



Los Angeles Unified School District **2026 ADVOCACY AGENDA**

ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

The Los Angeles Unified School District's (Los Angeles Unified) legislative and funding priorities call for policies that make schools safe, welcoming, and equitable places for learning. The 2026 Advocacy Agenda is aligned with Los Angeles Unified's 2022-26 Strategic Plan and the District's Advocacy Guiding Principles and Priorities. In addition to the issues identified below, the Office of Governmental Relations supports and advocates for legislative proposals and initiatives that are consistent with the Strategic Plan and will pursue necessary policies and funding in 2026 as new issues arise at the local, state and federal level.

LOCAL

- Strengthen intergovernmental collaboration to expand the District's enrollment campaign efforts and support school-aged children who are not enrolled or attending school.
- Strengthen partnerships with Los Angeles County to provide consistent services for children and communities in high-need areas impacted by immigration enforcement, housing insecurity and other challenges.
- Strengthen communication and coordination around existing resources and pursue strategies that support a positive school climate and safe routes to and from schools, including through the continuation of crossing guard services and investments in safer streets.
- Pursue the commitments in the education compacts and open five or more community school parks for access after school hours.

STATE

Sponsored Legislation

- Extend flexibility within the merit system for Los Angeles Unified to hire and retain specified employees with specialized skills.
- Clarify the permitted responsibilities of trained, qualified staff to serve students with respiratory needs.
- Remove sunset on Job Order Contracting statute.
- Streamline or clarify existing state procurement laws affecting school facilities construction.
- Change requirements and remove barriers to significantly lower the cost for shade structure installation.

State Budget Priorities

- Protect and fully fund the Proposition 98 guarantee.
- Advocate for an adequate cost of living adjustment (COLA) to meet ongoing student needs and fiscal obligations.
- Protect the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) by maintaining flexibility and local control through avoidance of additional categorical programs, and engage in conversations about the ways that LCFF can be strengthened, including giving consideration to a regional-based COLA.
- Respond to impacts due to immigration enforcement.
- Provide a special allocation for all impacted schools to address fire-related cost pressures.
- Maximize the availability of one-time discretionary funds for locally-determined funding priorities.
- Increase funding to adequately reimburse school districts for costs associated with special education services.
- Secure ongoing, dedicated state funding for Community Schools, including protecting and expanding equity-based funding formulas and aligning education, health, and social service investments to enable braided funding models that sustainably support coordination staff, whole-child services, and cross-agency partnerships in high-need communities.

FEDERAL

- Oppose the proposed elimination and consolidation of federal education programs and funding.
- Work with partners to protect and support newcomers, immigrant students, staff and families, including support for permanent legal protections and a pathway to citizenship for undocumented youth.
- Continue to work with national partners and build support for the bipartisan IDEA Full Funding Act.
- Advocate for the codification of changes to the E-Rate program that would allow funds to be used to strengthen IT security infrastructure and lend hotspots to students for off-campus use.
- Advocate for protecting funding and increasing spending for special education, Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV in the annual FY 2026 and FY 2027 spending bills.
- Advocate for the maximum possible disaster reimbursement from FEMA for the January Palisades wildfire.
- Change requirements and remove barriers to significantly lower the cost for shade structure installation.

<https://www.lausd.org/ogr>

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