Mónica García
President, Los Angeles Board of Education

Mónica’s Message
A State of Educational Malpractice in California.

It is imperative that we fight back the draconian budget cuts from Sacramento. Reducing services to children and schools is not good for Los Angeles or for California. We need more choices in California beyond the repeated cuts to services for children, seniors, the sick and the poor. We need a budget that includes new revenues as part of the solution.

At the same time we need to push for a fair budget, our mission to improve implementation of the A-G college readiness policy, to widen the scope of exciting reform initiatives that will move us forward toward 100% graduation, and to continue our work to support English Learners and Standard English Learners must remain at the top of our agenda.

I look forward to strengthening our collaborations as we meet these challenges together with energy and urgency.

In the spirit of hope,

Mónica García
President, Los Angeles Board of Education

Proudly serving the communities of:
Boyle Heights
Chinatown
Cypress Park
Downtown Los Angeles
Echo Park
El Sereno
Elysian Park
Koreatown
Lincoln Heights
Little Tokyo
MacArthur Park
Pico-Union
South Los Angeles

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Small Learning Community Leads From Board District 2 Share at Roundtable Event

Small Learning Community (SLC) lead teachers from nearly all Board District 2 high schools recently met with Mónica to discuss their successes and challenges as educators at a roundtable event on April 30.

Leaders shared their commitment to students and their dedication to teaching. Many reported significant progress they have made with students in increasing attendance rates, drop out prevention, and improved test scores.

At the same time, many leads voiced frustration regarding issues of autonomy, central office commitments, budget, and decision-making.

“T really appreciated hearing our SLC leads’ perspectives, because they are the ones on the ground with our students every day,” Mónica said. “Their feedback gave me a lot of valuable insight that will help me advocate for what works at our schools.”

Save these dates!

*Latinas Lighting the Way*
Leadership event for students of LAUSD Board President Mónica García and Board of Public Works Commissioner Cynthia Ruiz
Wednesday, June 4, 4-6 p.m.
More details TBA

*Town Hall on the Budget*
with CA Assemblymember Kevin de León and LAUSD Board President Mónica García
Thursday, June 5, 6-8 p.m. at Farmdale Elementary School (2660 Ruth Swiggett Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90032)

For information, call 213-241-6180.
NEWS BRIEFS

MÓNICA GARCÍA, BOARD PRESIDENT

LAUSD BOARD DISTRICT 2 NEWSLETTER, ISSUE 3, VOL. 2, MAY 2008

NEWS BRIEFS

MÓNICA MEETS WITH KOREATOWN COMMUNITY LEADERS

Key leaders in the Koreatown community met with Mònica on April 25 to share their perspectives on education and to discuss ways the local community can become more engaged with LAUSD.

In particular, participants shared how immigrant Korean American parents face language barriers in their efforts to be active in their children's schools. They also discussed school safety and bullying, how faculty and administrators can make all diverse cultures feel welcome and respected, and how community organizations can partner with schools to support students.

LAUSD CELEBRATES NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

Thank you, LAUSD teachers! We join in the national and statewide celebration recognizing teachers for their dedication and hard work.

BOARD ENDORSES EARLY COMMITMENT TO COLLEGE

The Board of Education voted on April 22 to support the Early Commitment to College as contained in Senate Bill 890.

SB 890 creates a voluntary tool to support students to finish high school and have the opportunity to go to college.

Mònica authored the resolution, which was co-sponsored by Board Member Marlene Canter and Board Vice President Yolie Flores-Aguilar.

APRIL 23 DECLARED DENIM DAY AT LAUSD

The Board of Education voted to declare April 23, 2008, Denim Day in order to promote prevention of sexual assault, to help make it possible for more survivors of sexual assault to reach out and find help, and to help men and boys to understand the critical role they play in preventing violence against women.

Mònica authored the resolution, which was also co-sponsored by Board Member Julie Korenstein.

MÓNICA IN THE NEWS

Más escuelas en el LAUSD / More schools in LAUSD

Check out Mònica’s April 30 Op Ed in La Opinión celebrating progress in building new schools and relieving overcrowding for students.

To see the article online, go to: http://www.impre.com/laopinion/opinion/2008/4/30/mas-escuelas-en-el-laUSD-52632-1.html

LAUSD LEADS THE NATION IN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

On April 26 LAUSD kicked off a series of events throughout the district organized to celebrate national School Building Week and to highlight progress in building new schools and repairing existing facilities.

The kick-off event was held at the new Edward R. Roybal Learning Center with Chief Facilities Executive Guy Mehula.

"School Building Week was an opportunity to recognize the leadership and partnerships that have resulted in a better quality of education for our children," said Mònica.

After decades of neglect to its aging buildings and overcrowded classrooms, LAUSD has completed 72 new schools and will approve the final 2 projects in May to complete the plan for a total of 132 news schools.