

LAAC: Weekly Leadership Update
August 10, 2018

Call Agenda & Discussion Questions

1. **North Star Updates** (*Pre-Reading is [below](#)*)
 - a. **Authorization & Oversight:**
 - N/A
 - b. **Facilities – Long Term Agreements**
 - Do you want to be involved in conversations with Pedro and/or Rebecca about facilities use agreements and overuse/overtime fees?
 - c. **Facilities – Bond**
 - N/A
 - d. **Relationships**
 - Discuss Emilio’s upcoming meeting with Rebecca

2. **Additional Updates** (*Pre-Reading is at [the end](#) of this document*)
 - a. **BD5**
 - Would you be willing to sign a petition or make phone calls if needed between now and August 21 to push on the board for the right appointment timeline and appointee?

Pre-Reading: North Star Updates

Authorization & Oversight <i>North Star: Oversight of charter schools is efficient for both LAUSD and educators, centered on student learning, and promotes a collaborative relationship between charter schools and their authorizer.</i>	
Current Strategy	<p>Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy: We had our clearest window to date to make this happen with Ref’s resolution, which we successfully killed at June’s board meeting. We decided we did not want to encourage the continuation of Applicable Policies Working Group, which has essentially died out. We will need to push for an alternative path forward in this area and are focused on leadership changes as a logical next step since policy is good, but there is a gap between policy and practice.</p>
	<p>Oversight Feedback & Survey: We believe that the strongest argument to the new superintendent to encourage him to make changes on charter issues will be to demonstrate the gap between the existing policy and practice: the policies are good, but staff is ineffective and isn’t following them. We continue to document the gap via the circulation of a new oversight and authorization survey and compiling school leader anecdotes.</p>
	<p>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: It’s become clear that CSD still does not want to update renewal criteria, despite feedback given by charter leaders at the Listen & Learn session. However, the LAAC’s meeting with Austin Beutner may have reopened the pathway for an administrative update to renewal criteria, and we are focused on continued follow-up with Hilda.</p> <p>Members submitted renewal petitions the first week of August with no notable pushback. As we move toward public hearings, we will develop the public-facing elements of a collective action campaign and continue to draw attention to the issue with LAUSD Board members.</p>

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	<p>We are also continuing to monitor conversations around the Performance Framework. Emilio, Cristina and Marcia are part of the working group and we will work to coordinate charter leaders with our external partners. Based on Jose's recent messaging and a Board informative, it appears that the Performance Framework is being used as an excuse to not tackle charter renewal criteria.</p> <p>Path Forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue follow-up from the meeting with Austin. • Submit petitions with CCSA criteria (done). • Prepare for collective action campaign, including collective letter, messaging for Board members, and a media strategy. • Marcia, Emilio, Cristina join performance framework group.
<p>What Happened Last Week</p>	<p>Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy: We shared a preliminary list of alternated CSD leaders with Sarah Angel.</p> <p>Oversight Feedback & Survey: No Updates.</p> <p>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: We learned that Jose sent a memo to the LAUSD Board and Superintendent that summarizes this year's charter renewals as well as current renewal criteria. While the criteria is nothing different from what Jose has recently presented, we note –with concern –that Jose has put into writing his belief that the new School Performance Framework will “provide a new opportunity to holistically set performance criteria for all schools, and shape future renewal criteria conversations locally and potentially at the state level.”</p>
<p>What's Happening Next Week</p>	<p>Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy: We will be building out plans for the year based on LAAC feedback.</p> <p>Oversight Feedback & Survey: We will be building out plans for the year based on LAAC feedback.</p> <p>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: We will be building out plans for the year based on LAAC feedback.</p>
<p>What's Happening with Working Group</p>	<p>We plan to hit reset on working groups for the year after our LAAC meeting.</p>

