

Superintendent Beutner
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Superintendent Beutner,

We are writing to protest the decision by the LAUSD School Board to leave LAUSD District 5 unrepresented until March of 2019 when a special election can be held, or later if a run-off is necessary. It is clear the members of the LAUSD School Board are unwilling to arrive at a compromise position due to their ideological differences, however it is unconscionable for the Board to leave approximately 16.5% of the students of Los Angeles Unified School District unrepresented for an entire school year. Board Member Vladovic's position that the decision should be left to the voters essentially leaves tens of thousands of families in District 5 disenfranchised for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Discretionary funding, which some schools were counting on, has been halted. The staff hired by former Board Member Ref Rodriguez continues to function, now hiring its own replacements as people move on, with no recognition of the fact that Mr. Rodriguez' guilty plea to conspiracy during his election invalidates their right to do so. Just this week in Eagle Rock, a charter school closed abruptly, leaving hundreds of families racing to find spots for their children with no support from their Board Member.

As representatives of the students and families of District 5 within LA City borders, we demand that the Board appoint an appropriate person with ties to District 5 to the open Board seat as soon as possible. We understand that the ideological differences between the members of the School Board make this difficult, but we ask that an independent voice be found, preferably one who agrees not to run as an incumbent in the upcoming Special Election, and is necessary to continue to support the families in District 5 for the coming year.

If no compromise can be met, we will recommend that the City and State Attorneys General, and the Department of Education direct the LAUSD School Board to fill the seat immediately with all the influence and resources of those offices.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
The Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council
The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
The Echo Park Neighborhood Council
The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

(Pending approval)

The Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council