

NENC Education Committee Meeting Minutes July 10, 2021

1. **Call to Order.** 9:05 AM
2. **Roll Call and determination of a quorum. Members of the committee: Judy Diamond, Betsy Manchester, Christopher Meredith, Ken Ross, Carl Petersen (Chair).**

Diamond, Manchester, Meredith, and Petersen were present. A quorum was met.

3. **Approve Minutes from the April 2021 meeting. Can be found at <https://bit.ly/2QPuHMQ>.**
4. **Approve Minutes from the May 2021 meeting. Can be found at <https://bit.ly/3yp8l4N>.**

Manchester moved to approve, Meredith seconded. Passed 4-0-0

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

No comments from the two members of the public who were present.

6. **Comments/Reports from Representatives of Public Officials.**

Tara Vahdani from the Office of LAUSD Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson provided the updates regarding the Fall semester:

- Current plans call for full-day, in-person live instruction.
- All of the local campuses are offering child supervision until 6:00 PM.
- An online option will also be offered (<https://www.cityofangelsschool.org/>).
- Mask rules remain unchanged.

7. **Update and discussion on the motion passed by 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.”**

While the Special Education Committee was reinstated, Kelly Gonez did not allow the Parent Engagement Committee to meet during the last school year.

Both committees will be allowed to meet in the new school year with Board Member Schmerelson as their chair.

8. **Update and discussion on the motion passed by 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.”**

As of June 7, 2021, charter schools owe the LAUSD \$12,412,065.54 in Overallocation Fees.

Board President Kelly Gonez was invited to provide information about efforts to collect these past-due fees. This request was forwarded to the LAUSD Charter School Division. Jose Cole-Guitierrez, the Director of this division, provided the following response:

“Thank you for your email, which was forwarded to my office for appropriate response.

The District is pursuing all available options and is currently engaged in formal legal disputes with charter schools regarding reimbursements owed for over-allocated Proposition 39 space. As a result of these pending disputes, as well as potential additional legal disputes and litigation, the District declines to provide further comment on these matters.

Approximately every month, the District posts an updated over-allocation summary to its website, identifying the over-allocation reimbursement amounts owed by each charter school and for which year(s), the amounts paid to date by each charter school, and the amounts that remain outstanding. You may access the current summary here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/752hzaz93whm48c/AAAUZrZ84hAkuGudwl6u06y0a?dl=0&preview=Prop+39+Over+Allocation+Summary+of+Amounts+060721.pdf>

The following motion was moved by Manchester and seconded by Meredith:

“The Education Committee recommends that the NENC Board request that the City of Los Angeles ask the LAUSD to outline and define the actions that it has taken to collect the \$12,412,065.54 that is owed by charter schools for over-allocation penalties and to specify the formal legal disputes that they are currently engaged in.”

The motion passed 4-0-0

9. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: “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.”

Tara Vahdani informed the committee that Citizens of the World sent a letter at the end of June requesting that the PROP-39 request be withdrawn.

10. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: “As the LAUSD embarks on a search for a Superintendent to replace Austin Beutner, the Northridge East Neighborhood Council believes the school board ought to be open and transparent in the process and ought to solicit community input. Any candidates considered should have classroom experience in a public school district.”

Tara Vahdani told the committee that the Board's goal is to hire someone by December 2021.

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

Waiting for a Completion Report.

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

Waiting for a Completion Report or update on the project.

13. Update on NPG requested by Oliver Wendell Holmes Middle School.

A check has been issued and cashed.

14. Possible motion to support the Reseda Neighborhood Council's letter to APHEN asking that the City of Los Angeles urge the LAUSD to end the Shirley Avenue Elementary colocation by Citizens of the World Charter School.

A copy of the letter can be found at <https://bit.ly/3wj3MYx>.

Additional relevant information:

	Citizens of the World Charter School 5	Shirley Avenue Elementary	Difference
Hispanic or Latino	23.7%	78.5%	30.2%
White	43.0%	5.5%	781.8%

	Citizens of the World Charter School 5	Shirley Avenue Elementary
English Learners	3%	23%
Students with Disabilities	9%	17%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	21%	85%

The following motion was moved by Manchester and seconded by Diamond:

“The Education Committee recommends that the NENC Board support the Reseda Neighborhood Council's letter to APHEN asking that the City of Los Angeles urge the LAUSD to end the Shirley Avenue Elementary co-location by Citizens of the World Charter School”

The motion passed 4-0-0

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

Discuss outreach for the approximately \$4,000 available for NPG in the new fiscal year.

The next meeting is August 14, 2021, at 9:00 AM.

16. Adjournment