

# SAFETY ALERT

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**No. 23-02      DONATING SOON TO EXPIRE HAND SANITIZER      SEPTEMBER 2023**

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To address the need for hand sanitizer during the COVID-19 pandemic, Los Angeles Unified procured, often through donation, enough hand sanitizer to ensure our schools were well stocked. When the pandemic ended, inventory levels, not just at Los Angeles Unified but nationwide, exceeded demand resulting in an oversupply.

A recent inventory conducted at schools and offices revealed that in addition to expired supplies that need to be properly disposed, there is hand sanitizer that is not yet expired and may likely not be used before expiration.

Although there are efforts to address this on a larger scale, we strongly urge schools and offices to reach out to local organizations such as churches, hospitals, or other community aid groups that could accept donations of these materials and utilize them more quickly than our schools can. There are two main reasons for this urgent action:

- While the pandemic has ended, COVID-19 remains as a long-term health issue and your community can benefit by quickly using donated supplies of hand sanitizer.
- The cost to properly dispose of expired supplies of hand sanitizer as hazardous waste per local, state, and federal regulations is significant.



Should you be unsure where to start, the following resources may help you find local organizations to accept your donations:

- <https://donateppe.org/socal/>
- <https://www.midnightmission.org/covid-19/>

For information on the proper disposal of other chemical products, please see [Safety Alert 23-01 Disposing of Expired Chemical Products](#). If you have any questions, please contact us at [OEHSQuestions@lausd.net](mailto:OEHSQuestions@lausd.net), (213) 241-3199 or visit our website at <https://achieve.lausd.net/oehs>.