

L.A. COMPACT

A Collaboration to Transform Education in Los Angeles

COLLEGE PREPARED • CAREER READY

OVERVIEW

Without an effective public school system, Los Angeles will not be able to meet the economic, social and cultural challenges of the coming decades. Increasing diversity and multi-culturalism, globalism, the changing job market, technological advancements – these are just some of the issues that must be addressed if students in Los Angeles are to be adequately prepared for college, and sustainable jobs and careers in a 21st century global economy. The Los Angeles public education system faces a daunting task to keep pace with these challenges, especially in light of unprecedented economic times and budget cuts. While past Los Angeles public school reform efforts have had varied levels of success, there has never been a concerted, collaborative effort made by major Los Angeles institutions to prioritize problems and develop solutions to effect positive and lasting improvements in the area's public school system.

THE COLLABORATIVE

The L.A. Compact represents an unprecedented commitment of 18 major Los Angeles institutions to support significant directional changes to better prepare students in Los Angeles for college and sustainable jobs and careers. The L.A. Compact is established on the belief that all students can achieve at high levels and seeks to ensure that all students graduate from high school, and are ready for college and the 21st century workplace. The L.A. Compact focuses on areas of shared interest where all signers can work together, despite their differences. The current economic situation makes it imperative for these entities to closely collaborate and better leverage resources.

L.A. Compact Signers:

- ▶ Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District
- ▶ Board President, Los Angeles Unified School District
- ▶ Mayor, City of Los Angeles
- ▶ President, Los Angeles City Council
- ▶ President & CEO, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ President, Associated Administrators of Los Angeles
- ▶ President & CEO, United Way of Greater Los Angeles
- ▶ Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor/AFL-CIO
- ▶ Institutions of Higher Education (greater Los Angeles basin):
 - California Lutheran University
 - California State University, Dominguez Hills
 - California State University, Los Angeles
 - California State University, Northridge
 - Los Angeles Community College District
 - Loyola Marymount University
 - Mount St. Mary's College
 - Pepperdine University
 - University of California, Los Angeles
 - University of Southern California
 - Woodbury University

The L.A. Compact partners are working together to accomplish the following agreed upon goals, tied to specific measurements, so that progress and success can be assessed on an ongoing basis:

GOAL ONE: All students graduate from high school.

Measurements:

- ▶ 4-year graduation rates
- ▶ 9th graders on track to graduate
- ▶ 4-year and 5-year drop out rates
- ▶ Students proficient, improving or above in math and reading for elementary, middle and high schools
- ▶ Student satisfaction scores
- ▶ Parent satisfaction scores

GOAL TWO: All students have access to and are prepared for success in college.

Measurements:

- ▶ Percentage of graduates completing all required A-G courses with a C or better
- ▶ Percentage of students either concurrently enrolled in high school and post-secondary education or taking at least one college transfer course before leaving high school
- ▶ Remediation rates for all Los Angeles public high school graduates entering the CSU system
- ▶ Post-secondary enrollment rates of all Los Angeles public high school graduates
- ▶ Degree completion rates for all Los Angeles public high school students in post-secondary education

GOAL THREE: All students have access to pathways to sustainable jobs and careers.

Measurements:

- ▶ Number of students who graduate from Los Angeles public high schools with at least one part-time, work-based employment opportunity
- ▶ Number of students who graduate from Los Angeles public high schools with at least one quality, career-focused employment opportunity
- ▶ Number of "disconnected" youth and young adults (those 16-24 yrs. neither in school nor in the workforce) in Los Angeles
- ▶ Number of thematic personalized learning environments, including small schools, in the Los Angeles public school system
- ▶ Percentage of Individual Graduation Plans completed by LAUSD students by the end of their junior year

To achieve these goals, the L.A. Compact signers will be focused on eight specific strategic areas, each including a number of initiatives and ideas described below:

1. ACHIEVE HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING IN CLASSROOMS

- ▶ Resources and options for professional development at school sites
- ▶ Web-based data tools for teachers
- ▶ Research-based rubric on high quality teaching
- ▶ New performance evaluation model for district leaders, administrators, teachers and other employees
- ▶ Curriculum improvements and classroom upgrades

