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**MICHELLE KING, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**FRANCES GIPSON, Ph.D.**  
Chief Academic Officer

May 26, 2017

Dear LAUSD Employee:

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the status and progress of the District's Learning Management System (LMS), Schoology. This digital tool provides an online gradebook feature and gives students and families access to grades and assignments. It also provides the ability to track student performance and manage digital instructional content with ease.

The Personalized Learning Systems (PLS) department is a cross-divisional team designed to support employees' use of an LMS. This school year, the focus has been on secondary schools and their voluntary implementation of an LMS through the use of the Schoology online gradebook feature. These efforts are also aligned to the Board-adopted Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI) Task Force Recommendations, which call for personalized learning and support for all learners, which an LMS leverages.

On May 9, 2017, the Board of Education approved funding and implementation of the Learning Management System (LMS), Schoology. The Modified Consent Decree mandates the use of an integrated online gradebook. Beginning with the start of the 2017-2018 school year, the use of the Schoology gradebook, which integrates with MiSiS, will be implemented at all secondary schools as required by the Modified Consent Decree. Teachers who have already attended training and/or opted in to use Schoology will not need to attend initial training again. Over the past 18 months, the PLS team has worked collaboratively with employees from secondary schools to carry out a successful online gradebook pilot program. After attending a series of trainings this past school year, over 100 schools opted to pilot the Schoology online gradebook system to begin providing a more personalized learning experience for students and teachers. Training will be offered before the end of this school year to support implementation at the start of the upcoming school year. Additional details will be shared with principals via email regarding future training offerings.

Training and the use of the Schoology gradebook feature will continue to be voluntary for elementary schools for the 2017-2018 school year and implemented in the 2018-2019 school year. Training and additional information are forthcoming for elementary schools interested in implementing an LMS.

In a competitive educational environment, use of Schoology provides L.A. Unified with a state-of-the-art LMS to improve communication between school and home, increase operational efficiency, and provide a comprehensive instructional system Districtwide. For additional information, please contact Paulina Rock at (213) 241-3017 or visit the following website: <http://achieve.lausd.net/PLS>.

Sincerely,

Frances Gipson, Ph.D.  
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Division of Instruction  
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