

January 26, 2022

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Megan K. Reilly, Interim LAUSD Superintendent
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Ms. Reilly and Ms. Yoshimoto-Towery,

We are writing this letter to demand an immediate suspension of all district-mandated assessments not required by the state or federal government.

For years now, UTLA has advocated against the over-testing of our students. Parents, communities, and researchers across the country agree that over-assessing students is harmful and does not positively impact overall student achievement. Over-assessing students during a pandemic only exacerbates the problem.

The pandemic continues to highlight the need for our educational programs to prioritize the emotional and physical well-being of our students, staff, and communities. Instead, the district is taxing students with unnecessary stress brought about from extra and unneeded assessments.

The required state assessments being administered this year are certainly sufficient. Asking for more examinations is unhealthy for students living through this exhausting crisis.

The pandemic has caused so much havoc and painful tragedy. At this moment, our schools are facing constantly changing variables that impact the daily instructional program. Our students have collectively experienced trauma and need a bigger focus on social-emotional learning and less pressure from unnecessary district assessments.

These unnecessary assessments should not be another source of anxiety for students and families at this time. To expect our students to take exams beyond what is required by the state and federal governments this school year is indefensible.

LAUSD has all the authority to suspend these extra assessments, and we are demanding that this happens immediately.

In Unity,



Cecily Myart-Cruz
UTLA President



Alex Orozco
UTLA Treasurer
Assessment Taskforce Chair

Attachments: LAUSD Assessment Table and District Comprehensive Assessment Program

CC: Alberto M. Carvalho, Incoming LAUSD Superintendent
Kelly Gonez, Board President – District 6
Monica Garcia, LAUSD School Board Member – District 2
Jackie Goldberg, LAUSD School Board Member – District 5
George McKenna, LAUSD School Board Member – District 1
Nick Melvoin, LAUSD School Board Member – District 4
Tanya Ortiz, LAUSD School Board Member – District 7
Scott Schmerelson, LAUSD School Board Member – District 3