

# Parent Newsletter

## Division of Special Education



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### MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



November is a month in which we highlight our gratitude. The Division of Special education is grateful to our teachers, providers, administrators and our families for their support and dedication to our students. We appreciate the collaboration and communication from our families, if there are questions about returning to school, vaccination requirements, services provide, etc. that the school site cannot answer, please contact our School Family Support Services at (213) 241-6701 for support. Wishing you a very happy, healthy, holiday season!

### Vaccination Information for Students with IEPs

We continue to encourage all LAUSD families to participate in the vaccination process and expect students to meet District vaccination requirements unless they receive an exemption or qualify for conditional admissions. Students with disabilities continue to be one group who are eligible to continue participating with in person learning under conditional admission. Conditional admission does not provide an exemption to the vaccination requirement but does allow for students with disabilities to continue in person instruction while their vaccination status is pending. At this time, students identified as eligible for Special Education Services, who are not vaccinated, should continue to be permitted to attend in person instruction.

**What to Know about Student Vaccinations at Los Angeles Unified**

The science is clear – vaccinations are a safe, effective and essential part of protection against COVID-19. The benefits of the vaccine continue to outweigh the risks and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone 12 and older get vaccinated.

**Did You Know?**

- The number of hospitalized youth increased 4x in states with low vaccination rates in late summer.
- The highly contagious Delta variant is increasing youth hospitalization and spreading rapidly in unvaccinated groups.
- The CDC recorded that **12.1 million** US children under 18 have at least one dose of the vaccine.

Student Group	Final Dose Due	Exemption Final Date Deadline
Students aged 12 and older who participate in extracurricular programming	No later than <b>October 15, 2021</b>	No later than <b>October 31, 2021</b>
Students who are 12 years of age and older	No later than <b>November 21, 2021</b>	No later than <b>December 19, 2021</b>
Nearly eligible students	No later than <b>30 days</b> after student's 12th birthday	No later than <b>eight weeks</b> after student's 12th birthday

Los Angeles Unified will continue to provide students' vaccinations during the school year.

For the latest information on vaccine clinics or to make a vaccination appointment, visit [achieve.lausd.net/covidvaccineappt](https://achieve.lausd.net/covidvaccineappt) or call (213) 443-1200.

For questions, concerns or to review frequently asked questions, visit [achieve.lausd.net/covidvaccineappt](https://achieve.lausd.net/covidvaccineappt).

How do I request a vaccine appointment?

**Visit Safe Steps to Safe Schools for more information.**

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

### Upcoming Dates

- Winter Recess  
**12/20/21 – 01/7/22**
- Second Semester Begins  
**01/11/22**
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday  
**01/17/22**

### December 2nd is Special Education Day

National Special Education Day is celebrated every year on December 2nd! This day commemorates the anniversary of our nation's first federal special education law, the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#), signed by President Ford on December 2, 1975.



### ONLINE WINTER SESSION

For students in grades 2 through 8 who receive resource (RSP) or special day services. Students will go on virtual field trips and will learn strategies to access grade-level text, write fluently, and build skills to do work more independently. Refer to the [DSE website](#) for more information.

## 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

## Visual Schedule – Social Narratives

We invite you to visit the Indiana Resource Center for Autism website that includes resources around Visual Supports - [Social Narratives](#). A Social Narrative can be used to prepare your child for a challenging situation by teaching expected behaviors in a variety of settings such as school or family gatherings during the upcoming Holidays. Parents can read the Social Narrative with their child as part of their daily routine. When your child shows the expected behavior that was taught, be sure to provide lots of praise! Click on the schedule below for a video on [visual schedules](#). Visit <https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/irca/resources> to obtain additional resources.

The Indiana Resource Center for Autism website provides families access to a collection of visual supports and other resources as examples of various strategies that can be used to support students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as others with and without disabilities.

**Daily Visual Schedule**

## SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST LUCIA JAMIESON AT WORK!

When Lucia started working at Marvin Elementary School about five years ago, teachers were at a loss about what to do with students exhibiting conflict, so she quickly got to work by implementing a “needs assessment.”

Ms. Jamieson’s needs assessment at Marvin Elementary School revealed the majority conflicts were happening on the schoolyard during recess and lunch. She discovered the most common response to student conflict was to send the students to the main office, but when the students returned to their classrooms, they exhibited even more behavioral outbursts!

