping funds owed to them and to identify fraud."  
<https://bit.ly/3mX6gqV>**

The current about due can be found at this <https://bit.ly/3drWH0q>.

Tara says that the "levers that the district would have to compel payment are not really feasible with the current board makeup."

**10. Discussion and possible motion about Council File (CF) CF 21-0178 Motion (Buscaino - Cedillo) relative to requesting the City Attorney to report on legal options to compel the Los Angeles Unified School District to immediately re-open its school campuses and resume in-person instruction for students.**

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## **News Statement**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 5, 2021



**DR. GEORGE J. MCKENNA III**  
BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT 1  
BOARD OF EDUCATION



**Scott M. Schmerelson**  
Board Member, District 3

**JACKIE GOLDBERG**  
Board Member, District 5

### **Statement by Los Angeles Unified Superintendent Austin Beutner And Members of the Board of Education On Threatened City of Los Angeles Lawsuit**

LOS ANGELES (February 5, 2021) – Political stunts will not reopen schools in the Los Angeles area.

Schools in Los Angeles Unified have already put in place all of the health practices and protocols recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – from upgrading air-filtration systems and providing masks and PPE to creating a nation-leading school-based COVID testing and contact-tracing system. That's not what's keeping schools closed.

The problem is COVID levels in the Los Angeles area have not for a single day since March met the state standards for the reopening of schools. We cannot break state law to reopen schools.

If Mr. Buscaino had called any of us asking how the City of Los Angeles might help schools, we would have suggested they redouble their efforts to reduce the level of the virus and make sure teachers and all who work at schools get immediate access to vaccines.

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The NENC Board has voted to oppose this council file. It was suggested that the letter request cooperation and collaboration rather than dissent.

**11. Update on NPG requested by Parents, Educators/Teachers & Students in Action.**

The check has been issued and cashed. Awaiting wrap up report.

**12. Update on updated NPG requested by Darby Avenue Elementary PTA.**

They have received the check but have not cashed it.

**13. Update on call for a moratorium on new PROP-39 co-locations of charter schools on public school campuses during the COVID-19 crisis and motion from this committee. Includes a discussion of 2021 co-locations.**

<https://bit.ly/2NEZ9HM>    <https://bit.ly/3kje86a>

No movement has been made on the state level to suspend co-locations during the pandemic.

The following motion was moved by Forsmark and seconded by Meredith. Passed 5:1:0 (no vote by Kozul)

The Education Committee recommends that the NENC Board pass the following motion: “The NENC supports the efforts of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to prevent the PROP-39 co-location of Bassett Street Elementary School by Citizens of the World Charter School.”

**14. Set date and location for the next meeting and receive ideas for future agenda items.**

April 7 at 5:00

**15. Adjournment 5:52**