

Board Meeting – January 20, 2026

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

- A. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 35: To Recognize February 2-6, 2026 as National School Counseling Week

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Board Resolution No. 35 as part of the regular Board meeting on January 20, 2026 and further recommends that the Board recognize February 2 - 6 , 2026, as National School Counseling Week. The Board Resolution acknowledges the vital role that school counselors play in the success of our public schools and in the lives of our students and the academic community as a whole.

Board Resolution No. 35 is attached.

NEXT STEPS:

- Send out LACOE Communication to the 80 districts to encourage districts, schools and community organizations to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities to help spread the important message.
- LACOE will host the MHSC Regional Network Meeting during the month of February where counselors will be recognized.
- School counselors from across Los Angeles County will be invited to attend a February board meeting to be recognized.
- National School Counseling Week will be acknowledged on LACOE social media outlets including Instagram, Facebook and the Counseling Learning platform on the UCLA Center for Excellence Website.
- LACOE counseling staff will share via the MHSC Unit Newsletter events and promotional activities related to National School Counseling Week.
- Anna Heinbuch, Coordinator II and Melissa Guilespe, LACOE 2025 School Counselor of the Year, will be guests on the February episode of Let Me Add to That, highlighting the use of social media to increase engagement with the school community and bring awareness to the school counseling profession.

BOARD RESOLUTION

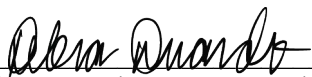
No. 35: 2025-26

School Counseling Week - February 2-6, 2026

- WHEREAS,** Our children are our future and our most valuable resource and providing them with appropriate guidance and direction is our most important responsibility; and
- WHEREAS,** school counselors are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development; and
- WHEREAS,** students benefit significantly from having a professional school counselor on their school site; and
- WHEREAS,** school counselors help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal and social growth of their children; and
- WHEREAS,** school counselors work with teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and
- WHEREAS,** professional school counselors are dedicated education professionals who work in collaboration with families, schools and communities to develop and promote comprehensive counseling programs and services for our youth; and
- WHEREAS,** schools and communities benefit from the expertise and guidance of professional school counselors providing academic, career and personal/social development; and
- WHEREAS,** the nation's more than 100,000 professional school counselors are charged with the responsibility of addressing critical issues and providing diligent care for all students through implementation of a standards-based counseling program; and
- WHEREAS,** as credentialed professionals trained to support students' emotional and academic wellbeing, school counselors are best positioned to assist students and to deliver the necessary mental health supports and services to students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Board of Education joins Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Debra Duardo and the American School Counselor Association in declaring February 2 to 6, 2026, as "School Counseling Week" in order to salute the vital role that professional school counselors play in the success of our public schools and the future of our children.

ADOPTED this 20th day of January 2026, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent



James Cross
Board President