

## **BOARD MEMBER** SCOTT M. SCHMERELSON



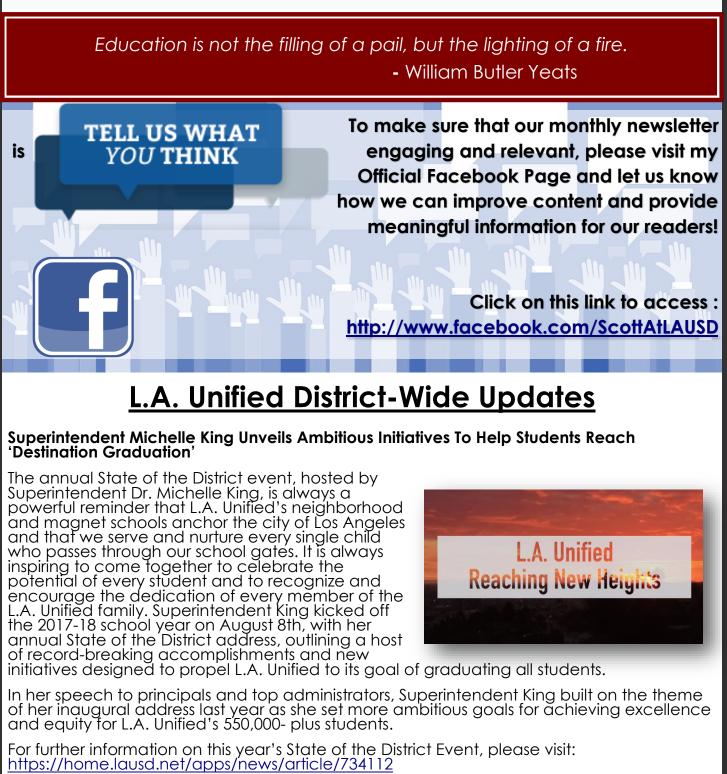


Inside This Issue:		Dear Board District 3 Family and Friends,
Welcome Message	1	We are now well into the beginning of a new academic year. Even though I have been retired for several years, I still experience the excitement and challenge of starting a new school year. As we are welcoming, educating and striving to meet the needs of every child in every Los Angeles
District Updates	1-3	neighborhood, let us mark this new beginning with pride and appreciation for our students, our families and the thousands of dedicated members of the L.A. Unified family working
Student Advisory	3	of dedicated members of the L.A. Unified family working tirelessly to ensure a promising future for our kids.
Council		The 2017-2018 instructional calendar for the District is available online at <a href="https://goo.gl/ECStcE">https://goo.gl/ECStcE</a>
Parent Spotlight	4	Key Upcoming Dates:
Adult Education	5	<ul> <li>Veterans Day Observed on November 10, 2017</li> <li>Thanksgiving Holiday on November 23rd and 24th, 2017</li> <li>Winter Recess December 18th, 2017 - January 5th, 2018</li> </ul>
Board of Education	5-6	To kick off the first day of our promising new academic year, I joined fellow Board Members, District staff, and L.A. Unified Superintendent Dr. Michelle King with a visit to Millikan Middle
Teacher Resources	6-7	School and Performing Arts Magnet in Sherman Oaks on the first day of school. The talented Millikan students and their
devoted teachers showcased their musical, vocal, and filmmaking programs. To view an inspiring example of Millikan's achievements, please view "Another Day of Fun, - A La La Land Parody," music video at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiEGCKrClcl</u>		

It was also my pleasure to visit Parthenia Elementary School, Miller Career and Transition Center, and Grant High School on the first day of school. Each site was buzzing with positive and industrious attitudes and activities that I know will increase enrollment, parent engagement, and promote student success.

Wishing all LAUSD schools a safe and productive new school year!

Scott M. Schmerelson Justin plunder



To view the video presented, L.A. Unified—Reaching New Heights, please visit:

https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/5zyb829xvs



#### California AfterSchool Advocacy Alliance

On Monday, August 14th, Board Member Schmerelson attended an event hosted by the California After-School attended an event hosted by the California After-School Advocacy Alliance celebrating increased funding for after school programs. After school enrichment programs play a critical role in keeping kids safe, active, healthy and learning between the hours of 3-6 pm. The state legislature and Governor Brown provided an additional \$50 million in state funding for such programs this year. Although the revenue will go a long way, it only addresses about half of current fiscal needs. In unity with the City Council of Los Angeles, Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office, and other Los Angeles education leaders, Board Member Schmerelson reaffirmed his support and advocacy for increased funding for after school enrichment programs to benefit all L.A. Unified students.

