



Community Advisory Committee  
Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement  
Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Greetings, Community Advisory Committee Members:

There are multiple opportunities to continue learning with us at Los Angeles Unified throughout October. Along with enjoying the magic of the baseball postseason, SFACE and our partner offices would like to highlight the following to enhance your awareness of the support we provide to students with special needs through various District initiatives:

- **The Special Education Ambassadors** program was created to address the support requested by students and families during the development of the strategic plan. The Division of Special Education has arranged three training sessions focused on IEP supports and strategies to assist student learners. Learn about all ambassador segments by visiting [lausd.org/ambassadors](https://lausd.org/ambassadors).
- **School Site Council and English Learner Advisory Committee Training** will be held throughout October. If you are a member, please join us on October 19 (in person) and October 26 (webinar). The schedule includes two in-person training sessions and two webinars. Recorded content will be available at [lausd.org/committees](https://lausd.org/committees), and the flyer is posted at [lausd.org/sface](https://lausd.org/sface).
- **The Family Academy will feature Dr. Cynthia Colón**, author of *Be Committed, Get Admitted*, in four in-person workshops. Parents and students will receive a copy of the book (available in English or Spanish). Join with your children and use the book to discuss the importance of studying, learning, and planning. A copy of the Family Academy course catalog can be downloaded at [lausd.org/familyacademy](https://lausd.org/familyacademy).



### School Calendar Survey

Students and parents have received invitations from the District to complete a brief five-question survey, which aims to gather feedback regarding preferences for the first day of school, as well as Thanksgiving and winter recess schedules. Parents can complete the survey by logging into the Parent Portal via web access at <https://lausdapp.lausd.net/>. Please submit your responses by October 21, 2024.





## **Strategic Plan Pillar III: Engagement and Collaboration Highlights**

**The Parent Portal** is available for all parents and guardians to learn more about the program and progress of their children in a variety of different areas. Over 82.3% of Los Angeles Unified families are already connected! Learning about the different features of the Parent Portal allows parents to partner with their school communities to celebrate student achievement, ask focused questions and identify needed support. Call the Los Angeles Unified Hotline at 213-443-1300 for help getting connected or for assistance with using the features.

**The School Volunteer Program** is a resource available for families and the community to offer their time, skills and knowledge to support Los Angeles Unified students. This year, Los Angeles Unified had over 37,000 processed volunteers serving in District schools. For more information about the School Volunteer Program, visit <https://www.lausd.org/volunteer>.

**The Family Academy:** The Family Academy is comprised of webinar, in-person and hybrid sessions designed to leverage families' assets to be empowered as they support their child from the early primary years to college and career success. This effort complements families' knowledge by connecting them to actionable learning focused on their child's development, as well as opportunities to accelerate their own careers and quality of livelihood. The schedules for offerings online and in the Regions with webinar links and summary information is available at <https://www.lausd.org/familyacademy>, along with past recorded content.



**Special Education Workshops:** The Division of Special Education has various resources available for parents so they can take advantage of every opportunity to be an active partner in their child's education. Workshops and training are offered throughout the school year, covering various topics related to the needs of students with disabilities and the many ways parents can support their child both in and out of the classroom. In addition to workshops and training sessions, District- and community-sponsored events supportive of students and parents are available. For more information, visit <https://www.lausd.org/spedParents>.

**Equity Course Pathways:** The Family Academy, in partnership with the Division of Adult and Career Education, offers cohort-centered courses known as Equity Course Pathways. The curriculum is organized as a 7-class course experience where families engage in culturally relevant curriculum in a cohort learning environment, define family



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engagement, and develop their action plan to stay engaged in their child’s education . Choose from one of four pathways: multilingual learners, Black and African American learners, youngest learners, and learners with exceptional needs. Click on the link to join the interest list and someone will contact you to enroll: [LAUSDAdultEd.org/HelpYourChild](https://LAUSDAdultEd.org/HelpYourChild)

**School Site Council (SSC) and English Learner Advisory Committees (ELAC):** School sites are currently forming their SSCs and ELACs for the new year, and training for members will be offered every Saturday in October. If you are serving as a member of these groups this year, consider attending the in-person training sessions on October 12 or October 19 to gain hands-on learning experiences with other members. To view the available offerings and register, view the flyers here: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

**Region Ambassadors:** The Los Angeles Unified Region Ambassadors will be valuable advocates and guides who inform their school communities about District services and resources. Each segment of learning is hosted in a hybrid format to meet the preference of diverse families so they can learn in person and online. If interested in learning more about supports for English Learners, students with special needs or the Local Control and Accountability Plan, which is the District’s plan for use of its general funds, consider attending a Region Ambassador session. For more information and to connect to the sessions, visit <https://www.lausd.org/ambassadors>

**Aera** Adult Education Virtual Academy **LAUSD**

**Learn How To Help Your Child Succeed in School**

Choose from one of four classes:

- For families of African American and Black Learners**  
Learn about roles, culture, and self-identity by focusing on historical, biological, literacy, and college-career readiness.
- For families of Exceptional Learners**  
Learn about techniques of diverse education, parents' role in the Individualized Education Program (IEP), and how to prepare for successful outcomes.
- For families of Youngest Learners**  
Learn the early signs of language, literacy, numeracy, socio-emotional and physical development, and the importance of play.
- For families of Multilingual Learners**  
Learn about the benefits of multilingualism, the benefits of dual language programs in our schools, and how to establish multilingualism in the home.

Classes begin August 20 and meet Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**2024 ONLINE Classes Now Enrolling**  
**Sign up today!**  
Visit [LAUSDAdultEd.org/HelpYourChild](https://LAUSDAdultEd.org/HelpYourChild) or scan the QR code.

Graduates will be honored by the District at the end of the school year!



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## **Resources**

**Los Angeles Unified Student Wellness and Family Hotline:** Please continue to direct parents and students to this service provided for families. Trained District personnel are available to help on all health-related topics and are accessible by dialing the following number: 213-241-3840.

### **Los Angeles Division of Special Education School and Family Support Services**

**Hotline:** For more information on services to support students with special needs, call (213) 241-6701.

**Region Leaders:** Each child's school sits in a geographical Region in the Los Angeles Unified. To connect with District leaders in a specific Region or to learn more about the specific services offered in the Region, visit <https://www.lausd.org/regions>.

**Board of Education Meetings:** The Los Angeles Unified Board of Education hosts meetings in person and will continue to broadcast meeting online. Visit the following webpage to learn how to speak during public comment: <https://www.lausd.org/boe>.

### **Responsibilities Assigned to the CAC in the California Education Code, Section 56194**

The community advisory committee shall have the authority and fulfill the responsibilities that are defined for it in the local plan. The responsibilities shall include, but need not be limited to, all the following:

- (a) Advising the policy and administrative entity of the special education local plan area regarding the development, amendment, and review of the local plan. The entity shall review and consider comments from the community advisory committee.
- (b) Recommending annual priorities to be addressed by the plan.
- (c) Assisting in parent education and in recruiting parents and other volunteers who may contribute to the implementation of the plan.
- (d) Encouraging community involvement in the development and review of the local plan.
- (e) Supporting activities on behalf of individuals with exceptional needs.
- (f) Assisting in parent awareness of the importance of regular school attendance.
- (g) Supporting community involvement in the parent advisory committee established pursuant to [Section 52063](#) to encourage the inclusion of parents of individuals with exceptional needs to the extent these pupils also fall within one or more of the definitions in [Section 42238.01](#).



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