Leadership Public Schools
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
May 16th, 2016

Present: Marsha Dugan, Dr. Louise Waters, Soo Zee Park, Luis Chavez, Yolanda Peeks, Chuck Bowes, Amy Slater, Lisa Pitters, D’Lonra Ellis, Michael Zaninovich Rosain Ozonsi, Prasad Ram, Brigitte Lowe, Stu McLaughlin, David Finke, Kevin Katari
Absent: None
Guests: Patricia Lopez, Joe Pacheco, Kate Levitt, Lauren Klaffky, Zenebu Bekele, Edie Hoffman

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

The meeting was opened to public comment. Members of the San Jose community had two-minute time slots to speak to the Board. 30 students, parents, and community members signed up and shared their comments. They spoke about the positive impact LPS San Jose has had on them, the caring and close-knit family feeling of the school, and the need for more schools like LPS San Jose in their community. Several people expressed outrage and frustration about the recommendation to close and the decision-making process, which they felt did not adequately involve the community. They sought other problem-solving approaches than shutting down the school.

After all public comments were made, the Board members responded individually. Each Board member spoke to the fear, anger, and sadness of the recommendation to close, and lamented the difficulties that this would create for students, families, and staff. They all pledged their commitment to ensuring that every single student finds a strong new school, to helping every staff member find a new job, and to working with families to ease the transition.

D’Lonra Ellis moved to amend Resolution 2016-07, on the Closure of LPS San Jose, to change “Whereas Seniors are particularly vulnerable in a transition to a new school,” to Whereas all students are vulnerable in a transition to a new school.” The group voted to approve Resolution 2016-07 with this amendment, advising closure of LPS San Jose.
Moved: D’Lonra Ellis
Seconded: Yolanda Peeks
Approved: All
Against: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Levitt
Recorder