



## **CHRONOLOGY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICT TAKEOVERS CORRECTIONS ADDENDUM**

After the release of this report in 11/2003, YSP was made aware of a number of factual errors and omissions. The report will be revised and re-released in the near future. YSP apologizes for any factual errors and thanks Oakland Tribune education reporter, **Alex Katz**, for his helpful corrections.

- While the original justification for the state takeover was an estimated \$82 million debt, since then the debt has been reassessed as \$57 million. Currently the 2004 budget has \$21 million deficit.<sup>1</sup>
- page 8. The dropout rate under Chaconas was reduced, not cut in half.
- page 9. School Services, Inc. gave its assessment of OUSD
- page 10. Vivian Lura was offered and accepted a teaching position within OUSD.
- page 10. While the contract for the Stated Appointed Administrator is typically 3 years, SB 39 reads "The administrator shall serve under the direction and supervision of the Superintendent of Public Instruction until terminated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction at his or her discretion." The elected Board of Education will not regain authority unless the State Administrator, Superintendent of Public Instruction and FCMAT all concur that progress in the recovery plan is achieved.<sup>2</sup>
- page 14. Dr. Randolph Ward is now registered "Decline to State" with the Registrar of Voters and claims to be a Democrat. After the *Dallas Morning News* originally broke the controversial news of Dr. Ward's political affiliation, with the ultra-right wing American Independent Party in 2003, he quickly changed his voter affiliation. According to a news column in the Oakland tribune, Dr. Ward claimed to be ignorant of the party's political program, "I signed up 'independent . . . Who the hell knows what that means?" Presumably someone who holds two masters degrees and a doctorate in education has no clue.<sup>3</sup>
- page 17. Tim White was hired by Chaconas as an Assistant Superintendent in 2001 He previously had worked with Dr. Ward in Compton and Long Beach for 15 years.<sup>4</sup>
- page 17. Dr. Ward hires Dr. Mary Ann Burke as the Executive Director of Student, Family, & Community Services. Dr. Burke is his colleague from the USC Rossier School of Education. She also co-authored a book with Ward, *Improving Achievements in Low-Performing Schools* due out this spring.

<sup>1</sup> Robert Gammon, "School spending challenged; Board president questions closings as state administrator plans to spend \$21 million Oakland doesn't have in budget" *Oakland Tribune* 1/5/2004

<http://www.oaklandtribune.com/Stories/0,1413,82~1865~1871508,00.html>

<sup>2</sup> [http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb\\_0001-0050/sb\\_39\\_bill\\_20030602\\_chaptered.html](http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb_0001-0050/sb_39_bill_20030602_chaptered.html)

<sup>3</sup> "Randolph Ward fell into the wrong crowd?" Between the lines *Oakland Tribune* 1/15/2003

<sup>4</sup> Thomas C. Fleming "Plans for the future of education" *The Sun Reporter* 3/22/2001