Local Control and Accountability Plan Highlights

LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Academic Excellence
The Long Beach Unified School District has earned a reputation as one of America’s top school systems, winning many awards as a national and international model of excellence. The school district continually strives to improve by carefully analyzing student performance data and allocating resources where they are most needed. Part of that improvement process is the Local Control and Accountability Plan, which includes several goals aimed at improving student achievement. Examples of such goals include:

- Students will make academic progress on the Common Core State Standards.
- Students will demonstrate readiness for college and careers.
- Students will participate and excel in rigorous coursework, including Advanced Placement.

Many schools saw double-digit gains in the percentage of students meeting standards, and several schools saw achievement gaps close by 50 percent or more, compared to their prior year’s achievement for lowest and highest performing subgroups. The state SBAC tests (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) measure performance on the Common Core State Standards.

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Students Take Record Number of AP Exams, Enroll in More AP Courses

Students in local schools are taking record numbers of Advanced Placement college-level exams. The significant increase comes after concerted efforts to boost access to AP courses and tests.

The school district is providing students greater access to AP exams by covering much of the cost for families. AP exams usually cost $92 each, but students here are paying only $5 per exam for an unlimited number of exams. Funding to cover exam costs is made possible through the Local Control and Accountability Plan, which allocates $1.85 million toward this effort. The percentage of 11th and 12th graders enrolled in one or more AP courses has increased steadily in recent years. Last year, 46 percent of these students enrolled in AP coursework, up 12 percentage points since 2013-14.

More Students Meet CSU and UC Requirements

The percentage of students meeting the “A-G” entrance requirements for the California State University and University of California systems continues to increase. While students who do not meet these requirements can still attend other colleges and universities, including community colleges, LBUSD has made a concerted effort to improve A-G completion rates. A-G completion rose 4 percent over last year, with students of color closing achievement gaps by significant margins. African American students closed the A-G achievement gap by 7 percent; Hispanic students by 8 percent; and Pacific Islander students by 12 percent.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

CSU The California State University

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LBUSD Graduates Earned $94 Million in Scholarships
The Class of 2017 in the Long Beach Unified School District earned $94.4 million in scholarships and grants. The total is a five-fold increase since a decade ago.

CSULB Enrollment Up
More than 800 Long Beach Unified School District graduates enrolled as freshmen at Cal State Long Beach last year, up 56 percent since the start of the Long Beach College Promise Initiative nearly 10 years ago. The Promise is a partnership with CSULB, Long Beach City College and the City of Long Beach to prepare more students for success in college and careers. This initiative includes a free first year at LBCC for graduates of LBUSD.

More Than 40 Career Pathways Offered
The school district offers more than 40 career-themed pathways at high schools, which use the proven Linked Learning approach combining college-focused academics, work-based learning and integrated support for students. By centering high school on industry themes, learning becomes more relevant, and students graduate with skills and confidence needed to succeed in college, career and life.

Resources Carefully Allocated to Improve Academic Progress
LBUSD is the third largest school district in California, with more than 74,000 students. The State of California provides funding to help meet the needs of students. The school district’s LCAP includes approximately $594 million of those state funds allocated specifically toward academic improvement and closing achievement gaps. As with most organizations, the largest expenditures in LBUSD go toward personnel costs. These resources provide for thousands of classroom teachers, counselors and school staff, including Advanced Placement and pathway coordinators working in specialized programs:

- **Literacy classes in grades K-3 ($19.7 million),** which help elementary students learn how to read. This expenditure includes the cost of 146 literacy teachers.

- **College and career readiness activities ($15 million),** such as free PSAT/SAT exams, free SAT preparatory programs including Saturday prep at the major high schools, free college-level courses and college campus field trips.

- **Advanced Placement courses and exams ($3.7 million),** such as registration fees and tutorials that help students pass their tests and earn college credits. This expenditure includes 17 additional Advanced Placement teachers as part of an expansion of course sections on subjects such as AP Computer Science, AP Calculus, AP Seminar and AP Research. Eight AP coordinators and five pathway coordinators have been added to help guide students toward college and career readiness.

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