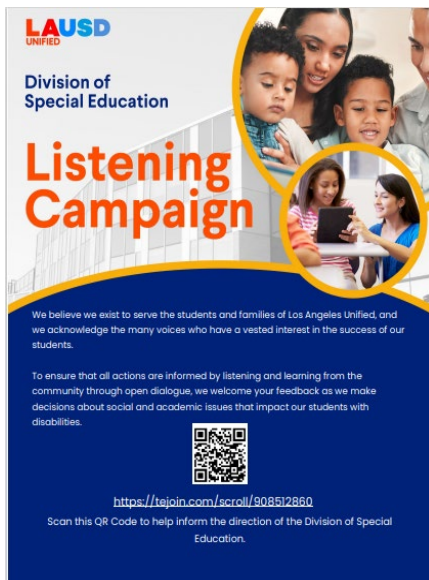


### Messages from Dr. Soto, Executive Director, Division of Special Education

Dear Families,

The Division of Special Education is thrilled to celebrate Inclusive Schools Week from December 2-6, 2024. This week is a meaningful opportunity to reaffirm LAUSD's dedication to building a supportive inclusive environment where every student, regardless of ability, is valued and empowered. Through the first week in December, schools will host interactive, inclusive activities aiming to foster and cultivate understanding, acceptance, collaboration, and support for students, families, and educators. Together, let us celebrate the diversity of our school community and ensure every student has the tools necessary to thrive. Join us and let's work together to make our school and communities a welcoming space for all!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS




**LAUSD**  
UNIFIED

Division of  
Special Education

### Listening Campaign

We believe we exist to serve the students and families of Los Angeles Unified, and we acknowledge the many voices who have a vested interest in the success of our students.

To ensure that all actions are informed by listening and learning from the community through open dialogue, we welcome your feedback as we make decisions about social and academic issues that impact our students with disabilities.



<https://tjoin.com/scroll/908512860>  
Scan this QR Code to help inform the direction of the Division of Special Education.

Listening Campaign QR Code



The Division of Special Education is conducting a **Listen and Learn Campaign**. We are inviting families in our LAUSD communities to take this opportunity to access the [Listen and Learn Campaign survey](#) by accessing the link on the [flyer](#). The Window will remain open until Friday, November 29, 2024. We urge you to take a few minutes to share your feedback on key opportunities and challenges that will assist the division in Informing the future direction of the LAUSD Division of Special Education. Your Insights will be instrumental in developing actionable strategies and sustainable plans for long-term success.

LAUSD is offering a three-day **Winter Academy** session for UTK – 12th grade students starting on December 16 – December 18, 2024. All students who normally receive transportation as part of their special education services will also receive transportation for the Winter Academy. You may register your student at <https://www.lausd.org/winteracademy>. Enrollment on the LAUSD [enrollment portal](#) ends on November 29, 2024.



Enroll In  
**WINTER  
ACADEMY**  
Join us for Fun  
& Learning

LAUSD

Dec. 16-18  
2024

HOLLYWOOD

UTK-12

Transportation Available

Academic & Enrichment Opportunities

Social Emotional Learning Small Group Instruction STEAM Visual and Performing Arts Fitness Healthy Meals After School Program

To register or for more information, visit [lausd.org/winteracademy](https://www.lausd.org/winteracademy) or click on the QR code.



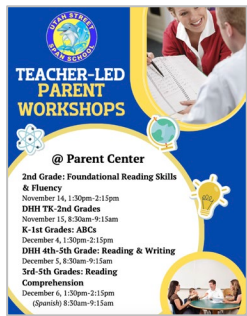


The Division of Special Education will be transitioning to using the SMORE LAUSD parent newsletter platform. If families select to unsubscribe from receiving notifications/emails/newsletters from SMORE, note that families will have to contact the SMORE help center directly to unblock the account at [support@smore.com](mailto:support@smore.com).

## FALL 2024 SPOTLIGHT

### Participation in the Unified Sports Event and Pep Rally – John Marshall High School

Students competed with two other schools in a soccer match at **John Marshall HS**. The focus was to engage students of all abilities and compete on the same team. This interactive approach fosters inclusive practices by creating opportunities for meaningful interaction, building friendships, and demonstrating the value of teamwork. All students were able to share their athletic experiences, create a welcoming environment, and make memories together!



