



# NEWS RELEASE

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**CONTACT:**  
Shannon Haber- 213-241-6766

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## **Los Angeles Unified Celebrates Latino Heritage Month Sept. 15 to Oct. 15**

The Los Angeles Unified Board of Education voted unanimously today to celebrate Latino Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by recognizing the histories, cultures and contributions of Hispanics and Latinos. The resolution sponsored by Board Member Mónica García, was co-sponsored by the rest of the board.

"It is an honor to be Superintendent of such a vast and culturally rich student population," Superintendent Austin Beutner said. "This month we celebrate the many accomplishments led by our trailblazing Latinx leaders."

"Los Angeles Unified celebrates the diversity and culture of our children and communities," Board Member García said. "Latino Heritage Month is an opportunity for all of us to learn about the identity, experience and history of over 70% of our students and families. In 2019, in Los Angeles, California, it is important that we lift up the rich, cultural heritage of this City, this District and the student population that we serve."

"Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month is an honor and a privilege," Board Vice President Jackie Goldberg said. "Living in Los Angeles, the Latinx influence is everywhere, permeating the fabric of our city, schools and populations. I celebrate alongside my colleagues, families and students, the diverse, colorful and varied accomplishments of our Latinx brothers and sisters."

"We celebrate the rich diversity and contributions of Hispanics/Latinos during Latino Heritage Month," Board Member Dr. George J. McKenna III said. "This year's theme 'A History of Serving Our Nation' is reflective of the value that all Americans add in shaping our community in Los Angeles and beyond."

"Conmemorar el Mes de la Herencia Latina es una gran oportunidad para unirnos a nuestros estudiantes y el personal latino, y como todos reflexionamos sobre nuestra historia, tanto inmigrantes como indígenas, y nuestros valores compartidos como estadounidenses orgullosos, digo Scott Schmerelson. (*Commemorating Latino Heritage Month is a great opportunity to join our students and Latino staff, as well as reflect on our history, both immigrants and indigenous people, and our shared values as proud Americans,*" Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson said.)

“Latinx history is our history – especially in Los Angeles, where the numerous contributions, vibrant culture, and rich heritage of the Latinx community are intricately woven in our daily lives,” Board Member Nick Melvoin said. “I am proud to celebrate Latinx heritage this month and year-round.”

“I am proud to cosponsor the celebration of Latino Heritage Month, especially as one of two Latinas on the School Board serving a district in which 74% of our students are Latino,” Board Member Kelly Gonez said. “The rich contributions of the Latino community should be recognized this month and every month in our classrooms and in our society.”

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