



Board of Trustees

Los Angeles Community College District

ACTION

Com. No. BT5	Division BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Date: August 9, 2017
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Subject: **RESOLUTION - IN SUPPORT OF ERADICATING STUDENT HOMELESSNESS AND FOOD INSECURITY**

The following resolution is presented by Board Members Svonkin and Fong:

WHEREAS, Approximately 51% of Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) students report an income at or below the poverty line; and

WHEREAS, Education is the great equalizer and we must do all we can to ensure that students in LACCD colleges are able to undertake their studies without worrying about a roof over their heads or enough food to eat; and

WHEREAS, To better assess the needs of LACCD students, the Board of Trustees requested a comprehensive needs assessment survey of the diverse LACCD student body using the best available sampling methods as the basis for making strategic and decisive improvements in student services; and

WHEREAS, In collaboration with the University of Wisconsin HOPE Lab and the Association of Community College Trustees, LACCD students were asked to take part in the Survey on Food and Housing Insecurity Among Community College Students; and

WHEREAS, Report findings indicate that of the over 230,000 students in the Los Angeles Community College District, 62.7% of students surveyed are experiencing food insecurity, 38.3% of those experiencing food insecurity were in the "very low food security" category, 55% of students surveyed are experiencing some form of housing insecurity, and 18.6% of students surveyed have experienced homelessness in the past year; and

WHEREAS, The report and its recommendations provide fresh impetus for LACCD and its partners to move forward in finding creative solutions to challenges faced by many LACCD students; and

Chancellor and Secretary of the Board of Trustees
 By *A. Anderson* Date 8/9/2017

Buelna <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moreno <u><i>MV</i></u>
Fong <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Svonkin <u><i>S</i></u>
Hoffman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veres <u><i>Absent</i></u>
Kamlager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Martinez <u><i>-</i></u> Student Trustee Advisory Vote

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WHEREAS, Specific recommendations set forth in the report include: trainings and workshops for faculty, staff, and administrators to increase awareness of student needs; expanded efforts to assist students in gaining access to federal and state financial aid; and increasing collaboration with local housing resources to improve student access to existing housing programs; and

WHEREAS, A critical component to realizing the recommendations contained in the report is the continued support of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and agencies like the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority which work to reduce incidents of homelessness and food insecurity which is vital to student educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, in its efforts to eliminate homelessness, has committed to working with LACCD on tackling an issue that prevents students from fully achieving their educational goals in the community college system; and

WHEREAS, LACCD is committed to improving service to housing and food insecure students by embracing legislative changes; and

WHEREAS, LACCD will continue to refer students to EOPS, CalWorks, CARE, and other special programs to assist students in gaining access to federal and state financial aid in support of the completion of academic programs and to support education related costs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That LACCD will continue to collaborate with the County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, and local homelessness services to improve student access to needed services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chancellor will work with college presidents and report back to the Board of Trustees with updates and strategies focused on addressing the issues associated with student homelessness and food insecurity.