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## L.A. Unified leaders decry 'wind down' of DACA, reiterate support for all "Dreamers" Expressing disappointment and dismay at

the Trump administration's decision to phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, L.A. Unified leaders reiterated their support for



students, employees and families who have prospered as "Dreamers."

Superintendent Michelle King and members of the Board of Education urged Congress to swiftly enact permanent protections for the immigrants – most of them now teens and young adults – who were brought into the country as children. In the meantime, they said, L.A. Unified schools will remain as "safe zones," meaning that immigration law enforcement agents looking to gather information or conduct enforcement actions will not be allowed on campus without a review by District officials.

To read further, please visit: http://home.lausd.net/apps/news/article/746375 For more information about resources available to L.A. Unified students, employees and families, please visit: http://achieve.lausd.net/weareone

#### College Futures Foundation Grant Funds Implementation of Transition to College Mathematics and Statistics Course

Supporting L.A. Unified's collegereadiness efforts, College Futures Foundation has awarded the District a \$160,000 grant to



More Graduates for a Thriving California

implement an advanced, fourth-year math class this fall at nearly four dozen high schools, officials announced today.

The foundation's grant supplements money from a state College Readiness Block Grant, and will enable the District to offer Transition to College Mathematics and Statistics (TCMS) to more than 3,000 students. The course, which was co-developed with math faculty at California State University Northridge (CSUN) and piloted at seven schools in 2016-17, is designed to reduce the need for remediation and prepare college-bound graduates for the rigors of post-secondary math.

For further information, please visit: http://home.lausd.net/apps/news/article/735013

TUDENT **RECOVERY DAY** September 14th

9th Annual Student Recovery Day (SRD) Thursday, September 14, 2017

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) conducted its Ninth Annual Student Recovery Day (SRD) on Thursday, September 14, 2017. With the help of District staff and volunteers, the goal was to identify students who are chronically absent and at risk of dropping out, and to re-enroll those who have already left our schools. Approximately 18% of secondary students are chronically absent, which is a significant indicator of not making it to graduation.

Student Recovery Day is the kick-off event for "Student Attendance Month," a resolution adopted in 2012 by the Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles to support efforts to keep students in school and engaged in learning.

Participation and support of this District-wide initiative is crucial, and Board Member Schmerelson looks forward to continuing his support with the Pupil Services Division of LAUSD to engage with our neediest students.

On SRD, Board Member Schmerelson spent the morning with Principal Dr. Richard Chavez and Pupil Services and Attendance Counselor Crystal Gallegos at John F. Kennedy High in Granada Hills. They visited the homes of a half-dozen chronically absent

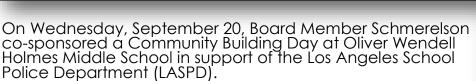
students. Student Recovery Day is a great way for the District to focus on what's important: keeping our kids in school and on a path to graauation. It was exciting for the Board Member to be at Kennedy HIGH SCHOOL supporting the volunteers, knocking on doors, talking to families and trying to resolve whatever attendance barriers students may be facing.

To read more about Student Recovery Day, please visit: https://lausddaily.net/2017/09/at-risk-students-meet-their-match-during-student <u>-recovery-day/</u>

Ice Cream with a Cop—Community Building Day at Oliver Wendell Holmes Middle School

Strength

Building.



Insire

Last academic school year, LASPD launched the Ice Cream with a Cop events to sponsor socials with students at L.A. Unified District schools. In addition to ensuring the safety and security of our LAUSD family throughout the District, school police provide much appréciated mentoring and support opportunities for our kids.

Students who have distinguished themselves for their exemplary attendance, completion of assignments and homework, and contributing to a positive school climate were selected by staff to attend and socialize with the officers.

Principal Kim D' Aloisio was delighted to host Ice Cream with a Cop, expressing her pride in the students, teachers and support staff at Holmes.

Chief of School Police Steve Zipperman was also in attendance serving vanilla ice cream to students, encouraging them to do their best in school, and to start planning for college and career readiness after graduation. Thank you to the Los Angeles School Police Department and

**Board District 3 Student Advisory Council** 

celebration!

On September 14, Board Member Schmerelson and staff launched the first Board District 3 Student Advisory Council meeting of the school year. Special guests for the evening were L.A. Unified Student Member of the Board, Benjamin Holtzman, and Executive Officer of the Board, Jefferson Crain.

the staff at Holmes Middle School for supporting our

Benjamin passionately encouraged student activism, community advocacy and civic engagement. He discussed the power behind student voices, the influence young adults have on their campuses, and challenged the attending Juniors to apply to be the next Student Member of the Board. Student Member of the Board applications and the election cycle basin during applications and the election cycle begin during the Spring Semester and are open to qualifying Juniors as the position is held during the chosen student's Senior year of high school.

