<center>LOS ANGELES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS</center>

TO: New Employees

FROM: Jack P. Crowther, Superintendent

SUBJECT: BOARD RULE 1907 REQUIRING ANSWERING OF LOYALTY QUESTIONS

REASONS FOR BOARD RULE 1907

Article XX, Section 19 of the California Constitution, provides that no person who "advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States or the State by force or violence or other unlawful means or who advocates the support of a foreign government against the United States in the event of hostilities" shall hold any office or employment with any school district of this state.

The California Legislature in the Dilworth Act (Chapter 1632, Statutes of 1953; as amended by Chapter 1610, Statutes of 1955; as amended by Chapter 2, Statutes of 1959 and contained in 1959 Education Code) has found that the Communist Party advocates the overthrow of the state and federal governments by unlawful means. In that statute the legislature prohibits a public school district from employing or retaining in employment any person who is knowingly a member of the Communist Party (Sections 12951, 12952, 12957, and 12958, Education Code).

The Congress of the United States has outlawed the Communist Party as one which advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by unlawful means. (Communist Control Act of 1954, P. L. 637, 83d Congress, 2d Session.) This federal legislation is designed to provide against the probable reorganization of the Communist Party in the United States under a new name, and therefore outlaws any successor to the Communist Party, regardless of its name.

The policy determined by the people of California in their Constitution, by the Legislature of California, and by the Congress of the United States, is that the public school district employees who are knowingly members of the Communist Party, or any successor thereto regardless of its name, shall be dismissed and that public school district employees shall not advocate the support of a foreign government against the United States in the event of hostilities.

The Board of Education has the legal responsibility and duty to carry out these provisions of law in each of the Los Angeles City School Districts.

Rule 1907, adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting of December 2, 1954, provides that each new employee and each present employee (certificated, classified, or unclassified) shall be required to answer once in writing and under oath or affirmation three questions pertaining to his knowing membership in the Communist Party or any successor thereof and as to his advocacy of the support of a foreign power against the United States in the event of hostilities.

BOARD RULE 1907

1907. Loyalty Questions — To Be Answered by All Employees. All new employees, and all present employees (certificated, classified, or unclassified) shall be required to answer once in writing and under oath or affirmation the following questions. In the case of intermittent employment, such oath or affirmation shall be effective for all successive periods of employment which commence within one calendar year from the date of such subscription. Employees who have already answered these questions under oath and who are recommended for supplemental and multiple assignments will not be required to answer the questions. Each question shall be answered "yes" or "no." The three questions to be answered are:

1. Are you knowingly a member of the Communist Party or of any organization which to your knowledge is a successor of such party, regardless of its name?

2. Do you now advocate the support of a foreign government against the United States in the event of hostilities?

3. Will you engage in any of the activities inquired of in the above two questions, at any time during your employment with any Los Angeles City School District?

In the event any question is answered in the affirmative, is unanswered, or is answered other than "no," the applicant for employment shall not be employed and the existing employee shall be suspended and dismissed in the manner provided by law.