



February 25th Education Committee

The Education Committee resumed meeting this week and what a great meeting it was! Several new Principals joined us, along with representatives from L.A.U.S.D. Board members Scott Schmerelson and Nick Melvoin's offices. We also had a few of our businesses and non-profits like Kiwanis with us. Not only was it great to see and hear from some of our beloved Principals of schools that we have been working with for several years but, to hear from new Principals and from a few schools that are new to our group as well was wonderful too.

We discussed L.A.U.S.D.'s March 4th reopening for some in-person services and outdoor sports conditioning. As well as what is being done, and the precautions being taken in preparation for the reopening of schools including information about teachers and school staff vaccinations.

We heard an update on L.A. County Public Health requirements and statistics regarding what the levels need to be at before schools can return to in-person learning (elementary schools can reopen when the positivity rate is below 25/100,000; middle and high schools need to be at 7/100,000 before reopening... last week the number was down to 20/100,000; this week they were at 14/100,000 so at least right now, the numbers are going in the right direction).

The schools have all been busy trying to keep things as "normal" for the students as possible. They have been using every resource they can find to help kids and parents with tutoring and mental health issues; they have been doing a lot of project-based learning to keep kids engaged; as well as fun events like talent shows. One Principal told us she is even keeping the Friday morning assembly tradition of doing the Cha-Cha Slide at the end of assembly going, even though the assemblies are via Zoom right now.

Another Principal said his students are working on performing a traditional radio play of Frankenstein for entertainment. Lightening the spirits of teachers & staff is also top of mind with trivia nights and other fun virtual events for teachers and staff to participate in.

Teachers, administrators, cafeteria workers, and maintenance staff have worked so hard this past year from feeding students & families (107 million served at 'Grab & Go' sites across Los Angeles), to keeping students engaged, learning new ways to teach, and staying positive and upbeat for students during a time of so much upheaval and uncertainty (even when they too were experiencing all the same fears and emotions the kids had). We thank each of them for the dedication and commitment they have given to our children who are the future of our community!