Kudos to the **Utah Street Elementary School Deaf Education Program staff** for leading their work and engaging parents in learning during their fall 2024 Teacher-Led Parent Workshops. Throughout November and December, parents of Deaf and hard-of-hearing students learn about Foundational Reading Skills and Fluency, Reading and Writing, and Reading Comprehension. Way to go, Deaf Education Program Staff!

### Adaptive Physical Education Sports Program



The **Adapted Physical Education Program Staff** supports the inclusion movement in December by assisting 24 LAUSD schools in their commitment to providing inclusive learning and motor skills development opportunities. The program aims to develop leadership



Skills, promote acceptance and understanding of individual differences, motivate students to become self-advocates and foster respect, dignity, and advocacy for people with diverse needs. The participating schools are: 4th Street Primary Center, Ascot Elementary, Banning High School, Carson High School, Chatsworth High School, Dodson Middle School, Eagle Rock High School, Gardena High School, Huntington Park High School, Leichman CTC, Logan EEC, Lowman CTC, Marquez High School, Marshall High School, Manual Arts High School, Monroe High School, Polytechnic High School, Rivera LC, San Pedro High School, South East High School, South Gate High School, Sylmar High School, San Fernando High School, and West Adams High School.



## Using First/Then Strategies to Support Positive Behaviors in the

In October and November, the **Special Education Behavior Support Department**, in partnership with the Family Academy Special Education Region Ambassador, provided training to families in each region, including those in our Virtual Academies and Option Schools, on using First/Then strategies in the home setting. Additionally, the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Parent Ambassadors shared information with families about the CAC's work within LAUSD. They invited families to join their meetings, which are open to the public. This link provides access to the [First/Then Resources](#) shared at these sessions, which you can use at home.

## Parent Workshops

**Transition services** are a coordinated set of activities designed to support students with disabilities in preparing for life after high school. In the Los Angeles Unified School District, Transition Services begin at age 14 or before 9th grade. The District Office of Transition Services is pleased to share training dates for parents of students with disabilities on various transition topics. Please use this [link](#) to view training opportunities for the 2024–2025 school year.



### Parent Workshop Diploma Information Sessions

Join us for an information session to learn more about the criteria for earning a diploma for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Earning a diploma will allow students to pursue postsecondary education, employment, and meaningful participation in their community. For more information, contact Tiffany Sepe, Specialist, at [tiffany.sepe@lausd.net](mailto:tiffany.sepe@lausd.net).  
[https://bit.ly/parent\\_diploma\\_session](https://bit.ly/parent_diploma_session)

### December 2024

#### Parents as Partners

#### Virtual Parent Workshop

Come join us on December 3rd and 5th to learn more about effectively communicating with your child's education team at the school site.

Access login and more information by clicking the [link to the flyer](#).

### Special Education Region Ambassador

*Presents*

#### Rightful Presence: Fostering a Sense of Belonging in School.

This presentation will inform families about why time with peers in general education can build student achievement and independence. This session will take place in January 2025 through all regions. For more information, access the [flyer](#).

## SAVE THE DATE

Educational Partners Meeting—**The Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS)** Educational Partners group is an advisory group that reviews data and provides feedback on the CCEIS Plan to parents, district, and site leadership members. The group will convene quarterly to monitor the implementation of the CCEIS Measurable Activities and Outcomes. The next meetings will occur on February 13, 2025, and May 8, 2025. Access more information by clicking the respective flyers: [Ed Partners 2.13.25](#) and [Ed Partners 5.8.25](#).

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Phone Number	Website
Division of Special Education School & Family Support Services	213-241-6071	<a href="https://www.lausd.org/sped">https://www.lausd.org/sped</a>
LAUSD General Hotline	213-431-4300	<a href="https://www.lausd.org/">https://www.lausd.org/</a>
LAUSD Mental Health Hotline	213-241-3840	<a href="https://www.lausd.org/Page/12120">https://www.lausd.org/Page/12120</a>
Technology Access	213-443-1300	<a href="https://www.lausd.org/its">https://www.lausd.org/its</a>
Parent Portal	213-481-3350	<a href="https://parentportalapp.lausd.net/parentaccess">https://parentportalapp.lausd.net/parentaccess</a>
Tutoring for Individualized Student Learning	213-241-5200	<a href="https://www.lausd.org/tutoring">https://www.lausd.org/tutoring</a>