

**A recording of the Zoom meeting can be found at: [bit.ly/Zoom020324](https://bit.ly/Zoom020324)**

1. Call to Order. **9:06 AM**

2. Roll Call and determination of a quorum.

Members of the committee: Judy Diamond, Betsy Manchester, Christopher Meredith, Barbara Nitkin (Alternate), Carl Petersen (Chair), and Ken Ross (Alternate).

**Diamond, Meredith, and Petersen were present.**

**Nitkin was seated for Manchester.**

**A quorum was achieved.**

3. Review and approve the three questions that will be asked of the candidates for LAUSD Board District 3.

**Three questions were selected for the forum:**

- The NENC has asked the LA City Council to support the passage of the proposed LAUSD resolution: [Improving Special Education Within the LAUSD](#). As a Board Member, what would you do to support children with Special Education needs, particularly those whose disabilities are severe?
- The NENC has expressed concern over charter schools' \$3,708,006 [unpaid balance for over-allocation fees](#). As a Board Member, how would you bring transparency to how space in public schools is allocated to charter schools?
- In September 2022 it was revealed that the LAUSD's computer systems had been hacked. Despite assurances that personal information had not been released, [later reports showed that sensitive information for some children had been disclosed](#). As a Board member, how would you ensure accountability for the failure to prevent the hack and for the missteps in the aftermath?

**Moved by: Christopher Meredith**

**Seconded by: Judy Diamond**

**Passed: 4:0:0**

The candidates were allowed two minutes for an opening statement, two minutes to answer each of the three questions, and one minute for a closing statement.

4. Dan Chang (Participated)
5. Andreas Farmakalidis (Participated)
6. Scott Mark Schmerelson (Participated)

7. Janie Dam (Participated)
8. Elizabeth Badger (Conflicted with a previously scheduled appearance, did not participate)
9. Raquel Villalta (Participated)
  
10. Public Comments from stakeholders for non-agenda items.

**One comment:**

- **Copper wire theft and its effect on school safety.**

11. Approve Minutes from the January meeting. Can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/240113Minutes>

**Meredith moved to approve. Diamond seconded. Passed 4-0-0**

12. Comments/Reports from Representatives of Public Officials. **None Present**

13. Update on the NPG requested by the Balboa Spirit Club in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.  
The application can be found at [bit.ly/BalboaNPG](http://bit.ly/BalboaNPG).

**Motion was tabled at the NENC meeting.**

14. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: “In light of the events that occurred at Saticoy Elementary School on June 2, 2023, the NENC urges the City of Los Angeles to support the LAUSD's efforts at promoting inclusion and diversity.”

Letter sent to the LA City Council Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee:  
[bit.ly/LetterToCityCouncil\\_Saticoy](http://bit.ly/LetterToCityCouncil_Saticoy)

**No response was received from John Lee or the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee.**

**Public comments:**

- **One claimed that voices are being left out and said that all voices should be included.**
- **Another said that parental rights are an important issue and parents want an opportunity to have a voice in their students' curriculum.**

**I countered that when we frame what happened at Saticoy as about “parental rights,” we go down a dangerous path because what these parents wanted was for the program to be eliminated as an “opt-out” option already existed. We can't say that it is a parental right to exclude other people.**

- **Raquel Villalta commented that she believes that there is a large portion of our community who are not being included and who believe that what is being taught in the schools should not be taught. She said that schools should stick to core subjects.**

**I countered that respecting people and communities should not be up for debate. I reminded those speaking that the book that caused the protest simply said that some families have two mommies and some families have two daddies. Recognizing that different families exist should be a basic value. This was not a sex education class. It was about making sure that everyone feels welcome.**

**Judy Diamond commented that stating that some families have two mommies and some families have two daddies is just a fact and you have to be careful about hiding facts just because you don't like them.**

15. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: "The NENC expects the LAUSD Board and Superintendent Carvalho to exercise full transparency regarding all intrusions (hacks) into the District's computer systems. We expect the District to act in good faith and immediately disclose to affected parents, students, employees, and contractors the extent of the breach and assist them in limiting potential damages."

Letter sent to the LA City Council Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee:  
[bit.ly/LetterToCityCouncil\\_Hack](https://bit.ly/LetterToCityCouncil_Hack)

**No response was received from John Lee or the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee.**

16. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: "The NENC Education Committee recommends that the NENC Board ask the LA City Council to support the passage of the proposed LAUSD resolution: Improving Special Education Within the LAUSD"

[bit.ly/SpEdRes221218](https://bit.ly/SpEdRes221218)

**No movement. Working on narrowing the focus to see if we can get this through.**

**A comment was made in support.**

17. Update on the motion passed by the NENC Board: "The NENC expresses concern about dramatic changes affecting the LAUSD's most vulnerable students including the elimination of Primary Promise from many schools and removing the option of special education day classes and special education centers. These changes were made without input from their parents or the community."

**No updates.**

18. Discussion and possible motion on the amount past due by charter schools for overallocation fees. As of June 30, 2023, the balance is \$3,708,006. [bit.ly/Overallocation230630](https://bit.ly/Overallocation230630)

**No updates. The Director of LAUSD Charter School Division had promised monthly updates but the District's spreadsheet has not been updated since June.**

19. Discussion and possible motion(s) about issues related to student safety, including but not limited to:

- a. Dangerous traffic conditions on streets around our local schools.
- b. SCAG Traffic Safety promotional materials.
- c. Fentanyl/opioid crisis.

**No updates. Ask Glenn Bailey for updates on motor patrols and illegal left turns on Lassen.**

- **Public comment claiming that the decrease in the District's enrollment is due to the lack of safety and support. She said increasing the presents of police could help build back our schools.**

**I noted that the biggest factor contributing to the lack of enrolment is a lack of babies. Their are less kids as shown by the fact that both charter schools and public schools are seeing a reduction in enrollment.**

20. Discussion and possible motion about the expansion of the EnrichLA program into Dearborn Elementary and Balboa Magnet schools.

**No updates. Chris expressed support for the program and adding gardens to school facilities.**

21. Discussion and possible motions about PROP-39, state legislation to improve charter school accountability, and other charter school issues.

**PROP-39 was discussed at the previous school board meeting. Will provide an update next month.**

22. Discussion and possible motion about Ken Ross' proposed LAUSD "Feeder Program" into CSUN for their STEAM Program.

**No update**

23. Update on outreach for the NPGs related to education during the next fiscal year.

**No update**

24. Recommendations or requests to be added as a committee member.

**None**

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

**To be held on Zoom on March 9, 2024 at 9:00**

**Porter Ranch Community School overcrowding.**

- **A complaint was lodged that some committee members did not have their cameras on and that the back and forth after public comments were inappropriate.**

**Reminded the commentor that items that are on the agenda can be responded to but items that are not on the agenda cannot be discussed.**

26. Adjournment **10:29**