



Building Support for Our School Communities:

Increasing Equity and Access for Schools and Parents by Growing Parent Organizations

Overview:

In an era where support for public schools is strong, every school should be supported so they can more equitably leverage community capacity to support students.

All of our schools have dedicated and engaged parents. Some school communities within LA Unified, particularly in more affluent neighborhoods, also have robust parent organizations (e.g., booster clubs, parent teacher associations) with great capacity for fundraising and support in leveraging community partnerships, while barriers to entry prevent parents at other schools from this type of engagement. This system is not equitable—but it doesn't have to stay that way. With help from the District, we can remove barriers and increase equity.

To ensure that all schools and all students can reap the benefits of parent and community support, Board Member Melvoïn introduced "Building Support for Our School Communities: Increasing Equity and Access for Schools and Parents by Growing Parent Organizations (Res-015-19/20)."

This resolution would provide the support necessary for a more equitable system of parent organizations and community partnerships. Specifically, it asks the Superintendent to study current engagement and fundraising barriers and to develop a plan to ensure equitable access to fundraising opportunities and community partnerships. [The full text of the resolution is available here.](#)

Goals:

The goals of this resolution are:

- 1) To understand current barriers and study ways the District can **support** school communities to create and grow parent organizations, as well as providing parent education to support successful organizations;
- 2) To increase the **equity** of access to parent organizations, community partnerships, and fundraising opportunities for all schools across the District;
- 3) To help **connect** schools, particularly schools with high-need student populations, with community and business partners that can sponsor fundraising efforts, provide additional resources, and support local schools.