

Every School Safe

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2023-26 Blueprint for Safety

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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.

Every School Safe





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Chief of School Operations



Dear Los Angeles Unified Family,

As the Chief of School Operations, I am proud to share Los Angeles Unified's mission, message and commitment to the safety and wellness of students and employees as we strive to keep Every School Safe. This document serves as our Blueprint for Safety and outlines the numerous programs, strategies and resources that promote schools and workplaces that are respectful, welcoming and free of harm.

Los Angeles Unified affirms that positive school and work environments cultivate safe spaces for improving attendance, academic achievement, emotional well-being and community building. We continue to provide schools with the tools that

will ensure safety and success for students and staff. Yet we recognize the need to continually expand and adapt our practices to changes in our global, national and local communities.



As a result, Every School Safe: Blueprint for Safety introduces enhancements to the Integrated Safe School Plan, new systems to promote communication within schools and with families and community, and nationally-recognized processes and practices to promote

positive behavior in schools. The Blueprint also reflects ongoing development and collaboration with community partners to ensure safe routes to schools, constructive and meaningful relationships amongst students and employees, and the overall wellness of Los Angeles Unified's students and families.

Los Angeles Unified remains committed to supporting our entire District family and reminds students, employees, families and community members that Unified we can keep Every School Safe.

Sincerely,

Andrés E. Chait Chief of School Operations



EVERY SCHOOL SAFE

Every School Safe 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.

Every area of the Blueprint for Safety is aligned and interconnected to the priorities and strategies reflected in Los Angeles Unified's Strategic Plan to prepare our students to be **Ready for the World**.





Division of School Operations

Every School Safe: A Blueprint for Safety

Notification and Communication Systems

- LASAR App
- LAUSD Emergency Alert App
- Blackboard Connect
- Parent Portal and Mobile App

Integrated Safe School Plan (ISSP)

The ISSP provides prevention, preparedness, and response protocols for emergencies, including natural disasters.

- Schools conduct monthly emergency drills.
- Update for 2023-2024 includes six new training modules to be delivered to students, staff, and parents.

Campus and **Environmental Safety**

- District Policies
- Dedicated Personnel
- Safe School Inspections



Support

Positive Behavior

Partnerships and

· Adult Mentorship

• Safety Collaboratives

• Public Safety Partners

· Safe Passage

Community Building

Health and Wellness Services

LA Unified's Discipline Foundation Policy (DFP) is based on a nationally-recognized, evidencebased Positive Behavior Intervention and Support framework and Restorative Practices.

· School-level implementation is measured by the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI).

Student Health and Wellness

- School-based Psychiatric Social Workers
- Wellness Centers and Mental Health Clinics
- Wellbeing Centers
- Mental Health Evaluation Team (MHET)
- Peer Advocates

Los Angeles Unified ensures the environmental, physical, psychological, and social-emotional safety and well-being of our students and employees to keep **Every School Safe.**



Integrated Safe School Plan

Los Angeles Unified schools comply with <u>California Education Code</u> to develop and maintain a comprehensive school safety plan. Every Los Angeles Unified school's <u>Integrated Safe School Plan</u>, or ISSP, addresses campus risks and violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety, student wellness, and crisis intervention to create a safe, secure learning environment for students and school personnel.

Every campus has a School Safety Committee who works collaboratively to develop and/or update goals, activities and emergency team member assignments in the ISSP annually and as needed throughout the school year. Every school conducts regular emergency drills and maintains an inventory of supplies in the event of an emergency. Employees and parents have online access to training and information on a wide variety of emergency topics.

Beginning in 2023-24, additional trainings will be presented to students, staff and parents. These topics are designed to promote awareness of child sexual grooming, suicide prevention, substance use/Fentanyl, school violence prevention, cybersecurity, online/digital grooming, and child abuse.





Notification and Communication Systems

The Los Angeles Schools Anonymous Reporting app, or LASAR, aims to increase community-focused public safety in and around our schools by allowing students, families and community members to anonymously report non-emergency school safety incidents directly to the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD).

The LAUSD Emergency Alert app is available to employees allowing them to alert LASPD of an active assailant situation in real-time.

The app automatically detects the school location of the user.

Los Angeles Unified uses the **Blackboard Connect** notification system to send messages to parents by phone, email and text, including emergency messages and critical notifications from LASPD. The system is capable of sending three million calls within an hour which is crucial to ensuring student safety during emergency situations.

Los Angeles Unified parents have real-time access to information regarding their student's attendance, health records and discipline through the <u>Parent Portal</u>. Through the portal, they can also keep emergency contact information up to date. The Parent Portal is also available for mobile devices by downloading the app.





