

August 31, 2009

RE: Partnership Board of Directors meeting on September 3, 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 September 3rd, 2009 from 4:00 – 5:30pm at the Benjamin Franklin Branch Library at 2201 E. 1st Street Los Angeles, CA 90033.

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, as well as the process we are recommending to select a teacher to join the Partnership Board. As discussed at our last Board meeting, we are also seeking the approval of a revised budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Our one discussion item includes an update on the Partnership test scores and lessons learned from the last year of work.

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 June 4, 2009
- Attachment 4: Proposed process for electing a Partnership teacher to the Board of Directors
- Attachment 5: Powerpoint slides on action topics
- Attachment 6: Powerpoint slides on discussion topics

We look forward to seeing you later this week.

Best regards,

Marshall Tuck

Angela Bass

Mark

Kleger-Heine

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
September 3, 2009
4:00 – 5:30pm
Benjamin Franklin Branch Library
2201 E. 1st Street Los Angeles CA 90033

Agenda item
I. Open public meeting and roll call
II. Action items
a. Approve minutes from June 4
b. Approve process to select new Partnership Board member
c. Approve 2009-10 budget and roll-over of funds
III. Discussion items
a. Update on Partnership school data
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 2201 E. 1st Street Los Angeles CA 90033

Attachment 2
Resolutions for the Board

I. APPROVE MINUTES

Background

The Partnership held a Board meeting on June 4, 2009. The minutes for this meeting need to be approved.

Resolution language

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

Background

The Partnership Board is committed to expanding its Board with stakeholders who are representative of the Partnership communities. The Board has previously passed a resolution calling for Board representation from a teacher, parent, business representative, and community member/advocate. The Partnership staff is committed to implementing this resolution and proposes beginning this process with the selection of a teacher. The resolution and attachment below represent the Partnership's proposed process to select a teacher as a Board member.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Directors have agreed that a teacher from the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools should sit on the Board of Directors of the Partnership;

WHEREAS, the Directors believe that a teacher will bring an important perspective to the Board of Directors that will help the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools accelerate student achievement; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership has developed a process to identify the most qualified candidates from which the Board of Directors can choose (proposed process is attached to this resolution);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Directors agree to the process for electing a teacher onto the Board of Directors proposed by management and attached hereto;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Directors seek to have a teacher elected to the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting of the Partnership.

III. APPROVE 2009-10 BUDGET

Background

The Partnership seeks to revise its 2009-10 budget, as discussed in the last Board meeting on June 4, 2009. The major reason for this adjustment is that the Partnership team has much more information and can make expenditure adjustments accordingly.

Resolution language

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.

Attachment 3
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS
June 4 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 June 4, 2009 at the Watts Branch Library in Los Angeles, California. The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:04 p.m. Board members in attendance were Robin Kramer, Melanie Lundquist, and Carolyn Webb de Macias. Staff from the Partnership were also in attendance, including Marshall Tuck, Angela Bass, Mark Kleger-Heine, Doc Ervin, Kennon Mitchell, A. Je-nee Tyson, Lovette Curry and Tad Parzen, legal counsel. 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 April 2 Minutes

There were no comments on the April 2 minutes. Robin Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes. Melanie Lundquist seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Directors held a meeting on April 2, 2009;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that
the minutes of the meeting of the Board
of Directors on April 2, 2009 are
approved.

II

Approval of Audit Committee

Marshall Tuck asked the Board to approve an audit committee to manage the 2008-09 fiscal year audit. Robin Kramer asked if the common best practice was to have a non-board member to sit on the committee. Tad Parzen answered that it is a common best practice and reminded the Board that the committee would be a Brown Act committee. Ms. Kramer suggested that the individual if chosen should be knowledgeable in public finance and school finance. Mrs. Webb de Macias suggested that the motion be amended to reflect the expansion of the committee. Robin Kramer moved to approve the resolution with amended language changing “members” to “initial members.” The motion was seconded by Melanie Lundquist and approved unanimously.

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

WHEREAS, the Corporation seeks to have this audit completed by early November in order to comply with federal filing guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation needs to hire an independent auditor with an excellent track record to conduct this audit;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby establishes an Audit Committee to manage the audit for the 2008-09 Fiscal Year;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the initial members of this Audit Committee are Carolyn Webb de Macias, Melanie Lundquist and Robin Kramer;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Officers are directed to seek an

additional non-Board member with expertise in finance to sit on the committee;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board delegates the authority to the Officers of the Corporation to hire an auditor who has the requisite skills and knowledge to conduct an audit.

