

ACCELERATING SUCCESS:
Celebrating
Two Years at
Los Angeles Unified

2024





Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent of Schools

Los Angeles Unified Board of Education

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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear Los Angeles Unified Family,

Over the two years that I have proudly served as the Superintendent of Los Angeles Unified, I have witnessed the resiliency and indelible spirit of this community for the work we have accomplished together. As I reflect on where this journey has taken us, I am filled with gratitude for our students, employees, families and school communities. It is through your remarkable efforts that we are becoming the premier urban school district in the nation.

When I arrived, our first step was adopting the 2022–26 Strategic Plan – the priorities and initiatives to address attendance, student achievement, equity, campus modernization and numerous other goals. Through the hard work, diligence and shared commitment of our Board of Education, educators, staff, students, families and community partners, we were able to achieve our goals and milestones for the first year. It is now evident that we are on the right track to reach our long-term objectives.

Moving forward, we have shifted our priorities for the second year. With the necessary structures, systems and coherence established, we are accelerating our efforts and positioning the District and our students toward success. We will continue reimagining what is possible, discovering and pursuing innovative solutions for our students, assessing where we are and where we need to reevaluate our efforts to achieve breakthroughs that change the lives of our students. It is through the acceleration of our efforts that we will help students graduate Ready for the World.

As we celebrate another year together, I remain energized, hopeful and humbled to lead this incredible school system. Together, we will continue lifting the hopes and aspirations of everyone in our school communities and point our students to the destiny that awaits them. It takes all of us – all of our collective work – to inspire the next generation of leaders and instill in them the belief that they have what it takes to change the world. I am confident that this District can be a shining example of the power of public education.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for the students of Los Angeles Unified.

Sincerely,

Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



GRADUATION RATE INCREASES FROM PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS

The District's 2022-23 four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate is 84.0%, which represents a 4.9% increase since 2018-19 (79.1%). More students are completing their requirements for graduation and are Ready for the World.

84%
GRADUATION
RATE



MORE STUDENTS MEETING UC/CSU COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

These are the students who graduate high school and meet all of the requirements for acceptance into University of California and California State University systems. More students are completing their entrance requirements and are now headed to college.

53%
MEETING UC/
CSU A-G
REQUIREMENTS



EXPANSION OF UNIVERSAL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

Early childhood education is a predictor of future success and achievement. As such, it is imperative every 4-year-old in the Los Angeles school community has access to high quality learning opportunities. We are now offering that districtwide with our UTK program — two years earlier than the State's mandated timeline.

24,000+
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN UTK

488
UTK SCHOOL SITES



ADULT EDUCATION

Our adult education programs provide life-changing experiences that propel our students to their next big steps in life.

This year, Los Angeles Unified will hold the first ever, city-wide LA Career Expo spotlighting career technical training pathways.

55,000+
ADULT STUDENTS

44%
TWO-YEAR ENROLLMENT
INCREASE



RECOVERY EFFORTS - COMBATING CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

26,000+
HOMES VISITED

Thanks to the iAttend initiative and intervention strategies, we have increased attendance rates and decreased chronic absenteeism across the District. The significant reduction in chronic absenteeism is nearly 10 percentage points lower than last year.

The iAttend initiative combats chronic absenteeism by uncovering the underlying reasons for missed school days by employing a multi-tiered, collaborative strategy involving various tools and approaches districtwide. As part of the initiative, we have visited over 26,000 homes and 35 crisis housing centers.



WINTER ACADEMY AND CONTINUITY OF LEARNING

174,000+
STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

Building on the success of last year's Acceleration Days, the Winter Academy provided students with the opportunity to explore important enriching concepts and receive additional individualized academic instruction with the support of a teacher. The Winter Break Continuity of Learning plan gave students digital activities that supported reading, writing and math.



SUMMER OF LEARNING

120,000+
STUDENTS PARTICIPANTS

Students participated in a diverse range of activities – including arts, athletics, online enrichment courses and various academic and credit recovery programs. This marked the highest summer school attendance to date, showcasing the success and popularity of our summer initiatives in engaging and supporting students during the break.



BEST IN THE NATION



MAGNET SCHOOLS OF AMERICA NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Recognizing outstanding academic excellence and innovation, the Magnet Schools of America awarded 44 Los Angeles Unified programs with National Merit Awards – surpassing the previous record of 40 winning programs.

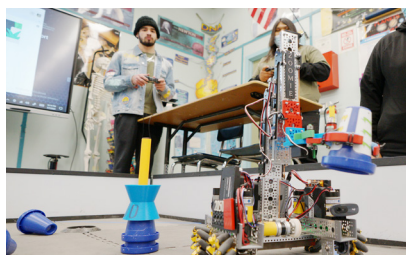
Dr. Ronald P. Simpson Merit Award of Excellence:
North Hollywood High School Zoo Magnet



New and Emerging Magnet School Merit Award of Excellence:
Chatsworth Park Urban Planning and Community Development
Magnet Elementary School

NATIONAL EDUCATION EQUITY LAB HONOR SOCIETY SCHOLARS

Students in seven Los Angeles Unified schools performed in the top 20 percent of all students taking dual-credit courses from top universities across the nation.



