

# DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

## PARENT NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

We are excited for the reopening of school! LAUSD will open 61 elementary schools and 11 early education centers the week of April 12th. The remaining elementary schools and early education centers will open the week of April 19th, and middle and high schools will open the week of April 26th. Whether students with disabilities return for in-person instruction or continue remotely, they will continue to receive services as indicated per their IEP. Students and staff who are at schools will be required to participate in LAUSD's COVID testing program and will need to take a baseline COVID test the week prior to returning to school. For more information, please [refer to our FAQs](#), visit our [website](#) or call the SFSS hotline at (213) 241-6701.

### UPDATES



#### EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY)

Visit the Extended School Year (ESY) website to obtain the latest information on course descriptions, Parent Portal information and access to the ESY 2021 Frequently Asked Question.

<https://achieve.lausd.net/spedESY>

Parents wishing to obtain information on designated ESY school site may visit

<https://achieve.lausd.net/spedESYschool>.

### APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

World Autism Awareness Day, April 2nd, and Autism Awareness Month are events that are celebrated globally. In support and recognition of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), the Division of Special Education promotes awareness of ASD during the month of April and provides an opportunity for educators, students, and parents to learn more about autism.



### UDL FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

**Grades:** TK-12

**Subject:** Universal Design for Learning and Autism Spectrum Disorder

Gain insight on the evolution of education

- Learn about Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
- Find out how schools are using UDL

Links to recorded presentations available below:

<https://youtu.be/rTiOlyt5Qtc> (UDL - English)

<https://youtu.be/hepDHOjfadY> (UDL - Spanish)

### AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER RESOURCES

Define Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD):

- Learn about Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) and resources
- Gain an understanding of the Special Education services available for students with ASD

Links to recorded presentations available below:

<https://youtu.be/tu2CuvFJsrc> (ASD - English)

<https://youtu.be/wlhX-NLB028> (DEA - Spanish)

### CONTACTS & RESOURCES

#### PHONE NUMBERS

LAUSD General Hotline  
(213) 431-4300

Division of Special Education  
School & Family Support Services  
(213) 241-6701

LAUSD School Mental Health

#### WEBSITES

Division of Special Education  
Website  
<https://achieve.lausd.net/sped>

General Resources During  
School Closure  
<https://achieve.lausd.net/resources>

Office of Parent & Community  
Services PCS Website  
<https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss>

#### LOCAL DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFICES

**LD Central**  
(213) 241-1378

**LD East**  
(323) 224-3300

**LD Northeast**  
(818) 686-4400

**LD Northwest**  
(818) 654-5001

**LD South**  
(310) 354-3431

**LD West**  
(310) 235-3700

### UPCOMING DATES

**March 29, 2021 through  
April 2, 2021**  
Spring Recess

**May 31, 2021**  
Memorial Day

**June 11, 2021**  
Last Day of Instruction



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### 42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL VERY SPECIAL ARTS FESTIVAL



The Music Center's 42nd Annual Very Special Arts Festival Goes Virtual on April 16, 2021 from 10:00am-11:00am. This annual inclusive event celebrates the artistic achievements of students with all abilities. The festival features student and professional performances, visual and performing arts workshops, and a student art exhibit created around the theme. This year's theme is Seeds of Kindness. This virtual format offers students and teachers an opportunity to experience dance and musical performances and still be able to participate, via Distance Learning, in lots of art workshops. For more information, visit the Music Center's website:

<https://www.musiccenter.org/education/Very-Special-Arts-Festival/>

### RESOURCES



#### Inclusion Matters

Are you looking for new and innovative ways to create social opportunities for students with and without disabilities? Visit [www.inclusionmatters.org](http://www.inclusionmatters.org) for more information.

[www.inclusionmatters.org](http://www.inclusionmatters.org)

#### LAUSD Career and Transition Centers (CTC)

Students in 12th grade at the local high school between the ages of 18-22 years are advised to review the Adult Transition Programs offered at the Career and Transition Centers (CTC). CTCs provide next steps guidance and support after high school for students ages 18-22 years old who are participating on the Alternate Curriculum. Students enrolled at the CTC receive independent living skills instruction, vocational training, employment preparation, and community-based instruction, with a goal of maximizing students' level of independence, while preparing them for the world of work. Post-secondary educational options are also available! Visit the Division of Special Education Alternate Curriculum website <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/17048> for additional information and to locate the Career and Transition Center nearest you.

#### Physical Play Ideas for Preschool during the Pandemic (Part 1)



The Occupational/Physical Therapy department is pleased to share a handbook with physical play ideas geared for preschool aged children. Part 1 of the handbook may be accessed here: <http://bit.ly/OTPT-PlayIdeas-21>

#### Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) are dedicated volunteers, consisting of parents, students, staff, and community members, who are tasked with providing input and recommendations to the Los Angeles Unified Board of Education on Special Education programs and services outlined in the Special Education Local Plan (SELPA) in accordance with CA Ed Code sections 56190-56194. Application window opens March 17, 2021 and closes April 23, 2021 Visit [PCS](https://www.lausd.net/parents) to view meeting videos, meeting materials, and to download an application today! Questions? Email [families@lausd.net](mailto:families@lausd.net).

Learn more about the Los Angeles Unified Community Advisory Committee and how to apply during an informational webinar to be held on April 5, 2021 from 4:00 – 5:30 P.M. Webinar Telephone Number: 1-669-900-9128



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School Family Support Services  
(213) 241-6701

LAUSD School Mental Health  
Hotline (213) 241-3840

#### WEBSITES

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Office of Parent & Community  
Services PCS  
<https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss>

#### TECHNOLOGY ACCESS

For questions related to technology, please contact the teachers and school site. You may also call the LAUSD hotline for support with access to technology and internet (213) 443-1300.



### Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meetings

April 21, 2021

May 19, 2021

