

Parent Newsletter

Division of Special Education



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Upcoming Dates

06/10/22

Last Day of Instruction

08/15/22

First Day of Instruction

09/02/22

Admissions Day

09/05/22

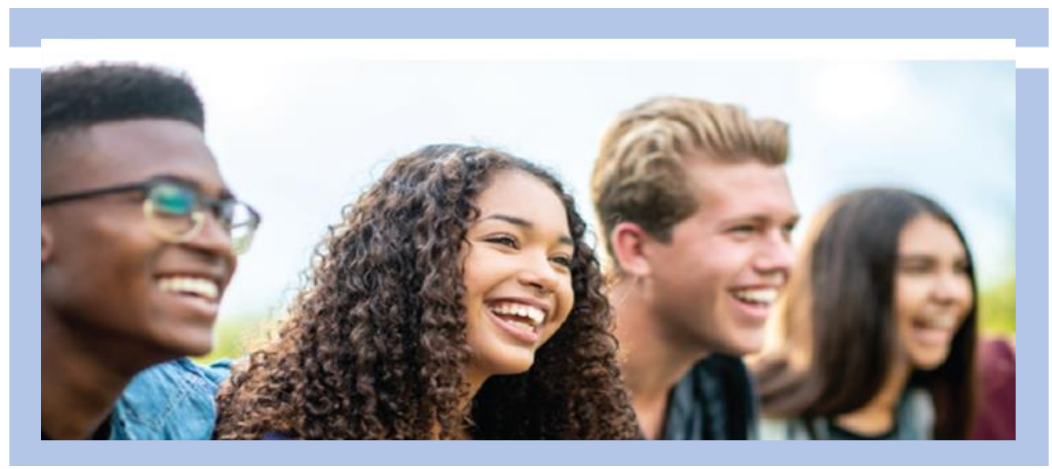
Labor Day

MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

As this school year comes to an end, we'd like to thank you once again for your continued support and positive contributions that lead to our students' success. Our students, families and staff have put forth such great effort into making this school year great! There is much to be proud of this school year.

The DSE held various parent workshops, and staff training, including Professional Development on the Alternative Dispute Resolution Process. We completed an online winter intersession for students, had more than 1,200 students participate in the Very Special Arts Festival, and provided Spring related services support for students. Additionally, and over 109,100 IEPs were completed collectively in-person and through a virtual platform! This summer in addition to our Extended School Year (ESY), we will continue to provide enrichment opportunities to students with disabilities. Please refer to the Division of Special Education website for details. We look forward to a wonderful 2022-2023 school year. Have a safe and fun summer break!

COVID-19 Compensatory Education Plan



What is the COVID-19 Compensatory Education Plan?

Students with disabilities are entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE). The COVID-19 pandemic had a negative effect on schools resulting in learning disruption nationally. Students with disabilities may need Compensatory Education services to remedy any educational or other deficits that resulted from a student with an IEP or Section 504 plan not receiving the evaluations or services to which they were entitled during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students with disabilities may also need Recoupment Services to regain skills lost resulting from pandemic learning disruptions. The Los Angeles Unified School District has implemented two approaches for processes for addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contact Information

Special Education
School & Family
Support Services
213-241-6701

LAUSD General Hotline
(213) 431-4300

LAUSD School Mental
Health Hotline
(213) 241-3840

Websites

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

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

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

Compensatory Education - special education and related aids and services to remedy any educational or other deficits that resulted from a student with a disability (with either an IEP or Section 504 plan) not receiving the evaluations or services to which they were entitled during the COVID-19 pandemic. For further information about the COVID-19 Compensatory Education Plan, please refer to: <https://achieve.lausd.net/compedplan>.

Recoupment Services - additional supports offered to general and special education students to address potential learning loss caused by pandemic-related school facility closures. For further information about recoupment services, please refer to: <https://achieve.lausd.net/spedrecoupment>

Questions

For questions and more information about the COVID-19 Compensatory Education Plan, please email Covid-Comp-Ed-Plan@lausd.net, call (213) 241-7696 or visit <https://achieve.lausd.net/compedplan> to access Compensatory Education Plan Brochures and Parent/Guardian and Stakeholder outreach fliers in multiple languages.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Important information Regarding ESY Enrollment

If you missed the ESY enrollment application deadline of June 1st, students can still enroll for ESY at their indicated ESY site starting June 24th. Parents/guardians can also confirm their child's enrollment status in the *Parent Portal*. Click on this link to access the job aid for this process <https://bit.ly/3bHAQSZ>. If parents / guardians have no devices, no internet access, or need additional support, they can contact our School and Family Support Services Call Center at 213-241-6701 and our agents will be glad to assist them with the ESY intake if they are confirming attendance or you can email any inquiries to may have at spedsfss@lausd.net.