ACADEMIC DECATHLON

Six Los Angeles Unified Schools out of 59 schools from California participated in the 2023 state competition.

BEST OF U.S. NEWS RANKINGS TOP 10 SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA

Canyon Charter Elementary School, Science Academy STEM Magnet and Dr. Richard A. Vladovic Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy were ranked in the top 10 in California.



NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD

Downtown Magnets High School earned the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Schools Award. This national recognition highlights Downtown Magnets High School's unwavering commitment to accelerating success, academic excellence and providing a top-tier education to its students.

SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL AWARD

Ford Boulevard Elementary & Dual Language Academy is the first Los Angeles Unified school recognized with the Seal of Excellence School Award by the California Association for Bilingual Education. This award honors exemplary biliteracy programs throughout California that have established successful programs for dual language and English learner students.

AMERICA'S HEALTHIEST SCHOOLS

Alliance for a Healthier Generation announced that nine schools from Los Angeles Unified have been recognized as one of America's Healthiest Schools. They received national recognition for their commitment and dedication to supporting the health and well-being of students, staff and families.

CULTURAL ARTS PASSPORT

250,000+

**STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN A
CULTURAL ARTS EXPERIENCE**



Los Angeles Unified's Cultural Arts Passport program is an innovative educational initiative designed to provide students in grades K-12 with a variety of cultural field trip experiences.

SCIENCE OF READING

In our relentless pursuit of academic excellence, we are championing research-based, multisensory strategies to cater to the unique needs of every student and bolster their reading proficiency. 310 elementary schools have embraced the Core Knowledge Language Arts program. Furthermore, we're rolling out a comprehensive District Literacy Strategy, meticulously crafted to prioritize science-backed methodologies and tailored literacy standards for each grade level.

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS

INCREASED MATH SCORES

Based on the 2022-23 Smarter Balanced Assessment results, Los Angeles Unified is making progress in Mathematics, as demonstrated by a two percentage point growth in the percent of students who met or exceed standards compared to 2021-22. This rate of improvement outpaces the statewide rate of improvement.

BUILDING SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES AND COHERENCE

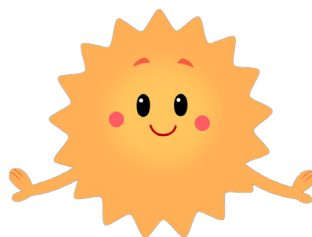
The Educational Transformation Office (ETO) plays a pivotal role in assisting Priority Schools by offering comprehensive support, resources and organizational structure which includes the Black Student Achievement Plan (BSAP). This includes strategic staffing to develop and retain effective leaders and staff, instructional support with a focus on culturally responsive professional development, progress monitoring and establishing partnerships with organizations to provide academic enrichment and support services to students and families.

110

**BSAP SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
EMPLOYED A MULTIFACETED
APPROACH FOCUSED ON
CURRICULUM AND INDIVIDUAL
STUDENT NEEDS**

90%

**OF BSAP SCHOOLS COMPLETED
THE CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SERIES**



ED POWERED BY INDIVIDUAL ACCELERATION PLAN

A District-developed learning acceleration platform, Ed will provide individualized action plans tailored to each student's unique needs. Using advanced artificial intelligence, Ed provides real-time insights into overall academic progress and develops a personalized plan to improve achievement.

JOY & WELLNESS

EVERY SCHOOL SAFE BLUEPRINT FOR SAFETY



The District developed a Blueprint for ensuring every campus is safe, welcoming and affirming for students, families and staff. From monthly trainings on critical topics such as cyberbullying, fentanyl awareness and campus threat response to developing partnerships with local municipalities, community-based organizations and community leaders to ensure safe passage, the Blueprint reflects the strategic integration of District resources with external partnerships to address the physical, psychological, social-emotional and environmental well-being of our students and employees.

FOOD TRUCKS

As part of the District's efforts to elevate school nutrition, Los Angeles Unified unveiled new food trucks to reinforce historic investments in school meals for students. The food trucks will provide nutritious meals at school sites and special celebrations while supporting career pathways for students interested in the culinary arts.



EXPANDED PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TELEHEALTH

Joy and Wellness represents a whole-child focus wherein physical and mental health are considered equally as important as academic success. Through critical partnerships, the District has expanded access to physical and mental telehealth for students to ensure students receive the necessary care they deserve.



