



February 9, 2012

Dr. John Deasy  
Superintendent  
Los Angeles Unified Independent School District  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

RE: Opposition to the proposed elimination of Adult Education for the 2012-2013 School Budget

Dear Dr. Deasy:

Californians Together is a coalition of parent, professional and civil rights organization focused on improving policy and practice for California's English learners. We understand the extreme budget crisis that school districts are facing and the horrible choices that must be made in order to just pay the bills. We know that the Adult Education funds have been cut 20% and placed in the "flex item" for state funding. To the credit of the district, the Adult Ed program has been maintained.

However, the total elimination of Adult Ed programs for the 2012-13 school year is a disaster for so many reasons. The LAUSD Adult Education and Career Division has played a critical role in supporting parents and older students with much needed Citizenship Preparation, English as a Second Language, Occupational Programs, Elementary and High School Graduation classes. Where will adult students receive their GEDs, take courses to become citizens, and learn English or job skills to better themselves, their families and our city?

The demand for English as a Second Language classes demonstrates the commitment that parents make to support their children's language development and academic progress. The elimination of these programs will have a direct effect on the achievement of their children in K-12 program.

The LAUSD Division of Adult and Career Education supports the fabric of our city's economy through job skills and GED. It supports our high school students through Career Training and High School Graduation. It supports all LAUSD students' parents through Family Literacy, Citizenship and ESL Classes and Parent Engagement and Education.

We ask that you reconsider your proposal to eliminate this funding and classes and prioritize the program and classes to be able to cut in proportion to the reduction of funds from the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael B Matsuda".

Michael Matsuda  
President

Cc: Board of Education Members