

Los Angeles Unified School District

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

333 S. Beaudry Ave., 1st floor

Los Angeles, CA 90017

Phone: (213) 241-6766

FAX: (213) 241-8952

www.lausd.net



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 14, 2006

#06/07-163

LAUSD PASSES MODEL POLICY FOR PROMOTING CONTRACTING INTEGRITY

Los Angeles – The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education voted today to approve a model Contractor’s Code of Conduct, which incorporates national best practices to improve the ethical framework of government contracting at LAUSD.

“Our Board has a long-standing commitment to ensuring that everyone we do business with upholds high standards of ethics, no matter what goods or services they are providing. Our students and the public deserve no less than that,” said Board President Marlene Canter.

LAUSD’s revised Code leverages the work of other leading organizations including the Defense Industry Initiative, the Institute of Supply Management and the Electronics Industry Code of Conduct Implementation Group. The revised policy will be supported by improved contractor training, including a contractor’s ethics guide and a web-based training video to assist contractors in developing a more comprehensive understanding of the District’s ethics standards.

“The research shows that the effectiveness of any code depends on how well it is communicated. With roughly \$2 billion of contracting at stake in a given year, LAUSD will do all that we can to make our standards stick, so that we can get the best results for our students,” said Board Member David Tokofsky.

“LAUSD’s new Contractor’s Code is a model for how government agencies should set ethical standards for their suppliers and service providers,” said Scott Amey, General Counsel for the Project on Governmental Oversight (POGO), a leading think tank on responsible government contracting. “LAUSD has created a clear and concise Contractors Code that incorporates conflicts of interest, ethics, revolving door, disclosure, contractor accountability, and enforcement provisions into one policy.”

(more)

Model Policy Passed

#06/07-163

2-2-2-2-2

“LAUSD’s Code is a giant step forward in keeping the government and its contractors accountable and it will improve public confidence in government spending,” added Amey.

LAUSD’s first Contractor’s Code was passed in November 2002. For more information about LAUSD’s new Contracting Integrity Program, contact the Ethics Office at 213-241-3330 or www.lausd.net/ethics.

###