



Austin Beutner  
Superintendent



Los Angeles County Supervisor

**HILDA L. SOLIS**

First District • Chair

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to share our progress to provide vaccinations to communities most impacted by the virus – low-income communities of color. In a short period of time, your administration has taken bold actions to make sure more doses of the vaccine are available and we share your goal to ensure there is priority given to our communities hardest hit to end this pandemic once and for all – and allow a safe return to school.

The County of Los Angeles, its Public Health Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District (Los Angeles Unified) have agreed to use school sites to provide vaccinations to all in the community. Schools are trusted, local institutions and, importantly, are located in every neighborhood. This is critically important in communities that may lack access to healthcare services. For example, in Boyle Heights, where the median household income is less than \$33,000, there are 22 public schools, 2 drug stores, 2 fire stations and no stadiums. Many families in the communities we serve lack access to transportation and cannot afford to take a day off work to travel across town to wait in line for a dose of the vaccine. The same is true for other low-income communities in the Los Angeles area and across the nation.

Each entity brings unique capabilities to our partnership.

- Since this crisis began, schools have proven their ability to meet the needs of the community on a dramatic scale, operating food distribution centers at schools which have provided 100 million meals along with 19 million items of much-needed supplies to families, providing computers and internet access to 500,000 students, and operating COVID testing centers at schools that have administered more than 400,000 tests to staff members, students and their families – the largest school-based program in the nation.
- Los Angeles Unified has the staffing, both clinical and logistical, to begin administering vaccinations now. In addition, Anthem Blue Cross and Health Net, partners in Los

Angeles Unified's school-based COVID-19 testing program, have committed to provide support for a school-based vaccination effort.

- Microsoft built for Los Angeles Unified an easy-to-use App that allows individuals to schedule vaccine appointments and the data to be shared with relevant public health authorities. Microsoft is connecting the District's existing technology capabilities with the vaccine platform Microsoft has deployed in other cities and states across the country. This platform includes registration and scheduling, reporting on complications or adverse effects, tracking of vaccines in stock, contactless appointment check-in and data capture at time of appointment, rules to sort high-risk individuals and offer waitlists to low-risk individuals and dashboards to view data, among other features.
- Los Angeles County has received commitment from federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) – core to your vaccine plan – to join this partnership and ensure residents are connected to culturally and linguistically competent health care options. That includes deploying our network of promotores and community health workers to these sites.

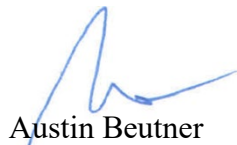
While the number of doses of vaccine may be today's challenge, tomorrow's will be equity, access and trust. We believe our partnership between the nation's largest county and the second largest school district can be a model to address these issues and achieve the impressive goal of vaccinating at least 75-80 percent of the American population your administration has set.

As we begin implementation of this program, we would respectfully ask your administration to consider providing an additional allotment of vaccine doses for this pilot program, which will help provide access in the communities hardest hit by the virus. As we prove this model can work, this can be an example for other local communities across the country.

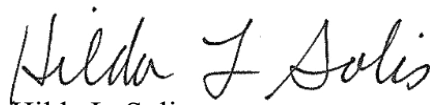
We are ready to work together and demonstrate how local agencies can help lead our nation on a path to recovery.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Austin Beutner  
Superintendent  
Los Angeles Unified School District



Hilda L. Solis  
Chair  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors