

Office of the Independent Monitor

Modified Consent Decree
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September 7, 2015

Deneen Evans Cox
Associate General Counsel 1
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 So. Beaudry Avenue, 20th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017

Re: Complete Transition Plans

Dear Ms. Evans Cox:

Thank you for your letter dated September 3, 2015. I'm sorry it took several meetings and discussions with Mr. Arrington and Mr. Torres for you to ascertain their explanation what had occurred here. Thank you for explaining how documents provided to the OIM on August 22 and August 24 contained collapsed information. As you note, at no time was this explained during the discussions at 1st Street Elementary on August 31. As a result of this information not being available and no explanation provided as to how this information was rendered unavailable, the site visits planned for the two days had to be canceled. At any rate, we now know the District process for collapsing the information when provided to us.

An additional issue needs clarification. These documents continue to be referred to in your letter as site transition plans. At the same time, they are described as a work in progress. Notwithstanding choice of terms, the documents provided lack the information which is necessary for them to be considered transition plans. As you note, they will not be complete until the Superintendent makes his decisions and funds are allocated. Second, they do not have the information that you described in the District-Wide Transition Plan update, dated August 14, 2015.

Therefore, please provide the completed Site Transition plans, consistent with your own descriptions and the law, when they are completed. Per your description, completion means that the priorities are established as a result of the Superintendent's actions and the allocation of funds.

Also, in the future, if the District uses a software application to collapse columns for any data in documents submitted to us, please notify us at the time of submission. Notwithstanding your concern, I am reiterating that we want the completed transition plans with no column collapse by September 14. This should not cause any data burden as you describe them as residing in a single database that already exists. Given this, this file should include all barriers identified for removal, as well as all items identified not for removal, priority codes and schedules for removal.

Finally, please understand that my comments are not made to be adversarial. They are, rather an expression of complete frustration with the District's inability to provide a single transition plan that might yield a process compliant with the requirements of the 25-year-old Americans with Disabilities Act. More specifically, on May 12, 2014, during my first visit as the Independent Monitor, I was assured, unequivocally, that after two years of doing nothing the facilities division was on its way to develop compliant transition plans. That was some 15 months ago. Pending the Superintendent's decisions, there is still no completed transition plans. Additionally, any betterments pursuant to a

completed transition plan are not scheduled by the District until the end of the calendar year 2016. This is some two and half years from the assurance I received. This pace is per se unacceptable but unfortunately not surprising. So, let's see if we can pick up the pace by committing to absolute transparency and the necessary resources to get the job done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rostetter".

David Rostetter, Ed.D.
Independent Monitor

c: Superintendent Ramon Cortines
Mark Hovatter
Michael Torres
Kenneth Arrington