IV

Approval of the 2009-10 Budget

Mark Kleger-Heine and Marshall Tuck presented the proposed 2009-10 budget to the Board. Mr. Kleger-Heine informed the Board that the Partnership's current cash assets were \$3.5 million dollars and that the Partnership expected to close \$500,000 under the proposed projections. He further explained that \$1.15 million was encumbered as targeted school site requests but has not yet been spent. Marshall Tuck explained that the Partnership expects schools to spend down allotted funds and that there may be some variance in the numbers presented. Mr. Tuck also remarked that the Partnership had raised \$2.5 million this fiscal year despite the tough state of the economy. He further noted that the Partnership would return to the Board at the next meeting to present a revised budget.

Mr. Kleger-Heine noted that in an effort to keep overhead low Partnership staff members would not be granted raises in the 2009-10 fiscal year. Mrs. Webb de Macias asked if that was a Board decision or a staff decision. Mr. Tuck responded that it is a staff recommendation. Ms. Kramer suggested that staff

raises and uniforms be included in a hierarchical analysis of desired expenditures at the next Board meeting.

The motion to approve the resolution was made by Melanie Lundquist and seconded by Robin Kramer. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

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

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

IV

Approval of Roll-Over of Expenditures

Mr. Kleger-Heine presented a request to have the Board roll-over expenditures into the 2009-10 fiscal year. He explained that this request was made because some expenditures have been committed in 2008-09 but will be spent during the 2009-10 fiscal year. He further elaborated that the Partnership is seeking flexibility to spend funds now, but would return at the next Board meeting with specific amounts requested.

The motion to approve the resolution was made by Melanie Lundquist and seconded by Robin Kramer. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Directors recognize that some expenditures that were budgeted for the 2008-09 fiscal year are continuing in the 2009-10 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the funds needed for these expenditures are already accounted for in the Corporation's projected year-end cash flow, attached hereto;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Directors permit the Officers to increase the Corporation's 2009-10 fiscal year budget for individual line items for funds encumbered in 2008-09 but not expended;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that these increases can be up to the amount itemized under the "2008-09 FY Projections" attached hereto;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Officers are directed to report to the Board on the specific dollar amounts rolled over at the next meeting of the Board.

Discussion

Marshall Tuck discussed the current state of the budget crisis within LAUSD. He mentioned that the deficit could increase by an additional \$210 million. He mentioned that the RIF notices are leading to increased class size, but the Partnership is working to save teacher jobs and specifically teacher jobs at Partnership schools. The Partnership has provided support through a variety of ways, including a website aimed at rallying support to save teacher jobs, a possible lawsuit, and budget analyses. The Partnership has also actively engaged the LAUSD Superintendent, unions, and the School Board in an effort to save Partnership teacher jobs. Mr. Tuck noted that this is at the very top of staff's list of priorities. Mrs. Lundquist remarked that the loss of Teach for America representation in the District is a great loss. Ms. Kramer asked how

Title I and QEIA funds would be allocated. Mr. Kleger-Heine responded that the dollars would be used to purchase positions at schools.

Mr. Tuck informed the Board that the early CAHSEE data looked very promising. Partnership schools identified more gifted and talented students and reclassified more students at 7 out of 10 schools.

Mr. Tuck then told the Board that some staff members at Partnership schools have expressed concerns about the Partnership's service and support. He described the reasons that these concerns have been expressed and acknowledged that the Partnership will work to improve by taking very specific and immediate actions such as: funding a facilitator to conduct interviews; convening focus groups at all Partnership schools; issuing surveys to all school staff members; holding voluntary meetings at each school to develop specific ideas for improvement; and providing a year-end report detailing all of the Partnership's expenditures.

The floor was opened for general public comment at approximately 5:24p.m. Joyce Dillard and Cindy Cordon made comments to Board and staff. After the public comment period and there being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:32 p.m.

Mark Kleger-Heine, Secretary

Attachment 4
Proposed Process for Electing a
Partnership Teacher to the Board of Directors

1. Partnership management will send a document to all Partnership school staff members outlining the responsibilities of a Partnership Board member and the criteria for nominating a teacher to serve on the Board of Directors (see below for criteria).
2. Teachers, administrators and other school site personnel from all Partnership Schools will submit nominations of teachers to sit on the Partnership Board of Directors.
3. Partnership management will use the following criteria to identify the most qualified teacher candidates for the Board of Directors.

Proposed criteria for electing a teacher to Partnership Board of Directors:

- a. Performance as a teacher based on student achievement results, as well as references from administrators and other teachers;
 - b. Proven record of leadership and community experience that highlights the teacher's commitment to transforming public schools (examples may include school site council, instructional leadership team experience, among others); and
 - c. Personal essay that explains why the nominated teacher wants to serve on the Board of Directors.
4. Partnership management will review the list of qualified candidates with UTLA chapter chairs before finalizing recommendations to the Board of Directors.
 5. Partnership management will send recommendations to the Board of Directors and facilitate the interview process for the officers and Board members. Partnership management will ensure the process is in accordance with the Brown Act.
 6. Board of Directors will elect a teacher to the Board of Directors at the next Partnership board meeting.