

Standing in Solidarity: Supporting Our Diverse Long Beach Unified Community

February 18, 2025

Dear Students, Parents, Caregivers and Community,

Long Beach Unified stands firmly with our LGBTQ+ students, staff and families—along with every student, every family and every staff member—today and always, and our commitment to Excellence and Equity inspires everything we do.

In the face of societal and political challenges that attempt to divide rather than unite, we reaffirm our unwavering stance:

- Every student—regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, background, disabilities, immigration status, race, faith, culture or housing situation—deserves to be seen, feel safe and supported while under our care.
- We reject any attempt to undermine dignity, create division or deny the right to an inclusive education.

Long Beach Unified is committed to fostering an inclusive, equitable and welcoming environment for all. This means ensuring every student, family and staff member—across all identities, backgrounds and lived experiences—has access to the resources, opportunities and support they need to thrive.

- This means fostering safe and affirming spaces for our <u>LGBTQ+ students</u>, families and staff.
- This means expanding mental health support for those navigating trauma or adversity.
- This means addressing disparities in special education, racial equity and economic opportunity to close achievement gaps.
- This means celebrating and respecting the unique contributions of every identity, race, culture and background represented within our school communities.

Together, as one community, we reject hate, break down barriers and work on building a nurturing and accepting environment where every student—without exception—can excel. This is not just our responsibility; it's our moral imperative.

Thank you for standing with us in solidarity, love and unwavering support for every member of our Long Beach Unified community.

~Long Beach Unified School District