

**THE PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 6, 2011
3:30 p.m. – 5:30pm
Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez Learning Center
1200 Plaza Del Sol
Los Angeles, CA 90033**

Agenda item	Estimated time
A. Tour of Mendez Learning Center (optional)	3:30 – 4:00
B. Open public meeting and roll call	4:00
C. Discussion	
I. Update on 2010-11 Partnership data	4:00 – 4:35
II. Update on growth, strategic planning, budget and fundraising	4:35 – 4:45
D. Action items	
I. Approve minutes from June 28, 2011 meeting	4:45 – 4:50
II. Approve Partnership Memorandum of Understanding with Los Angeles Unified School District strategy	4:50 – 5:00
E. Public Comment	5:00 – 5:10
F. Closed session	
I. EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code section 54957) Title: Chief Executive Officer	5:10 – 5:30
G. Adjournment	5:30

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 location at 1200 Plaza Del Sol, Los Angeles, CA 90033.

Resolutions for the Board

I. APPROVE MINUTES

Background

The Partnership held a Board meeting on June 28, 2011. The minutes for this meeting need to be approved.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Directors held a meeting on June 28, 2011;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on June 28, 2011 are approved.

III. APPROVE PARTNERSHIP MOU STRATEGY

Background

The Partnership has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that formalizes the organization's working relationship with LAUSD. Our current MOU expires in June 2013 and includes the Partnership's ten original schools. The Board has previously given direction to the Partnership management team to pursue a 5-year MOU with LAUSD for Jordan HS. Both LAUSD and the Partnership would like to see some modest revisions to the MOU structure in order to accommodate what we have learned from the past three years of work together. LAUSD is not willing to sign our current MOU for Jordan HS without incorporating some of these additional changes.

The Partnership team recommends negotiating a revised MOU for Jordan HS that would last 5 years and would be signed during the 2011-12 school year. This would then serve as a template that could be expanded to the other Partnership schools. We believe that this process will take the rest of the school year to finalize.

In the meantime, the Partnership team also recommends signing a one-year agreement with LAUSD that would allow us to have access to the Jordan facility and would also incorporate the terms of our current MOU. This would provide us with the necessary time to negotiate a new MOU with the District.

Resolution language

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Unified District ("District") selected the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools as a network partner for the David Starr Jordan High School campus;

WHEREAS, the District and Partnership entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), dated May 27, 2008, for comprehensive collaborative educational services and performance;

WHEREAS, both parties wish to continue this relationship at the David Starr Jordan High School Campus;

WHEREAS, both parties wish to incorporate some changes to the current MOU at David Starr Jordan High School; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership would like to extend these changes in the MOU at Jordan HS to the other Partnership schools;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board authorizes Partnership staff to sign a short-term facilities use agreement that incorporates the terms of the organization's current Memorandum of Understanding For Comprehensive Collaborative Educational Services and Performance between the District and Partnership;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a short-term agreement can extend no later than June 30, 2012 without the Board's authorization;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board directs the Partnership management team to negotiate a long-term MOU for Jordan High School that could be extended to the other Partnership Schools during the 2011-12 fiscal year;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board must authorize the signing of a new MOU.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS
June 28, 2011

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 28, 2011, at George Washington Carver Middle School in Los Angeles, California. The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:10 p.m. Board members in attendance were Lisa Alva, Melanie Lundquist, Joan Sullivan and Trébor Jacquez (via phone). Robin Kramer and Matt Miller were absent. The sequence of the agenda was modified to ensure a quorum for all action items because Trébor Jacquez had to leave the meeting early. Staff from the Partnership was also in attendance including Mark Kleger-Heine, Colleen Oliver, Arturo Nagar and Zoe Melczer. Partnership for Los Angeles Schools lawyer Joseph Sanchez (via phone) and translator Gloria Leonard were also in attendance. This meeting was open to the public.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following resolutions:

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APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 27 MINUTES

There were no comments on the April 27th minutes. Lisa Alva made a motion to approve minutes. Melanie Lundquist seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Directors held a meeting on April 27, 2011;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on April 27, 2011 are approved.

