

# Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education  
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## Minutes (Long)

**Thursday, June 03, 2010**

**6:00 PM**

**Board Room, Paul Robeson Building, 1025 2nd Avenue, Oakland, CA  
94606-2212**

## Intergovernmental Relations Committee

*Jody London, Chairperson  
Jumoke Hodge, Member  
Christopher Dobbins, Member*

## A. Call to Order

*Chairperson Jody London called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M.*

## B. Roll Call

**Roll Call:** Present: Christopher Dobbins and Jody London  
Absent: Jumoke Hodge

## C. Modification(s) To Agenda

*Chairperson London pulled Legislative File 10-1455 from the agenda.*

## D. Adoption of Committee Minutes



### [10-1444](#) Minutes - Intergovernmental Relations Committee - May 5, 2010

Approval by Intergovernmental Relations Committee of Its Minutes of May 5, 2010.

**Attachments:** [10-1444 - Minutes - Intergovernmental Relations Committee - May 5, 2010](#)

**A motion was made by Christopher Dobbins, seconded by Jody London, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
Adv Nay: 0  
Adv Abstain: 0  
Aye: 2 - Christopher Dobbins and Jody London  
Nay: 0  
Recused: 0  
Absent: 1 - Jumoke Hinton Hodge  
Preferential Aye: 0  
Preferential Abstention: 0  
Preferential Nay: 0

## E. Adoption of the Committee General Consent Report

*None.*

## F. Unfinished Business

**09-2602****City - District Education Partnership Issues**

Update on District's relationship with the City of Oakland and possible mutual topics/issues to be pursued with the City via the City - District Education Partnership Committee.

**Attachments:** [09-2602 - Draft Letter - City Council Members, Education Partnership Committee.pdf](#)

*There was no report.*

**09-3555****Promise and/or Choice Neighborhood Program**

Discussion and/or status report on Promise and/or Choice Neighborhoods proposals, and the District's proposed role therein, within the City of Oakland.

**Attachments:** [09-3555 - Meeting Handout - January 6, 2010.pdf](#)  
[09-3555 - USDOE - Promise Neighborhoods Summary Document.ppt](#)  
[09-3555 - USDOE - Promise Neighborhoods Summary Document.pdf](#)

*Laura Moran, Chief Services Officers, made the staff report. Ms. Moran said the Superintendent has been meeting with a group of community based organizations and with the Mayor's Office. She said the District will be working with Peralta Community College as the lead agency in conjunction with Laney College submitting an application with Non-contiguous Neighborhoods. The groups have agreed to align the process of applying for this grant with the vision the Superintendent has shared with the Board at the Study Session around the Three Zones and the Community School Model for the District connecting along the continuum. The intention is to work with all the schools, but for the planning process you submit a strategy around how the District will change the educational outcomes at one particular school. The Three Zones (East Oakland will have two zones) will be West Oakland, San Antonio, Castlemont Corridor and Havenscourt/Lockwood. In the West Oakland Zone, Prescott Joseph will be the lead Community Based Organization (CBO) and the target school will be Martin Luther King Elementary School. In the San Antonio Zone the lead agency will be EBAYC and the target schools will be Garfield Elementary School and Roosevelt Middle School will be the secondary school. In the Castlemont Corridor BAYCES will be the lead agency and the target schools will be Youth Uprising, East Oakland Schools of the Arts and Havenscourt/Lockwood will be ROOTS International.*

*Public Speakers*

*Tanya Kappner, Teacher, said in terms of the Promise Zone Models her concerns are around privatization and the fact that the lead agencies are required to be non-profits. She asked what did that meant in terms of Laney College?*

*Chairperson London said last month when the regulations were published, a new provision was added that allowed an institution of higher learning to be a lead agency.*

*Ms. Kappner said she has concerns around privatization as the District faces cuts in Early Childhood and Adult Education being shut down and the idea of wrap around services. She said if a non-profit is running a Zone, what accountability measures will be in place in*

*terms of replacing union jobs with non-union jobs? Ms. Kappner asked for the amount of the grant Oakland is applying for?*

*Chairperson London said the District is applying for a planning grant of \$500,000 for one year with the opportunity to go back and apply for more when the program is fully funded the following year.*

*Ms. Kappner asked generally what was the amount school districts were requesting?*

*Ms. Moran said the amount was between \$2 million and \$5 million dollars over a longer period of time.*

*Ms. Kappner said money is being dangled (not huge amounts) with many changes and strings attached and said she is very concerned about non-profits running a school district. She said she wants the District to work with all the community groups to supplement and create more school site services. She said for example, the District cannot replace school nurses. Ms. Kappner asked if there were any other materials available here or on the District's website so the public can be better informed on the specifics between now and the next School Board Meeting?*

*Ms. Moran said Urban Strategies has posted information on their website. Ms. Moran said she would forward the information to Director London.*

**Referred to Board of Education**

## Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

*Jumoke Hodge present at 6:25 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hodge and Jody London



### [09-3356](#) **District's Communication Plan**

Presentation, by District's Spokesperson, of an update on the District's Communication Plan.