<p>Facilities – Long Term Agreements <i>North Star: Los Angeles charter school families have access to long-term, stable, District facilities that are equipped to support the learning needs of all students.</i></p>	
<p>Current Strategy</p>	<p>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements: We leveraged the dismissal of our two facilities lawsuits to push for an accelerated conversation regarding long-term facilities use agreements, and have been pushing on the issue all year with LAAC members starting with DRL. We have shared our facilities proposal with Nick's office as a starting place. Currently, we are working most closely with Nick's office on next steps, and his office is also working with District staff to move the needle on facilities. As we continue to work with Nick to remove roadblocks (e.g., OGC) and consider politically viable mechanisms to implement long-term agreements, we continue to push for and counsel on long-term facilities use agreements, either through leases from Prop. 39 or an RFP process. We will continue to build public</p>

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	<p>pressure and awareness around facilities by organizing charter leaders to speak at public meetings and work with the new Superintendent and Nick Melvoin to push District policy toward approving long-term agreements.</p>
	<p>Public Facilities Inventory & Database: We learned that the board has already contracted with a company who is doing a District-wide facilities inventory, and will also be making recommendations around facilities use .The BOE passed a transparency-related resolution that can serve as the foundation for this work and we know from pre-Superintendent conversations with Austin indicate that he wants to move very quickly on a public inventory and database. Will work with the new Superintendent and Nick Melvoin to push District policy and directives toward inventorying and publishing District real estate and facilities-related information.</p>
	<p>Prop 39 Oversight: Nick has indicated interest in adding charter representation to the space utilization committee to have a more direct lever to improve the process. We must push for this more explicitly, and also continue calling for improvements to Prop. 39 publicly at board meetings and through media, as staff have made it increasingly clear that they do not believe they have the authority to make the changes needed to improve Prop. 39, and only 19/54 FUAs are finalized now, a month away from school.</p>
	<p>Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: Our strategy toward establishing a complete paradigm shift in the way in which District utilizes and allocates public school facilities will be a long-term strategy and is determinative upon building a persistent groundswell of support and achieving major facilities wins, such as public and transparent facilities inventories and successful long-term facilities use agreements. A shift will also depend on the development of a performance framework and results therefrom.</p>
<p>What Happened Last Week</p>	<p>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements: Sarah Angel shared updates on BD4’s work with LAUSD’s legal team. Sarah said that she should have a new memo from legal on long-term facilities any day, and that this is Nick’s highest priority for charters this year. PCSD is pushing on solutions for individual schools, which is something we may want to reign in. Also, Howard Blume is writing an article on co-locations, which we hope to leverage for the case for long-term agreements.</p>
	<p>Public Facilities Inventory & Database: We talked to PCSD (Abby) who shared this is high priority for them.</p>
	<p>Prop 39 Oversight: Overtime and overuse fees have been sent to a handful of schools besides STEM Prep, and many use agreements still are not signed. Cassy has raised BOTH issues with Pedro Salcido and Rebecca Cockler and who have pledged to address them.</p>
	<p>Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: No updates.</p>
<p>What’s Happening Next Week</p>	<p>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements: We will follow up with Sarah to see if the new District facilities use memo has been created. We will continue to push on the Howard conversation for his story.</p>
	<p>Public Facilities Inventory & Database: N/A</p>
	<p>Prop 39 Oversight: We will push Pedro and Rebecca to resolve these outstanding, major issues, and factor them into our planning.</p>
	<p>Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: N/A</p>
<p>What’s</p>	<p>N/A until we vote and restructure.</p>

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Happening with Working Group

Facilities – Bond

North Star: State and local charter school bond dollars are allocated in a manner that is transparent and consistent with the long-term facilities needs of charter schools.

