

**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO
THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

SUBJECT: Advocating for Additional Federal Funding in Public Education (Res-037-18/19)
(Waiver of Board Rule 72)

DATE NOTICED: 04-23-19

PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 04-23-19

PRESENTED BY: Ms. Gonez, Dr. Vladovic,
Mr. Melvoin

MOVED/SECONDED BY: Ms. Gonez /
Mr. Melvoin

MOTION:

RESOLUTION: x

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District is committed to providing every student with a high-quality, 21st century public education that enables them to graduate college-prepared and career-ready;

Whereas, To accomplish this mission, there must be equitable and sufficient resources for a diverse student population with vast differences in language, income, parental education levels, and other social, educational, and economic factors;

Whereas, The Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District has been and remains a strong voice for increased education funding at the local, state, and federal levels, and is working diligently to secure the resources needed to provide all students with the high-quality education they deserve;

Whereas, As part of a larger effort to advance the full and fair funding of public education, the Board recently approved placing a local revenue measure on the ballot and has passed multiple resolutions that call on Sacramento and Washington DC to more fully fund public schools;

Whereas, There are multiple opportunities to increase federal funding for public education, such as through full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), passing the Rebuild America's Schools Act, and increasing allocations under Titles I and II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as well as the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) and Magnet Schools Assistance (MSA) grant programs;

Whereas, When Congress enacted IDEA in 1975 to ensure a free and appropriate public education for students with disabilities, they committed to pay 40 percent of the extra cost of special education – but currently, federal funding comprises less than half of that amount, at approximately 16 percent;

Whereas, Representatives Jared Huffman (D-CA), John Katko (R-NY), Joe Neguse (D-CO), David McKinley (R-WV), Dean Phillips (D-MN), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Kurt Schrader (D-OR), Glen Thompson (R-PA), and U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), and Pat Roberts (R-KS), recently introduced the IDEA Full Funding Act (S. 866 and H.R. 1878), and this bipartisan legislation would ensure Congress' commitment to fully fund IDEA by requiring regular increases in IDEA spending with the government taking on 40 percent of the cost beginning in fiscal year 2029;

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Whereas, House Education and Labor Committee Chair Bobby Scott (D-VA) recently introduced the Rebuild America's Schools Act (H.R. 865 and S. 266), which would provide \$100 billion for school facility improvements over a ten-year period to address critical physical and digital infrastructure needs – with \$70 billion going towards school modernizations, renovations, repairs, and similar work, and \$30 billion in tax-credit bonds;

Whereas, Title I of the ESEA, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), is intended to help close the achievement gap and assist children in low-income families to meet rigorous state academic standards, with funds directed to schools to support instructional programs in various ways, such as hiring additional teachers to reduce class size, providing tutors, and purchasing instructional materials and technology – and the vast majority of District schools are eligible for these funds;

Whereas, Title II of the ESEA, as amended by ESSA, is intended to increase student achievement by investing in and strengthening teacher and principal quality, with funds targeted to states and districts to support the recruitment, training, and development of teachers and school leaders, and funding provided to states and districts through this program has been at risk of being reduced or eliminated in recent years;

Whereas, Despite a growing need and demand for GEAR UP programs that support low-income students to attend and succeed in college, only a small portion of eligible students are able to participate due to limited funding of the federal grant program;

Whereas, The MSA program provides grants to school districts to support the opening and operation of magnet schools that function under court-ordered or federally-approved voluntary desegregation plans, with funding intended to support systemic reforms, student success in mastering rigorous academic content, and innovative education methods, among others – and the District is committed to increasing its magnet program offerings to ensure equity and access for all students; and

Whereas, Increasing federal funding for public education would be an investment in our nation's students and our collective future, and would indicate that Congress is serious in meeting its commitment to helping school districts support all students; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District reaffirms its commitment to advocate for full-funding of public education, including through increases at the federal level;

Resolved further, That the Board calls upon Congress to honor its IDEA commitment and appropriate funds for the full 40 percent of the extra costs of providing special education and related services for students with disabilities, and supports the passage and adoption of the IDEA Full Funding Act (S. 866 and H.R.1878);

Resolved further, That the Board supports the passage and adoption of the Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019 (H.R. 865 and S. 266) and urges the United States Congress to pass these bills into law; and, be it finally

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Resolved, That the Superintendent is directed to work with the Office of Government Relations to communicate the District’s support for the aforementioned federal priorities and bills with the respective elected officials, as well as advocate and lobby for increased federal appropriations for the Title I, Title II, GEAR UP, and MSA programs through sustained, coordinated, and strategic efforts with federal representatives, national professional associations, member organizations and relevant stakeholder partners.

	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NOES</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Ms. Gonez	X			
Dr. McKenna	X			
Mr. Melvoin	X			
VACANT				
Mr. Schmerelson	X			
Dr. Vladovic	X			
Ms. Garcia	X			
TOTAL	6			

ACTION: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE