



Division of Special Education

PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER**MESSAGE****From the Executive Director of the Division of Special Education**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we near the conclusion of another academic year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the families within our educational community for their unwavering dedication and support of their children's educational journey. The Division of Special Education remains steadfast in its commitment to our students by providing the Extended School Year session (ESY), an invaluable opportunity

for continued learning and development (Please refer to the ESY enrollment information located in the resource section). Thank you for being a collaborative partner and supporting your children's academic achievement. Best wishes for a great summer. I look forward to the beginning of the 2024–2025 school year.

Yours in partnership,

Jose Soto

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NOTICE of SELPA Local Plan Three Year Review

2024–2027 SELPA Local Plan including the 2024–2025 Annual Budget Plan and Annual Service Plan The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) hereby gives notice that the Board of Education will consider the adoption of these plans during its regular board meeting. For information regarding this notice of the SELPA Local Plan, Annual Budget Plan and Annual Service Plan, please contact Dr. Soto, SELPA Director, at (213) 241-6701 or jfs7834@lausd.net.

The 2021–2024 SELPA Local Plan, Annual Budget Plan and Annual Service Plan for 2023–2024 may be viewed on the LAUSD Division of Special Education website, About Us section at: <https://achieve.lausd.net/sped>.



Date: June 18, 2024
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: LAUSD Board Room
333 S. Beaudry Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Refer to Board Meeting Instructions for Participation and guidance about speaking at the Board Meeting. Access the Board of Education calendar meeting schedules and login information at <https://www.lausd.org/boe#calendar73805/20240517/month>.

SPOTLIGHT

Girls Run 95th Running Club teaches girls social-emotional skills and girl empowerment while training for a 5K fun run!



95th Street Elementary School's **Principal, Manuel Nava**, is highly devoted to supporting all students, staff, and families by providing numerous clubs that promote social/emotional wellness, academic, excellence, and outstanding attendance. 95th Street Elementary (ES) School has

a variety of extracurricular activities to support Student learning and wellness. One example is the Girls Run 95th Running Club, which began in 2023. Each year has drawn more interest from the school community and participation has increased to 50 girls in grades 3-5, who meet twice a week after school. With the support of **Principal Manuel Nava**, this club is facilitated and led by the School **Psychologist, Monica Solera**. What makes this club stand out is that it primarily focuses on girls' empowerment while opportunities for social skills development and physical fitness. Club members train for 10 weeks to run a 5K race at the end of each Spring semester. Each student is then partnered with an adult staff or family member for support in completing the 5K. The girls also encourage each other and chant while practicing, "Who Runs the World? Girls!" Ms. Solera is a School Psychologist committed to providing a high standard of support services and engaging students at 95th ES to be READY FOR THE WORLD – to thrive in college, career, and life!



Very Special Arts Festival – 45th Annual Event

At this year's event, 20 LAUSD schools participated in the all-inclusive performance at the Music Center. Our Superintendent, Alberto Carvalho, also attended the event and addressed the audience to welcome staff, students, and families. A special thanks to all LAUSD volunteers, teachers, parents, and transportation for their continuous support at this event.





**Aimee Garcia-Fuentes, a
Panorama High School
Psychologist** Aimee has been a
School psychologist at Panorama High
School since 2015 and holds a **Board**



Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Certification since 2017. Over the last nine years, Aimee has sponsored the school's GSA "PRIDE Club." Last year, Aimee was awarded the **Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition** for her work with **LGBTQ+** students. This year the Panorama girls' soccer team needed a coach. As a former player, coach, and referee, Aimee volunteered to coach the girls' team. She also provided the players with weekly mental health and academic check-ins to make sure they were on track to maintain the sports-academic eligibility. Aimee has been a runner, and she has run many half marathons, but never completed a full marathon until this year. Based on her efforts, eleven students qualified for the LA Marathon in March. Aimee helped promote and get support for the runners by handling the Instagram page for the Panorama High School **Students Run LA** team, providing students with food at the end of the run, along the parents and volunteer staff and students. **Great job Aimee Garcia-Fuentes!**

Legislation Day In the month of May, the Division of Special Education invited three family members, from the Community Advisory Committee, to travel to Sacramento for Legislation Day. Members had an opportunity to support Assembly Bill 2173, the legislation that codifies the term "Emotional Disturbance" (ED), and as described in the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), to be changed to "Emotional Disability." Supporting this change will provide families more opportunities for their children to receive special education services. Voicing their experience with legislators will make an impact on future decision making at the capital.



RESOURCES



Teaching Expected Behavior Through Storytelling

You can teach your child expected behaviors in different situations using social storytelling. For example, reading a story to your child about a social

situation (e.g., going to a birthday party) can help them feel more prepared, especially if your child has trouble with a particular situation. Stories can also help children prepare for new experiences such as getting their first haircut or going to a new classroom. When introducing a story, tell your child the topic of the story and connect it to a situation/experience that your child has knowledge of. After you read the story together, you can review the most relevant information from the story, such as how to start a conversation or how the expected behaviors sound like or look like. Allow your child to ask questions about the story. Be sure to revisit the story on a regular basis. Reading the story together daily for several days is a good starting point. You can create your own stories for social situations or upcoming activities based on your child's needs. Visit the link below for more examples

<https://autismlittlelearners.com/category/social-stories/>.



2024 ESY
Extended School Year
June 20th – July 19th

Families are still able to enroll their child in ESY. Parents can submit the ESY application by login in the parentportal.lausd.net. If families are not able to access the Parent Portal, they are also able to contact the school site for assistance or fax the ESY letter to (877) 339-2684 or the ESY letter can be signed, scanned, and emailed to spedsff@lausd.net. Visit the website for more information at <https://www.lausd.org/spedESY>

WEBSITES

Division of Special Education (DSE)

<https://lausd.org/sped>

DSE School & Family Support Services

<https://lausd.org/spedContactUs>

DSE Services/Programs

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

Office of Student Civil Rights

<https://www.lausd.org/Page/3494>

Homework Support for Elementary Students
in different languages [PAPER](#)

Homework Support for Secondary Students
in different languages [Tutor.com](#)

CONTACT US

Division of Special Education (213) 241-6701
School & Family Support
Services

LAUSD General Hotline (213) 431-4300

Student and Family Wellness (213) 241-3840
Hotline

Help Desk for Families (213) 443-1300
Hotline

Region East (323) 224-3300

Region North (818) 654-3600

Region South (310) 354-3431

Region West 310) 235-3700

Virtual Academy (213) 241-0117