



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



December 28, 2011

Mr. Steve Zimmer, Member Board of Education, District 4
Ms. Monica Garcia, President, Board of Education and Members
Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa
Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, members of the Los Angeles City Council

Dear Elected Officials & Staff:

RE: LAUSD Maintain Current Adult Division Program & Funding & Provide Open, Transparent Discussions & Decision making

On December 20, 2011, the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) passed a motion to oppose the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) plan to terminate the Adult Program. The VNC requests that LAUSD maintain the current Adult Program; and, that LAUSD host public forums throughout the City to gain vital community input and provide transparency of all discussions and decisions relating to this and all education issues.

The California Education Code (Sections 8500, 12050-12060) specifically states that all adults in California are entitled to certain rights that include the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to participate effectively in today's economy and society; and, participate in courses designed to meet the particular needs of the local community. Further, the law states that the people (elected officials and staff) comply with the provisions and reserve all the requirements associated with the acts as specified in the California Education Code as it pertains to vocational education, of which adult education is a part.

Adult education serves as a vital job training, enhancement and networking resource within all our communities especially during an unprecedented economic downturn as witnessed in our current history. Dismantling such a program is not only shortsighted and illegal, but it is also an unconscionable act that could result in leaving many individuals and families without access to much needed resources.

We urge you to abandon this decision, guarantee job programs and open your discussions and criteria for such a decision to the public immediately.

Sincerely,

Linda Lucks
President



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Cc: West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council
Western Regional Alliance of Councils
Board, Venice Neighborhood Council
Cindy Chambers, Chair, VNC Education Committee, Karen Wolfe and Bob Yorgerson, Co-chairs
Mr. Ed Morris, Director of Adult Education, LAUSD
Ms. Mónica Garcia, President, Board of Education
Ms. Marguerite LaMotte, Board of Education, District 1
Ms. Tamar Galatzan, Board of Education, District 3
Mr. Bennett Kayser, Board of Education, District 5
Ms. Nury Martinez, Board of Education, District 6
Mr. Richard Vladovic, Board of Education, District 7
President, Los Angeles City Council Herb Wesson and Members of the LA City Council
Ed Reyes, Paul Krekorian, Dennis Zine, Tom LaBonge, Paul Koretz, Tony Cardenas,
Richard Alarcon, Bernard Parks, Jan Perry, Mitchell Englander, Eric Garcetti, Jose Huizar