



**Hon. José Huizar  
President, Board of Education  
Los Angeles Unified School District**

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**BIOGRAPHY**

**José Huizar** was elected to represent the Second District of the Los Angeles Board of Education on April 10, 2001. The district is composed of the communities of Boyle Heights, El Sereno, Chinatown, Echo Park, Little Tokyo, Koreatown, Lincoln Heights, Mid-Wilshire, the Pico/Union area, and Downtown Los Angeles. In July 2003, Mr. Huizar's Board colleagues elected him to serve as Board President.

A champion for educational justice within our school system, Mr. Huizar has earned a reputation as an aggressive policymaker who tackles difficult issues and gets results for LAUSD students and their families. He has worked hard to secure the building of new schools throughout the District and has been a leader in implementing financial and business reforms at LAUSD. Additionally, he has sponsored resolutions calling for district-wide implementation of the English Language Learner Initiative, and has effectively advocated for strategies to close the academic achievement gap. Mr. Huizar has recently been profiled in the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of 25 figures in the Los Angeles area that "stand out for their potential to shape lives."

Mr. Huizar began his career working on education policy for the California State Legislature, and later worked at various Downtown law firms. He currently serves as an attorney at Escobar, Avila, Christopher and Ruiz, LLP.

A native of Zacatecas, Mexico, Mr. Huizar was raised in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of East Los Angeles. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from U.C. Berkeley, a Master's in Public Affairs and Urban and Regional Planning from Princeton University, and his Juris Doctor from UCLA School of Law. He currently resides in the El Sereno neighborhood of East Los Angeles with his wife Richelle and their daughters Emilia and Isabella Rose.

### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

- Board of Directors, White Memorial Medical Center Charitable Foundation
- Board of Directors, Latino Issues Forum
- Advisory Committee, Puente Project
- Former Member, Governor's Advisory Selection Committee, UC Board of Regents
- Former Commissioner, City of Los Angeles, East Area Planning Commission
- Former Commissioner, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument Authority

### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- 2004 UCLA Latino Alumni Association, Alumnus of the Year Award
- 2004 Eastmont Community Center, Community Service Award
- 2004 SALEF, Public Service Award
- 2004 Inner City Struggle, Gonzálo and Silvia Méndez Award
- 2004 Princeton Club, Service to the Community Award
- 2004 Youth for Progress, Eleanor Roosevelt Initiative Award
- 2004 *Amigos de SER* (Service Employment Redevelopment) Award for Leadership
- 2004 Los Angeles Headquarters Association, Education Award
- 2003 LAUSD, Division of Adult and Career Education, Friend of Career Education Award
- 2003 Mexican American Bar Association, Justice Cruz Reynoso Award
- 2003 *Proyecto Pastoral* at Dolores Mission, "*Agradecimiento de la Comunidad*" Award
- 2003 Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair, Public Advocate Award
- 2002 Toyota and Los Angeles Dodgers, "*Héroe de la Comunidad*" Award
- 2002 *Madres Del Este De Los Angeles*, "*Sí Se Puede*" Award