

Board Meeting – August 18, 2026

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

D. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 4 to Recognize
September 2026 as National Suicide Prevention Month

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Resolution No. 4 at its regular meeting on August 18, 2026 and recognize September 2026 as National Suicide Prevention Month. The resolution encourages communities to observe the month through appropriate programs and activities that raise awareness of suicide prevention, promote help-seeking and reduce mental health stigma.

Resolution No. 4 follows on the next page.

Next Steps:

- The Los Angeles County Office of Education is launching a countywide suicide prevention and mental health promotion initiative for students, families and school staff. The plan expands prevention and early intervention training for educators and school support staff, enhances campus wellness programs, promotes student-led peer-to-peer campaigns and strengthens school-community mental health service and referral networks. School district employees will also receive 24/7 confidential counseling, crisis response and wellness workshops.

BOARD RESOLUTION
No. 4: 2026-27
Recognizing September 2026 as National Suicide Prevention Month

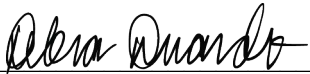
- WHEREAS,** suicide remains a significant public health concern in the United States, impacting individuals, families, schools and communities nationwide and was the 10th leading cause of death in the United States in 2024 according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC, 48,824 people died by suicide in the United States in 2024, approximately one death every 11 minutes; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's About Suicide Prevention page, suicide affects people of all ages and remains a leading cause of death among youth and young adults, including the second leading cause of death among people ages 10 to 34; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the 2025-26 California Healthy Kids Survey, between 8 and 12 percent of secondary students across grades 7-12 reported seriously considering attempting suicide during the past year, underscoring the need for comprehensive school-based suicide prevention and mental health supports;
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's State of the State report, in 2024 California recorded 4,022 deaths by suicide, with a suicide mortality rate of 9.6 deaths per 100,000 residents; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's State of the State report, in 2024 an estimated 14.3 million adults in the United States seriously considered suicide, 4.6 million made a suicide plan and 2.2 million attempted suicide; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's Vital Signs Report (2018) approximately half of people who die by suicide did not have a known diagnosed mental health condition at the time of their death; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's Risk and Protective Factors for Suicide page, suicide risk is influenced by a range of interconnected factors, including relationship problems, substance use, physical health concerns and financial, legal, employment or housing challenges, with or without a diagnosed mental health condition; and
- WHEREAS,** stigma surrounding mental health and suicide can prevent people at risk from seeking help, hinder prevention efforts and compound the trauma experienced by survivors of suicide loss and people with lived experience of suicidal thoughts or behaviors; and

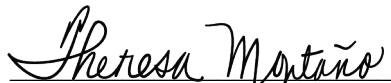
WHEREAS, September 10 is recognized globally as World Suicide Prevention Day, organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention and co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), making September an appropriate month to promote suicide prevention awareness and action; and

WHEREAS, LACOE is committed to strengthening suicide prevention and mental health advocacy by providing training, resources and support and by prioritizing the mental health and well-being of students, families and staff;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and the Los Angeles County Office of Education Superintendent hereby recognize September 2026 as National Suicide Prevention Month; promote public understanding of mental health and suicide prevention; encourage early identification, intervention and help-seeking; and call upon educational communities to foster safe, supportive environments that protect the mental health and wellbeing of students, families and staff.

ADOPTED this 18th day of August 2026, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.


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


Theresa Montaño, Ed.D.
Board President