## MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION

**SUBJECT:** Modern Budget Transparency for Student Achievement (Res-036-23/24)

**DATE NOTICED:** 06-04-24

PRESENTED BY: Ms. Ortiz Franklin, Mr. Melvoin PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 06-18-24

MOVED/SECONDED BY: Ms. Ortiz Franklin / Mr. Schmerelson

## **MOTION:**

## **RESOLUTION:** X

Whereas, Los Angeles Unified School District is committed to equity, collaboration and excellence, leading every student to be ready for college, career and life;

Whereas, Providing the highest-quality instructional experience requires utilizing resources equitably, efficiently, and strategically to improve student outcomes and to do so requires timely, easy-to-understand budget analysis that well informs decisions;

Whereas, The Strategic Plan Pillar 3 Engagement and Collaboration commits to providing opportunities for robust stakeholder engagement in the school budget development process as a strategy for strengthening relationships between families, students, and their schools to improve student success;

Whereas, The Strategic Plan Pillar 4 Operational Effectiveness elevates the Priority of Sustainable Budgeting and the importance of establishing powerful new ways to look at data and District budgets to make the best decisions to serve our students;

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District passed the LAUSDATA: Los Angeles Unified Sharing Data for Accessibility, Transparency, and Accountability resolution (Res-021-17/18), which recognized the importance of open government, collective problem solving, trust and shared accountability and established the LAUSD Open Data portal which averages 1,372 monthly users;

Whereas, The Strategic Plan was aligned to budget investments in the OpenGov portal taking an important step towards tracking our investments connected to District goals and strategies, but currently lacks the ability to produce a report to understand usage;

Whereas, There are multiple places to access budget data which creates confusion, lack of clarity on the most up to date information, and budget allocation information is difficult to decipher, static, and only addresses high-level questions;

Whereas, Artificial Intelligence (AI) provides the possibility of enhancing efficiencies, expediting processing times, improved accuracy, and real-time customization for the user, and LA Unified is a leader in AI with applications such as Ed and presentations at renowned conferences;

Whereas, District students, parents, families, staff, and community members voice the importance of having access to readily available, easily understandable budget information so they can understand how the District is prioritizing its investments and to what extent those investments are impacting student experiences and achievement; and

Whereas, The District faces a challenging budgetary context with pandemic recovery funds expiring and California state budget projected deficits, making informed, transparent decisions alongside community necessary to ensure high-quality, equitable learning environments; now, therefore, be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Los Angeles Unified School District provide a primary resource for the community that is a consolidated, clear, comprehensive, detailed, language accessible, and AIpowered annual budget tool – publicly available online – that includes a FAQ section and ongoing in-person and online user guidance training and support to help with navigation, and which:

- 1. Integrates Artificial Intelligence so that users engage actively with the tool to ask questions and receive accurate answers,
- 2. Includes customizable data visualizations, download capability, geocoding/mapping capabilities, sortability to analyze and compare investments across schools, SENI quintile, board district, community of school, student demographic and other relevant data to be determined by stakeholder engagement,
- 3. Includes all fund sources including bond funding and donation accounts (PTO/PTA), totals, carryover, full-time and part-time equivalent allocations including staff to student ratios (for each position, not just teachers and counselors), position titles, per pupil expenditures for all funding sources across major categories,
- 4. Is organized by categories commonly discussed at board meetings, in community meetings, and at school sites (determined by community described in Resolve 2 below),
- 5. Includes year-over-year historical data for the past 3-year time period and includes budgeted and actual expenditures in each category (i.e. program dollar spend year-to-date and year-to-go),
- 6. Has the capacity to support school-site budgetary decisions through including access to accurate and timely information for making real-time budget decisions (i.e. program dollar spend year-to-date and year-to-go),
- 7. Includes narrative and contextual information to explain budget and policy decisions;

<u>Resolved</u> further, That in order to design the first draft and final version of this tool, made available by July 1, 2025, the District continues to seek and incorporate community feedback that

- 1. Includes LCAP parent groups, community partners, labor partners, and board offices,
- 2. Is shared in language accessible formats, and when the community can best participate,
- 3. Prioritizes engaging historically marginalized communities which can include but are not limited to native/indigenous, immigrant, disabled, and racial/ethnic subgroups, and
- Ensures that the product matches the demand of the end users (feedback shall be sought at least three times – at the outset and twice after drafts are available to test drive);

<u>Resolved</u> further, That by October 2025 the budget tool has a plan that clearly connects to student outcomes, describing how specific investments impact student outcomes and strategic plan goals (recognizing limitations regarding causal and correlative connections as well as shared responsibility across programs, personnel and school/region/district staff) to inform budget development of the 2026-27 school year; and, be it finally

<u>Resolved</u>, That the budget tool and student achievement metrics are available when established at the regional and school site levels and are shared multiple times per year, publicly as a part of Strategic Plan updates, LCAP updates, and key budgetary milestones (including 2nd-interim report) to inform board decisions on budget development and approval.

	AYES	<b>NOES</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Dr. McKenna	X			
Dr. Rivas	Х			
Mr. Schmerelson	Х			
Mr. Melvoin	Х			
Ms. Gonez	X			
Ms. Ortiz Franklin	X			
Ms. Goldberg	X			
TOTAL	7			
Ms. Ramirez				X

**ACTION: ADOPTED AS AMENDED**