

# Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa Education Committee



## NCWP Education Committee Members

Michele Cooley Strickland, M.Ed., Ph.D. – Chair  
Grace Yao – Co-Chair                      Matthew Tecele  
Andrew Kamm                                  John-David Webster  
Denny Schneider                              Bryan Williams

[www.ncwpdr.org/Education](http://www.ncwpdr.org/Education)



Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2016

Westchester Loyola Village Library, 7114 W. Manchester Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045

1. Members Present: Michele Cooley-Strickland (Chair), Grace Yao (Co-Chair), Andrew Kamm, Denny Schneider, Matthew Tecele, Bryan Williams Absent: John David Webster
2. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Michele Cooley-Strickland at 6:30pm.
3. The Committee unanimously approved the Minutes from the November 30, 2015 meeting.
4. The Committee welcomed guests attending today's special meeting, including:
5. Announcements from Local Education Group Representatives included:
  - a) LMU Community Relations – Grace Yao announced:
    - i. 2016 is the 10 year anniversary of the LMU Family of Schools
    - ii. Grace will check on having Darren Early, Director of the FOS, come to speak to the Education Committee on successes in his programs.
    - iii. There is a quarterly Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting on February 17, 2015 at the Westchester Senior Center.
  - b) Otis College of Art and Design – Matt Tecele announced:
    - i. The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Otis Report on the Creative Economy will be held on February 25, 2015 at 2pm at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall downtown. Otis has sponsored an annual survey of the economic impacts of the regions creative industries. This year, Otis is pleased to have Nobel-laureate Dr. Joseph E. Stiglitz give the keynote address. The event is free and open to the public. More info can be found at <http://www.otis.edu/otis-report-creative-economy>.
  - c) Others – Gwen Vuchsas announced:
    - i. Over \$17,000 was granted to 16 schoolteachers through the Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club's Teacher Mini-Grants program.
    - ii. The LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce has created an ad hoc Education Committee. This committee is looking at ways that business can support local schools. This differs from the NCWPDR because it looks at education through the eyes of business and residents.
    - iii. Rotary Pageant of the Arts deadline has been extended to allow more students to sign up.

No Public Comment

1

Our NCWP Education Goal: *To engage the Westchester/Playa del Rey/Playa Vista community in support of advancing the success of the local elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as that of the local colleges and universities, manifested by enhancing: i) School resources; ii) students' educational experiences; iii) parental involvement; and/or iv) community partnerships.*

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## Action Item One: Update on December 17, 2016 In-Person Meeting with Ms. Michelle King, LAUSD Chief Deputy Superintendent (now Superintendent)

1. Michele Cooley-Strickland met with Ms. King to best explore how the Neighborhood Council can best support her office's efforts.
2. Ms. King is looking closely at current instructional pathways and looking for new models as well.
3. She answered every question pertaining to her office from the community open house sponsored by the Education Committee on October 26, 2015.
4. The committee approved a motion to send a letter of congratulations to Superintendent King on her promotion.
  - i. This will come from the full Neighborhood Council.
  - ii. Michele will ask her office about permissions on sending out her responses to the Westchester/Playa Del Rey community.
  - iii. The Education Committee will send a copy of the responses to the Argonaut and Hometown News.

## Action Item Two: Update on January 20, 2016 Teleconference with Ms. Cheryl Hildreth

1. Michele Cooley-Strickland spoke with Cheryl Hildreth on ways to partner more deeply with her constituents.
2. Ms. Hildreth will present to the full Board short and long term changes on March 1, 2016.
3. Ms. Hildreth suggested someone from the local LAUSD District West attend monthly NCWPDR Education Committee meetings.
4. A big question is over the facilities at Playa Vista Elementary.
  - i. Currently, Playa Vista Elementary is having classes k-3 at their facility.
  - ii. TK children will be bussed to another facility due to space issues.
5. Michele has been invited to join the LAUSD Instructional Pathways Collaborative Group.
  - i. The Committee unanimously approves Michele joining the LAUSD Instructional Pathways Collaborative Workgroup.

## Action Item Three: Update on Venice High School's Major Modernization Project

1. Many questions on if and when Venice High School will be receiving LAUSD funding for renovations of school facilities.
2. The next PAG will go out in the first quarter of this year.
3. Current facilities are in dire need of repair (broken sidewalks, pipe systems, crumbling buildings).

## Action Item Four: Discuss and Potential Vote: **New NCWP Education Goals for the 2016 Year**

1. LMU's Race for Success is happening on March 5, 2016

**2**

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2. 6-0 vote in favor of purchasing a \$500 booth to engage community.

The next NCWP Education Committee meeting is February 24, 2016. Meetings are regularly scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

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3

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