Partnerships and Community Building

LA Unified's Wellness Programs support schools by establishing partnerships with city, county and community-based organizations to address the needs of the whole school, whole community and whole child. Los Angeles Unified recognizes that physical and mental health, wellness and safety are essential for effective teaching and learning.

Community partnerships offer Los Angeles Unified students and families even greater access to medical, dental, vision and mental health services. Furthermore, additional partnerships offer students dropout prevention, substance abuse prevention, and mentoring services. Everyone Mentors LA harnesses the power of community-based organizations, business leaders, civic leaders and our school teams to bring meaningful mentorships to our students.

In addition to their District-provided benefits, Los Angeles Unified **employees can receive support services** free of cost through the Los Angeles County Office of Education's **Employee Assistance Service for Education Program (EASE)**. EASE offers professional counseling or referrals to support the mental health and wellness of education sector employees.





Partnerships and Community Building

The mission of Los Angeles Unified's <u>Beyond the Bell</u> program is to ensure that all children and youth have access to high quality, safe and supervised academic, enrichment and recreation programs that inspire learning and achievement beyond the regular school day. **Numerous partner agencies complement District programs** and offer students safe and stimulating places to be before and after school.

Various community partners provide <u>Safe Passage</u>, peace building and community development programs to Los Angeles Unified schools. Safe Passage and youth development programs promote student safety, student engagement, and a positive school culture and climate to help students succeed.

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) <u>Safe Routes to School</u> program in partnership with Los Angeles Unified creates safe and comfortable routes to school by installing safety improvements throughout the city, educating students about traffic safety, and helping schools improve pick-up and drop-off locations.





Partnerships and Community Building

LADOT crossing guards serve as a valuable resource to enhance the safety of students, specifically those walking and cycling in school zones.

Organization Facilitators partner with Region Administrators to host **Safety Collaborative** meetings across the District. Participating collaborators include District leaders, local law enforcement, city officials, community partners and others. Safety Collaboratives discuss current safety concerns in order to identify solutions and strategies to keep our students and schools safe.

The <u>Los Angeles School Police Department</u> is dedicated to serving the students, staff and school communities of Los Angeles Unified. LASPD shares jurisdiction and interacts with several other municipal and county <u>public safety agencies</u>, including the Los Angeles Police

Department and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department to ensure a safe school community.





Positive Behavior Support

Los Angeles Unified schools base their student behavior expectations and discipline plan on the nationally-recognized <u>Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) framework</u> complemented by Restorative Practices (RP). The District has adopted the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) as the tool for schools to assess the implementation of their student behavior plan.

PBIS/RP are proactive approaches Los Angeles Unified schools use to improve school safety and promote positive behavior, focusing on prevention versus punishment, and promoting equity and accountability. With PBIS/RP, schools use evidence-based practices to teach students positive behavior strategies, just as they would teach about any other subject.

As our schools strive to implement PBIS/RP with fidelity, they support students with social-emotional competence, academic success, and an enhanced school climate.





Student Health and Wellness

Los Angeles Unified's Student Health and Human Services (SHHS) Division provides a comprehensive array of services to support student achievement and success in safe, caring and nurturing environments where students can thrive. SHHS provides or coordinates services for students and families, including medical, mental health, vision, dental care, Covid-19 vaccinations and testing, preventative care, and immunizations.

Over 600 **Psychiatric Social Workers (PSW)** support Los Angeles Unified's students across the District, with the majority based directly on school sites, to provide school social work and mental health services using a multi-tiered framework.

Los Angeles Unified hosts 19 <u>Wellness Centers and Mental Health Clinics</u> on school campuses throughout the District. Wellness Centers are LAUSD-built facilities, operated by Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) medical providers/partners and/or Student Medical Services, who welcome students as well as members of the community.

In partnership with the L.A. County Departments of Public Health and Mental Health, as well as with Planned Parenthood of Los Angeles, Los

Angeles Unified hosts 33 Wellbeing Centers on campuses throughout the





Student Health and Wellness

District. These centers offer youth-focused health and wellness education and preventative health care in the areas of substance abuse prevention and control measures, reproductive health, social-emotional well-being, and youth leadership that is accessible to high school students on their campuses.

The Mental Health Evaluation Team (MHET) is a collaboration between School Mental Health professionals and LASPD to provide a clinician/officer model to support students who pose imminent risk of harm to self or others. MHET teams respond in a trauma-informed and culturally responsive manner and provide transport when needed. MHET teams support L.A. County Department of Mental Health in responding to Los Angeles Unified students experiencing a mental health crisis, thereby making mental health assessment and care more immediate and readily available to those of highest need.