Mr. Crain provided a primer presentation on the size and scope of the school district, providing sticker shock facts and figures to students. For example, students were surprised to find out that the annual budget for electricity costs for the District in approximately \$00 million. Among "fun District is approximately \$90 million. Among "fun facts" about the District, and summaries of the duties of Board Members, Mr. Crain detailed the process for Regular Board Meeting preparation. Students experienced a hands-on exercise with Board Meeting materials – often 6-inch plus sized notebooks. The books contain lengthy reports concerning District and school site budgeting, facilities construction planning and critical repair projects, approval of all District contracts, instructional and curriculum initiatives, charter school oversight and many other fiscal and policy complexity of decision-making that Board Members prepare for and execute each month.

The time and attention from all the BD 3 high school student representatives is deeply appreciated and we salute their commitment to civic engagement and willingness to share their unique perspectives with the Council each month.







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### Parent Spotlight

Pizza with a Principal

On September 7th, Coldwater Canyon Elementary School Principal, Cynthia Braley, kicked off an innovative effort to increase parent engagement. Principal Braley is inviting her school community to "Pizza with the Principal," this year in place of the "Coffee with the Principal," that is a feature at other school sites. She is booing to provide an opportunity for sites. She is hoping to provide an opportunity for parents to participate and interact with their principal, school staff, and each other outside of normal working hours.

Board Member Schmerelson was delighted to be a guest at this pilot event and to have the





Pupil Services and Attendance Counselor

**Crystal Gallegos and Board Member Schmerelson** 



The Student Recovery Day Team for John F. Kennedy High School

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opportunity to personally meet and greet parents. The turnout was strong, the pizza was tasty, and Principal Braley - with plenty of help from school staff - delivered a presentation highlighting the successful programs at Coldwater Canyon and reviewing tips for student success student success.



#### Parent Involvement on Taskforce

Parent participation and engagement is the foundation of student achievement. On August 24th, L.A. Unified convened the School-Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Task Force. Parents, Laura Baz and Haidy Aguilar, were appointed to represent Board District 3 for this important working group.

Deborah D. Brandy, Director of Student Health and Human Services, delivered a presentation on Student Discipline Data, the Rubric of Implementations and Restorative Justice Updates at this first meeting of the task force. Paul Gonzales, Restorative Justice Specialist of Student Health and Human Services, led a group discussion reviewing district-wide suspension data and recommendations to address the disproportionate number of suspensions among minority subgroups. Public Comment followed.

Ms. Baz and Ms. Aguilar contributed to the discussion on the importance of parental engagement for the success and comprehensive development of our students. Laura Baz, a parent at Patrick Henry MS, commented in Spanish, "Asegurar un futuro exitoso para nuestros estudiantes depende no sólo del éxito académico, sino también del éxito en su aspecto afectivo, emocional y social. Fomentando una disciplina positiva por el paso de nuestras escuelas del LAUSD, siendo parte fundamental de nuestras metas para ayudarlos a alcanzar ese futuro exitoso en la vida de cada uno de nuestros estudiantes. Por eso es importante la participación conjunta de toda la comunidad educativa."

"It takes participation to be part of the changes, you want to see. My responsibility as a parent is to support my children's education. To do this, I need to know the school district's goals," stated Haidy Aguilar, Parent at Mayall ES. "Restorative justice is to help the child achieve potential, and confidence that he/she will succeed in the future. I am very happy to be part of this taskforce. It will give me the opportunity to tell other parents what the school district is doing to support parent engagement, a mandatory requirement in the state of California.'



Laura Baz and Haidy Aguilar with their children

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## Adult Education

#### L.A. Unified's Division of Adult and Career Education, A Tribute to the Stars

The LAUSD Division of Adult and Career Education (DACE) recognized the SkillsUSA participants and the Video Production Public Service Announcement winners at "A Tribute to the Stars" celebration.

Board Member Schmerelson was present and had the honor of presenting the First, Second and Third Place Public Service Announcement winners.

The first-place videos and winners are from the West Valley Occupational Center, producers of "Chasing Your Dreams," directed by David Martir, and the Venice Skills Center, "David," directed by Anita Razzano. The second-place winner, from the Venice Skills Center, is "Culinary," directed by Dyana Goldston. The third-place winners are from the East Los Angeles Skills Center for "We are DACE," directed by Javier I. Alvarez and "DACE Builds Your Future," directed by Mebran Mebrasher by Mehran Mobasher.

Following the award ceremony, the documentary film "Night School" from Emmy award-winning director Andrew Cohn was screened.



