

2021 LAUSD STAFF LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

OCTOBER 15, 2021

Agenda



- Welcome
- Legislative Advocacy Overview
- 2021 Legislative Efforts
- Federal Actions
- What to Expect in 2022
- Q&A

Meet the OGR Team



- Martha Alvarez Director
- Deborah Bautista Zavala Legislative Advocate
- Laura Matz Senior Secretary
- Colleen Pagter Legislative Liaison



Legislative Advocacy Overview

OGR's Mission



The Office of Government Relations' mission is to ensure that the school district and the students it serves benefit from legislation, funding, and regulations at the state and federal levels for the improvement of teaching and learning.

OGR's Advocacy Role



- Advocate at the local, state, and federal levels
- Develop and execute a legislative advocacy agenda that is coherent and aligned with District priorities
- Influence outcome of state budget and resource allocation for P-12 and adult education programs
- Develop and maintain relationships with elected officials
- Analyze and monitor legislation and regulatory bodies
- Assist with implementation of new laws

58+ Elected Officials Represent LAUSD

- □ Local
 - 15 Los Angeles City Council Members and Council Members from 26 other local jurisdictions
 - Mayor
 - 5 County Board of Supervisors
- State
 - 40 State Senators and 80 Assembly Members
 - LAUSD: 9 State Senators and 16 Assembly Members
- Federal
 - 100 U.S. Senators and 435 Congressional Districts
 - LAUSD: 2 U.S. Senators and 10 Congressional Members

How Departments Can Support District Efforts



- Defining the problem
 - What is the evidence/data that there is a problem?
 - What sections of law are the source of the problem?
- Illustrating existing Los Angeles Unified practices
 - Specifying desired outcomes and potential solutions
- Assisting with legislative analysis in coordination with OGR staff in a timely fashion

Lobbying Activities by District Staff

- TOWN SOLD ON THE STREET OF THE
- District staff are encouraged to contact OGR to consult on issues of concern where the District would benefit from having a position
- District staff are discouraged from engaging in the following activities without collaboration with OGR:
 - Visit or reach out to legislators, legislative staff, or members of the Governor's staff
 - Testify before a legislative committee
 - Testify before a local or governmental agency, such as City Council or the State Board of Education

Lobbying Activities by District Staff

- District staff may belong to professional organizations that have their own legislative agenda
- When asked to testify on behalf of professional organizations, District staff are encouraged to not identify themselves as a Los Angeles Unified employee
- As a courtesy, OGR asks to be informed when testifying in Sacramento and what organization you are representing

Legislative Process



Phase 1 of the Legislative Process

STATE ASSEMBLY

Bill 1st Policy Fiscal Legislative Committee Floor

STATE SENATE

Phase 2 of the Legislative Process

STATE ASSEMBLY

2nd Policy Fiscal Legislative Governor's Committee Floor Desk

STATE SENATE

2022 Legislative Calendar



- □ January 1st New laws take effect
- □ January 4th Legislature convenes
- □ January 10th Deadline for Governor to propose State Budget
- Late February Last day for bills to be introduced
- May 15th Deadline for Governor to release May Revision to State Budget
- Late May Last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin
- □ June 15th Budget must be passed by midnight
- Late September Last day for each house to pass bills
- Late October Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature



2021 Legislative Session

2021 Legislation



- Legislature introduced over 2,400 bills
- Governor Newsom signed 770 bills (92%) and vetoed 66 (7.9%)
- Los Angeles Unified's OGR team tracked 566 bills

LAUSD Sponsored Legislation



Signed into Law

- AB 306 (O'Donnell) Eliminates unnecessary regulatory barriers in the review and approval of school employee residential housing projects
- AB 815 (L. Rivas) Authorizes school-based programs for Clear School Nurses Services Credential

Two Year Bills

- AB 883 (O'Donnell) Makes a permanent commitment of Prop.
 63 funds
- □ AB 902 (O'Donnell) Facility-related issues
- □ SB 70 (Rubio) Makes kindergarten a mandatory grade level
- SB 508 (Stern) Requires health plans to provide mental health services to students and expands the network of school-based mental health practitioners and use of telehealth



Human Resource Bills

▲B 438 (Reyes): Eliminates the existing 60-day layoff notice requirements for classified staff and moves it to March 15th to great parity with the certificated staff layoff notice.
 ➡ SB 294 (Leyva): Requires CalSTRS and CalPERS to credit their school members who are certificated or classified school employees of a K-12 district (including a county office of education) with retirement service credit for the member's service as an elected public employee union officer.
 ➡ SB 488 (Rubio): Revises teacher preparation program standards and teaching performance expectations for literacy, authorizes candidates who have been unable to take the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) due to the COVID-19 pandemic to take a CTC- approved assessment in reading instruction, and updates the

Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) to replace the RICA by July 1, 2025.

Curriculum/Instruction Bills

- AB 101 (Medina): Requires LEAs serving grades 9-12 to offer at least a one-semester course in ethnic studies commencing with the 2024–25 school year and add a semester-long ethnic studies course to the statewide graduation requirement commencing with the 2029–30 school year.
- SB 224 (Portantino): Requires each LEA and charter school to ensure that all students in grades 1-12 receive medically accurate, age-appropriate mental health education from trained instructors, at least once in elementary school, junior high school or middle school, and high school.



Student Health and Mental Bills

AB 367 (Garcia): Requires a public school maintaining any combination of classes from grades 6-12 to stock the school's restrooms with supply of free menstrual products in all women's restrooms and all-gender restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom, at all times, and to post a designated notice, on or before the start of the 2022–23 school year.
 SB 14 (Portantino): Adds to excused absence due to a student's illness, allowing for student's mental or behavioral health.
 SB 224 (Portantino): Requires each LEA that offers one or more courses in health education to pupils in middle school or high school to include in those courses instruction in mental health.
 SB 722 (Melendez): Requires if a school district or charter school elects to sponsor or host, in or around a swimming pool, an on-campus event that is not part of an interscholastic athletic program, they have at least one adult with a valid certification of CPR training to be present throughout the duration of the event.

