

UPDATE

Week of January 9, 2012

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCIES GONE -- FOR NOW!

On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court ruled on two significant cases, which resulted in the elimination of California's 400 Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs). The *L.A. Times* ran a front-page story (Dolan, Garrison & York, latimes.com) that day about the impact of the decisions, explaining that, "The court ruled unanimously in favor of a state law passed last summer that abolished redevelopment agencies and voted 6 to 1 to strike down a companion measure that would have allowed the agencies to continue if they shared their revenues."

CRAs, which have existed since 1945, have derived their funds from property tax revenues diverted from public schools and other local services. The advent of Proposition 13 in 1978 cut property taxes substantially and made it extremely difficult to raise funds for public education and other purposes. CRAs began to take full advantage of their opportunity to skim property tax funds off the top. In flush times, few complained. The current recession has forced the governor, legislators and local officials to seek additional revenues for public education and local services.

Governor Brown, who initially proposed the elimination of CRAs last year to help solve California's fiscal crisis, argued that during tough economic times, filling the huge hole in the State's education budget is a higher priority than handing over \$5 billion each year to private developers to fund their pet projects. While CRAs were originally designed to eliminate neighborhood blight, provide low-cost housing and improve communities, many CRA projects have had little or no public benefit. Furthermore, many CRA critics, including **County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky**, have stated publicly that CRA-funded projects amount to nothing more than the public subsidization of private real estate ventures, which profit wealthy developers at the expense of residents in low-income communities.

The redevelopment political machinery sued to maintain the CRAs and eliminate the sharing of funds with schools. The Supreme Court's ruling against the developers was a welcome development for the Governor and supporters of public education, many of whom, including the California Teachers Association, had filed amicus briefs with the court in support of the Governor. Notably, **LAUSD Board Member Bennett Kayser** brought a motion to support the Governor's position and file an amicus. The motion passed by a majority of 4-2, with **Dr. Richard Vladovic**, **Marguerite LaMotte** and **Steve Zimmer** voting with him in favor. Board Members **Mónica García** and **Nuri Martínez** opposed. **Tamar Galatzan** was absent.

The story is not over, however. Despite the fact that CRA advocates brought the lawsuits, which ultimately backfired, they will most likely attempt to persuade State legislators to restore some funding for redevelopment projects. However, their success is not certain. If the Legislature does not act quickly, more lawsuits may be filed. Nevertheless, the Supreme Court decisions are monumental and extremely important for public schools. The Governor announced that \$1 billion will be available for schools in 2012-2013. It is estimated that public schools stand to gain \$15 billion over the next ten years.

E-CAST RECAST FOR 2012-2013

Shortly after norm day, AALA requested and received enrollment data from the District for the 2011-2012 school year. We analyzed the data and found that many schools were well over the E-CAST projected student enrollment and, thus, lacked the appropriate norm-related teacher allocation. It took weeks in some cases for additional teachers to be assigned to these schools. Because principals know their schools' needs best, AALA urged Superintendent John Deasy and Senior Deputy Superintendent Michelle King to give principals a voice in determining enrollment projections for their respective schools. Ultimately, they did agree to institute an appeals process, which is explained in Ms. King's response below.

TO: Dr. Judith Perez, President, AALA **DATE:** December 12, 2011
FROM: Michelle King, Senior Deputy Superintendent
SUBJECT: E-CAST FOR THE 2012-13 SCHOOL YEAR

This correspondence is in response to your inquires regarding E-Cast for the 2012-13 school year. The responses to your questions are noted as follows:

Will the District again include an enrollment factor reduction at the outset of the 2012-13 school year, which translates to a form of midyear renorming of schools?

Yes, the enrollment factor will be applied to secondary schools for the 2012-13 school year. Unlike last year, schools will have the opportunity to appeal the enrollment factors that Budget Services uses to compute their school's staffing and resource allocations.

Will principals have an opportunity to share input and if necessary appeal the District's E-Cast school enrollment projections?

Like last year, the resident and permit enrollment forecasts that are developed and provided to schools by Master Planning and Demographics will be final. There will be a review process for open enrollment and magnet forecasts, as well as the new appeals process for secondary school Budget enrollment factors. Once Norm Day arrives, schools will earn the number of teachers that they are entitled to based on their actual Norm Day enrollment, with the enrollment factor applied. This will be true even if the actual enrollment is higher than the E-Cast forecast was. Principals can work with their LD Superintendent to address critical staffing needs.

