

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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LAUSD Student Parent

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American Institute of Architects

Dr. Samantha Rowles, Secretary

LAUSD Student Parent

Robert Campbell, Executive Committee

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Scott Pansky, Executive Committee

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CA Charter School Association

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CA Tax Reform Assn.

Aleigh Lewis

L.A. City Controller's Office

Patrick MacFarlane

Early Education Coalition

Brian Mello

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Dr. Clarence Monteclaro

Tenth District PTSA

William O. Ross IV

31st District PTSA

Santa Ramirez (Alternate)

Tenth District PTSA

Connie Yee (Alternate)

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Vacant

AARP

Vacant

L.A. City Mayor's Office

Joseph P. Buchman – Legal Counsel

Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

Lori Raineri and Keith Weaver – Oversight

Consultants

Government Financial Services Joint

Powers Authority

Timothy Popejoy

Bond Oversight Administrator

Perla Zitle

Bond Oversight Coordinator

School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee

Regular Meeting

LAUSD HQ – Board Room

333 S. Beaudry Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90017

Thursday, March 28, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Please see the archived video of the meeting for all discussions/questions:

<https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/ixquuh0e1i> (English)

<https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/fbu54w1ig5> (Spanish)

Committee Members Present (10): Neelura Bell, Robert Campbell, Jeffrey Fischbach, Margaret Fuentes, D. Michael Hamner, Aleigh Lewis, Patrick MacFarlane, Scott Pansky, Santa Ramirez (alternate of Dr. Clarence Monteclaro), William Ross

Committee Members Absent (3): Chad Boggio, Brian Mello, Samantha Rowles.

Committee Member Vacancies (2): AARP, L.A. City Mayor's Office

00:00:00 Call to Order

Ms. Fuentes called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed all to the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) meeting.

Introductory Remarks

Ms. Fuentes, Chair of the BOC, welcomed BOC members, District staff and the public to the fourth BOC meeting of 2024. She stated that BOC members participating remotely needed to set their Interpretation Feature on the Zoom screen menu to their preferred language for simultaneous interpretation. She also thanked the KLCS Staff for their production, Information Technology Services for its technical support, Spanish Interpretation Staff for their work in translating and other District staff for their assistance in broadcasting the hybrid BOC meeting.

Ms. Fuentes reported that two BOC members were participating remotely. One member had arranged remote participation in advance, and his location was noted on the agenda. Pursuant to the Brown Act requirements for a member participating remotely on short notice, Ms. Ramirez made the necessary declaration to conform with her participation and joined the meeting.

00:01:23 Ms. Fuentes asked Mr. Hamner to give introductory remarks.

Mr. Hamner announced that the BOC website could be found at <https://www.lausd.org/boc>. He also indicated that meeting materials and live stream in both English and Spanish were located under the tab *Upcoming Meetings*. He encouraged participants to visit the BOC website where previous approved measures and relevant information can be found. He explained that public speakers were asked to sign up using a hyperlink to a Google form included on the agenda that was published on the BOC's website on March 24, 2024. He said the form was available 24 hours before the start of the meeting and would remain open for 20 minutes after the meeting.

Mr. Hamner stated that there would be a maximum of five (5) speakers for each agenda item and up to ten (10) speakers for public comment. He stated that all public speakers would have up to 3 minutes. He also stated that public speakers with more than one agenda item would be provided 6 minutes total to make comments on all items they wished to address. He detailed the protocols for public speakers via audio and said that they should monitor the meeting through the live stream and then turn off the live stream volume when asked to speak to avoid audio echo or audio feedback. When it was the speaker's turn to speak, BOC Staff would announce the last four digits of the caller's phone number, and each public speaker would be instructed to unmute on Zoom, or press *6 (star 6), to speak. He stated that in-person speakers would be asked to step up to the podium to be heard. He thanked everyone in advance for working with the Committee to accommodate speakers.

Mr. Hamner completed his remarks.

