Hard Choices
Reconnecting resource choices to student learning
Investing in student learning while reducing costs to address the budget imbalance are inextricably linked.
Increase transparency and establish a set of facts
Hard Choices Report

1. Increase transparency and establish a set of facts

2. Different approach to planning and budgeting
LAUSD Students who Met or Exceeded Standards in English and Math by Ethnicity and English Language Learners Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>LAUSD</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learners</td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAUSD Proficiency Rates in Reading and Math for Fourth and Eighth Grade Students by Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>African American</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>African American</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Smarter Balanced Assessment Tests

2017 National Assessment Educational Progress (NAEP)
LAUSD Principals In-School Duration Average by School Need

Source: ERS Resource Map for LAUSD, page 31
### Teacher Time Devoted to Planning, Collaboration, and Professional Learning Days Compared to Strategic Practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher Individual Planning Per Day (minutes)</th>
<th>Teacher Collaborative Time Per Week (minutes)</th>
<th>Teacher Days Devoted to Professional Learning (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Practice</td>
<td>Strategic Practice</td>
<td>Strategic Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ERS Resource Map for LAUSD, page 27

LA Unified Advisory Task Force
June 2018
Weighted Per Pupil Funding by School Level

Source: ERS Resource Map for LAUSD
Percent of Schools with Multiple School Designations by School Level

65% percent of high schools have more than one designation and 23% of high schools have 3 or more school designations.

Source: ERS Resource Map for LAUSD, page 49

LA Unified Advisory Task Force
June 2018
*LAUSD 2016-17 Budget

Source: ERS Resource Map for LAUSD, page 64. LAUSD 2016-17 Adjusted Budget

(Dollars in Billions)

*Both LA Unified and the Advisory Task Force included pension costs as a part of TK-12 operating expenses as reflected in the figure above, which brings per pupil spending to $14,700. ERS excluded pensions from its analysis of TK-12 operating expenses to ensure an accurate comparison with peer districts, which brings per pupil to $13,600.
LAUSD Actual and Forecasted Revenue and Expenditure


LA Unified Advisory Task Force
June 2018
LAUSD Reserve Balance as a Percent of General Fund

Source: LAUSD 2016-17 Final Budget, Appendix E
(Dollars in Millions)

LA Unified Advisory Task Force
June 2018
Long-Term Plan

- Investments in student learning, teaching and school leadership
Long-Term Plan

• Investments in student learning, teaching and school leadership

• School funding based on student need
Long-Term Plan

• Investments in student learning, teaching and school leadership

• School funding based on student need

• Remove structural deficit
Long-Term Plan

- Investments in student learning, teaching and school leadership
- School funding based on student need
- Remove structural deficit
- Align resources with District goals

LA Unified Advisory Task Force
June 2018
Hard choices can no longer be avoided

Update on School District Retiree Health Benefits

Introduction

Rising Cost of Retiree Health Benefits Placing Added Pressure on District Budgets. Most school districts in California provide their retired employees with health benefits at least until they reach age 65. These benefits are becoming an increasingly important issue for districts given their rising cost. Adjusted for inflation, districts today are spending about twice as much on retiree health benefits as they did in the early 2000s. This added cost pressure comes at a time when districts are facing other pressures—most notably, rising pension costs and expectations to enhance services for low-income students and English learners.

Legislature Could Benefit From Better Understanding of These Issues. Knowing more about school districts’ retiree health benefits could help the Legislature in various ways. It could help the Legislature understand why certain districts spend more on these benefits than other districts. It also could help the Legislature better understand how proposals affecting the cost of health care could interact with district budgets. Additionally, it could help the Legislature better assess school districts’ overall fiscal health.

This Web Post Provides an Update background—describing how retirees are paid for these benefits.
Seize this time as an opportunity to build the public school district our communities deserves