

**Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement
DRAFT 3/7/2023**

Selected Parent Rights

Below is a listing of selected rights of parents of students in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

[Basic Parent Rights under California Education Code, section 51100–51102](#)

Parents and guardians have “the right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive and respectful partners in the education of their children within the public schools, to be informed by the school, and to participate in the education of their children.” (See Ed. Code, § 51101.)

Here are ways that parents and guardians can be informed and participate:

- **Visiting a school for classroom observation**
 - **Within a reasonable time after making the request, parents and guardians can observe their child's current classroom(s) or observe for the purpose of selecting the school in which a child will be enrolled.**
- **Visiting a school campus or District facility for reasons other than a classroom observation**
 - **The Los Angeles Unified School District provides staff and families guidance regarding visiting a school campus or District facility. For example, if a school or District event is open to the public, members of the public may attend. For school activities/events that are open to the school community, your school will provide additional information about participation, which may be limited by space. Please click on the link for more information: <https://achieve.lausd.net/visitorinfo> (If you would like to view it in Spanish, please select Spanish on the bottom of the page.)**
- **Volunteering**
 - **Parents and guardians may volunteer for the improvement of school facilities and school programs, under supervision of school employees and with the approval of the teacher (if volunteering in the classroom) and**

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement
DRAFT 3/7/2023

principal. The principal determines the need for volunteer services at each school site.

- The Los Angeles Unified School District has guidelines and tools to support families and schools for virtual and on-campus volunteers. Please click on the link: <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/9647> to access materials in English and Spanish.

- **Meeting with School Staff**

- Within a reasonable time of their request, parents and guardians can meet with their child's teacher(s) and the principal of the school.

- **Participating in councils and committees**

- In accordance with any rules and regulations governing membership, parents and guardians can participate as members on parent committees or site-based management leadership teams. In order to facilitate parental participation, school site councils are encouraged to schedule a biannual open forum for the purpose of informing parents about current school issues and activities and answering parents' questions. The meetings should be scheduled on weekends, and prior notice should be provided to parents. All parents are allowed to attend, even if they are not serving on the council.
- Formed at Title I schools, School Site Councils are teams comprised of the school principal, teachers, students, other staff and parents and/or community members. The English Learner Advisory Committee is comprised of parents of English Learner students.
- The Los Angeles Unified School District has guidelines and tools to support families and schools regarding the English Learner Advisory Committee and School Site Council. Please click on the link: <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/9648> to access materials in English and Spanish.

- **Receive information**

- Parents and guardians can receive the following information: timely notification when the child is absent from school without permission;

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement
DRAFT 3/7/2023

results of a child's performance on standardized and statewide tests; information on the performance of the school that the child attends on standardized state tests; child's progress in school and who to contact if problems arise with the child; expectations regarding academic performance standards or skills; school rules, including those related to discipline, attendance, dress codes, and visiting procedures; any psychological testing the school does involving the child and to deny permission; notification early in the school year as practicable if the child is at risk of retention or of the right to consult with school personnel responsible for these decisions related to retention.

- Parents and guardians also have the ability to request a particular school for the child and receive a response from the school district. While parents and guardians can make this request, it does not obligate the district to grant the request (See [LAUSD Policy Bulletin 5341.3](#)).
- **Have access to students' records**
 - Federal and state laws allow parents to request pupil records (unless a court order restricts the request), and the school provides the requested pupil records within five business days of the request (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Education Code sections 49069.7, 56504).s State and federal laws and regulations give parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when the student reaches the age of 18, unless a student is conserved, or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."
 - Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Under certain circumstances, schools may charge a fee for copies.
 - Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records that they believe to be inaccurate, misleading, unsubstantiated, conclusory, not based on personal observation, or in violation of the privacy

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement
DRAFT 3/7/2023

or other rights of the student. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to appeal the decision. After the board of education hears the appeal, if the board does not grant the appeal, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information. (Ed. Code, § 49070.)

- **Parents of English Learners (Ed. Code, § 51101.1)**
 - A parent or guardian's lack of English fluency does not preclude a parent or guardian from exercising parent rights. LAUSD takes reasonable steps to ensure that all parents and guardians of pupils who speak a language other than English are properly notified in English and in their home language, pursuant to [Section 48985](#) (15% or more of students speak the language), of the rights and opportunities available to them. A school with a substantial number of pupils with a home language other than English is encouraged to establish parent centers with personnel who can communicate with the parents and guardians of these children to encourage understanding of and participation in the educational programs.
 - Parents and guardians of English learners are entitled to participate in the education of their children in the following ways:
 - To receive, pursuant to [paragraph \(5\) of subdivision \(a\) of Section 51101](#), the results of their child's performance on standardized tests, including the English language development test.
 - To be given any required written notification, under any applicable law, in English and the pupil's home language pursuant to [Section 48985](#).
 - To participate in committees and councils in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.
 - To support their children's advancement toward literacy. School personnel shall encourage parents and guardians of English learners to support their child's progress toward literacy both in English and, to the extent possible, in the child's home language. School districts are

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement
DRAFT 3/7/2023

encouraged to make available, to the extent possible, surplus or undistributed instructional materials to parents and guardians, pursuant to [subdivision \(d\) of Section 60510](#), in order to facilitate parental involvement in their children's education.

- To be informed, pursuant to [Sections 33126](#) and [48985](#), about statewide and local academic standards, testing programs, accountability measures, and school improvement efforts.

(LAUSD has a Parent and Family Bill of Rights and Responsibilities link: <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/10287>)

Family–School Partnership Act

The Family–School Partnership Act encourages parents and caregivers to get involved in children’s school activities by providing rights to time off work. Under the Act, if you work in a business with 25 employees or more at the same location, you have the legal right to request and take time off up to 40 hours per year to participate in school- or preschool-sponsored activities like classroom volunteering, back-to-school nights and field trips. Hours off are provided through vacation usage, personal leave, compensated time off, or unpaid time. For more information on the Act, please see the following link: The Family–School Partnership Act ([English](#))/ [Spanish](#)).