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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School Board Approves October as Dyslexia Awareness Month

LOS ANGELES - The Board of Education officially recognized recently that dyslexia has significant educational implications that must be addressed, and designated October 2016 as [Dyslexia Awareness Month](#).

One of the most common learning disabilities, children with dyslexia have difficulties in both processing and using letters. These youngsters may appear highly intelligent, very articulate and creative but remain unable to read, write or spell at grade level. Early diagnosis and a treatment plan that includes a variety of educational tools can help these students learn to read fluently.

School Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson, a former principal in [L.A. Unified](#), the nation's second-largest school system, sponsored the resolution. He said, "It was an honor for me to sponsor this resolution and to help raise awareness about the significant educational implications for children with dyslexia. By growing understanding of the effects of dyslexia, we can develop better strategies for early diagnosis and interventions to assure that every child learns to read, spell and work to his or her potential."

Greater awareness could lead to more assessments used to diagnose this learning disability, and in referrals for targeted support and intervention. As a result, more students would get the assistance, intervention and accommodations needed to help them succeed academically.

A co-sponsor, School Board President Steve Zimmer, said, "I am very glad that our entire LAUSD family will join in understanding dyslexia and in focusing on the opportunities that exist to support our dyslexic students."

A second co-sponsor, School Board Vice President Dr. George J. McKenna III said, "We are sure that by recognizing the specialized learning needs related to dyslexia, we will be able to service our students better and help all of them become successful."

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