

**Los Angeles Unified School District**  
**OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA RELATIONS**  
333 S. Beaudry Ave., 24th floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Phone: (213) 241-6766  
FAX: (213) 241-8952  
www.lausd.net



# News Release

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Contact: Shannon Haber, (213) 241-6766

## **L.A. Unified celebrates annual Classified Employee's Week**

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles Board of Education approved a measure Tuesday that honors its general workforce known as classified employees.

The resolution, sponsored by Board Vice President Dr. George J. McKenna III, and Board Member Mónica Ratliff, passed unanimously. The Los Angeles Unified School District, the nation's second-largest district, will observe May 15-21 as "Classified Employee's Week."

"It is always an honor and a privilege to recognize and celebrate the commitment and hard work of the thousands of Every Day Heroes that are our classified employees," said Board President Steve Zimmer.

Other board members also expressed their gratitude.

"We celebrate the 'Everyday Heroes' of our school family who work tirelessly to support the teaching and learning of our students," McKenna said. "So often, classified employees are the 'eyes and ears' of teachers and school staff, on- and off-campus. Your contributions are integral to our success as a District."

Added Board Member Mónica García: "Our classified employees are valued partners on the path to 100 percent graduation. You help to keep our students safe, healthy and ready to learn."

Said Board Member Mónica Ratliff: "As a teacher, I am keenly aware of how essential our classified staff are to the success of our students, schools and District. I am grateful to have the opportunity to draw attention to the vital contributions of our amazing classified staff. I hope school sites, principals and others join me in thanking our classified staff for all they do."

These employees contribute in many ways. Jobs vary from serving school lunches, maintaining school grounds; handling office paperwork and providing security on campuses, said Superintendent Michelle King.

"My recognition comes this week, but is meant to extend to every single day," King said. "Please accept my thanks—from the bottom of my heart—for all that you do in helping students achieve and in helping the District thrive."

Classified employees, so known because their jobs are filled from the general labor pool, also play a vital role in student achievement. Karla Gould, who heads the District's Personnel Commission, said this year's "exemplary" employee is Alona Murillo.

Murillo, a special education assistant at Bassett Elementary School, received the District's top award for classified employees at the board meeting. She aids students with language and math. Gould said she excels in her role, and shows dedication that extends beyond the workday.

"I just want to say 'thank you,' Murillo said, "and it is a pleasure to work with the kids I see every day."

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