<u>Governance</u>

- AB 361 (R. Rivas): Authorizes, until January 1, 2024, an LEA to use teleconferencing and have flexibilities from the Brown Act when a legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency.
- SB 274 (Wieckowski): Requires a local agency with an internet website, or its designee, to email a copy of, or website link to, the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet if the person requests that the items be delivered by email.



Homeless Student Bills

- AB 27 (L. Rivas): Requires LEAs and charter schools to ensure that each school identifies all enrolled homeless and unaccompanied students and requires LEAs to annually administer a housing questionnaire based on the model questionnaire developed by the CDE
- SB 400 (Jones): Requires school liaisons for homeless youth to ensure the identification of homeless youth through outreach and coordination activities, and ensure homeless youth receive referrals for health and other services.



Other Bills

- □ AB 1363 (Rivas, Luz): Requires that indicators of quality for high-quality preschool programs to include program activities and services that meet the need of dual language learners for support in the development of their home language and English.
- □ AB 599 (Jones-Sawyer): Updates the criteria used to identify schools for inspection by a county superintendent of schools for purposes of the Williams settlement regarding the sufficiency of instructional materials and school facilities.

State Budget Trailer Bills



- AB 130: P-12 budget trailer bill signed on July 9, 2021
 - Sec. 4 \$300 M CA Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant
 - Sec. 8 \$2.8 B CA Community Schools Partnership Grant
 - Sec. 10-12 Deferrals
 - Sec. 15 \$490 M Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant
 - Sec. 22 \$1.5 B Educator Effectiveness Block Grant
 - Sec. 23 \$50 M Multi-tiered Systems of Support
 - Sec. 24 \$547 M A-G Completion Improvement Grant
 - Sec. 25 Increases LCFF Concentration Grant to 65%
 - Sec. 42 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification Incentive
 - Sec. 45 \$350 M Teacher Residency Grant
 - Sec. 52 \$753 M Expanded Learning Opportunities Program

- Sec. 55 State of emergency funding for school closures
- Sec. 56-59 Charter school renewal extensions and non-classroom based charter school moratorium
- Sec. 60 Universal Transitional Kindergarten
- Sec. 61 Student health grant programs
- Sec. 62 Free school meals
- Sec. 66-74 Independent study
- Sec. 105 Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant
- Sec. 129 \$125 M Classified School Employee Teacher Credentialing Program
- Sec. 138 \$150 M Kitchen Infrastructure and Staff Training Grants
- Sec. 160 \$100 M SPED Dispute Resolution
- Sec. 161 \$450 M SPED Learning Recovery Support Grants

State Budget Trailer Bills



- □ AB 167: Clean-up bill to AB 130; Signed on September 23, 2021
 - Sec. 18 Modifies Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
 - Sec. 19-20 J-13A waiver process for emergencies
 - Sec. 23-25 Changes timelines for student health grant programs
 - Sec. 28-33 Clarifications to independent study
 - Sec. 36 Concentration grant increased funding changes
 - Sec. 39 Cafeteria kitchen infrastructure grants
 - Sec. 47 Extends substitute teacher assignments to 60 days

State Budget Trailer Bills



- □ AB 131: Child Development Programs
- AB 132: Postsecondary Education Trailer Bill
- AB 133: Health and \$4 B Child & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative
- □ AB 138: Unemployment Insurance
- SB 156: Communications Broadband



Federal Issues

Federal Appropriations



- □ In March 2021, the President signed into law the American Rescue Plan which provided almost \$220 billion in COVID-relief specifically for education and child care, including \$122.8 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund.
- In March and April 2021, the President released his American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan which proposes funding to help rebuild the country's physical infrastructure and invest in children and families.
- In August, the Senate passed a \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package that includes \$65 billion for broadband, \$5 billion for electric school buses, and \$200 million to remove lead from school drinking water.
- □ In August, House and Senate passed a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution.
- □ President signed a continuing resolution at the end of September to extend government funding through December 3rd.



Questions and Answers



What to Expect in 2022

What to Expect in 2022



- Declining enrollment
- Vaccine requirements
- Demand for employees in workforce
- Climate change mitigation efforts
- Housing affordability and homelessness
- Ballot Initiatives and state election for Nov. 2022

Legislative Requests



- Each year, the District sponsors or cosponsors legislation to add or modify existing state law that impacts California's public school students
- Board Members, department leaders, and Local District Superintendents recommend legislation for potential District sponsorship
- The Board adopts the final legislative priorities list for the District in December or January

Legislative Requests



- Because the district can only sponsor a limited number of bills each year, requests are evaluated and prioritized for inclusion based on the following criteria:
 - Consistent with the policies and priorities of the Board and Superintendent
 - Beneficial impact to the District
 - Likelihood of successful enactment
 - Required district resources to achieve the proposed change(s)
 - Cost to the State and consideration of overall District state advocacy funding priorities

Next Steps in Finalizing District's 2022 Advocacy Agenda

- □ September 2021 OGR solicits ideas
- September/October 2021 OGR conducts research and meets with District staff, leadership and stakeholders
- November 2021 Draft Advocacy Agenda released
- December 14, 2021 Tentative Board adoption of 2022 Advocacy Agenda
- January September 2022 OGR pursues Advocacy Agenda



Questions and Answers

Conclusion



THANK YOU!

If any further questions, please contact:

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