Visit the ESY Webpage

Find out more about ESY by visiting the Extended School Year (ESY) Webpage under the SERVICE tab on the Division of Special Education website option menu. You can access information about course descriptions by visiting the ESY website at <https://achieve.lausd.net/spedESY>.

Registration for summer enrichment sessions opens at 8:00 a.m. on May 23, 2022 – June 10, 2022. Register at: <https://enrichment.lausd.net> and visit the ESY School finder webpage <https://achieve.lausd.net/spedESYschool> to find out the ESY school location based on their current school of attendance.



A World of Learning!

Did you say, “Digital Tools, Speech & Social Skills?”

Learn to Use Digital Skills

8 online Digital Tools enrichment sessions. Students will learn to access grade-level text, write fluently, enhance math skills, and build skills to do work more independently.

Social Emotional Learning – Grades 2-8
Peer Debates - Grades 6 – 12
Tuesday through Friday
June 14–17 and June 21-24, from
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Click [here](#) to access the flyer for more information

Social Skills

10 online enrichment sessions - students will explore their emotions, become more self-aware of their triggers and responses, and learn to better self-manage.

Grades 3-5
Tuesdays and Thursdays
June 20 – July 22
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Click [here](#) to access more information

Speech Skills Enrichment Opportunity

Two-part virtual session – Aiming to improve student’s speech fluency (stuttering), and communication skills at school

Via zoom
Grades 4-12
June 13 or 15 and June 14 & 16
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. or
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Click [here](#) to access the flyer for more information

CELEBRATIONS!!

Student Culminations and Graduations – Adult Transition Programs at Career and Transitions Centers Celebrations

In LAUSD, The Career and Transition Centers (CTC) provide the next step after High School for students ages 18-22 who are participating in the Alternate Curriculum and who are on track to earn a Certificate of Completion - 4 years of High School completion. 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 after high school. This year, the Office of Transition Services, in Division of Special Education, would like to acknowledge student successful stories by highlighting their exciting future and educational experience in The Center for Advance Transition Skills (CATS) and Project SEARCH Programs offered in the LAUSD Career Transition Centers. Their stories follow on the next page.



Wilfredo and Ericka are heading to Project Search Woodland Hills starting Extended School Year (ESY) 2022. Wilfredo is currently working at Walgreens. He works very well as a team and on his own. Ericka is working at 2 locations. She works on campus at the Los Angeles Mission College Library and at a local Western Store. Omar is starting to earn his certificate in Multimedia. He also works at El Cariso Golf Course. Olivia and Priscilla are both earning and completing their certificate in Child Development from L.A. Mission College this semester. They also work at Hubbard Elementary School TK and ETK programs. Olivia is graduating in June and will hopefully work as a pre-school assistant. Priscilla has decided to move to Texas but still taking online classes to fulfil her academic dreams. Jersey graduates in June and completed his Certificate in Culinary Arts from L.A. Mission College during the pandemic and was hired this month at Smart and Final. Patrick moved out on his own and his independent life skills set has allowed him to thrive on a daily basis; he aspires to paint houses for a living and currently enrolled in the Project SEARCH West Los Angeles and waiting for a job placement. Briana is our first intern to work with the Childlife Specialists at Kaiser Los Angeles Medical Center. This partnership is new this year and couldn't have come at a better time for Briana. Her career goal is to work as a teacher's assistant or in a daycare. Lastly, Andy is part of the CATS Program at the Mission College and the Project Search at the Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Program. He has a full-time job lined up with the Hilton Hotel Corporation beginning this spring. For more information about the LAUSD transition programs check out our webpage at <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/17048>



Pride Month / LGBTQ

One of the LAUSD goals is to create a school community where “all” students can thrive and learn in an environment free of discrimination and harassment and a place where their voices and needs can be heard. Additionally, the District addresses LGBTQ concerns in accordance with the District's Non-discrimination Policy and the California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000. The District policy calls for staff to promote and create a welcoming school community through mutual respect, acceptance, and tolerance. For more general resources on LGBTQ Youth information, visit the [ACLU.org](https://www.aclu.org) webpage and our LAUSD Educational Equity Compliance Office at <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/3651>



Recognitions



THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS FESTIVAL



In collaboration with the Music Center, LAUSD schools from all local districts attended “The Arts Heals L.A.” 43rd Annual Very Special Arts Festival (VSAF) in-person. Students of all abilities participated in this event on Friday, April 29, 2022, after a two-year-challenging period since 2019. Some schools participated by submitting student artwork that was displayed in a virtual art gallery, other schools participated on stage in an all-inclusive performance singing and dancing their hearts out! While others came out to enjoy a variety of art workshops, exhibitions, and performances. Approximately 1,200 students were in attendance! The Event was a success!



