



NORTH HOLLYWOOD NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

June 2021

Reinstatement of the Parent Engagement and Special Education Committees in LAUSD

Dear President Gonez and Honorable Members of the Board,

Prior to the rapid and necessary shutdown of district facilities in March of 2020, one of the ways that the district obtained feedback from its stakeholders was the Parent Engagement and Special Education Committees. After the closure, these specific committee meetings were understandably suspended as LAUSD rapidly transitioned into distance learning. However, now that we are transitioning back to in-person instruction and in-person activities we implore you to reinstate these committee meetings immediately.

President Gonez has stated that she does not intend to reconsider reinstating any committees until “after the end of the semester,” and the North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council is not in support of this decision. Our parents, students, and stakeholders are being silenced. Numerous parents have already written to the LAUSD Board, to which President Gonez sent out a form letter that doubled down on these attempts to reinstate the committees, and consecutively decided not to listen to her constituents.

The LAUSD President and Board claim that they yearn to encourage parent engagement and create a partnership with the parents to service our students but then deny parents the opportunity to participate in the process by declining to reinstate these committees.

Board Member Schmerelson has volunteered to lead these committees and be entirely responsible for their functionality. Therefore, we urge President Gonez to understand the needs of students with special education needs and *permit* the committees to function.

We are deciding to follow in the footsteps of numerous Neighborhood Councils who are taking similar resolutions in the coming months at the requests of our stakeholders, parents, and above all our students.

Listed Recipients:

Kelly Gonez, Board President District 6

George McKenna, Board Member District 1

Monica Garcia, Board Member District 2

Scott Shmerelson, Board Member District 3

Nick Melvin, Board Member District 4

Jackie Goldberg, Board Member District 5

Tanya Ortiz, Board Member District 7

Rosemary Duff, Director of Administration, District 6

Megan Vandenbos, Chief of Staff, District 6

Esmeralda Marcial, Director of Community Engagement and Advocacy, District 6

Michael Menjivar, Deputy Director of Engagement, District 6

Sincerely,

North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council

X

Jennie Palluzzi

Board President

North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council



Official Use Only

Date of Board Vote: June 9, 2021

Board Vote Count: Aye 11 Nay 0 Abstain 0

Motion Status: Passed X Failed _____ Other _____