

When I ran for the school board four years ago, I wanted to basically work toward the accomplishment of four goals:

- to eliminate waste and mismanagement of district resources and funds;
- to increase teacher and staff pay to attract and retain the best teachers and staff members;
- to increase funding that directly benefits children, and
- to close the achievement and opportunity gap.

I remain committed to affect change through these goals, along with other initiatives I have introduced based upon the empirical needs of schools and students, including students with special needs.

Although our elementary schools have exceeded the state's average Annual Performance Index growth for the last five years, our middle and high schools are still in need of special attention and the allocation of differentiated resources to address unique instructional, facility, and safety needs, to ensure proficiency and beyond for all students, to reduce the number of dropouts while increasing graduation rates, and to retain highly qualified staffs to provide definitive career paths and college preparedness.

As a lifelong educator, I have always recognized that students and staffs must practice mutual respect and that students do best when decisions about their future are made in an atmosphere of collaboration and cooperation with all stakeholders involved. I stand poised to continue working with anyone who is genuinely concerned about improving our schools.

I invite you to join the majority of the community leaders and parents of District 1 and provide me an opportunity, as the new superintendent, David Brewer, states, "not to reform, but to transform this school district into a world class district!" It is important to exercise your right to vote on March 6th and I hope you will cast it for Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Los Angeles Unified School Board, District 1. You will make the difference!