

NENC Education Committee Meeting Minutes August 10, 2024

A recording of the Zoom meeting can be found at: <https://bit.ly/Zoom081024>

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and determination of a quorum.
Members of the committee: Judy Diamond, Betsy Manchester, Christopher Meredith, Barbara Nitkin (Alternate), Carl Petersen (Chair), Ken Ross (Alternate), and Keiry Saravia (Alternate).

Called to order at 9:03 AM

Manchester, Meredith, and Petersen were present.

A quorum was achieved.

2. Approve Minutes from the June meeting. It can be found at <bit.ly/Minutes060824>

Meredith moved to approve. Manchester seconded. Passed 3-0-0

3. Comments/Reports from Representatives of Public Officials. **None present.**
4. Updates from LAUSD Board Vice President Scott Schmerelson's Office: <bit.ly/SS062824>

No action or comments.

5. Planning for the virtual Candidate Forum for LAUSD BD3 to be held on September 14, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

Dan Chang has confirmed. Scott Schmerelson has tentatively confirmed.

A special meeting will be set up for Thursday, September 12, at 8:30 PM to discuss questions.

The forum will last an hour, done by 10:00 AM.

Each candidate will get identical questions. Two minutes each to respond, one minute rebuttal. Will be back and forth, rotating between the two candidates. Two minutes each for opening, one minute for closing.

Topics: Special Education, DEI, PROP-39, budget, unpaid overallocation fees, safety, cybersecurity

Send out flyer to local Neighborhood Councils

6. Discussion and possible motion about Neighborhood Purposes Grant Application from Andasol Avenue Elementary School for a mural on the school library exterior wall in the amount of \$5,000.

No update. Meredith will visit the school.

7. Update on the NPG approved by the NENC for the Balboa Spirit Club in the amount of \$3,000.

Was funded but we have not received a completion report. Julie Zeisler is the contact.

8. Discussion and possible action 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

Scott Schmerelson’s office has not provided an update for the version that he is working on.

9. 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.”

We would like to see data presented showing the replacement for Primary Promise was superior. If not it should be reinstated.

10. Discussion and possible motion on the amount past due by charter schools for overallocation fees. As of **March 31, 2024**, the balance is \$2,872,464. <https://bit.ly/Overallocation033124>

Emphasized that this balance is a penalty for taking more space than the charter school was entitled to. Under LAUSD policy, 90% of the money received goes directly to the affected school.

11. Discussion and possible motion(s) about issues related to student safety, including but not limited to dangerous traffic conditions on streets around our local schools and the Fentanyl/opioid crisis.

The start of Granada’s school year saw dramatically increased traffic.

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

No updates.

13. Discussion and possible motion about the LAUSD Budget.

No updates.

14. Discussion and possible motion about how PROP-28 funds are being spent.

Elementary schools had funding addressed, but questions remain about middle and high schools.

15. Discussion and possible motion about how the LAUSD developed the new SELPA.

The opinion of many members of the CAC was that the required input of the committee was widely bypassed. The Chair of the committee has refused to sign the document.

16. Discussion and possible motion complaints surrounding LAUSD parent committees.

Representatives of all three parent committees (CAC, DELAC (District English Language Advisory Committee, and PAC (Parent Advisory Committee), all complained about a lack of partnership with the LAUSD. This problem has gotten worse under Superintendent Carvalho.

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

Ken's email will be re-forwarded to committee members.



Carl Petersen <carlpetersennenc@gmail.com>

Update on Pilot Program for 6 NENC schools as feeders into CSUN

Ken Ross <kenrossnenc@yahoo.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2024 at 1:49 PM

To: Stephanie Mills <smillsnenc@gmail.com>, Carl Petersen <carlpetersennenc@gmail.com>

To NENC Education Committee,

I've unsuccessfully spent months trying to get an NENC pilot program started to link our 6 local LAUSD schools into the CSUN Autodesk program. Since I am unable to attend the NENC Education Meeting tomorrow, I wanted to at least give some updates. First, there seems to be no definite plans for what higher education programs will be taught in the new facility. That will probably not be determined until the building is fully erected in about a year. We do know that it will have a large engineering component.

The CSUN Engineering Dept. says most importantly that incoming CSUN students will need to have at least completed Calculus 2 (which they should be able to take at Northridge Academy). I do not know if it is presently offered there now. Besides that, they believe that students need to have a great exposure to STEAM courses. It also appears that there will be NO NEW PROGRAMS in the CSUN Autodesk facility. They encouraged me to learn more about each CSUN department's programs so that we can focus on skills needed for those special programs.

Therefore, I still need to get a meeting with LAUSD's Region North Directors to discover what STEAM courses are presently being taught at our 4 elementary schools and middle school. Then, we will need to get assistance to increase STEAM programs in those schools. Hopefully, we will be able to get the individual schools to work toward that goal.

If anyone has additional information that will be useful. I would like to know if this NENC Education Committee has any members who want to work with me personally to this end. Also, I'd like to know if this NENC Education Committee actually wants to work on this project and what they might be willing to do to advance it. Thanks for any and all help.

Sincerely,

Ken Ross, NENC 2nd VP

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

No update

19. 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.”

Letters sent to the LA City Council Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee:
bit.ly/LetterToCityCouncil_Saticoy and bit.ly/CityCouncil_Inclusion

We have not received a response from the City Council Committee, not even a recognition that it was received.

20. Public Comments from stakeholders for non-agenda items.

There was no comment from the one member of the public present.

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

None

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

Special Meeting: September 12, 2024, at 8:30 PM

Meeting with Candidate Forum: September 14, 2024, at 9:00 AM

23. Adjournment **10:11**