

Long Beach Press Telegram

Long Beach Unified school board member Felton Williams attends White House ceremony



Felton Williams

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Long Beach Unified School District belongs to the Council of Great City Schools, the main coalition of urban schools in the U.S. LBUUSD was among 60 large urban school districts to take part in “A Pledge by America’s Great City Schools” to better the academic and social outcomes of young men and boys of color in school. These measures include boosting college and career preparation for males of color and lowering the dropout and suspension rates of such youths.

Representatives of the school districts agreed that they have an obligation to help young males of color succeed academically and socially because roughly 32 percent of the nation’s school-age

African American males and 39 percent of nation's school-age Hispanic males attend urban public schools.

“Our job as urban educators is not to reflect or perpetuate the inequities that too many of our males of color face; our job is to eliminate those inequities — and that is what we pledge to do,” said Michael Casserly, executive director of the Council of Great City Schools, in a statement. “We are pleased to join forces today with the White House, the U.S. Department of Education, and our other partners in an unprecedented shared commitment to improve the educational and social opportunities of our young men of color.”