

**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO  
THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

**SUBJECT:** Preserving and Sustaining School Gardens

**DATE NOTICED:** 9-11-07

**PRESENTED FOR ACTION:** 9-25-07

**PRESENTED BY:** Ms. Canter/Ms. Korenstein/  
Ms. Galatzan

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:** Ms. Galatzan/  
Ms. Flores Aguilar

**MOTION:**

**RESOLUTION:** X

Whereas, School gardens are powerful instructional tools for teaching hands-on science, mathematics, social-science, language arts, and visual and performing arts;

Whereas, Research has found that participation in youth gardening programs can positively impact self-esteem and attitudes toward school, social skills and behavior, significantly increase achievement scores, improve environmental attitudes and increase interest in eating fruits and vegetables;

Whereas, The District encourages increased environmental health awareness in schools, and has initiated training and mentor programs, participated in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) studies, and has partnered with the California Department of Toxics Substances Control (DTSC) to prevent chemical exposures to students at new and existing school sites and are committed to pesticide-free gardens;

Whereas, School gardens can provide children access to fresh, healthy food and physical activity programs, which are not otherwise available to them;

Whereas, Such gardens also provide opportunities for family and community involvement in schools, academic achievement, environmental stewardship, work preparedness and appreciation for the natural world;

Whereas, The California Superintendent of Instruction in 1997 announced a state goal of establishing "a garden in every school" and current Superintendent Jack O'Connell established a School Gardens Advisory Group to provide support and guidance to school gardens in California; and

Whereas, Governor Schwarzenegger signed legislation this year which provides \$15 million for school gardens through the 2008-2009 school years; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District directs the Superintendent to:

1. Support the preservation of existing gardens in District schools that have instructional programming ties and funding support;
2. Encourage the use of school gardens as outdoor laboratories for instruction of the California

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State standards in science, mathematics, language arts and social studies, as well as nutrition and arts education;

3. Ensure compliance with federal, state, local and District environmental health and safety policies designed to support safe school gardens;
4. Promote the use of school garden produce through tastings and samplings of produce;
5. Allow and promote the sale of items, grown in school gardens, such as flowers and produce, by Associated Student Bodies in compliance with all applicable health codes;
6. Embrace the “garden in every school” program established by the California Department of Education;
7. Support pilot programs which link school and community gardens, similar to those at Venice and North Hollywood High Schools; and
8. Work with the City of Los Angeles and the State of California to establish and ensure ongoing financial support for school gardens.

**AYES**                      **NOES**                      **ABSTAIN**                      **ABSENT**

<b>Ms. Canter</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Ms. Flores Aguilar</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Ms. Galatzan</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Ms. Korenstein</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Ms. LaMotte</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Dr. Vladovic</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>Ms. García</b>	<b>X</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>			

**ACTION: ADOPTED AS AMENDED**