Will principals be able to add norm generated staff by the close of the first week of school for 2012-13?

The Superintendent will review school enrollment on a weekly basis and make determinations to allocate staff on a case by case basis. The review process will begin during the second week of school once enrollment data has been captured and verified by budget services to ensure no duplication of student records.

If further clarification is needed, please feel free to contact me.

2012 MEDICAL PLANS AT-A-GLANCE

Health plan changes made during Open Enrollment went into effect January 1, 2012. The Health Benefits Committee was able to maintain 2011 benefit levels for 2012. A new three-year Memorandum of Understanding establishes District contributions for 2012-2014, and possibly 2015.

The following provides a general overview of 2012 medical plans for active members and retirees. Note that not all costs are included.

Medical Plans for Active Members and Retirees under age 65

Plan Name	Phone	Copay	Annual Deductible	Annual Out-of-Pocket Limit
Anthem Blue Cross EPO	800.700.3739	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% after deductible • Routine preventive care – \$25 (deductible waived) • Emergency Room (ER) – \$100/visit (waived, if admitted, then 20%) 	0.5% of gross fiscal earnings (\$100 min., \$800 max./member), Family: 3x member deductible	\$7,500
Anthem Blue Cross Select HMO	800.700.3739	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10/visit • Well Baby Care – no copay to age 7 • Adult physical exam – no copay • Well Woman – \$10 • ER – \$50/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$1,500/member \$3,000 for 2 members, \$4,500 per family
Kaiser HMO	800.464.4000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20/visit • Well Baby Care – no copay to 23 months • ER – \$100/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$1,500/member (\$3,000 per family)
Health Net HMO	800.654.9821	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20/visit (PCP) • \$30/visit (Specialist) • Well Baby Care – no copay to age 2 • ER – \$100/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$1,500/member (\$3,000 per family)

Medical Plans for Retirees, age 65 and over

Plan Name	Phone	Copay	Annual Deductible	Annual Out-of-Pocket Limit
Anthem Blue Cross EPO	800.700.3739	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% /visit¹ • Physical exam – \$25 (deductible waived) • Emergency Room (ER) \$100/visit (waived, if admitted, then 20%) 	\$300/member; Retired family – Maximum of 3 deductibles	\$7,500

¹For Medicare-covered visits/procedures, Medicare pays 80% and Anthem pays 20% provided the member meets the District/Plan's Medicare requirement and is enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B.

2012 MEDICAL PLANS AT-A-GLANCE (Continued)

Medical Plans for Retirees, age 65 and over (Continued)

Plan Name	Phone	Copay	Annual Deductible	Annual Out-of-Pocket Limit
Kaiser Senior Advantage	800.464.4000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5/visit • ER – \$50/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$1,500/member (\$3,000 per family)
Health Net Seniority Plus	800.275.4737	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5/visit • Adult Physical exam – no copay • Well Woman exam – no copay • ER – \$50/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$3,400/member
UnitedHealthCare [®] Group Medicare Advantage HMO (formerly known as Secure Horizons)	800.457.8506	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5/visit (Non-CA – \$10/visit to PCP, \$15/visit to Specialist) • Physical exam – no copay • Well Woman exam – no copay • ER – \$50/visit (waived, if admitted) 	None	\$1,500/member

For additional information, contact your plan provider.

CONFIDENTIAL CRISIS LINE

More than 100 Los Angeles Unified School District employees and their loved ones called a confidential crisis line last year for help with everything from family troubles to job issues. Funded by the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health, the dedicated crisis line is run by staff members and volunteers of Didi Hirsch Mental Health Service's Suicide Prevention Center. The line, which is open to any LAUSD employee or family member who is in crisis, may be reached at 1.877.550.2525.

OMA NEWS

The Organization of Management Administrators (OMA) is conducting a ratification vote on its revised Constitution and Bylaws. Active OMA members must ratify the revised Constitution and Bylaws in order for the two documents to take effect.

OMA members should have received an e-mail the week of December 19, 2011, with a link to the ratification ballot and the revised Constitution and Bylaws for their review. Each member may vote only once. The deadline for ballots to be submitted is Friday, January 13, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.

As a reminder, the next OMA meeting will be January 18, 2012, from 3:00-4:30 p.m., in the Board Room at Beaudry. All meeting dates will be posted on the OMA webpage: www.omalausd.org. We look forward to your participation.

