

**LAUSD Board Member Mónica García**

Board of Education, District 2  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Phone: 213.241.6180 | Fax: 213.241.8459  
achieve.lausd.net/garcia



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# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Isidro Armenta  
(213) 241-6180

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## **L.A. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER MONICA GARCIA STANDS WITH COMMUNITY AND VOTES 'YES' ON INVESTING APPROXIMATELY \$137 MILLION TO MODERNIZE ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL'S FACILITIES**

LOS ANGELES -- Los Angeles Unified School District Board Member Mónica García urged her colleagues to vote in favor of investing approximately \$600 million in large-scale modernization projects that will improve the facilities at Roosevelt High School and four other school sites. Approximately \$137 million is anticipated to be invested in Roosevelt High School alone.

The project at Roosevelt will include significant improvements to the facilities to support student learning and promote a positive school climate, including the construction of new classrooms and support space, gymnasium, auditorium, and lunch shelter.

"We love Boyle Heights and we stand with our students," said LAUSD Board Member Mónica García. "We must repair and restore the campus that is the heartbeat of our community and honor the transformation that happens at Roosevelt High School."

"This is the start to inviting the community to join us and become part of our school," said Brandy Vargas, a youth leader from Roosevelt High School. "Our work has not ended. We hope to see Roosevelt and all schools in the Eastside equipped with support systems that meet our needs as students and community members."

"We are ready to see Roosevelt High School meet the demands students made in the 1968 East L.A. Blowouts, and what students are asking for today - to prepare students to be competitive for life after high school," said Eduardo Lopez, a Social Science teacher at Roosevelt.

Student and community leaders shared their optimism regarding modern health facilities. "A comprehensive wellness center is needed," said Esthéfanie Solano, a Theodore Roosevelt High School alumni and organizer with InnerCity Struggle.

Iliana Garcia, a community wellness organizer with Promesa Boyle Heights said, "In order to increase student performance, we need to approach our students' needs through a comprehensive lens. A wellness center will help increase student achievement."

“Today’s decision to advance the modernization project at Roosevelt campus is a reinforcement of the board's commitment to the long-term academic success of our students at Roosevelt High School and the Math, Science and Technology Magnet Academy,” said Joan Sullivan, CEO for the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools. “We are grateful to Board Member García for her leadership in this effort and for her relentless pursuit in bringing a state-of-the-art facility to the Boyle Heights community.”

“As a former principal, I have experienced the benefits modern facilities have on student achievement,” said Local District East Superintendent Jose Huerta. “This modernization project at Roosevelt High School represents an investment in our students, our school, and our community. The proposed enhancements will ensure that our students have an opportunity to engage in 21st century learning with the modern technology and facilities that they deserve.”

Today’s approval marks the first step in the comprehensive modernization project. The next steps include planning, designing and construction with many meaningful forums for community input. The Roosevelt High School comprehensive modernization project is scheduled to be completed on or before the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

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