SCHOOL SAFETY APP

7,500+
APP DOWNLOADS

The Los Angeles Schools Anonymous Reporting (LASAR) mobile application enables the Los Angeles school community to anonymously report non-emergency incidents. This includes instances of suspicious activity, mental health incidents, drug consumption, drug trafficking, vandalism and other safety concerns to ensure campuses remain safe.

MOBILE LAUNDRY TRUCK

All students deserve to go to school every day in clean clothes. Our new mobile laundry trucks enable families and students to get their clothes washed, dried and folded while they are attending school or working. Los Angeles Unified is working on expanding this service with other partners.

320+

LOADS OF LAUNDRY WASHED

90+

FAMILIES USED SERVICES

ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION

THE FAMILY ACADEMY

29,000+

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE
FAMILY ACADEMY**



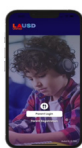
Families engage in culturally relevant curriculum in a cohort learning environment, define what family engagement means to them and develop action plans to stay engaged in their child's education.

SEVEN EDUCATION COMPACTS WITH LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

We believe strengthening our engagement and partnerships with local governmental entities is in the best interest of meeting the needs of our students and the families and communities we serve. Education compacts with the municipal governments are intended to align resources and implement innovative programs to equip our students with the tools they need to be Ready for the World. Since Spring 2023, Los Angeles Unified has established seven education compacts with the cities of Bell, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, San Fernando, Vernon and West Hollywood.

EVERYONE MENTORS LA

We believe public education is a collective good and the shared responsibility of the community. To make a difference in the lives of our students, Los Angeles Unified launched Everyone Mentors LA. To ensure every student graduates Ready for the World, this new mentoring initiative matches students contending with declining grades, chronic absenteeism, lack of social emotional support and other challenges that have inhibited their academic success with a mentor from the Los Angeles community.



**LAUSD MOBILE
APP 3.0**

3.2M+

**TOTAL LOGINS
(PARENT PORTAL/MOBILE APP)**

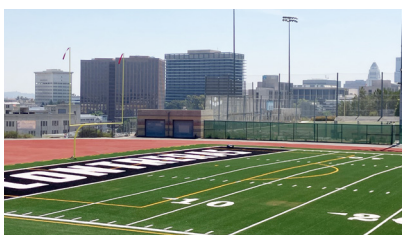
The Los Angeles Unified Mobile App is a one-stop mobile application and web portal for families and educators that includes a new resource menu featuring Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) accessibility, real-time information on student attendance, bus routes, Individualized Educational Plans and more. Milestones also include significant upgrades to the Parent Portal web access, establishing strong relationships with families through school workshops, programming and the recruitment of over 22,000 parent volunteers across the District.

OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS



\$850 MILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

Los Angeles Unified successfully sold \$850 million of our General Obligation Bonds, Series QRR, reflective of the District's strong credit profile. The Bonds are designated as Sustainability Bonds, funding both green and social projects, which helped generate specific orders from several institutional and retail investors helping meet their own social and green bond investment mandates.



FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND GREEN SPACE UPGRADES

Over 400 facilities projects were completed for a total value of \$605 million and over \$883 million of projects are in planning and development to upgrade and modernize schools districtwide. This includes over 1.35 million sq ft. of greening projects that have been approved by the Board for total project value of \$242 million.



BUS FLEET ELECTRIFICATION

The District purchased 180 electric buses to fully electrify the Sun Valley Bus Yard, representing the largest single-purchase in the nation.



TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL

With an ever-growing fleet of electric school buses, we are reducing our carbon footprint one ride at a time. Families can save on gasoline costs by opting for the school bus while also contributing to a greener environment. Our buses are also equipped with Wi-Fi, turning travel time into an opportunity for learning and staying connected.

INVESTING IN STAFF

AGREEMENTS REACHED WITH 100% OF UNIONS

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS



Historic agreements reached with SEIU Local 99, UTLA, AALA Units J & M, Teamsters Local 572, CSEA 500, LA-OC Building Trades and LASPA & LASPMA will help our employees meet the cost of living in Los Angeles.

Additionally, the District reached an agreement with the Health Benefits Committee to provide world class health and welfare benefits to employees and retirees through 2025, with no employee contribution.

These agreements demonstrate our commitment to respect and value every employee across the District. The contracts are precedent-setting across Los Angeles, California and the nation.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Mr. Andrew Lewis, a high school music teacher from Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts, was named 2024 California Teacher of the Year by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. Mr. Lewis has been recognized as an ambassador for the profession and honored as a representative of the state for the calendar year.

BUS DRIVER OF THE YEAR



Ms. Tamara Conley was named the California Highway Patrol Southern Region School Bus Driver of the Year. Ms. Conley has been a dedicated Los Angeles Unified bus driver for 36 years, has 30 years of accident-free driving and 15 years of perfect attendance. This has earned her multiple accolades and great respect from her students, peers and co-workers.



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