II

APPROVE THE JORDAN PROJECT

Joan Sullivan asked if there were questions regarding the approval of the Jordan High School project. Joan Sullivan asked for clarification about whether the approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would extend for five years from July 2011, or from the original May 27, 2008 date. Melanie Lundquist stated that she would not approve an MOU for Jordan High School that lasts fewer than five years. The Board agreed to authorize the Partnership staff to move forward with the temporary legal agreements necessary to provide the license to be on the campus while the long-term MOU is negotiated. Once the long-term MOU is finalized, a special meeting of the Board would be called for approval of the MOU. Joan Sullivan requested that an update regarding the progress of the Jordan project be provided at the next meeting. Joan Sullivan made a motion to approve the Jordan project. Melanie Lundquist seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) selected the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools as a network partner for the David Starr Jordan High School campus following restructuring of the school under, among other things, the No Child Left Behind Act;

WHEREAS, the District and Partnership entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") dated May 27, 2008, for comprehensive collaborative educational services and performance; and

WHEREAS, both parties wish to continue this relationship at the David Starr Jordan High School Campus;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board directs Partnership staff to sign temporary legal agreements that authorizes the Partnership to serve David Starr Jordan High School;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board directs the Partnership to negotiate a five-year Memorandum of Understanding with LAUSD to effectuate the addition of David Starr Jordan High School as a Partnership school, and to return to the Board for approval of this agreement before signing.

III

APPROVE THE INTERIM 2011-12 BUDGET

Joan Sullivan asked if there were questions regarding the Interim 2011-12 budget. Trebor Jacquez asked for clarification regarding line items including receivables and the development budget. Mark Kleger-Heine provided clarification.

Melanie Lundquist recommended that the budget be adjusted to reflect a culture of expectation and higher fundraising aspirations. Mark Kleger-Heine stated that the Partnership team could include desired additional fundraising at a future Board meeting when the Partnership requested a revision to the 2011-12 budget.

Lisa Alva noted that certain school site support line items were zeroed out while the Partnership support team line item increased. Mark Kleger-Heine explained that the Partnership has been understaffed in past years and that this increase is due to new hires. Colleen Oliver added that the new hires will assist with the Partnership's moving into the next phase of school support, and that long-term change may not require funding individual programs indefinitely. Mark Kleger-Heine added that the ratio of Partnership students to staff is greater than any other similar organization in the nation.

Joan Sullivan recommended that the Partnership staff urge all principals to think of innovative ways to expend discretionary funding. Colleen Oliver stated that some principals may prefer to keep a reserve budget on hand for unforeseen costs. Joan Sullivan stressed the importance of the Partnership's principals as the key lever to increase student achievement. Colleen Oliver stated that the Partnership is rolling out a principal evaluation process. Melanie Lundquist and Joan Sullivan expressed hope that the principal evaluation process provide another opportunity for the Partnership to influence system-wide change.

Lisa Alva made a motion to approve the Interim 2011-12 budget. Melanie Lundquist seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Corporation requires a budget for the 2011-12 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 2011-12 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;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of Directors
direct the Chief Executive Officer to return at the
August 2011 Board meeting to present a revised
2011-12 fiscal year budget.

DISCUSSION

Mark Kleger-Heine presented an update on the LAUSD budget crisis, the impact of the lawsuit regarding teacher layoffs, and the projected Reduction in Force (RIF) impact on Partnership schools.

Mark Kleger-Heine presented the Partnership's internal strategic planning process. He stated that the four-month planning process would serve to create a three- to five-year roadmap for the organization, as well as shorter-term plans and external communications documents. Joan Sullivan suggested that strategic planning process also include a plan for the Mayor's departure in 2013 and for the renewal of the Partnership's MOU, which also expires in 2013.

Mark Kleger-Heine provided an update regarding the search for a parent Board member, stating that members of the leadership team are working with the Family and Community Engagement team to identify potential candidates. Board members discussed the need for a future conversation regarding Board composition and a process for identifying new Board members.

Colleen Oliver presented the Partnership's CAHSEE results, as well as attendance and suspension rates to date for Partnership schools, including comparisons to prior years. While the overall CAHSEE rates increased modestly, attendance increased and suspensions decreased among most Partnership schools.

Joan Sullivan proposed that the agenda for the next Board meeting include exploring the development and execution of an MOU for those Partnership schools that are not included under the original MOU, as well as designing a process for renewing the Partnership's existing MOU, which expires in 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public participants chose to speak.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Mark Kleger-Heine, Secretary