Dr. Rivas - Celebration of Play Day on June 28, 2025, and Promotion of Play Equity (Res-081-24/25) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Whereas, Sport, play, and movement are essential for positive youth development, improving mental and physical health, increasing cognitive performance, building self-esteem, cultivating leadership skills, and contributing to higher academic and career achievement;

Whereas, Inequities in access to sport, play, and movement exist, particularly for Black and Latino children, youth with disabilities, and those from low-income households, who often face barriers such as limited access to green spaces, high costs, inadequate facilities, and lower rates of participation in organized sports;

Whereas, According to the 2024 California Play Equity Report, commissioned by the LA84 Foundation, 66 percent of youth are not meeting federal recommendations for daily physical activity, with the lowest participation rates among Latinas, Black and African American girls, Latino youth, youth with disabilities, and youth from households earning \$50,000 or less;

Whereas, Achieving play equity means removing barriers and ensuring access to sport, play, and movement for all children. This is essential to fostering lifelong well-being, promoting social and emotional growth, and realizing a more just and inclusive society;

Whereas, The LA84 Foundation and the Play Equity Fund have issued a call to action through Play Day on June 28, 2025, a national celebration uplifting the joy and benefits of sport, play, and movement in the neighborhoods where children live;

Whereas, Play Day 2025 will be celebrated with a Block Party at the LA84 Foundation headquarters in West Adams, featuring music, art, sports, and food to honor the legacy of the 1984 Olympic Games. One hundred additional satellite sites across the country will promote the joy of play and the power of community connection;

Whereas, Play Day exemplifies our shared commitment to building community, supporting equitable youth sports access, and creating healthy environments for all children to thrive;

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 prioritizes joyful, safe, and healthy learning environments, recognizing that physical activity is essential to student success and holistic well-being; and

Whereas, The District has a long-standing commitment to student health and wellness, as demonstrated through its support of International Walk to School Day (October 9, 2013) and TV Turnoff Week (April 19-25, 2004), and recognizes the need to continue expanding inclusive access to physical activity; now, therefore, be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District reaffirms its commitment to closing the play equity gap and championing policies and practices that ensure all students have access to the lifelong benefits of sport, play, and movement;

<u>Resolved</u> further, That the Board designates June 28, 2025, as "Play Day" and encourages all Los Angeles Unified School District students, families, and staff to join the celebration in West Adams or participate in community play wherever they are that day; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Board directs the Superintendent to utilize and promote resources through the District's Summer of Learning summer school programming, as well as Los Angeles County, and Los Angeles City, and other city programs within the Los Angeles Unified School District's jurisdiction, such as Southeast Los Angeles cities and others, to support Play Day on June 28, 2025, and to champion equitable access to sports, play, and movement opportunities for all students throughout the year.