**Attachments:** [09-3396 - Strategic Communications Plan 2010-11 Building Community.ppt](#)  
[09-3396 - Academic and Fiscal Solvency Survey Slides 06.03.10.ppt](#)  
[09-3336 OUSD School Choice Study 05 12 10.pdf](#)

*Troy Flint, Communications Director, updated the committee on the progress of the Communications Department and some of the District's plans and strategies for 2010-2011. Mr. Flint said the theme of the Communications Department for 2010-2011 is "Building Community". He said last year the theme was "Renewing the Faith" because the District was starting a new era with a new locally appointed Superintendent for the first time in six years and a Governing Board which was restored to full local control for the first time in six years. He said last year was a time for getting reacquainted and building relationships. He said the next step is building community as we go forward implementing the Board and Superintendent's strategic vision with our community partners.*

*Mr. Flint highlighted the overall goals for the Communications Department.*

*Re-boot the Relationship with the Oakland Community*

*The District is moving forward with more transparency and more outreach to community organizations to help build a stronger relationship and atmosphere of trust that will facilitate better acceptance of the message the District is trying to communicate.*

*Begin the Healing Process with Labor*

*The hope was the District would have a settled contract with the teacher's union. He said this will roll over into the summer and the next school year. At some point there will be a contract that both sides can agree upon. We will need to begin the process of putting the old dissensions behind us and see how we can come together on increasing teacher compensation, improving student achievement and how to begin the framework to implement things like the Promise Neighborhoods that will allow for the redesign of the District.*

*Create a Narrative for District Progress*

*In all its communications, the Communications Department states the District is the most improved large urban district in California. The District's API Score increased by 92 point over the past five years. He said as the District moves forward to implement the strategic vision and build support for that vision in the community, the District needs to show that it had a strategic plan for success and moved forward systematically. The District needs to look back and analyze which strategic strategies led to those successes, which ones should be preserved and extended, which ones should be dismissed because they were not successful and incorporate that into the new strategic vision that the Board and Superintendent Smith have laid out for the community to expand on as we go into the summer.*

*Clarify Organizational Values, Goals and Strategies*

*A new strategic vision involves new organizational values and new methods of achieving the objectives for the District.*

*Grow the Grass Roots Capacity*

*The District has a small Communications team. He said as a District, we need to reach out to other partners using them to extend our reach as we try to boost enrollment.*

*Analysis of the District's Strengths and weaknesses - Overview*

- 1. The District has been able to improve its media relations this year through continuity.*
- 2. A growing proficiency in proactive communication.*
- 3. A new improved District website.*
- 4. Implementation of the Weekly Newsletter, Calendar, Blog and Twitter.*
- 5. Increased media coverage this year.*
- 6. Seventy four percent of elementary schools have a website, 88% of middle schools and all high schools have a website in some state of development.*
- 7. A lack of resources.*

*Committee Members Comments*

*Director Hodge asked Mr. Flint to talk about the Grass Roots Media and how the department may leverage that.*

*Mr. Flint said the primary use for Grass Roots Partnerships will be to build enrollment throughout the District.*

*Vice President Dobbins asked if Board Members could have a website.*

*Mr. Flint said that was a question for Mr. Rakestraw, Board Secretary.*

*Chairperson London said she had a vision that the Board would have a monthly newsletter with a standard message and each Board Member could personalize the newsletter.*

**Referred to Board of Education**



**10-0557**

**Endorsement - United Nations International Peace Day - September 21, 2010**

Discussion and possible adoption by Board of Education of Resolution No. 0910-0195 - Endorsing United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21, 2010.