Legal Brief

TIPS FOR FIELD TRIPS

Field trips can provide an enriching educational experience to participating students. The District's Field Trip Handbook contains a number of guidelines for site selection and processing. In addition, there are some legal provisions that site administrators should keep in mind when reviewing requests for field trips.

Field trips are governed by Education Code section 35330 and following. One of the main requirements for a field trip is to ensure that no pupil, and no pupil who is a member of an identifiable group, is prevented from participating because of a lack of sufficient funds (section 35330 (b) (1), (2); see also Board Rule 2379). In other words, if a second grade class plans to take a field trip to a museum, the entire class must be able to go. If admissions tickets are donated and only cover, for example, ten students out of a class of twenty-five, the school may not authorize a field trip unless the entire class of twenty-five students is able to attend. Fundraising is permissible to offset field trip costs. If any students opt out of participating in a field trip, the school must ensure that there is an alternative educational activity at the school site for those students and must inform parents/guardians that non-participation in the field trip will not affect the student's grade.

For students with special needs, these needs must also be accommodated on the field trip. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to, paraprofessional support. Parents cannot be required to attend a field trip in lieu of an aide the student would otherwise have as part of FAPE. Schools should ensure that field trip locations are accessible and should schedule appropriate transportation (for example, buses with lifts) as needed to ensure accessibility for all students. For more information, please contact the Educational Equity Compliance Office or LRE specialist.

With regard to liability, pursuant to Education Code section 35330 (d), the District is immune from liability for injuries sustained by students during a field trip or an excursion. In order to qualify for immunity, the school must ensure that each student's parent/legal guardian turns in a completed field trip slip, which contains the statutory language regarding immunity. The Field Trip Handbook includes the District form.

Events or activities that will take place during noninstructional time may not constitute field trips, as field trips are credited as attendance for apportionments (Education Code section 35330 (c)). For overnight field trips, please use the Overnight Field Trip Checklist available through the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services website (go to www.lausd.net, Offices, click on Office of Risk Management and Insurance Services, click on Ins and Risk Finance and choose Field Trips from the drop down menu) or use the following link to go directly to field trips: <http://fieldtrips.lausd.net>. For nonfield trip special events, please contact the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services for more information about special event requirements.

This LAUSD Legal Brief is for information only and does not constitute legal advice. Please contact the Office of the General Counsel to determine how this information may apply to your school's specific facts and circumstances.

ADMINISTRATORS' WORKLOAD, PART 12

AALA has been running a series of articles written by our members, which describe how administrators' workload continues to grow dramatically while District resources diminish. The following letter was sent to us by a principal expressing frustration with Local District communication about potentially devastating high wind conditions in Los Angeles.

Hi Judy,

This is one of those "What the Hell?" letters. Are principals supposed to be available 24/7 for emergency drills that are set up through late afternoon e-mails without prior notification?

On December 15, 2011, Local District 5 designed an emergency drill to test procedures in the event of high winds that were anticipated to affect schools in canyon areas on December 16, 2011. An e-mail and phone message were sent out from the local district office after the close of the school day (5:30 p.m.). Principals were directed to establish a school command center at 7:00 the following morning, contact the Local District Operations Director, and their CPM.

My phone was being charged in the evening, and I neglected to turn it on until the following morning after I had already arrived at work. Because administrators are 24/7 employees, the expectation was that all Principals would receive the information and respond to the drill requirements. Since I did not receive the information in a timely fashion, I was verbally reprimanded for not having my personal cell phone under my pillow and being available for a non-emergency. Further, I was instructed to set up my personal cell phone to receive District-related e-mails outside regular school hours, presumably, so I won't miss anymore late night emergency drills.

The District does not pay for my phone or my data plan. However, we now are expected to use our personal phone and data plans to make us available at the whim of our local district leaders—not to mention calling Connect-Ed in the case of a real emergency. The result is an increased cost to my personal phone data plan as tons of e-mails are received every day. Just as I am not supposed to use District equipment for personal purposes, the District should not expect me to use my personal equipment for professional purposes. If the District expects me to be available 24/7, then the District should provide me with a District pager and a District smart phone or reimburse the cost of using my personal equipment for professional purposes.

AALA needs to clarify this 24/7 notion. As an administrator with LAUSD, I am already stretched thin. I know that there are times emergencies occur outside of school hours. I have no problem with responding in a **real** emergency like broken pipes, police activities or building alarms set off by butterflies. However, the newest interpretation seems to be that administrators will be available 24/7 for non-emergency drills every time the wind blows.

