



Dear LAUSD Family and Community;

I hope you had a safe and restful summer break. As you all know, the last year and a half was not an easy one. We, as educators, students, parents/guardians, staff and community members have all been challenged in unique and unprecedented ways. Nevertheless, LAUSD rose to the occasion and I am thankful to our administrators, teachers and staff who worked tirelessly to provide the best educational opportunities for our students so they could succeed during remote learning.

As a long time educator, I know that there is no substitute for in-person learning. That is why I am thrilled to welcome our students and staff back to school this fall. Many students are eager and excited to see their teachers and peers. I want to assure you that we will continue to prioritize the health and safety of our students, staff and community. Our staff has been working diligently to make sure our schools are the safest place for our students to learn. We must continue the progress we have made during this critical time because communication, transparency and clear standards will strengthen our parents and community's trust in our public education system and in LAUSD.

Our federal and state governments have provided an unprecedented amount of funding for school districts to invest in high quality instruction, support, and technology, to accelerate learning and close the achievement gap. LAUSD will use some of this funding to pay for more reading and math teachers, provide more one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction, to update technology for students, to provide more mental health and student wellness services, to hire more staff to help connect families with the appropriate supports and provide transportation services and meals to all students.

Next school year when you walk onto a school campus, you will see that we have invested in personal protective equipment and additional staffing at all levels so we can effectively clean and disinfect all schools. We have upgraded air filtration systems in our school buildings and created hand sanitizer stations. To further ensure that students and staff will be safe at school, we will require facemasks, daily health checks through Daily Pass, and offer Covid-19 testing for students and employees as well as vaccinations. We will also continue to adhere to the guidelines and protocols of the California Department of Public Health, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the State of California. Our Medical Director, Dr. Smita Malhotra has worked

with our Covid 19 Response Team and staff to make sure we are following those health and safety guidelines.

As you can see, LAUSD is ready to welcome you back to school. We are ready for another year of learning and we will ensure that every student has access to the resources and opportunities they need to be successful in our schools, in their lives, and in our nation.

I invite you to reach out to my office or me if you need any support. I look forward to seeing you and welcoming you on August 16!

Sincerely,

Scott M. Schmerelson

Board Member, Board District 3

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott M. Schmerelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" being more prominent.

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