**Attachments:** [UN Day of International Peace Document\(s\)](#)  
[10-0557 - Endorsing United Nations International Day of Peace - September 21, 2010.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Christopher Dobbins, seconded by Jody London, that this matter be Recommended Favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
 Adv Nay: 0  
 Adv Abstain: 0  
 Aye: 2 - Christopher Dobbins and Jody London  
 Nay: 0  
 Recused: 0  
 Absent: 1 - Jumoke Hinton Hodge  
 Preferential Aye: 0  
 Preferential Abstention: 0  
 Preferential Nay: 0



**10-0835**

**Relationship/Evaluation Review - District's Membership - Youth Ventures Joint Powers Authority**

Discussion of the District's membership in and the governance and operation of the Youth Ventures Joint Powers Authority.

**Attachments:** [06-1497 - Agreement Creating the Youth Ventures Joint Powers Authority Youth Ventures Submitted Documents.pdf](#)

*Chairperson London said this item is a review and evaluation of the District's membership in the Youth Venture Joint Powers Authority (JPA). She said she will review the history of the JPA, invite staff from the JPA to make a brief presentation and afterwards the committee will have a brief conversation and discussion. Chairperson London said the item was brought to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee at the request of one of the Members of the Board who noted the District joined the JPA in December 2006 while under State Administration. She said the suggestion from the Board Member was to step back and evaluate if the JPA was meeting the goals that had been set for the JPA and*

*whether the goals are the right goals. Chairperson London said there was a conversation about this at last month's Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting and Ms. Perez from the JPA was present. Chairperson London said based on that, Ms. Perez and the JPA have put together an Evaluation Report which should have been received by all committee members.*

*Director Hodge said in the presentation she would like to hear about the organizational side of the JPA and the District's membership and goals.*

*Laura Moran said under State Administration the District entered into a partnership called the Youth Ventures JPA. Ms. Moran said the District has held membership in the JPA for three years. Based on the report given to committee members there have been many benefits through the collaboration. Ms. Moran said she has attended most of the meetings and found them to be beneficial. She said Board Members raised questions about revisiting progress, what progress has been made to date and what benefits have accrued to the District through membership in the JPA. She said Board Members also raised questions around the structure of the JPA, if it was the right structure and the District's \$150,000 investment.*

*Josephina Alvarado, Safe Passages, began her presentation by giving some background information about the JPA, where the work came from and the Safe Passages Program. Ms. Alvarado said Safe Passages was founded in 1996 as part of the Urban Health Initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She said the work evolved to where Safe Passages became the research and development arm of the public systems. She said this is an initiative which researches, develops, implements and evaluates prevention and intervention strategies for children and youth. Ms. Alvarado said originally the initiative was established in Oakland as a program of the East Bay Community Foundation. Ms. Alvarado said in 2004 she was charged by the Board to look at different organizational structures that could sustain the work of the initiative beyond the initial 10 year investment from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She said after a lot of discussion, the Board decided they wanted to create a Joint Powers Authority with a non-profit arm. The Youth Ventures became the JPA, an independent body of the local public systems covering Alameda County and Safe Passages became the 501(c)3 organization with the two working together. The mission of the JPA, like Safe Passages, is to advocate for children, youth and families with a special emphasis on the most vulnerable populations. The organizations were founded on the core principles they would choose program models that have proven to work, to build partner capacity to do what works based on those best practices bringing together the financial and human resources of the partners to sustain successful programs and initiatives. The original charter members were Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, the City of Oakland, and San Lorenzo Unified School District. The function of the work centers on policy development and implementation, advocacy, design and incubation of cross agency strategies, research and evaluation, coordination and resource development. All are aligned with the purposes in the JPA Agreement. The Board of the JPA is made up of elected officials and agency heads from each public system. The Oakland Unified School District was a founding member of Safe Passages and the JPA Collaborative. Over this time six Superintendents and State Administrators have sat on the JPA Board and six School Board Members have sat on this Board. The educational success has been a central focus of all three programmatic areas: Early Childhood Education, School Link Services and Juvenile Justice developed with Government and Community Partners over the last 14 years and most recently as part of the Elev8 Initiative.*

*In 2007 Safe Passages was asked by Atlantic Philanthropy to submit a proposal for the Elev8 Initiative which resulted in a \$15 million grant from Atlantic Philanthropy. Another \$34 million was leveraged in local public funding to implement the Elev8 Initiative. The vision of the work is access to educational opportunities and health services. The JPA Agreement core budget of \$475,000 is comprised of membership dues from each public system member. Last year the core budget was leveraged to \$16.8 million for Oakland's children and families. In 2008-2009 for the District's \$150,000 investment the District received \$5.6 million in funded services for children and families. The District also receives \$528,375 to fund two FTE District Administrators with an annual cost of \$247,000, another \$281,250 per year to fund five Family Advocates currently working at each Elev8 site. This is the second year of a four year partnership with the Elev8 Initiative.*