Members of Student Advisory Boards (SABs) throughout the District support their peers through advocacy efforts by seeking support for healthcare services, promoting services available for students, and providing health education on various topics such as mental health, substance abuse and reproductive health.





Campus and Environmental Safety

A number of **District policies** guide Region and school administrators in their roles and responsibilities for ensuring <u>student and campus safety</u>. These include ensuring perimeter gates are locked during school hours, enforcing <u>policies for visitors</u> during school hours, and adhering to required standard operating procedures to <u>prevent illness and injury</u> of support staff.

Dedicated personnel are assigned to supervise the campus and student activity throughout the day, including Campus Aides, Supervision Aides, School Climate Advocates and Restorative Justice Teacher Advisers. LASPD Officers respond to calls for service to emerging or real-time safety threats and crimes in progress, and regularly provide off-campus patrol. School Safety Officers support safety and security for the Division of Adult and Career Education sites.



Campus and Environmental Safety

The City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office are partners of Los Angeles Unified in the commitment to keep schools safe, including the immediate vicinity. California Penal Code designates any area within 1,000 feet of a school, as well as any area within 100 feet of a designated bus stop during regular school hours or within 60 minutes before or after any school-sponsored activity on the campus, a Safe School Zone. Crimes committed within identified Safe School Zones are subject to increased penalties and conviction under the law.

Los Angeles Unified staff regularly assess and monitor the physical security of school campuses and promptly follow up on security needs. These areas include the outer perimeter of each campus, outdoor spaces within the campus, as well as the perimeter and interior of each school building.







Campus and Environmental Safety

The mission of Los Angeles Unified's Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) is to ensure a healthy environment for students to learn, teachers to teach and employees to work. OEHS strives to eliminate all environmental health and safety risks at schools in alignment with all governmental regulatory requirements.

OEHS staff conducts <u>Safe School Inspections</u> to evaluate the condition of Los Angeles Unified schools and their operating practices to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and District policies. These inspections address 15 subject areas:

Asbestos Management	Emergency Procedures (Integrated Safe School Plan)	Lead Management
Campus Safety	Facilities and Equipment Maintenance	Miscellaneous
Chemical Safety	Fire/Life Safety	Off-Site Risks
Construction Safety	Indoor Environment	Pest Management
COVID-19 Compliance	Injury and Illness Prevention	Traffic and Pedestrian Safety





A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to every member of the Los Angeles Unified family, including students, parents, community members, teachers, support staff, school site, Region and District leaders, and partner organizations for your collaboration and unwavering commitment in providing our students with safe, healthy, and welcoming environments that allow them to prepare to be **Ready for the World**. Unified we can keep **Every School Safe!**



District Policies and Related Resources

Office of Emergency Management

- School Emergency Information for Parents Website
- Safe School Plan (ISSP)
- California Education Code §32281
- · Crisis Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- Emergency Procedures, Drill, and Districtwide Emergency Exercises

Notification and Communication Systems

- Los Angeles Schools Anonymous Reporting (LASAR) app, available in the Apple Store or Google Play
- LAUSD Emergency App (for District employees)
- Blackboard Connect Notification System
- Parent Portal

Student Health and Human Services

- Student and Family Wellness Centers
- School Mental Health
- <u>Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention</u> Policy Bulletin
- Threat Assessment and Management Policy Bulletin
- Wellness Programs
- Everyone Mentors LA: https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/18941





District Policies and Related Resources

Positive Behavior Support

- <u>Discipline Foundation Policy: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavior and Socio-Emotional Well-Being using Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports/Restorative Practices (PBIS/RP) Policy Bulletin</u>
- School Climate Bill of Rights (Elementary)
- School Climate Bill of Rights (Secondary)

Campus and Environmental Safety

- Student and Employee Security Policy Bulletin
- Visitors to School Campuses

Additional Policies

- · Code of Conduct with Students
- Ethics Policy
- Board of Education Resolution Respectful Treatment of All Persons
- Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment (Including Sexual Harassment) Policy and Complaint Procedures Policy Bulletin
- <u>Child Abuse and Neglect</u> Reporting Requirements Policy Bulletin
- Bullying and Hazing Policy (Student-to-Student) Policy Bulletin
- Abolition of Corporal Punishment Policy Bulletin
- Cyber Security Education
- Workplace Violence, Bullying and Threats (Adult-to-Adult) Policy Bulletin
- <u>Hate-Motivated Incidents and Crimes Response and Reporting Policy Bulletin</u>

Division of School Operations



