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## BOARD OF EDUCATION 2015

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## Student Directors' Report

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All City Council has engaged in multiple student engagement opportunities in the last couple of weeks. Our mission is to actively and accurately represent students from across the district. This report speaks to some of our engagements and outcomes, opportunities for adult allies to support student power, as well as concerns of our peers.

We want to begin by continuing our report back on our Middle School conference. On January 27th, we as All City Council held our 18th annual Peer Resource and Ethnic Studies Conference at UC Berkeley. We had over 200 middle school students attend the conference from Alliance, Montera, Madison, Frick, Edna Brewer, Claremont, Sankofa, Roots, CCPA, Elmhurst, Roosevelt, and Westlake. At the conference, youth were able to participate in a wide variety of workshops ranging from education to activism. With many workshops facilitated by youth themselves. The most powerful example of this was the leadership of the Restorative Justice Youth Council. Forty middle school RJ peer leaders from Edna Brewer, Alliance, Elmhurst, Roots, CCPA and Madison were able to lead 30 circles in the morning all by themselves.

We were also lucky to have NeEddra James, a Montera alumni and Challenge Day leader, as our key note speaker and for our closing we were also lucky to have Kareem Sasir join us. The middle school conference highlights the necessity for education beyond standards which includes ethnic studies and developing students' critical analysis skills. It is also an example of what can happen when we invest in student leadership. We hope that the students who attended the conference had a good time, as well as, left with some tools for change.

We would like to thank the Superintendent for attending our All City Council governing board meeting and being willing to have an honest discussion about his vision for institutionalized student voice, follow up from the forums, and his plans for the Intensive Support Schools. We expressed to the Superintendent the concerns of students who attend the 5 identified schools. We outlined the communication concerns and other tensions students felt after the first community-wide engagements. In addition to these youth engagements, we as students highly recommend more open communication between the board/decision makers and ourselves. We want to be at the forefront of any decision and change in the RFP process because we as students are the ones directly impacted by these decisions and as a result we are the ones who have to live with these changes at our schools. We were happy to begin the conversation with the superintendent. We appreciate his clarity

of his plans, and we hope to continue having solution driven conversations to improve any relationships between the district/board and students. Furthermore, we hope to continue meeting with the cabinet and district leadership, and we recommend continuous engagements and communication between all students and district staff.