00:03:17 Ms. Fuentes read the Bond Oversight Committee's (BOC) mission statement:

"The mission of the Oversight Committee is to oversee the permissible and prudent expenditure of funds for the construction, repair, and modernization of schools by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). In order to effectively carry out that mission the Oversight Committee must remain strong and independent. That is our responsibility to the District, the teachers, the students, and the taxpayers."

Ms. Fuentes informed that the meeting materials had been updated to include a revision to item 5 on the agenda renaming the proposed project to "Six Internet Protocol Converge Projects at Adult and Career Education Campuses," and revised documents had been emailed to BOC members the day before the meeting as well as posted to the website at <https://www.lausd.org/boc>.

Ms. Fuentes informed that the BOC MOU Review Task Force remained active and is awaiting a response to proposed revisions that were forwarded to District Staff on September 19, 2023.

Ms. Fuentes announced that Board Member Melvoin's office had invited the BOC to provide a report to the Board's Facilities and Procurement Committee on Tuesday, April 16 at 3 p.m. She asked members to forward information or comments they would like to share to her before that meeting.

00:05:36 **Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar – February 29, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

[Ms. Ramirez left the meeting.]

Mr. Hamner made a motion to move the Consent Calendar.

Mr. Campbell seconded.

00:06:15 The Chair asked Mr. Popejoy to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 9 - Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Fischbach, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Pansky, Mr. Ross.

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absences: 4 – Mr. Boggio, Mr. Mello, Ms. Ramirez, Dr. Rowles.

00:07:21 **Agenda Item 1. Public Comment**

There was one public speaker, who made comments on various agenda items.

00:14:30 **Agenda Item 3. FY23 - Bond Performance & Financial Audit Reports (Information Only)**

Presenters: Grace Yuen, Partner & Joseph Moussa, Field Manager, Simpson & Simpson, LLP

Joseph Moussa, Audit Partner with Simpson & Simpson (S&S) presented the Bond Performance & Financial Audit Reports for the Los Angeles Unified School District as of June 30, 2023. He began his presentation emphasizing the Auditor's responsibility pursuant to the Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS). He stated that the audit was completed within that framework as well as within the process of considering other accounting policies, management judgments, accounting estimates, corrected misstatements, uncorrected misstatements, any disagreements or difficulties with management, consultations with other accountants, and management representations.

Mr. Moussa stated that the Auditor's Executive Summary included the audit's intent per Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) and D. The Auditor complied with the required communication under the SAS 114 letter to the Governing Body responsible for the audit as well as audit results and highlights of the audits of the statement of bond expenditures, shared with the LAUSD BOC and BOE. He explained that for the Independent Financial Audit, S&S issued "clean" opinions for the LAUSD bond funds (Proposition BB, Measures K, R, Y, Q and RR) and noted no critical deficiencies or material weaknesses as well as no other matters or noncompliance instances. He also discussed the Performance Audit's objectives: 1) Bond Expenditures and Record Keeping, 2) Procurement of Construction Contracts, Professional Services Agreements, and Goods and Supplies Contracts, and 3) Survey of Compensation of Managers. He also explained the four instances of ineligibility of bond funds payroll charges outside the recommended Resolution and SEP amendments amounting \$17,705 overcharged to Measure Q. He also indicated that eleven instances of payroll charges were non-compliant, which was approximately \$23,500.

Mr. Moussa highlighted that the District Bond Funds Financial Audit Results were comprised of Audit Results, Financial Highlights, Statement of Bond Expenditures, and Government Auditing Standards Opinion. He also presented a statement for the year ended June 30, 2023 for the Facilities Services Division (FSD) with total bond expenditures of approximately \$835.2M. The Information Technology Services group (ITS) incurred approximately \$24.8M in bond expenditures. Other bond fund categories generated expenditures of \$24.7M for a total of \$884.8M expended in bond funds during the FY23 audit period. He stated that there was a letter to management issued with specific comments to strengthen internal control procedures, and which could be found on pages 32-34 of the FY-23 – LAUSD District Bond Funds Financial Statement Audit Report ([FY23 Audit Reports](#)).

