

November 16, 2009

RE: Partnership Board of Directors meeting on November 19, 2009

Dear Members of the Partnership Board of Directors:

Enclosed please find your packet of information in preparation of the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools. This meeting is scheduled for November 19th, 2009 from 4:00 – 5:30pm at the Junipero Serra Library at 4607 S. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90037.

Our Board meeting agenda is attached to this document and contains a number of areas we would like to cover. Our action items include the approval of the minutes from our last meeting, the review and approval of the audit of our 2008-09 financial statements, and the approval of our current plans for growth.

Our discussion items include an update on our schools, our intent to file a QEIA waiver, and our current financial position.

Additional detail on these agenda items is provided in the attachments enclosed. Please find the following materials:

- Attachment 1: Agenda for the Board meeting
- Attachment 2: Resolutions for the Board
- Attachment 3: Minutes of the Board meeting of September 3, 2009
- Attachment 4: Draft Audit of 2008-09 Financial Statements
- Attachment 5: Powerpoint slides on action topics
- Attachment 6: Powerpoint slides on discussion topics
- Attachment 7: Document on discussion topic regarding process to select new Partnership Board member

We look forward to seeing you later this week.

Best regards,

Marshall Tuck
Kleger-Heine

Angela Bass

Mark

Marshall Tuck
Chief Executive Officer

Angela Bass
Superintendent of Instruction

Mark Kleger-Heine
Chief Operating Officer

Attachment 1
THE PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
November 19, 2009
4:00 – 5:30pm
Junipero Serra Library
4607 S. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90037

Agenda item
I. Open public meeting and roll call
II. Action items
a. Approve minutes from September 3
b. Approve 2008-09 annual audit
c. Approve current plans for Partnership growth
III. Discussion items
a. School update
b. Update on QEIA waiver
c. Update on Partnership financials
d. Update on process to select new Partnership Board member
IV. Closed session
V. Public comment
VI. Adjournment

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools Board, including those submitted after the initial distribution of the agenda, are available for public inspection prior to the meeting at www.partnershipla.org and at the meeting at 4607 S. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90037.

Attachment 2
Resolutions for the Board

I. APPROVE MINUTES

Background

The Partnership held a Board meeting on September 3, 2009. The minutes for this meeting need to be approved.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Directors held a meeting on September 3, 2009;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on September 3, 2009 are approved.

II. APPROVE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Background

The Partnership Board of Directors approved the establishment of an Audit Committee at the June 4, 2009 Board meeting to oversee an audit of the Partnership's financial statements for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009. The purpose of this audit is to ensure that the Partnership's funds are being spent in an appropriate fashion. A second purpose is to provide transparency for the public of the Partnership's financial activities. This audit does not relate to the spending of any public funds.

Since the June 4, 2009 meeting, the Partnership has hired a leading auditing firm, Vivrinek, Trine, Day & Company (VTD), to prepare this audit. VTD will be presenting the audit to the Audit Committee for approval. The Audit Committee has the same composition as the Board of Directors. In addition, at the request of the Board the Partnership has invited an individual with outstanding financial expertise, O'Donnell Iselin, to provide an additional non-voting opinion on the audit. Following the Audit Committee's approval, the relevant legal documents will be filed with the Federal Government and State of California.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Corporation desires an independent audit of its financial activities for the 2008-09 Fiscal Year;

WHEREAS the Board of Directors has established an Audit Committee to oversee this audit of financial activities; and

WHEREAS, the auditing firm, Vivrinek, Trine, Day & Company, has completed this audit and is presenting its findings to the Audit Committee;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Audit Committee hereby approves the audit of the Partnership's financial activities for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of Directors accepts the recommendation of the Audit Committee and approves the audit of the Partnership's financial activities for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board directs the officers of the Corporation to file the necessary legal documents relating to its financial activities with the Federal Government and the State of California.

III. APPROVE PLANS FOR PARTNERSHIP GROWTH

Background

The Partnership staff recommends expanding in the 2010-11 school year based on the organization's mission to serve as many students as effectively as possible. This opportunity is afforded through the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) "School Choice Resolution," which is seeking applications from school operators to serve and support schools beginning in the 2010-11 school year. There are currently 36 schools that are available for school operators to submit applications to serve.

Based on a thorough analysis of our current capabilities, and the 36 schools on the list, the Partnership staff has submitted four Letters of Intent to submit full applications to serve the following four schools:

- Griffith Joyner Elementary School
- Elementary School #18 (new school)
- Carver Middle School
- Jefferson High School

The rationale for this decision is provided in the attached Powerpoint slides that accompany this resolution.

