

# Employees' Connection

Keeping You Informed About Investments In Our Schools



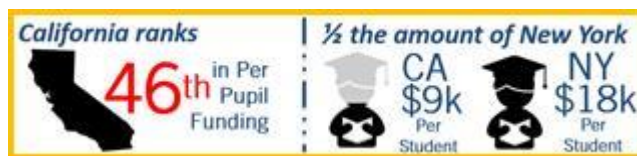
## Chapter 2: First-In-The-Nation Employees Deserve First-In-The-Nation Per-Pupil Funding

You are **1st-in-the-nation employees**. Nowhere else in this country do 60,000 individuals come together in unison every day to uplift the aspirations and capabilities of 500,000 youth—85 percent of whom grapple with poverty, language barriers, transiency, or trauma—and achieve such remarkable results. No other school district, business, agency, or organization comes close to what you do.

And yet, California schools are ranked **46th in per-pupil funding**. California provides only \$9,000 for each student annually, whereas New York provides twice that amount: \$18,000. That's twice the amount of money that can be invested in classroom and school resources, targeted academic interventions, health benefits, and employee salaries. Despite this funding gap, you have managed to achieve a preliminary graduation rate of *80 percent*—while New York City's latest graduation rate was 73 percent. Imagine what we could do with twice our current resources!

### **First-in-the-nation employees deserve first-in-the-nation per-pupil funding!**

That is why L.A. Unified and our union leaders are taking the fight to Sacramento, and standing together to **demand** equitable investments in our school communities. Stay tuned to learn about the transformative, achievable, common-sense demands we are making on state and federal lawmakers, and how you can help. The fight is on!



Enjoying the Employees' Connection?  
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