#### *Public Speakers*

*Dave Kears, Chair of Safe Passages Youth Ventures, said the purpose of the JPA has achieved more outside the grant than inside the grant. He said together we make things happen, apart we make nothing happen. Mr. Kears said he supports the JPA.*

*Noel Gallo, Oakland resident and School Board Member, said he supports the Agreement. He said Safe Passages and JPA are outstanding. Mr. Gallo cited Ms. Alvarado's long history with the District noting that her parents were the founding members of La Escuelita Elementary School and Centro Infantil CDC. Ms. Alvarado attended Oakland Public Schools and previously headed the Family and Community Office. Mr. Gallo said he supports Safe Passages.*

*Jane Brunner, Oakland City Councilmember, said the District has everyone who is doing and struggling in Oakland through Safe Passages. She said the school district had issues about health and Alameda County said they would put a health clinic in the schools. She spoke of the afterschool programs funded through Measure Y Funds, \$10 million from the Alameda County for Medi-care and \$25 million re-directed from Elev8. Councilmember Brunner said if the District leaves Safe Passages, it will probably fall apart and the District will lose the most because Safe Passages is providing extra services and wants to be a partner with the District.*

*Armedia Majors, parent, said she would like to see better nutrition in the District.*

*Danita Lewis, parent, said she has five children in Oakland Public Schools and three are at Elev8 Sites. Ms. Lewis said anytime she has picked up a newspaper that had something to do with education and the initiatives being lobbied for in Washington, D.C., Oakland's name was mentioned as being an innovator in education and making strides for student achievement. She said it is because of the initiatives like Elev8.*

*Danny Stokes, parent, said he appreciates being a part of Elev8. He said as a parent, Elev8 has given him a foundation and a push to involve more parents. Mr. Stokes said he is proud to be associated with all the organizations as well as the Elev8 Initiative.*

*John Torres, Director of Youth Alive, said he supports Safe Passages and Elev8. Mr. Torres said the program has been in existence since 1991 with intervention programs such as "Teens on Target" and "Caught in the Crossfire". Currently Youth Alive has a contract with Havenscourt Middle School to deliver and augment the "History of Gangs Workshop".*



*Committee Member Comments*

*Vice President Dobbins thanked everyone for coming out to speak about this issue. He said a lot of students need mental health services when they are not successful in the classroom. Vice President Dobbins said he thinks the only issue people had was the financial commitment of the District. Vice President Dobbins said he is in support of the JPA.*

*Director Hodge asked for clarification on funding the District receives from the JPA.*

*Ms. Moran said there were two different kinds of funding. She said the Elev8 Grant was written by the District in collaboration with the City of Oakland, Alameda County and Safe Passages (staff for the JPA) pulling everyone together and writing the grant application. She said the grant application required a model of what a full service community school would look like and that included staff. She said the staff is in central office and at school sites.*

*Director Hodge said as the District looks at cuts that are going to take place in the Family and Community Office, she wants to know if that will have an impact or is it protected funding because it is coming through the JPA?*

*Ms. Moran said the money was protected because it was grant funds.*

*Director Hodge said her initial question was if there were problems, issues and if evaluations have not been done. She said that is why she wanted to spend time in that conversation as opposed to the programmatic pieces. She said everyone has alluded that the program could get much better or there have been problems or issues, but no one has brought that to this conversation. She said in order to move forward we need to know what it is we are actually working on and improving.*

*Ms. Moran said she worked with the group on this grant and said the District will be working with the Safe Passages team and the Complementary Learning Department on how we implement. She said there are inter-agency meetings that meet once a month.*

*Director Hodge said when the Board Member asked the question around how the JPA is doing, she said she heard about great programs for young people inside of schools which she said she supports, but said that is not what was raised at the table.*

*Mr. Moran said the JPA has facilitated and formalized the collaboration already there. She said at times it has created conflict between the agencies or with other community based organizations who don't feel they have a place at the table. JPA Members have reflected on whether they should reformulate the JPA a little to have some seats at the table for the representative community based organizations. she said as new grants come in and other work needs to be done, we have to resolve some of the issues that have been raised within the JPA and about the JPA externally so that it can be a sturdy organization going forward.*

*Mr. Stokes said he wanted to answer Director Hodge's question about what can be done better. He said the things Elev8 are doing are to help parents as a unit to help the teacher help them to raise their own children better.*

Director Hodge asked Mr. Stokes if he sees as a part of the JPA there should be a seat for parents?