The final applications as part of the School Choice Resolution process are due on January 11, 2010. The Partnership staff is seeking the Board's approval to proceed with the submission of full applications, and will return to the Board in our January 2010 meeting to seek final approval for any expansion.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is requesting that school providers submit applications to serve new and "focus" schools in LAUSD;

WHEREAS, the Partnership has submitted four Letters of Intent for Griffith Joyner Elementary School, Elementary School #18, Carver Middle School and Jefferson High School;

WHEREAS, the Partnership plans to work with the stakeholders of these four schools over the coming months to develop a collaboration to improve student achievement;

WHEREAS, the Partnership plans to collaborate with other organizations that are committed to serving these four schools;

WHEREAS, the Partnership currently plans to submit full applications for all four schools to the LAUSD before the deadline of January 11, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership is committed to serving more students effectively;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby support the Partnership's recommendation to develop full applications to the Los Angeles Unified School District as part of the "School

Choice Resolution” to serve and support up to four schools beginning in the 2010-11 school year:

- Griffith Joyner Elementary School
- Elementary School #18 (new school)
- Carver Middle School
- Jefferson High School

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of Directors direct the Chief Executive Officer to return to the Board for final approval of expansion to these schools at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Attachment 3
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS
September 3 2009

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools (the "Corporation"), a California nonprofit public benefit corporation was held on September 3, 2009 at the Benjamin Franklin Branch Library in Los Angeles, California. The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:20 p.m. Board members in attendance were Robin Kramer, Melanie Lundquist, and Carolyn Webb de Macias. Staff from the Partnership was also in attendance, including Marshall Tuck, Angela Bass, Mark Kleger-Heine, A. Je-nee Tyson, Stephen Cockrell and Adriana Ibarra. Ricardo Soto, legal counsel to the Partnership, was also present. Members of the public were also present at this meeting as the meeting was open to the public.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following resolutions:

1

Approval of the June 4 Minutes

There were no comments on the June 4 minutes. Melanie Lundquist made a motion to approve the minutes. Robin Kramer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Directors held a meeting on June 4, 2009;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that
the minutes of the meeting of the Board
of Directors on June 4, 2009 are
approved.

II

Process to Select New Partnership Board Member

Carolyn Webb de Macias reiterated the Board's desire to add a teacher to the Board of Directors. Robin Kramer asked for clarification whether the Board's must consider candidates for the Board in public or whether candidates could be considered in closed session. Ricardo Soto agreed to brief the Board on their obligations relative to the Brown Act. Ms. Kramer volunteered to work with Partnership staff and legal counsel to solidify the process and bring forth candidates. Melanie Lundquist moved that the draft resolution not be voted on at this meeting. Robin Kramer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

III

Approval of the 2009-10 Budget

After the data discussion described below, Mark Kleger-Heine presented the year-end financial statements to the Board. Mrs. Lundquist asked for clarification of the beginning cash balance for the 2009-10 fiscal year. Mr. Kleger-Heine clarified that the beginning cash balance was estimated at \$2.2 million after accounting for accrued expenses and payables, prepaid expenses and other receivables. Mrs. Macias asked why there was a \$1.7 million decline in new assets. Mr. Kleger-Heine replied that this was due to a major \$2.5 million grant that was recognized as a receivable at the beginning of the 2008-09 fiscal year. Mr. Kleger-Heine also reported on the expenditures made by school sites

through the end of the 2008-09 fiscal year with their “targeted school site” allocations.

Mr. Kleger-Heine then presented the revised 2009-10 budget. He also noted that the budget being presented contained two scenarios: “base case” and “additional options” scenarios. The base case scenario required an additional \$550,000 in fundraising and contained less programming than the additional options scenario. He explained that expenditures in the additional activities scenario would only be assumed if funds are raised to support the efforts. Mr. Tuck commented that technological support, field trips and professional development were the highest priority for fundraising. Robin Kramer moved that the resolution be approved. Melanie Lundquist seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Corporation requires a budget for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year;

WHEREAS, the Directors approved a 2009-10 Fiscal Year budget on June 4, 2009;

WHEREAS, the management team seeks to adjust the 2009-10 Fiscal Year budget based on new information; and

WHEREAS, the Officers have prepared a revised budget for the Board’s approval attached hereto;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby adopts the revised 2009-10 budget for the Corporation, attached hereto, and that the Officers of the Corporation are authorized to make expenditures that are consistent with this budget and prior resolutions of the Board.

Discussion

Marshall Tuck opened the discussion period noting how proud the staff was with the growth seen across the Partnership schools. Carolyn Webb de Macias inquired about the strategy that was in place at 99th Street Elementary School whose growth points are a remarkable 15%. Angela Bass informed the Board that the leadership at the school had made a huge turn for the better. The principal put a lot of effort into rallying the parents and community and supporting the staff.

Mr. Tuck mentioned that the Partnership middle schools did not utilize opportunity transfers extensively during the 2008-09 school year and an impact was seen on the growth numbers. Mrs. Bass pointed out that in some of the Partnership middle schools, the aesthetics and student behavior was substantially improved and that content coaches would be more effectively utilized in the upcoming school year.

Regarding high school growth, Mr. Tuck reminded the Board that the Partnership's high schools started their year the first day the Partnership started. Much of the first semester was spent getting teachers up to speed on what the school year would look like. Although the Partnership would have liked to have seen even stronger growth in all instructional areas, the team was very pleased with the CAHSEE growth. The API results will be released in coming weeks and graduation rates will also be available. Mrs. Lundquist asked if more funding for the high schools would have greater impact. Mrs. Bass mentioned that interventions were needed with targeted focus in both math and language arts.

The floor was opened for general public comment at approximately 5:48p.m. Joyce Dillard made comments to Board and staff. After the public comment period Board members convened the closed session of the meeting at 5:50 p.m. At 6:12 p.m. the meeting was reconvened. There was no report from the closed session. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:13 p.m.

Mark Kleger-Heine, Secretary