Ms. Jamieson shared the results of the needs assessment with the teachers at the school and developed series of professional development trainings for teachers and teacher aides on a variety of topics including “How to Respond to Conflict,” “Small Problems versus Big Problems,” “What is the Size of My Problem,” and “Problem Solving Wheel.”

This year, Ms. Jamieson is extra proud because she has reached the “final stage” of the project which involves training 4th and 5th grade students to help them be “Stallion Peacemakers” during recess and lunch.

Students and school staff now have a common language for solving conflicts and students

frequently remind each other to consider the size of a problem and how to problem solve. With the support of the school principal, Ms. Banuelos, this strategy has become the way Marvin Avenue Elementary Stallions resolve conflict.

[Click here to access some of the training materials.](#)



How Big is My Problem?

5	Emergency Threats, danger	Crying, uncontrollable, Very upset, Scared	😱
4	People talking about you, someone hits you	Crying, Very Sad, Mad, Frustrated	😡
3	Having to work with someone you don't like, receiving consequences for unexpected behavior	Nervous, Sad, Irritated, Disappointed	😞
2	Not being first in line, having to wait or take turns	Uncomfortable, Disappointed	😐
1	No Real Problem	Happy, Calm, Relaxed	😊

The size of my REACTION  
should match the size of the PROBLEM!  
\*Don't overreact ☺

## The Power of Motivational Parenting for Equity and Student Success

Hosted by the Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS) Team

The objective of this parent workshop is to illustrate through the presenters' shared experiences how parents and families can become successful partners in their children's education.

Dr. Victor Rios and Demontea Thompson, along with LAUSD parent leaders/community school representatives will share the motivation, evidence-based strategies, and the academic knowledge they have acquired through parent engagement and empowerment programming. Parents and families may register for this event using the Mobilize app links.

English Registration Link:

<https://www.mobilize.us/lausd/event/427103/>

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 is the Fiesta Educativa event. The Division of Special Education in partnership with the Parent and Community Services Office (PCS) will lead a presentation on the topic "Comunicación efectiva con la escuela (Effective Communication with Schools)" from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. We invite you to come and join us and build upon your repertoire of skills, specifically on how to establish positive and productive dialogues with your child's teachers and school staff.

[Click on this link to register for the event.](#)



## From the Occupational and Physical Therapy Program ... Home Activities and Fun for the Holidays!



This activity is suitable for students in grades preschool to high school. Start a new holiday tradition or help make this holiday season extra special by involving your son/daughter in the kitchen. This simple activity is easy to make but will bring lots of fun. [Click here to access the activity.](#) [Click here to watch a student-guided video.](#)



### Additional Activities:

- [Making a Colorful Playdough Turkey](#)
- [Making Fruit Kabobs](#)
- [Creating a Calm Corner](#)
- [Washing Hands](#)



## Online Guided Parent Trainings

The Division of Special Education will facilitate online guided parent trainings on a variety of topics. Topics include:

- Introduction to Special Education
- Know Your Rights
- Parent Participation at IEP Team Meetings



[Click on image to view flyer](#)

If you have any questions, contact Claudia Valladarez via email at [Claudia.Valladarez@lausd.net](mailto:Claudia.Valladarez@lausd.net).

## Parent Workshops Spring 2022

Additional parent workshops will be offered during in spring 2022. Workshop topics include:

- Universal Design for Learning,
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Discovery Education.



[Click on image to view flyer](#)

If you have any questions, contact Veronica Mullen via email at [Veronica.Mullen@lausd.net](mailto:Veronica.Mullen@lausd.net).



## New Recoupment Webpage

The Division of Special education is developing a new webpage to answer frequently asked questions regarding recoupment. The webpage will be available to families and the school community in January 2022. Please visit <https://achieve.lausd.net> for updates on this new webpage.



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>.

## Division of Special Education Call Center

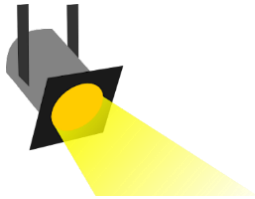


**Telephone**

213-241-6701

**Email**

[spedsff@lausd.net](mailto:spedsff@lausd.net)



## Website Spotlight

One way the Division of Special Education (DSE) regularly updates families and the school community about important information is through its website. The website was redesigned and made available to the public on January 11, 2021.

In addition to providing updates on our homepage, we have a section dedicated to families where additional resources may be obtained. Families may obtain additional resources such as information about accessing the LAUSD Parent Portal, requesting pupil records, IEP written translations, parent workshops and trainings and much more.

Website Address

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