

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
INTERIM CITY CLERK

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

Office of the
CITY CLERK

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January 8, 2014

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Los Angeles
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Members:

RE: Special Election for Los Angeles Unified School District 1

The passing of Ms. Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte on December 5, 2013, has created a vacancy in the office of Member of the Board of Education - District 1 of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The LAUSD Board of Education met on January 7, 2014 and adopted a resolution, in accordance with City Charter Section 410(b), requesting a Special Election to be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 in consolidation with the County's State Primary Election, and a Special Runoff Election to be held, if necessary, on August 12, 2014 to fill the vacancy in the office of Member of the Board of Education - District 1. As required by Charter Section 410(b), LAUSD will reimburse the City of Los Angeles for all costs associated with conducting the special elections.

In establishing the Special Election and Special Runoff Election dates, the LAUSD Board of Education cited the need to provide the First District of the LAUSD with elected representation as soon as possible and to take advantage of the ability to consolidate the Special Election with the regularly scheduled State Primary Election on June 3, 2014. Selecting June 3, 2014 as the Special Election date requires the City Clerk to immediately initiate election preparation activities to ensure that candidates and voters are provided the necessary information to fully participate in the election process and that all other related support activities are completed for the election and possible runoff

(e.g. recruitment of poll workers and polling places, preparing and issuing the Official Sample Ballot, processing vote by mail applications, etc.).

Accordingly, the City Clerk recommends that the City Council adopt the Special Election Ordinance prepared and submitted by the City Attorney. In addition to setting the election dates, the Special Election Ordinance establishes that the candidate filing period start on February 10, 2014, with nominating petitions due no later than March 7, 2014. This filing and nomination period will allow the City Clerk to transmit candidate names to the County Registrar-Recorder in time for the June 3, 2014 election and prepare and mail the Official Sample Ballots to LAUSD District 1 voters in a timely manner. It should also be noted that per the City Charter, candidates must be residents of LAUSD - District 1 at least 30 days prior to the first day to file for office (in this case, candidates would have to residents no later than January 11, 2014).

The City Clerk has provided the LAUSD Board of Education with cost estimates for the special elections: \$973,000 for the Consolidated June 3, 2014 Special Election, and if necessary, \$1,552,800 for the Special Runoff Election on August 12, 2014, for a combined total of \$2,525,800. The June 3, 2014 Consolidated Special Election costs reflect County pro-rated costs to conduct the election and City costs associated with translation, printing and mailing of the Official Sample Ballot and other costs related to candidate filing and petition processing. These costs are lower due to the advantages of sharing election costs with all other jurisdictions participating in the State Primary Election. The Special Runoff Election costs, if necessary, are higher due to the stand alone nature of this election. In the event of a runoff, the City will need to conduct poll worker and polling place recruitment, order supplies, and secure services needed to conduct a special runoff election in addition to translation, printing and mailing costs.

Recommendations:

Pursuant to the action taken by the Board of Education and the resulting request submitted to the Council, it is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:


1. ADOPT the Special Election Ordinance prepared and submitted by the City Attorney that calls and orders a Special Election to be held on June 3, 2014, consolidated with the State Primary Election of the same date, and a Special Runoff Election to be held, if necessary, on August 12, 2014, to fill the vacancy in the office of Member of the Board of Education - District 1.
2. ADOPT the attached Resolution requesting that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approve the consolidation of the June 3, 2014 Special Election with the State Primary Election to be held on the same date, and that Board of Supervisors direct the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder to take all necessary actions to conduct the consolidated election on behalf of the City of Los Angeles.

3. AUTHORIZE and direct all City departments to provide appropriate assistance and cooperation, including the use of facilities, to the City Clerk in conducting the Special Election(s) called and ordered by the City Council to fill the vacancy in the office of Member of the Board of Education - District 1.
4. DIRECT the CAO to identify funds required to front the costs associated with the conduct of the Special LAUSD Special Elections and include instructions for the transfer of appropriate funds to the City Clerk in the next Financial Status Report to be submitted to Council in February, subject to the full reimbursement by LAUSD.
5. APPROVE the Agreement with the LAUSD Board of Education for the calling and conducting of a Special Election, consolidated with the State Primary Election, and Special Runoff Election, for purposes of filling the vacancy on the Board of Education, consistent with the terms of the existing contract that requires LAUSD to reimburse the City for all costs incurred in conducting the special election or elections, and authorize the City Clerk to take all necessary steps to effectuate that Agreement and reimbursement.
6. REQUEST the Managed Hiring Committee to consider an unfreeze for all regular and as-needed Election and System related positions for the conduct of the Special Elections.

