



Los Angeles Unified School District

2024 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 2024 Advocacy Agenda is aligned to 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 Government Relations supports and advocates for legislative proposals and initiatives that are consistent with the Strategic Plan and will pursue necessary policies and funding in 2024 as new issues arise.

LOCAL

The Office of Government Relations, in collaboration with other District departments, will explore opportunities for partnerships with local municipalities serving District schools to address the following:

- Strengthen intergovernmental collaboration to expand the District's enrollment campaign efforts and support school-aged children who are not enrolled or attending school, including disadvantaged populations such as homeless, foster and newcomer students.
- Support efforts to combat the synthetic opioid crisis.
- Increase low- to no-cost transportation opportunities for students through a continued partnership with LA Metro's GoPass Fareless Pass and other local transit agencies.
- Increase crossing guard funding and support outreach efforts to ensure the timely hiring of these positions.
- Strengthen partnership with Los Angeles County to unify mental health funding and staffing to provide consistent services for schools and communities in high-need areas.
- Increase resources to support a positive school climate and safe routes to and from schools.
- Support efforts aimed at the relocation or closure of the Atlas facility site in Watts, and explore funding opportunities for site clean-up.
- Expand joint-use facilities agreements and programming for students through continued partnerships with regional Recreation and Parks departments.
- Establish municipal education compacts with local governments.

STATE

The Office of Government Relations will pursue the following statewide legislation and budget priorities:

Sponsored Legislation

- Make Kindergarten a mandatory grade level to close opportunity gaps amongst the youngest learners.
- Base funding for local education agencies on total student enrollment, rather than average daily attendance.
- Authorize local educational agencies to permit students to carry naloxone on campus with their parent or guardian's permission.

- Codify flexibilities for students attending schools with alternative “block” schedules to meet the physical education (PE) minute requirements.
- Extend authorization to operate single gender schools at Los Angeles Unified.
- Pursue permanent authorization for the Office of the Inspector General, which supports the District’s operational effectiveness.
- Pursue inflationary adjustments to statutory cost limits for small dollar school construction and maintenance projects.

State Budget Priorities

- Advocate for increased ongoing investments through the Local Control Funding Formula.
- Support maximum flexibility of new one-time or ongoing Proposition 98 funding.
- Continue to advocate for flexibilities in the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program to better serve all students.
- Advocate for flexibility and relief from penalties during universal transitional kindergarten expansion.
- Support investments in school facilities construction, modernization, and greening projects.
- Maintain and expand funding for special education services.
- Pursue other technical clarifications and flexibilities as necessary.

FEDERAL

The Office of Government Relations will continue to advocate for the following issues at the federal level:

- Additional funding to increase access to high-quality preschool programs for all 3- and 4-year olds, including support for increased reimbursement rates, teacher preparation programs, and facilities renovations.
- Passage of the bipartisan IDEA Full Funding Act to increase spending for special education to the full 40 percent financial commitment.
- Increase connectivity funding to provide students and teachers access to devices and internet services for off-campus use and support changes to the E-Rate program to use funds to strengthen IT security infrastructure.
- Increase appropriations for Title I, Title II, Title III, English Language Acquisition Grants, Title IV, Magnet Schools Assistance grants and other education funding programs.
- Funding to address substance abuse and recovery support services for students.
- Protection and support of immigrant students and families, including support for permanent legal protections and a pathway to citizenship for undocumented youth.
- Flexibilities for school nutrition programs to enable continued free, nutritious meals for all children.
- Adoption of a school construction bill to increase financial support for school facilities and greening projects.
- Funding to address educator shortages, improve training and supports for school staff, and increased educator diversity.
- Funding to meet the mental health needs of our students, school staff, and teachers by increasing the number of school-based counselors, psychologists, social workers, and other health professionals.