From left to right: Rosario Galvan, DACE Administrator, Board Member Schmerelson, Dora Pimental-Baxter, DACE Administrator, and Joseph Stark, Executive Director of DACE.

For more information about the Division of Adult and Career Education, please visit: www.WeAreDace.org

Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education

#### L.A. Unified Celebrates Start of 2017-18 School Year

Superintendent Michelle King, Board of Education members and other L.A. Unified officials kicked off the new academic year with visits to select schools, including the District's first all-boys academy and the final campus to be built in a multibillion-dollar construction program. The day-long tour started before dawn, and crisscrossed the 710-square-mile district, highlighting schools in each of the seven board districts.

To read further, please visit: http://home.lausd.net/apps/news/ article/736964



Board Member Schmerelson welcomes fellow Board Members and Local District Superintendents to Millikan Middle School



Local District Northwest Superintendent Joseph Nacorda, and Local District Northeast Superintendent Linda Del Cueto

August 2017 Board of Education Meeting The first board meeting of the new school year occurred on August 22, 2017.

To Access the complete Stamped Order of Business, please visit: http://laschoolboard.org/08-22-17RegBd

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The most recent Regular L.A. Unified School Board Meeting was held on September 12. The following resolutions were sponsored by Board Member Schmerelson:

Dyslexia Awareness Month

https://boe.lausd.net/09-12-17RegBd

- Recognizing National Principals' Awareness Month
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- To Access the complete Stamped Order of Business, please visit:

Recognizing America's Safe Schools Week

October 2017 Board of Education Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2017. Please visit: <u>https://boe.lausd.net</u> to review the agenda and materials when posted.

**Teacher and School Resources** 

The Music Center's Spotlight Applications Now Open

FREE performing arts program for high school students! Southern California high school students of ALL talent levels are encouraged to apply. Much more than a competition, The Music Center's Spotlight is a scholarship and training program, which encourages personal and artistic growth, while exploring new possibilities in the arts! Receive cash scholarships up to \$5,000, take master classes with world renowned artists, attend workshops and more! Categories include acting, ballet, classical instrumental, classical voice, jazz instrumental, non-classical dance and nonclassical voice.

Questions about the application? Email spotlight@musiccenter.org.

Deadline to apply: October 16, 2017





Los Angeles Philharmonic Symphonies for Schools Program



Do you remember the first time you heard an orchestra? All teachers are invited to plan a field trip that begins in your own classroom. Teachers participate in workshops that inspire and enable you to guide students through music activities with cross-curricular connections. The 2017-18 application process for the Program opened on September 7, 2017. Each program includes: free admission to a concert performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall, teacher resource guide in alignment with the State of California Visual and Performing Arts Framework and Arts Learning Standards, and professional development workshop on the content of the concert performance. For more information, and to apply, please visit: https://www.laphil.com/education/symphonies-for-schools

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### **Teacher and School Resources**

#### Valley Hackathon III

The Valley Economic Alliance is now accepting student applications for the Valley Hackathon III event set for Friday, October 13th, at the Glendale Public Library Auditorium. The Hackathon is a competition in which students collaborate to "hack" a challenge that is presented to the participants. The winning teams will be awarded prizes donated by local sponsors.

High school and college students with the following interests are highly encouraged to apply: Computer Science, Technology, Coding, Mobile Application/Website Development and Design, Graphic Design, Communications, Marketing, Environmental Studies, and the Boy/Girl Scouts.

To sign up, please complete the registration form **before October 9th**, by visiting <u>www.thevalley.net/valleyhackathon</u>

Please direct questions to Senior Workforce and Economic Development Coordinator Angela Amirkhanian at aamirkhanian@economicalliance.org

💥 The Valley Economic Alliance Valley Hackathon III Friday, October 13, 2017 | 9:00am-5:00pm Downtown Central Library I Auditorium 222 E. Harvard St. Glendale 91205

Now Accepting Applications for Mayor Eric Garcetti's Youth Council



Los Angeles City Mayor Eric Garcetti's Youth Council now accepting applications. Applications have just been opened and are extending the opportunity to apply to all Board District High School students. The Mayor's Youth Council is a very special program that helps encourage civic engagement and empower local high school students. Last year, the Council experienced the most students and largest cohorts so far and the Mayor's office wishes to continue growing this year.

The application can be found online at <u>www.lamayor.org/myc</u>, **please encourage students to apply at their earliest convenience**. If you have any questions you can contact their office at <u>mayor.youthcouncil@lacity.org</u>, e-mailing Kevin Taylor, Area Representative for the West Valley, at <u>kevin.taylor@lacity.org</u> or by phone at (818)-778-4990





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