

**Subject Line:** Supporting Students during the Pandemic

**Body of Text:**

Members of the APHEN Committee:

To best support our student stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are writing to express our strong support of the following item.

**The LAUSD encourages stakeholder participation by reinstating the Parent Engagement and Special Education Committees.**

When the LAUSD closed campuses due to the pandemic, it also suspended all School Board Committees. With these closures almost a year old, we requested that the Parent Engagement and Special Education be allowed to resume work. The pandemic has caused unprecedented disruptions to our children's education. The effects have been especially difficult for children with special education needs. Parent and community input is important as the district maneuvers through the continued physical closure of our schools and plans are made for the eventual return to school sites. These two committees are essential for providing a means for this feedback to be given to the people elected to represent the community's interests.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please let me know if you have any questions about this information or about our request.

Sincerely,  
Northridge West Neighborhood Council

Cc:  
John Lee, APHEN Chair  
Mike Bonin, APHEN Vice-Chair  
Mark Ridley-Thomas, LA City Council Member  
Eric Villanueva, Legislative Assistant for the APHEN Committee  
Joe Buscaino, LA City Council Member  
Scott M. Schmerelson, LAUSD Board Member  
Austin Beutner, LAUSD Superintendent  
Dr. Margaret Kim, LACES Principal  
Cecily Myart-Cruz, UTLA President