

in 1992 to make condoms available for students unless parents contact the school nurse in writing denying permission.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will make condoms available at no cost to students who request them unless the parent or guardian, withdraw permission by submitting a written letter to the school nurse. In making condoms available, the District assumes no liability.

Parent/guardians who do not wish their son/daughter/student to be able to obtain condoms through the school's Condom Availability Program, can submit a written letter to the school nurse at any time.

PARENT, COMMUNITY AND STUDENT SERVICES - PARENT INVOLVEMENT

State Board of Education Policy #89-01

A critical dimension of effective schooling is parent engagement. Research has shown conclusively that parent involvement in a child's education improves student achievement. Furthermore, when parents are involved at school, their children achieve at higher levels, and schools are more successful.

IMPORTANT FACTS:

1. Families provide the primary education environment.
2. Parent involvement improves student achievement.
3. Parent involvement is most effective when it is comprehensive, supportive, long-lasting, and well-planned.
4. The benefits of parent involvement are evident at every level of schooling, from early childhood, at the elementary level, and continuing through high school.
5. Involving parents in supporting their children's education at home is not enough. To ensure the quality of schools as institutions serving the community, parents must be involved at all levels in the schools.
6. The extent of parent involvement in a child's education is more important to student success than family income or education.
7. The school and home must be partners and cannot be in isolation from one another. Families and schools need to collaborate to ensure student success in school and in life.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Los Angeles Unified School District recognizes that, when schools and parents form strong partnerships, children's potential for educational success improves significantly. The California Education Code and the *Parents As Equal Partners* Resolution guide all school and District practices regarding the engagement of parents in their children's education. In addition, the California Education Code requires that every school receiving federal funds establish a School Site Council (SSC). Parents must be involved in advising or, as members of the SSC, in making decisions about the school's educational program, the use of categorical funds to support these programs, and the school plan to involve parents in their children's education. The District has established a Title I Parent Involvement Policy and directs all schools to annually review and revise, as necessary, their school's Title I Parent Involvement Policy. Parents may visit www.achieve.lausd.net/families to view the LAUSD Parent Involvement Policy for Title I and non-Title I schools or receive more information about parent involvement policies. In addition, all schools with twenty-one or more English Learners (EL) students, not including Reclassified Fluent English Proficient (RFEP) students, are required to establish an English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC).

Through the School Experience Survey, parents are surveyed annually in the spring to provide LAUSD their perceptions on a variety of matters, including how well their schools welcome them as partners.

All LAUSD schools are encouraged to operate a parent center or provide a location where parent support services and trainings will occur. The School Goals for Parent Engagement sets standards for effective parental engagement and guides school efforts to effectively engage parents at all grade levels in a broad range of roles and activities. These goals are the following:

- Ensure parents are welcomed as equal partners.
- Provide parents opportunities to strengthen their capacity to support learning.
- Operate an effective volunteer program.
- Respond effectively to parent concerns and complaints.
- Maintain compliance regarding all parent involvement mandates.

Parent engagement programs at schools are developed at the school level, and school and parent center staff receive guidance and support through staff of the Parent, Community and Student Services (PCSS) and through each Parent and Community Engagement Team in each Local District (LD). All parents, including parents of English learners, migrant students, and students with disabilities are guaranteed access to school-based activities and programs. Upon request, schools will make special accommodations for parents who are disabled or who require other special consideration.

In addition, the Division of Special Education provides free resources for parents of students with disabilities, including offering them information about their child's education and ways to be involved. For more information, contact (213) 241-6701.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

The California Education Code, Section 51101, states that parents/guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools have the right, and should have the opportunity, to work together in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership with schools to help their children succeed, to be informed in advance about a school's rules, and to be informed of the procedures for visiting schools and observing classrooms.

The LAUSD Parent Bill of Rights and Responsibilities is an integral component of the *Parents as Equal Partners* Resolution which communicates the partnership role of families and schools in order to achieve student success. It also affirms the rights and responsibilities that parents have in advocating for their children's academic success.

