

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH

February 10, 2026

AND HOLLY J. MITCHELL

Sunsetting the Education Coordinating Council (ECC) and Aligning Education Work for Systems-Impacted Youth Under the Los Angeles County Children and Youth System of Care Partnership

On November 3, 2004, the Board of Supervisors adopted a motion to create the Education Coordinating Council (ECC) as a Brown Act Body to improve the educational outcomes of youth involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. After the creation of the Office of Child Protection (OCP) in 2015, the ECC was moved under and staffed by the OCP. The ECC currently has 29 members, which include County Departments (Departments of Arts and Culture, Children and Family Services, Mental Health, Youth Development, and Probation), County Commissions (Children and Families and the Youth Commission), County Office of Education, the Juvenile Court, school districts, First 5 LA, California State University, Children’s Law Center, Association of Community Human Services Agencies, and people with lived expertise.

MOTION

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In 2024, the ECC released a new [ECC 2024-2029 Strategic Plan](#) which included feedback from 39 systems partners and 145 people with lived expertise. The ECC Strategic Plan documents persistent and troubling academic disparities for young people in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Despite some gains in school stability and graduation rates for youth in foster care, a significant achievement gap remains for youth involved in the child-welfare and juvenile justice systems, resulting in part from the social, emotional, and unmet mental health needs that come from exposure to trauma; structural barriers created by system involvement (such as instability in home and school placements); plus systemic barriers such as institutional racism and generational poverty that disproportionally lead to system involvement. Additionally, many of these challenges were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, as youth involved in systems faced more educational and mental health challenges than their peers during that time, along with barriers such as a lack of access to technology, lack of care, and/or educational supports at home, which widened already significant disparities in educational outcomes.

Through the [Reimagining](#) and [Evolving the OCP](#) motions, passed by this Board in 2024 and 2025 respectively, the Board directed the OCP to create a new strategic plan that centered on child and family well-being, noting the OCP's System of Care work and ongoing collaboration with various partners. In December 2025, the OCP launched this [new strategic plan](#) which includes a focus area to enhance the state-required Children and Youth System of Care (SOC) partnership and create a structure that promotes good communication and coordination of education, employment, health, as well as traditional and non-traditional behavioral health services across County departments focused on assisting children and families once they become known to the child welfare system,

especially for youth with complex needs.

The new OCP Strategic Plan and SOC partnership present a unique opportunity to align the education work for youth who are systems-impacted under this partnership and better achieve the objectives of the ECC 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. Transitioning the ECC to an education workgroup under the SOC will allow for better coordination and alignment to achieve the County's goal to improve educational outcomes for systems-impacted youth. This transition will also strengthen the SOC, as the ECC includes robust partnerships with several school districts which can be leveraged to achieve the education goals of the SOC. The SOC's flexible structure will allow the new education workgroup to better engage school district partners and key advocacy and community partners. Additionally, this will allow for better coordination with the Transition-Age Youth (TAY) Table, also a component of the SOC, which has overlapping objectives to address educational disconnection for youth ages 16 to 26, including systems-impacted youth. This transition will strengthen both bodies and align efforts to ensure the County can improve educational outcomes for systems-impacted youth in collaboration with key school and community partners.

The transition of the ECC to an education workgroup under the SOC has been vetted with ECC members, child welfare advocates, and was also publicly presented at the ECC's quarterly meeting on November 5, 2025. Overwhelmingly, the feedback has been positive as this new structure would allow for critical systems and community partners to engage in the work, provide greater ability to effectively implement cross-sector solutions, and create a space to align work across multiple coordinating bodies with the aim of improving education outcomes for young people who are systems-

impacted. The OCP has received commitments from existing ECC members to join the education workgroup and has heard from multiple child welfare advocates, community partners, and the Ombudsperson for STRTPs of their commitment to join.

If this motion is adopted and the ECC is sunset, the OCP is positioned to seamlessly transition the ECC's work and begin convening the education workgroup under the SOC immediately.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Education Coordinating Council to sunset as a Brown Act Body.
2. Direct all relevant County departments including the Departments of Arts and Culture, Children and Family Services, Mental Health, Youth Development, Probation, as well as the Youth Commission and Commission for Children and Families to work with Office of Child Protection to fully implement the objectives of the education workgroup under the System of Care.
3. Direct the Acting Director of the Office of Child Protection to continually engage the County Office of Education, school districts, community-based organizations, and child welfare education advocates to fully implement the objectives of the education workgroup under the System of Care.
4. Direct the Office of Child Protection to include updates on progress of the education workgroup when providing regular updates to the Board.

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