Mr. Moussa concluded his presentation with a discussion of the Performance Audit Objectives, Scope and Procedures Performed and Performance Audit Conclusions with the following findings and updates on Prior Year Findings:

Current Year Findings:

- Payroll Expenditures (Measure K, R, Q, RR -2023-001)

Prior Year Findings (2022):

- Payroll Expenditure Charges (MQ-2022-001) – Implemented.
- Survey of Compensation of Managers (MY-2021-001 & MQ-2021-003) –Implemented.

There were questions related to the status of corrective action on payroll findings between years assessed, whether identified payroll findings were repeating, whether the independent auditor consults with the LAUSD Inspector General, and clarification on payroll findings.

There was a comment related to the BOC's attempt to participate in the bond audit process and an appreciation to the auditor for accommodating the request. However, the BOC would like to engage earlier in the process with the audit team in future audits.

All questions were answered by Mr. Moussa.

[Ms. Ramirez rejoined the meeting.]

00:41:30 Agenda Item 4. The East Los Angeles Occupational Center Classroom Replacement Project and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
Presenters: Aaron Bridgewater, Director of Facilities Planning and Development, FSD
Renny Neyra, Executive Director, Division of Adult and Career Education, DACE

Ms. Renny Neyra, Executive Director of the Division of Adult and Career Education (DACE), presented the East Los Angeles Occupational Center Classroom Replacement Project and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein. She provided background on the Division's 10 campuses, 11 total sites (including a virtual academy) and total population of over 65,000 students served annually. She stated that DACE is funded through State and Federal categorical funds designated for adult education. She discussed the programs for students, including English as a Second Language (ESL), core classes, high school diploma, career technical education, and apprenticeship training.

Mr. Bridgewater began his presentation describing the spending target included in the School Upgrade Program (SUP) for upgrades to the adult and career education facilities. He provided the scope of work for the project and stated the schedule for the project to start in the first quarter of 2027 with completion in the fourth quarter of 2029. He described the location of the campus and provided a budget breakdown of the total \$61m project costs: 0.4 percent for site and environmental costs, ten percent for plans, 74 percent for construction, eight percent for project management, and six percent for other/reserves. Please refer to Board Report No. 242-23/24 for further detailed information.

There were member questions about the details of the scope, including Internet Protocol (IP) coverage systems and school information technology systems, declining enrollment, marketing of programs to the local Chamber of Commerce, past budget for DACE programming, duplication of resources and coordination between community colleges and universities, difference between relocating and disposing of portable buildings, difference between LAUSD adult education programs and community colleges, scope of work and reasoning as to why facilities for the LAUSD Personnel Commission were included in the project, compilation of data on student outcomes after graduating from the program in terms of employment, and the limited availability of CTE courses.

In response to details about the declining enrollment in DACE, Mr. Tigno stated that, in 2012, the District had 34 campuses with satellite sites, but due to budget cuts, they consolidated into 10 service areas, keeping the main schools intact. He shared that the District aims to expand and improve facilities - but budget constraints are a challenge and schools need to demonstrate successful programming to secure funding.

Ms. Neyra acknowledged that hiring qualified CTE teachers is a challenge due to competition for employees from the field, leading to limited course offerings and long wait times for students. BOC Member Pansky suggested a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce to help recruiting for potential teachers.

Ms. Neyra, Mr. Tigno and Mr. Bridgewater answered all questions.

Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-10.

Ms. Bell seconded.

01:15:18 The Chair asked Mr. Popejoy to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 10 - Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Fischbach, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Pansky, Ms. Ramirez, Mr. Ross.

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absences: 3 – Mr. Boggio, Mr. Mello, Dr. Rowles.

Resolution 2024-10 passed.

01:16:17 **Agenda Item 5. Six Internet Protocol Converge Projects at Adult and Career Education Campuses and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein**
Presenters: Mark Cho, Deputy Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations, FSD
Renny Neyra, Executive Director, Division of Adult and Career Education, DACE

Mr. Cho, Deputy Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations, introduced Six Internet Protocol Converge Projects at Adult and Career Education Campuses and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein. The scope of the project would be to provide digital convergence of legacy public address systems over the data network, provide new phone systems, install new network equipment, and provide wireless access points. The upgraded systems would support multi-media technologies that include voice, video, and data as well as support new closed-circuit television (CCTV) and intrusion alarm systems at Rinaldi Adult Center, West Valley Occupational Center, Venice Skills Center, North Valley Occupational Center, Harbor Occupational Center, and Waters Employment Preparation Center. The total combined budget for these six projects was approximately \$20M. Please refer to Board Report No. 233-23/24 for further detailed information.