Parents' Rights and Responsibilities to Ensure Their Child's Success

Parents as Equal Partners in the Education of Their Children, a resolution adopted by the Board of Education in December of 2010, embraces family strengths and assets as essential to the academic success of students and recognizes parents as the first and most important lifelong teachers of their children. To that end, families and schools assume their responsibility for student success and commit to a partnership that:

- Maintains high expectations for student achievement

- Ensures all children are college-and career-ready
- Promotes productive conversation and collaboration
- Reflects mutual respect and support

Parents Have the Right To:

- A free education that honors their child's learning and prepares them for college and careers
- A welcoming environment that values family assets and contributions to learning
- Information about the school's expectations, educational programs, policies and procedures
- The School Report Card to assess the quality of their child's school
- Visit their child's classroom and develop partnerships with teachers and staff
- Opportunities to learn how best to support education at home and at school
- Tutoring services and other learning supports for their child
- Choose the best school/programs available for their child
- File a formal complaint without fear of reprisal
- Translation/interpretation services to communicate effectively with school staff

Parents Have the Responsibility to:

- Promote literacy, high achievement, and a love for learning
- Ensure their child attends school every day, on time, and ready to learn
- Monitor and guide their child's academic progress to ensure success
- Confer with teachers and other school staff about their child's education
- Attend meetings and learning activities to be informed and support their child's education
- Express their level of satisfaction through the annual School Experience Survey
- Provide all information about their child as needed by the school
- Advocate for their child's education

PARENTS' RIGHT TO KNOW

The *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* requires that, upon request, parents be notified of the professional qualifications of their child's teacher in core academic subjects. This information includes:

- The type of credential the teacher holds.
- The teacher's college degree(s) and major(s).

A parent may also request information regarding the professional qualifications of a teacher assistant who provides services to his/her child.

Additionally, schools must provide timely notice to the parents of a child who has been assigned to, or has been taught in, a core academic subject for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet the NCLB teacher requirements.

THE SCHOOL VOLUNTER PROGRAM (SVP)

School volunteers assist schools by providing support to teachers and other staff through a variety of activities. The Parent, Community and Student Services and the Parent and Community Engagement teams at each Local District facilitate the processing of school volunteers, maintain a database of school volunteers and offer training classes for volunteers during the volunteer fairs and through parent center staff. School volunteers must apply online and meet basic health and safety requirements to ensure the well-being of all students and staff.

Parents interested in volunteering should access the online application via the PCSS website. For additional information on the volunteer program contact your local school or visit the PCSS website at www.achieve.lausd.net/families.

PERMITS AND STUDENT TRANSFERS

The District recognizes that the needs of individual students and families must be addressed. Consideration of desegregation goals, available space, and cost factors are necessarily involved in all aspects of the permit policy. Each school principal and the designated administrator in each Educational Service Center will provide information concerning permits to students, parents, and the community. Any person requesting a permit will be provided with the opportunity to apply for one.

No person will be denied information regarding the appeals process. The school or district that denies, cancels, or revokes a permit request will inform parents/guardians of appeal procedures. Falsified information or a change in criteria necessary to obtain or maintain a permit may be grounds for immediate denial or revocation of a permit.

Permit procedures information is available online at <http://studentpermits.lausd.net> and through the Pupil Services Office of Permits and Student Transfers at (213) 241-5255.

CALIFORNIA OPEN ENROLLMENT ACT

The State of California Open Enrollment Act, SBX5 4 (Romero) establishes a list of 1,000 "low achieving" schools for each school year. Parents/guardians at one of the 1,000 California Open Enrollment schools have the option to request a transfer to another school with a higher API school within or outside of the District. The application period is from November through January annually for the following school year. Learn about the California Open Enrollment Act, SBX5 4 (Romero) and student transfer options available to parents/ families at the <http://apply.lausd.net> website.

INTER-DISTRICT PERMITS

The Pupil Services Office of Permits and Student Transfers has administrative responsibility for inter-district permit requests and appeals. Inter-district permits may be issued to students transferring into, or out of the LAUSD. All inter-district permits must be processed through the Pupil Services Office of Permits and Student Transfers. School officials cannot grant, deny or revoke inter-district permits. An LAUSD permit application must be completed on-line at <http://studentpermits.lausd.net>. An application must be submitted within the designated