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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



AUSD Wins \$1M Local Solutions Grant to Fund Support and Recruitment of Special Education Teachers

The district to hold informational meetings in coming weeks

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing announced in January 2019 that Alhambra Unified won a \$1 million Local Solutions Grant to address the shortage of special education grant funding.

AUSD Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Anna Kuo, said, "There is a lot of work ahead of us, but we are very excited with this opportunity to support special education."

Approximately ten per cent of the TK-12 AUSD student population of 16,684 students is receiving special education. The district has thirteen K-8 elementary schools, three comprehensive high schools and one alternative high school. AUSD also has one special education preschool and two adult transition programs.

The \$1M Local Solutions Grant will enable AUSD to recruit and hire 50 participants. AUSD offices of Special Education and Human Resources will work together to hold informational meetings over the next few weeks. The joint efforts will involve district Special Education Directors, Pat Mahony (high school to adult transition) and Michele Yamarone (birth to 8th) and Human Resources Director, Stacie Colman-Hsu along with the efforts of Ms Kuo.

In addition to recruitment, the funding award will:

- Provide tuition assistance to general education teachers to obtain an additional special ed credential which will benefit them with the direction that special ed is heading; i.e. more special ed students are being mainstreamed into the general ed classrooms
- Provide tuition assistance to our special ed interns
- Provide stipend to teachers in the program when they complete their special ed credential
- Provide stipend to special ed teachers who are willing to receive training to become as Master Teacher
- Provide for hiring of additional special ed instructional specialists
- Provide collaboration and training time

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