Ms. Kennedy, Senior Director, Information Technology, indicated that the proposed projects were similar to the already approved school network upgrade projects presented to the BOC in January, with the addition of copper ethernet cabling, new pathways, cabinets, intrusion alarms and camera projects. She also provided examples of before and after pictures for LAN/WLAN and PA projects.

There were questions related to more detailed cost breakdown information for the projects at the individual campus level, clarification on which Division will manage the projects, clarification on any other anticipated technology projects managed by the Facilities Services Division and implemented by the Information Technology Services, Superintendent's program on artificial intelligence (AI) and its potential bond implications, status on the remaining adult ed campuses not included with the proposed projects, e-rate program, and scope of work differentiating them from the other projects at K-12 campuses.

Ms. Tokes referred the BOC to communicate with the Office of the Superintendent to discuss the question related to AI. Mr. Pansky asked BOC staff to follow up on this request.

Mr. Katal, Ms. Tokes, Mr. Cho and Ms. Kennedy answered all questions.

[Mr. Ross left the meeting.]

Mr. Fischbach made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-11.

Mr. Pansky seconded.

01:30:28 The Chair asked Mr. Popejoy to conduct a roll call vote.

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Ayes: 9 - Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Fischbach, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Pansky, Ms. Ramirez.

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absences: 4 – Mr. Boggio, Mr. Mello, Ms. Rowles, Mr. Ross.

Resolution 2024-11 passed.

01:31:51 Agenda Item 6. 13 Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein

Presenters: Mark Cho, Deputy Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations, FSD

Mr. Cho began his presentation of 13 Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan, providing a brief description, budget and construction schedule for each proposed project. The total combined budget was \$756,265. The projects included one audio system upgrade, six furniture projects, one secure entry system project and five marquee installation projects. He provided further details on one specific project: Bradley Global Awareness Magnet Elementary School. This project would provide 296 chairs, 148 double desks and 296 book boxes for 12 classrooms. Please refer to Board Report No. 243-23/24 for further detailed information.

There were questions related to potential projects being part of the Districtwide furniture program and types of free-standing marquees allowed for schools.

There was a member comment about previous requests to provide District policies related to potential partnership opportunities for corporate brands to sponsor school marquees, and also about the Board District and Region annual allocations for these types of projects. FSD's response regarding advertising on marquees was forwarded to members during the meeting. (The response indicated that District signage, such as marquees, was subject to local signage ordinances.)

Mr. Cho answered all questions.

Ms. Bell made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-12.

Mr. MacFarlane seconded.

01:37:06 The Chair asked Mr. Popejoy to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 9 - Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Fischbach, Ms. Fuentes, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Pansky, Ms. Ramirez.

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absences: 4 – Mr. Boggio, Mr. Fischbach, Mr. Pansky, Mr. Ross.

Resolution 2024-12 passed.

01:38:04 Agenda Item 7. Eco-Sustainability Office Overview (Information Only)

Presenters: Christos Chrysiliou, Chief Eco-Sustainability Officer, ESO

Christos Chrysiliou, Chief Eco-Sustainability Officer (ESO), began his presentation stating the ESO was established under the direction of the Board of Education and the Superintendent. He provided some background about his experience with the District on many projects related to greening, SEEDS, etc. as a former member of the FSD project design management team. He also summarized his experience working to address climate change and its impacts and sustainability efforts in the District.

Mr. Chrysiliou further discussed climate change impacts on schools and communities. As a result, he said that his office has been tasked through District policy with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality using strategies to incorporate electrification of buildings, creation of green spaces, and student engagement in climate literacy. He stated that the District aims to become the largest environmentally friendly school district in the country in alignment with the strategic plan and approved Board resolutions. He highlighted the Sustainability Initiatives Unit (SIU) focus areas: Awareness & Outreach, High Performance Schools, Emerging Technologies, Campus Ecology, Energy Conservation, and Water Conservation. He detailed the work being done at the District in collaboration with all Divisions and Departments to develop plans for sustainability and explained the timeline below.