Mr. Stokes said "yes".

Chairperson London said to Director Hodge as a member on the JPA Board she would commit to her to start doing a more through report back to her. She said the Intergovernmental Relations Committee may want schedule more time with the JPA staff to delve into some of the other questions. She said she shared with them the notes from the Board's conversation on May 5th around some of the issues Board Members raised. Chairperson London said she thinks the JPA staff was trying to be responsive to those notes in their presentation today. She said what her colleagues on the Board are expecting from this committee is a recommendation on whether or not the District should continue the membership with the JPA for the next year.

Director Hodge made a motion that the District renews its membership with the JPA for the 2010-2011 school year. Vice President Dobbins seconded the motion.

Chairperson London said this item will be brought to the Full Board for adoption.

**Discussed**

## G. New Business



[10-1124](#)

### **Blanche Lincoln Marker Bill for Child Nutrition Reauthorization - Nutrition Services**

Approval by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 0910-0280 - District's Position or Recommendations on the Blanche Lincoln Marker Bill for Child Nutrition Reauthorization.

**Attachments:** [Document\(s\)](#)  
[10-1124 - Blanche Lincoln Marker Bill for Child Nutrition Reauthorization - Nutrition Services.pdf](#)

Jennifer LeBarre, Director of Nutrition Services, gave a brief overview of the Blanche Lincoln Marker Bill for Child Nutrition Reauthorization. She said this Bill is up for reauthorization which occurs every five years. Blanche Lincoln has set out the first Marker Bill for the Senate side and the District reviewed the Bill. Based on the District's initial asks for in the Child Nutrition reauthorization approved last school year, the District evaluated that and came up with some things we were in alignment with in the Blanche Lincoln Marker Bill. There were areas where the District had some concerns and a few areas where the District thought a lot was missing from the initial review. Ms. Lebarre said this item will formalize what the District's opinions are on the Blanch Lincoln Marker Bill so we can communicate this to our Legislative Officers.

**A motion was made by Christopher Dobbins, seconded by Jody London, that this matter be Recommended Favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
Adv Nay: 0  
Adv Abstain: 0

Aye: 2 - Christopher Dobbins and Jody London  
Nay: 0  
Recused: 0  
Absent: 1 - Jumoke Hinton Hodge  
Preferential Aye: 0  
Preferential Abstention: 0  
Preferential Nay: 0

**10-1455****Resolution - State and/or Federal Budget Cut Impacts on District-Recommendations**

Adoption by Board of Education of Resolution No. (0910-0284 - Outlining Impact of State and Federal Budget cuts on District and/or Recommended Action, If Any.

**Attachments:** [10-1455 - Resolution - State and/or Federal Budget Cut Impacts on District-Recommendations.pdf](#)

**Tabled**

**10-1463****Defense of Funding for Early Childhood Education**

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 0910-0285 - Opposing the Early Childhood Education Budget Reductions Proposed In the Governor's May, 2010 State Budget Revision and Urging the California Legislature to Preserve Adequate Levels of Funding for Early Childhood Education.

**Attachments:** [Document\(s\)](#)  
[10-1463 - Defense of Funding for Early Childhood Education.pdf](#)

*Lynne Rodezno, Director of Early Childhood Education, said this Resolution opposes the Governor's May Revise Budget which will eliminate the full day pre-school programs, school age programs and only support the half day pre-school programs at an amount still uncertain. She said the District is looking at cuts that will decimate the department if just looking at a half day program next school year. She said it also impacts nutritional services and the bumping process that the District just went through with the classified employees. Ms. Rodezno said what the District wants is confirmation that on July 1st the District can count on what is being described in their contract with the State and that has not happened.*

**A motion was made by Christopher Dobbins, seconded by Jody London, that this matter be Recommended Favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
Adv Nay: 0  
Adv Abstain: 0  
Aye: 2 - Christopher Dobbins and Jody London  
Nay: 0  
Recused: 0  
Absent: 1 - Jumoke Hinton Hodge  
Preferential Aye: 0  
Preferential Abstention: 0  
Preferential Nay: 0

**H. Public Comments on All Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Committee**

*There were no Public Speaker Cards submitted.*

**I. Superintendent of Schools or Designee's Committee Liaison Report**

*None.*

**J. Introduction of New Legislative Matter**

*None.*

**K. Adjournment**

*Chairperson London adjourned the meeting at 7:55 P.M.*

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_