Fiscal Impact

Calling, ordering and conducting the Special Election and the Special Runoff Election, if necessary, to fill the vacancy in the office of Member of the Board of Education - District 1 will have no impact on the General Fund as all costs will be reimbursed by the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Sincerely,



Holly L. Wolcott
Interim City Clerk

Attachments

HLW:amm
EXE-001-014

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District (Board of Education) has requested and the Council of the City of Los Angeles (City Council) has called, a Special Election to be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014, for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the First District of the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District for the portion of the unexpired term remaining through June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, in the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast at the Special Election, the Board of Education has requested and the City Council has called, a Special Runoff Election to be held on August 12, 2014, for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the First District of the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District for the portion of the unexpired term remaining through June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education the City Council intend and desire to consolidate the Special Election with the State Primary Election already scheduled to be held on June 3, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the City Council respectfully requests the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles (Board of Supervisors) to consolidate the Special Election to be held on June 3, 2014, for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the First District of the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District for the portion of the unexpired term remaining through June 30, 2015, with the State Primary Election already scheduled to be held on that same date, June 3, 2014.

Sec. 2. That the City Council respectfully requests the Board of Supervisors to fix the costs to be paid by the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Unified School District for conducting the Special Election, and that the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Unified School District, by and through their agreement, will reimburse the County of Los Angeles for the costs incurred in conducting the Special Election.

Sec. 3. That the City Council respectfully requests the Board of Supervisors to issue instructions to the County Registrar-Recorder to take any and all steps necessary on the part of the County of Los Angeles to hold the Special Election.

Sec. 4. That the County of Los Angeles is authorized to canvass the returns of the Special Election and report those results to the City of Los Angeles.

Sec 5. That the City Clerk be instructed to cooperate with the County Registrar-Recorder to perform or cause to be performed such functions preliminarily to the conduct of the Special Election as may be agreed upon with the County Registrar-Recorder.

Sec. 6. That the City Attorney and the City Clerk be directed to take any and all steps necessary on the part of the City of Los Angeles to hold the consolidated Special Election.

Sec. 7. That the City Clerk shall file a duly certified copy of this resolution forthwith with the Board of Supervisors and provide a copy of the resolution to the County Registrar-Recorder.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting held on _____.

HOLLY WOLCOTT, Interim City Clerk

By _____ Deputy

Board of Education City of Los Angeles

**P.O. BOX 3307, LOS ANGELES, CA 90051
TELEPHONE (213) 241-7002**

BOARD SECRETARIAT

JEFFERSON CRAIN
Executive Officer of the Board

Members of the Board
DR. RICHARD VLADOVIC, President

**MONICA GARCIA
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STEVEN ZIMMER
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DR. JOHN DEASY
Superintendent of Schools

January 8, 2014

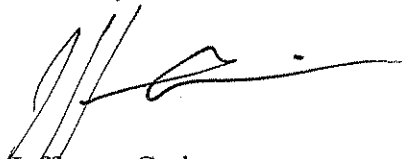
Hon. Herb Wesson, President
Los Angeles City Council
c/o Holly Wolcott, Interim City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear President Wesson:

On January 7, 2014, the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles took action to fill the vacancy for Board District 1 requesting the City of Los Angeles schedule an election consolidated with the already scheduled June 3, 2014 election, and a runoff election, if necessary, on the City Clerk suggested date of August 12, 2014.

Pursuant to City Charter section 410 (b), the Board of Education agrees to pay the cost of such elections utilizing the existing agreement between the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Unified School District for apportioning the costs of an election.

Sincerely,



Jefferson Crain
Executive Officer of the Board

C: Board of Education Members
Superintendent John Deasy
General Counsel David Holmquist
Inspector General Ken Bramlett