Mr. Chrysiliou described the current funding sources available to execute his office's mission including the identification of grants and tax credits, agreements, infrastructure rebates as well as developing partnerships to support sustainability programs. He explained that the Eco-Sustainability Office also supports the school district's policy resolutions through projects and programs that will require minimal or no capital investments to implement. He highlighted milestones, grants, awards, and rebates for anticipated or existing programs including photovoltaic systems, electrification, climate literacy, and greening.

Mr. Chrysiliou concluded his presentation inviting BOC members to visit the ESO's new website at <https://www.lausd.org/eso> to learn more about the work of his office and how the ESO keeps everyone involved in the process of learning and engaging in solutions for climate changes. He mentioned collaborations, outreach and achievements earned for its active role in sustainability.



There were questions related to the budget needed for the different programs presented, state and federal grants, Los Angeles County partnership, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) compliance, LEED grant applications, engaging students to learn about the environmental impacts of buildings and green spaces on their campuses, power purchase plans, information and data on the comparative costs of traditional vs. renewable energy sources (like the costs per kilowatt of electricity over time), historical data for electric buses compared to fossil fuels, legacy costs for generating electricity or mileage cost per vehicles including cost of new technology, cost of green infrastructure versus paving, overall longevity in terms of clean air quality, maintenance solutions and funding, approach to investing in sustainable technologies, contingency plans to address unforeseen events, and adapting to market innovation.

Mr. Chrysiliou stated that the District adopted the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) criteria and has seven LEED certified projects. He also reported that a transportation electrification study, analyzing the cost and efficacy of electric buses versus fossil fuel powered buses, was under review and would be presented to the Board of Education in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Chrysiliou answered all questions.

**02:36:26 Agenda Item 8. Chief Facilities Executive's Report (Information Only)
Presenter: Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive, FSD**

Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive, provided the Chief Facilities Executive's Report. She began her presentation highlighting FSD work, including major modernization projects and early education center outdoor classrooms. She added that the District plans to continue to modernize schools to address seismic vulnerability and to replace portable buildings with permanent structures where appropriate. She provided an update on upcoming bond-funded projects at Canoga Park High School, 49th Street Elementary School, Sylmar Charter High School, Garfield High School, Fairfax High School, Irving Middle School and 32nd Street USC. She stated that early education and nature-based instructional areas have been successfully developed in communities with limited park access. These noted projects had a total value of approximately \$134.4M with 16 projects completed, 13 in construction and 16 in pre-construction. She anticipated bringing three additional projects forward for BOC recommendation in April and provided an update on four Early Education projects: Crescent Heights EEC (outdoor classroom and campus upgrade project - 49 percent complete); Laurel EEC (outdoor classroom and campus upgrade project - 26 percent complete); Telfair EEC (outdoor classroom and campus upgrade project - 63 percent complete); and Evergreen EEC (outdoor classroom - 100 percent complete).

Ms. Tokes concluded her presentation encouraging BOC Members to attend two upcoming ribbon-cuttings in the month of April: Brooklyn Avenue Elementary School celebrating a new Parent & Family Center on April 19, 2024, at 4 p.m., and Polytechnic High School for a Comprehensive Modernization Midway Milestone on April 22, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. For more information, visit the Facilities Services Division Community Relations website at <https://www.lausd.org/Page/19485>.

BOC members congratulated the District for the Academy Award for short documentary: "The Last Repair Shop."

02:45:54 Agenda Item 9. Discussion of Non-Agenda Matters

There was no additional discussion.

02:46:04 Ms. Fuentes, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m. She thanked BOC members, District Staff and members of the public for their participation. The next BOC meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2024.

Minutes of March 28, 2024, approved per School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee.

/Samantha Rowles/

Dr. Samantha Rowles, Secretary