<p>Current Strategy</p>	<p>Developing. Following confirmation that the District will not pursue a facilities bond in 2018, we are developing strategies and recommended next steps toward ensuring greater accountability and responsible spending of current bond dollars and, as the possibility of both a facilities bond and parcel tax in 2020 remains, continue to discuss and socialize with District leadership and the BOE equitable charter inclusion in any future bond or parcel tax. Although developing, our current strategy remains rooted in our initial bond strategy; namely that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The reason we wanted a bond to move was so that we could quickly move on other facilities policy like long-term agreements. Without a bond as leverage, we need to make sure the District doesn't back off on this priority. 2. Charters must be included in the 2020 bond and parcel tax, and we will need to be ready to have those conversations with the board and Austin. 3. The District needs to address its unfunded liabilities and a parcel tax is a reasonable way to do this, but it needs to be done thoughtfully and strategically. <p>For now, we can pause on the 2018 bond and use the upcoming summer to develop early planning for a potential 2020 bond and/or parcel tax with the commitments from Vladovic, McKenna, and Nick Melvoin that we will be included in all such efforts.</p>
<p>What Happened Last Week</p>	<p>We heard from Sarah Angel that this will be a backburner issue until the spring.</p>
<p>What's Happening Next Week</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>What's Happening with Working Group</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Relationships

North Star: The Los Angeles charter community establishes and maintains a leading voice informing LAUSD policy decisions with the new school board in place so that students and parents are at the forefront of District decision making.

<p>Current Strategy</p>	<p>Superintendent: We continue outreach to Superintendent Beutner and members of his staff to build relationships around our priority issues.</p> <p>Other Relationships: In 2017-18, we facilitated small-group meetings with LAAC</p>
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	members and LAUSD Board Members, in addition to hosting LAUSD Board Members at LAAC meetings and events. These meetings have ended and nothing further has been scheduled while we work on plans for 2018-19.
What Happened Last Week	<p>Superintendent: In an interview with SpeakUp, the Superintendent called for parents to be present at the negotiating table for the teacher contract. Austin continues to prioritize reaching a deal with UTLA before he will take on other priorities. Negotiations are officially at an impasse, and a mediator will work with the two parties. UTLA is taking a strike authorization vote August 23-30.</p> <p>Cassy has been in touch with Pedro and Rebecca Cockler re facilities issues that need to be escalated to Austin. We view this as a relationship building opportunity. Cassy has a meeting set with Rebecca the first week of September.</p> <p>Also, Rebecca is hiring 5 “fellows” who would be Broad-fellow types to push things through and wants our help with recommendations.</p> <p>Other Relationships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cassy and Jennie met with Sarah Angel to set the stage for what we expect will be our advocacy priorities for the 18-19 school year.
	<p>Superintendent: We will be working with Pedro and Rebecca on facilities issues.</p> <p>Other Relationships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cassy and Jennie have scheduled calls with a variety of external partners to socialize our 18-19 advocacy priorities, receive input, and begin discussing potential collaboration.
What’s Happening Next Week	

Pre-Reading: Additional Updates

Common Enrollment

Sarah shared that Nick will introduce a Common Enrollment resolution in November or December that will lay out a multi-year path to build the District and charter systems per GPSN’s plans, and eventually merge them with a third party overseer. We will need to be ready to work with them throughout this process to ensure we are aligned with the resolution.

BD5

On Friday, reporters announced that board members would introduce two resolutions for the August 21 Board Meeting. **Monica Garcia** and **Nick Melvoin** introduced a resolution to schedule a special election for March 5. Meanwhile, **Scott Schmerelson** introduced a resolution, which he posted on his website, to nominate Jackie Goldberg as a temporary voting appointee to the BD5 seat. The resolution gestured towards an election timeline in 4-6 months – before the March/June window.

The introduction of the resolution by **Schmerelson** means that **Richard Vladovic** and **Kelly Gonez** would be pushed by both UTLA and the education reform community to appoint a voting board member before the special election. However, board members will have to debate a specific appointee profile on the same day as the special election vote – which **Monica** wanted to avoid. We continue to speak to external partners to coordinate advocacy actions – possibly including a parent petition and op-ed.

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Our clear objectives are a special election in March, and an appointment who is much better for us than Jackie Goldberg: both of which we believe are attainable through our grasstops efforts and coordination with other partners.