Related Services Spring Enrichment Workshops

The Division of Special Education, Related Services is excited to announce we had two workshops for student's grades K-3 with Special Education Eligibility. The Spring Enrichment Workshop Gross Motor-Going on a Safari and Fine Motor-Fun in Function were offered at three sites throughout LAUSD. The workshops were a collaborative effort among the Adapted Physical Education, Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy related service providers. Parents were able to network with other parents and expressed excitement at seeing what their child could do. Both, parents, and students who participated were provided materials to take home to continue opportunities for practice. Refer to the images which captured some of the students’ joyous moments.



Parent Workshops

We want to hear from you!

The Division of Special Education is seeking input from families to develop future parent workshops that are aligned to the needs of our communities. The survey consists of 9 questions and will take about 3-5 minutes to complete. Consolidated results from all returned surveys will be reported publicly on the DSE webpage. The survey will close on June 30, 2022. Click on the bitly link to access to the survey

https://bit.ly/DSE_Parent_Workshop_2022-2023



LAUSD Alternate Curriculum is offering a series of trainings for parents and families of K-12 students that are on the Alternate Curriculum as identified by an IEP. Please join us for an introduction to alternate curriculum and to receive strategies that you can implement to support a successful transition from elementary to middle school and from middle school to high school. Registration is required. Parent training flyer can also be found in the LAUSD parent portal. Topics:

- Transition to a Successful Future, Middle School, June 15, 2022, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- Transition to a Successful Future, High School, July 13, 2022, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

For registration click

<https://bit.ly/parentworkshops2022>

and for questions, please contact Specialists Nicole Douglas nld133@lausd.net or Tiffany Sepe tiffany.sepe@lausd.net.

[Click here to access flyer](#)

Parent Resources

A message from Dr. Jeannine Topalian, Specialist, Psychological Services, LDNW

What is dyslexia? What should parents know about dyslexia? According to the International Dyslexia Association (2002), “Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties in accurate and/or fluent word reading and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.” Students with characteristics associated with Dyslexia are general education students first and may be supported within the general education classroom. Addressing the needs of struggling readers requires a wide range of supports at schools and at home. With appropriate identification, tailored instruction, dedication, and support from family, teachers, and community members, individuals with Dyslexia can improve their reading skills and succeed in school and life. Find additional parent resources in our webpage at <https://achieve.lausd.net/dyslexia>.

Power Card

Did you know that The Power Card is a visual tool that uses a child’s interest as motivation to teach a skill or encourage a particular behavior?



The Power Card consists of a short story of a situation and adds a visual cue. The short story is written from the perspective of the child and incorporates their special interest along with solutions to address challenges. The card should be read before the skill may be needed and should be three to five steps. This tool is used to reinforce organizational, social, and behavioural skills. For more information, visit the OCALI.org webpage.

Regional Center and Department of Rehabilitation Support Services



Are you aware that Regional Centers and the Department of Rehabilitation are organizations that provide individualized services and supports for individuals with disabilities?

These agencies will become the biggest support for students as they reach age 22 and exit LAUSD. Each organization offers an array of supports and services that will assist your child in making a successful transition from school to adulthood. For more information visit the Regional Center Look-Up and Department of Rehabilitation Find an Office website.

On-Going Reminders

New Recoupment Webpage

The Division of Special education has developed a new webpage to answer frequently asked questions regarding recoupment. The webpage is available to families and the school community. Please visit <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/17665> for recoupment resources.



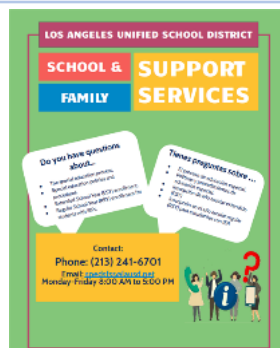
The Parent Portal is a one-stop online system that connects parents and guardians to their student’s essential data. Parents of students with disabilities may access the following:

- Complete IEP
- Enrollment for Extended School Year
- Service Delivery Reports

Learn more at <https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss>.

Do you have any questions about the...

- ✓ The special education process?
- ✓ Special education policies and procedures?
- ✓ Extended school year (ESY)?
- ✓ Regular school year (RSY) for students with IEPs?



[Click here to access Brochure](#)

Division of Special Education School and Family Support Services (SFSS) Call Center

Call Us!
 Monday – Friday 8: 00- 5:00 p.m.
 Telephone (213) 241-6701
 Email spedsff@lausd.net