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

**SUBJECT:** Equal Voter Registration Access for All through Celebrating National Voter Registration Day (Res-003-18/19) (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

DATE NOTICED: 08-21-18 PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 08-21-18

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Melvoin, Ms. García, MOVED/SECONDED BY: Ms. Gonez /

Ms. Gonez Mr. Melvoin

MOTION: RESOLUTION: x

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District's mission includes empowering tomorrow's leaders;

Whereas, Empowerment begins with civic engagement, such as participation in the electoral process;

Whereas, Despite representing the future of our democracy, younger citizens are registered to vote and exercise their right to vote at significantly lower rates than older voters;

Whereas, Increased participation of younger voters will significantly impact the future of our democracy;

Whereas, The tragic mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglass High School in Parkland, Florida prompted a powerful national youth organizing movement, through which young people are inspiring their peers to effect change through democratic engagement;

Whereas, The November 2018 election will have a critical impact on the District, its students, its community, and on key issues such as education, social welfare and health care, international relations, and gun control;

Whereas, The California State Voter Registration deadline to participate in the November 6, 2018 General Election is October 22, 2018;

Whereas, California Education Code designates the last two full weeks of April and September as California High School Voter Education Week in order to cultivate lifelong voters and active citizens. During the 2018-2019 school year, these weeks will fall on September 17-28, 2018 and April 15-26, 2019;

Whereas, In order to vote in California, citizens must be registered to vote and National Voter Registration Day will be celebrated across the nation on September 25, 2018;

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Whereas, The District has a long history of supporting access to voter registration in schools, including but not limited to Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District resolutions in 1982, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 2001, 2002, 2012, and 2016. During the most recent school year, the Board unanimously adopted the "LAUSD High School Voter Education Weeks" (Res-073-17/18) resolution sponsored by Dr. McKenna and Ms. Gonez, and "A New Generation of Leaders for Los Angeles, California, and the Nation" (Res-038-17/18), a resolution sponsored by Ms. García, Ms. Gonez and Mr. Holtzman, Student Board Member;

Whereas, In response to these resolutions, the District has continued or undertaken efforts to increase access to voter education and registration, including:

- Informing all school personnel regarding LAUSD High School Voter Education week in September and April;
- Providing high school and adult school principals and parent centers with educational materials regarding voter registration to be made available throughout campuses;
- Encouraging schools to name student voter outreach coordinators;
- In coordination with Power California, encouraging voter outreach coordinators;
- Providing voter registration materials as part of high school graduation packets;
- Notifying schools about the MyVote California Student Mock Election;
- Helping to organize the annual Power California Campaign; and
- Sending a letter, co-signed by the Secretary of State, to all graduating students encouraging graduates to register to vote.

Whereas, On July 19, 2018, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, alongside the Mayor's Student Council to End Gun Violence, announced a partnership with California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, March for Our Lives, the Los Angeles Community College District, and the District to heed the call from student activists and become the first city in America to commit to community-wide youth voter registration, including on all public high school campuses before the November 2018 elections as part of National Voter Registration Day; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District declares September 25, 2018 as "LAUSD High School Voter Registration Day";

Resolved further, That, as part of High School Voter Education Week and in recognition of LAUSD High School Voter Registration Day, the Superintendent directs appropriate departments to coordinate with City of Los Angeles, the California Secretary of State, Los Angeles County as appropriate, and each school site to ensure that voter registration activities will occur on every high school and adult school campus and at parent centers during High School Voter Education Week. Such activities and education at each school site shall include, but are not limited to:

Naming at least one employee and one student voter registration coordinator, who
may participate in an electronic training hosted collaboratively by the City of Los
Angeles, the Dostrict, and the Secretary of State to become knowledgeable
regarding voter registration drives;

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- Prominently posting or sharing a link to the state's online voter registration form (registertovote.ca.gov) on the school's website or with the school community via electronic communication; and
- Setting up at least one station, staffed by the voter registration coordinators and/or
  other knowledgeable persons equipped with paper voter registration cards and
  educational materials, including materials in non-English languages as
  appropriate and, as appropriate, online voter registration portals to assist students
  with voter registration or pre-registration;

<u>Resolved</u> further, That the Superintendent encourages District leadership and staff to raise awareness about the importance of registering to vote and support LAUSD High School Voter Registration Day by:

- Prominently posting a link to the state's online voter registration site on the District website;
- Developing additional communications strategies to share information about voter registration;
- Sharing, in collaboration with the Charter Schools Division, the City of Los Angeles, and the Secretary of State, information and resources for conducting voter registration drives with all public charter schools authorized by the District;

<u>Resolved</u> further, That the Board encourages public charter school partners, and other school districts around California and the nation to commit to holding voter registration events on their school campuses; and be it finally

<u>Resolved</u>, That the Board encourages schools to offer opportunities for students to engage in service learning projects geared towards voter registration, voter contact, and poll worker programs between now and November 6, 2018.

	<u>AYES</u>	<b>NOES</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
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**