

SUBJECT: Community-Based Safety Analysis and Expansion (Res-023-22/23)

PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 06-13-23

MOTION:

RESOLUTION: X

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District has discussed 49 resolutions about school safety since May 1990, including thirteen resolutions in the last ten years, and the District currently has no less than 27 active safe passage programs in place, working with community-based organizations;

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Whereas, The Board adopted the School Climate Bill of Rights in 2013, which established people-centered rather than punishment-centered school culture and climate;

Whereas, the Board amended the 2021-2022 Budget to allocate \$15 million in resources for community-based safety pilots, including safe passage programs, peace building initiatives, and community intervention programs, and much of the funding from 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years remains unspent;

Whereas, The May 2023 resource, “Every School Safe: A Blueprint for Safety” states “Los Angeles Unified is committed to providing every student, preschool through adult, and all members of our District and school communities with a safe, healthy, welcoming and respectful learning and working environment,” and the resource encompasses the concerted efforts of District administrators, staff and community partners to ensure the environmental, physical, psychological, and social-emotional safety and well-being of our students and employees;

Whereas, Los Angeles County has committed to transitioning the County’s youth justice system to a Care First, Jails Last approach through efforts like the Youth Justice Reimagine initiative and the creation of Department of Youth Development (DYD) to coordinate and build capacity for community-based safety and care services for young people to reduce criminalization and contact with law enforcement systems; and

Whereas, The District is currently focused on expanding partnerships and community building with Los Angeles County-based community based organizations on furthering support in student safety in dropout prevention, safe passages, substance abuse prevention, safety collaboratives, gang prevention; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District commits to a holistic vision of school safety – including physical, emotional and intellectual safety – that (1) focuses on creating safe, welcoming, culturally- and racially-responsive school climates, (2) centers the experiences and voices of students, and (3) responds to on-campus incidents in constructive, non-criminalizing ways;

Resolved further, That the Los Angeles Unified School District’s Independent Analysis Unit, in partnership with appropriate District departments and divisions, will engage collaboratively with local City, County and State government officials and departments to conduct a landscape analysis that reviews which organizations are providing services, what they are providing and data previously compiled regarding community-based safety approaches including but not limited to.

- Convening community partners including but not limited to representatives from the Mayor's office, Black Women for Wellness, Jenesse Center, Mothers In Action, Community Build, the BSAP Steering Committee and School Culture, Climate, and Safety Task Force, with the Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development, as well as any other relevant entities within the City and County of Los Angeles on ways to leverage the Youth Justice Reimagined initiative, the Care First Community Investment, and other youth development, community-based safety and/or alternatives to incarceration dollars available

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- Identify a proven partner, with advanced understanding of locally and nationally recognized community based public safety strategies to support a landscape analysis of organizations doing community-based safety work in LA City and County, and assess the current implementation of the existing 27 safe passage partnerships to develop recommendations and support future implementation of improved practices to connect community-based organizations to schools
- Learn about and leverage pilot programs that focus on community-based responses to district, community and school safety needs

Resolved further, That the District will identify and address internal barriers to expanding and implementing community-based safety partnerships, by applying strategies that include but are not limited to:

- A supportive process, to help organizations learn how to be successful with LA Unified processes, including developing a general guide that includes information, as allowable by law, related to potential fiscal sponsorship or collaboration and providing examples to meet criteria when appropriate;
- Facilitating an “Industry Forum” with potential partners and thought leaders to understand LA Unified’s vision of school safety and how to best collaborate with each other including identifying solutions to meeting minimum vendor qualifications);
- Designate staff leads dedicated to helping organizations navigate the procurement process; and, be it finally

Resolved, That building on the (1) Board vision for school safety and District Blueprint for Safety, (2) landscape analysis, and (3) identified and addressed internal barriers, the District will develop and publicly present to the Board a progress report by January 2024 to strengthen community-based safety approaches and resources as a primary mean of cultivating and maintaining positive school climates and keeping school communities safe even in emergency situations. A final comprehensive report, in coordination with the Superintendent's Strategic Plan, should be completed, publicly posted online, and presented to the board by May 2024.

- Such plan may refine safety and wellness policies, protocols, practices, and conduct an assessment of existing staffing levels/positions and determine whether additional or different functions are needed, including who responds to what types of safety concerns and how
- Such plan shall be developed with participation from students, parents, school communities, families, community partners, the Board, and the School Culture, Climate, and Safety Task Force, and/or other relevant groups for feedback and thought partnership

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	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NOES</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Dr. McKenna	X			
Dr. Rivas	X			
Mr. Schmerelson	X			
Mr. Melvoin	X			
Ms. Gonez	X			
Ms. Ortiz Franklin	X			
Ms. Goldberg	X			
TOTAL	7			

Mr. Shin	X			
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ACTION: ADOPTED AS AMENDED