Anonymity in this matter is appreciated.

CAAASA/ACSA CONFERENCE: Sounding The Alarm

The California Association of African-American Superintendents and Administrators (CAAASA), in affiliation with the Association of California School Administrators, is bringing together stakeholders from across the state including state legislators, superintendents, administrators, state and local school board members, parents, elected officials, teachers, and community members, to examine the challenges facing African-American students in public schools throughout California and our Nation. The CAAASA Annual Conference will be held on February 22-24, 2012, at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel in Sacramento. Please join CAAASA and ACSA to examine best practices and models with proven results in engaging parents and local communities; strategies for culturally and linguistically responsive classrooms; innovative solutions for administrators, teachers and support staff; and creating effective school board policies for addressing an equitable education. For more information, please visit: www.caaasa.org<<http://www.caaasa.org>> or contact Dwight Bonds at 818.321.7779.

LAUSD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT WORKSHOP

Please open the link below to view the flyer about the Investment Workshop being presented by the LAUSD Retirement Investment Advisory Committee.

http://www.aala.us/docs/2012/01/Investment_Workshop_flyer.pdf

RETIREMENT CELEBRATIONS

Name	Date, Time	Location	Contact
Lanny Nelms	Sunday, January 22, 2012 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	DoubleTree Hotel 2800 Cabrillo Marina San Pedro	Alex Alexander 310.547.4425 323.344.8011
Robert Meier	Saturday, January 28, 2012 6:00 p.m.	Castaways Restaurant 1250 East Harvard Road Burbank	Sunshine Sepulveda-Klus 818.778.6895 sunniluvu@yahoo.com

IN MEMORIAM

DENNIS MATSUMOTO – Former Assistant Principal of Marlton School, Alonzo Community Day School, Counselor, Psychological Services and a Specialist with Student Auxiliary Services, School Traffic and Safety. Mr. Matsumoto retired from the District on June 30, 2001, and passed away on March 26, 2011.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Minimum Qualifications: Candidates are responsible for making sure all the District requirements have been met. Do not contact AALA for information regarding positions. Use the listed contact phone number. The following positions are available to view in their entirety by going to http://certificated.lausd.k12.ca.us/admin_vacancies. Select School-Based and Non-School-Based positions and click on any position to view the specific flyer.

PRINCIPAL, EARLY EDUCATION CENTERS

Dolores Street and Wilmington Park Early Education Centers (8) MST 38

Dolores Street, 22309 Catskill Avenue, Carson, CA 90745

Wilmington Park, 1419 E. Young Street, Wilmington, CA 90744

Dolores and Wilmington are A Basis schools. For information and application procedures contact **Dr. Michael Haggood**, ECE Director/Parent Services Administrator, at 310.354.3453. **Filing deadline is Tuesday, January 10, 2012.**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, ADULT COUNSELING SERVICES

North Hollywood-Poly CAS, MST 38, 12431 West Roscoe Blvd., Sun Valley, CA 91352

North Hollywood-Poly is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Alonzo Cienfuegos**, Coordinator, Division of Adult and Career Education, at 213.241.3174. **Filing deadline is 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 13, 2012.**

INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST

Edison Middle School (7) MST 39 (Temp. Adv.), 6500 Hooper Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90001 Edison is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Daryl Narimatsu**, Principal Leader, at 323.242.1314. **Filing deadline is Friday, January 13, 2012.**

SITE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

Esteban Torres High School (5) MST 40 (Temp. Adv.), 4211 Dozier Street, Los Angeles, CA 90063

Esteban Torres is a D Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Jesus Angulo**, Principal Leader, at 323.224.3100. **Filing deadline is Friday, January 13, 2012.**

POSITION	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
Instructional Specialist	Elizabeth Learning Center	323.568.8500	01/06/12

POSITION	DEADLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPECIALIST, STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, MST 38 (Temp. Adv.), E Basis, Student Information Systems Branch, Office of Data and Accountability. Contact Amancio Pardini, Deputy Director, at 213.241.2450. 	EXTENDED TO January 6, 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PERSONNEL FIELD SPECIALIST, MST 38 (Temp. Adv.), A Basis, Certificated Assignments and Support Services. Contact Marjorie Josaphat, Director, at 213.241.4163. 	5:00 p.m. Fri., January 13, 2012