- 2. BUILD COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP CAPACITY**
 - ▶ Assessment of current leadership programs/innovative models
 - ▶ Plan for new formalized leadership program
 - ▶ Increased school site support and accountability
 - ▶ Additional scholarships for LAUSD leadership programs
- 3. STREAMLINE AND DECENTRALIZE OPERATIONS**
 - ▶ Movement of funding to school sites
 - ▶ More equitable and transparent strategies for allocating resources to schools
 - ▶ Financially feasible plan for opening more small schools and personalized learning environments
- 4. EXPAND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES THAT WORK**
 - ▶ Replicate high quality, inclusive and innovative school models
 - ▶ Support and resources for stakeholders submitting Public School Choice plans to operate LAUSD schools
 - ▶ Transparent and consistent process to select new school proposals
 - ▶ Codifying/sharing of innovative schools' best practices
- 5. IMPLEMENT A NEW ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**
 - ▶ Full development/implementation of new School Report Card for Los Angeles public schools
 - ▶ Plan on how to use School Report Card findings to better allocate resources
 - ▶ Third party advisory body to annually review Report Card and other tools
 - ▶ Intervention strategies for low-achieving schools
 - ▶ Statewide comprehensive enrollment, degree completion and employment success database
- 6. COORDINATE ADVOCACY ON PRIORITY EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND FUNDING ISSUES**
 - ▶ Support and participation in shared advocacy agenda on issues of mutual concern
 - ▶ Commitment to actively support agenda for a sustained period
- 7. PROVIDE STUDENTS MULTIPLE PATHWAYS FOR WORKFORCE AND CAREER PREPARATION**
 - ▶ "Linked Learning" approach that ties academics to real-world applications
 - ▶ Thematic small schools and personalized learning environments
 - ▶ School/employer partnerships
 - ▶ 21st century skills focus
 - ▶ College classroom and work experience; individual student graduation plans
 - ▶ Support of Los Angeles Workforce Collaborative and its programs
 - ▶ Joint initiatives for disconnected youth
 - ▶ Exploration of blue ribbon panel on adult and career/technical education
- 8. ENSURE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ALL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**
 - ▶ Strategic linking of City/County resources, especially around high-need high schools
 - ▶ Parent engagement campaign
 - ▶ School safety data tracking plan
 - ▶ Gang mitigation initiatives on campuses/around school sites
 - ▶ Expanded Pre-K programs in high-need communities

These strategies and initiatives are linked directly to the agreement's goals, and backed by individual commitments made by each L.A. Compact signer. The full L.A. Compact document and individual signer commitments can be found at www.lacompact.org.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The L.A. Compact signers agree to conduct and publicize an annual review of the progress made collectively on the L.A. Compact goals and strategies; the review will also track each L.A. Compact signer's progress on its individual commitments.

By signing the **L.A. Compact**, we pledge to put the interests of students first. We also commit to work together to meet the goals outlined, support the joint strategies described in this agreement and measure our progress on a regular basis.




Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor, City of Los Angeles



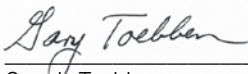
Ramon C. Cortines
Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District



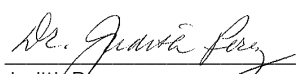
Eric Garcetti
President, Los Angeles City Council



Mónica García
President, Board of Education, Los Angeles Unified School District



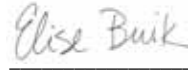
Gary L. Toebben
President & CEO, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce



Judith Perez
President, Associated Administrators of Los Angeles



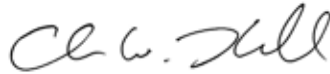
María Elena Durazo
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO



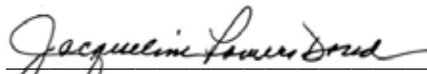
Elise Buik
President & CEO, United Way of Greater Los Angeles

Institutions of Higher Education

In addition, 11 independent Los Angeles area institutions of higher education have joined together to collaborate on the L.A. Compact. Signatures of the leaders of each institution follow.



Christopher Kimball
President of California Lutheran University



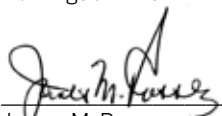
Jacqueline Powers Doud
President of Mount St. Mary's College



Mildred García
President of California State University,
Dominguez Hills



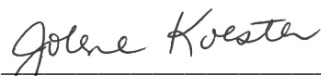
Andrew K. Benton
President of Pepperdine University



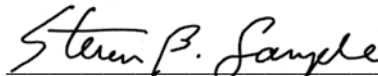
James M. Rosser
President of California State University,
Los Angeles



Gene D. Block
Chancellor of University of California
Los Angeles



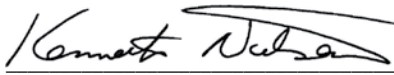
Jolene Koester
President of California State University, Northridge



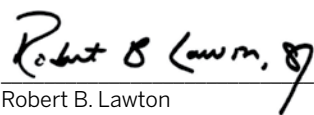
Steven B. Sample
President of University of Southern California



Tyree Wieder
Chancellor of Los Angeles Community
College District



Kenneth R. Nielsen
President of Woodbury University



Robert B. Lawton
President of Loyola Marymount University