

# Los Angeles Unified School District

# **2025 ADVOCACY AGENDA**

#### **ADVOCACY PRIORITIES**

The Los Angeles Unified School District's (Los Angeles Unified) legislative and funding priorities call for policies that make schools safe, welcoming, and equitable places for learning. The 2025 Advocacy Agenda is aligned to Los Angeles Unified's 2022-26 Strategic Plan and the District's Advocacy Guiding Principles and Priorities. In addition to the issues identified below, the Office of Government Relations supports and advocates for legislative proposals and initiatives that are consistent with the Strategic Plan and will pursue necessary policies and funding in 2025 as new issues arise.

### LOCAL

The Office of Government Relations, in collaboration with other District departments and Region Offices, will explore opportunities for partnerships with local municipalities serving District schools to address the following:

- Strengthen intergovernmental collaboration to expand the District's enrollment campaign efforts and support school-aged children who are not enrolled or attending school.
- Support efforts to address the synthetic opioid crisis and access to illicit substances.
- Strengthen partnership with Los Angeles County to unify mental health funding and staffing to provide consistent services for schools and communities in high-need areas.
- Increase resources to support a positive school climate and safe routes to and from schools.
- Support efforts aimed at the relocation or closure of the Atlas facility site in Watts and explore funding opportunities for site clean-up.
- Expand joint-use facilities agreements and programming for students through continued partnerships with regional Recreation and Parks departments.
- Establish new and implement existing education compacts with local governments.

## STATE

The Office of Government Relations will pursue the following statewide legislation and budget priorities, and engage in policy proposals consistent with the Guiding Principles and Priorities:

# **Sponsored Legislation**

- Assembly Bill 677 (Bryan): Revise opt-in/consent requirements of vision and dental screenings for unhoused students.
- Assembly Bill 542 (Rodriguez): Increase flexibility to allow students in continuation schools to pursue work-based learning and other educational opportunities.
- Assembly Bill 361 (Schultz): Create permanent authorization for Best Value Procurement contracting method.

#### **Sponsored Legislation continued**

Assembly Bill 1306 (Muratsuchi): Allows a County Office of Education or school district to offer a California Teacher of English Learners program in the same manner as a College- or University-based program to expand access to the teacher workforce serving English Learners.

## **State Budget Priorities**

- Maintain or increase the projected cost of living adjustment (COLA) for FY 2025-26.
- Protect LCFF and maintain flexibility and local control through avoidance of additional categorical programs.
- Amend universal Transitional Kindergarten penalties, and fully fund required TK ratio and class size requirements.
- Expand funding for special education services by increasing the reimbursement rate for students with moderate to severe disabilities.
- Support investments in school facilities construction, modernization, and greening projects.
- Address funding impacts related to immigration issues and January 2025 wildfires.

#### **FEDERAL**

The Office of Government Relations will continue to advocate for the following issues at the federal level:

- Work with partners to protect and support newcomers, immigrant students and families, including support for permanent legal protections and a pathway to citizenship for undocumented youth.
- Additional funding to increase access to high-quality preschool programs for all 3- and 4-year-olds, including support for increased reimbursement rates, teacher preparation programs, and facilities renovations.
- Continue to work with national partners and build support for the bipartisan IDEA Full Funding Act.
- Increase connectivity funding to provide students and teachers access to devices and internet services for off-campus use and support changes to the E-Rate program to use funds to strengthen IT security infrastructure.
- Advocate for increased spending for special education, Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Magnet Schools Assistance grants in the annual FY 2025 and FY 2026 spending bills.
- Support and explore programs, partnerships and legislation that combat homelessness and remove barriers to success for unhoused youth.
- Advocate for the federal recognition of the Gabrileno Tongva and Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians as the First People of Los Angeles County.