



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Chair: Pete Thottam**  
**(Tele: 310.497.7255; [peter.thottam@venicenc.org](mailto:peter.thottam@venicenc.org))**

**Location: Westminster School Elementary Auditorium**  
**1010 Abbot Kinney Boulevard; Venice, CA, 90291**

**Date: Saturday, March 12, 2011; Time: 2 - 5 pm**

**(Note: We are expecting a large number of attendees. Please arrive on time! In addition to Public Comments, Board of Ed District 4 representative, Steve Zimmer, will be present and will speak to the Prop 39 & Charter School issues affecting the Venice & Mar Vista family of schools. We will also have representatives from UTLA and Green Dot speaking on behalf of both organizations.)**

### **UPDATED AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (2 pm sharp! – *Please Arrive On Time*)
2. Approval of Agenda & Welcome from VNC Education Chair, Pete Thottam.
3. **COMMUNITY FORUM DISCUSSION RE PROP 39 & CHARTER SCHOOLS**: The March 12th meeting's focus will be gathering public comments on Prop. 39's impact (current and pending) from Venice stakeholders. Please note that no actual vote will be taken at the meeting. This primarily will be an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss facts and to share information about Prop. 39's local impact.

The meeting is being held to obtain community feedback and for the VNC board to gauge the range of perspectives existing on area Co-location & Set-Asides, particularly for parents & teachers of school children enrolled at Westminster Elementary and Walgrove Elementary. We will discuss the complex factors & events since 2000's voter passage of Prop. 39 as a constitutional amendment. We will also talk about the potential negative effects of Prop. 39's local implementation, about recent API & enrollment trends at our local schools (positive & negative), about the two Prop. 39 lawsuits that LAUSD lost and the apparent 'gag rules' that have informally been adopted by the District, LAUSD's funding crisis and the loss of federal stimulus funds after this year, & class underutilization concerns at LAUSD. Board member Steve Zimmer will be present as will be representatives from UTLA & Green Dot. Gary Walker, a reporter from the Argonaut, will be there to cover the discussion. We expect a large crowd. Please arrive on time.

Also for discussion (as time permits): (A). Steve Zimmer will present to the VNC on March 15th 2011 (location: Westminster Elementary School Auditorium near Abbot Kinney; 7 pm); (B). Michelle Rhee / Ex-Mayor Riordan / UTLA} VNC Fall Town Hall on Charter Schools; (C). Mark Twain "World Language Magnet" & Broadway/City Terrace dual language immersion programs (Mandarin/Spanish); (D). Nutritional programs / DOLE partnership; (E). LAUSD's new corporatization 'budget subsidy' initiatives.

4. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the above Agenda.
5. Adjourn and Set Date for Next Meeting (tentative).