

Ms. García, Ms. Ortiz Franklin, **Mr. Nick Melvoin** - Modernization, Upgrade and Development of High School Athletic Facilities (Res-030-20/21) (Noticed June 8, 2021)

Whereas, Fitness and physical wellness are more important now than they were prior to the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, Regular participation in sports and physical activity can decrease the risk of diabetes, heart disease, obesity, and other related diseases;

Whereas, Involvement in extracurricular sports activities has been connected to better cognitive functioning in children and greater outcomes academically, including higher grades and test scores, engagement in school, satisfaction with school, aspirations, and college attendance rates, as well as lower absenteeism and dropout rates;

Whereas, Through high school athletic programs students learn teamwork, self-discipline, time management, build self-confidence, foster a healthy lifestyle, and develop skills to handle competitive situations;

Whereas, Participation in athletics can bridge gaps, bring people who otherwise might not interact together, and provide opportunities not available elsewhere;

Whereas, School sports teams promote and encourage school pride and participation, thus creating a more positive school environment;

Whereas, Many students and families when selecting their high school not only consider instructional program offerings, academic performance, and safety, but also the availability of competitive athletic program offerings;

Whereas, Some District high schools indicate they are losing enrollment due to the lack of athletic programs and facilities;

Whereas, Students achieve better when they are healthier physically;

Whereas, According to data from the Athletics Department, there are 36 types of competitive high school sports teams throughout the District, including varsity and junior varsity teams and girls' and boys' teams for sports such as, baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, swimming, water polo, football, lacrosse, wrestling, cheer, golf, tennis, and track and field;

Whereas, For the 2019-20 school year, there were 2,074 competitive high school sports teams across 88 schools with a high school program;

Whereas, Many District high schools have a limited number of athletic facilities and amenities, and inadequate, undersized, and outdated athletic facilities that do not support comprehensive competitive sports programming;

Whereas, Fifteen schools have between 30 and 33 competitive teams, 48 schools have between 20 and 29 teams, 18 schools have between 10 and 19 teams and four schools have between one and five teams;

Whereas, Fifty-five of the 88 schools with a high school program have at least one team that has to use off-campus facilities and 100 teams in total have to use off-campus facilities;

Whereas, Equity and access to athletic facilities continues to be a demand from the 1968 Walkouts and beyond; and

Whereas, The District's COVID-19 recovery plan must include the rehabilitation and construction of physical spaces; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District directs Facilities Services Division staff to create a program under Measure RR to modernize, upgrade, or develop new competitive high school athletic facilities in each Board District;

Resolved further, That staff shall present to the Board within 90 days a proposal **as part of Facilities Services Division's Strategic Plan** for future investments in high school competitive athletic facilities that includes the amount of funding to be targeted for this work and how projects will be selected; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Board ~~authorizes~~ **directs** the Facilities Services Division to continue to seek and partner with other agencies and organizations, **including LA28 and other organizations associated with the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic events throughout Southern California**, and where feasible, to identify matching or additional funding to further expand the program to enhance athletic facilities throughout the District.