

## Los Angeles School District Strike Comes to an End

**AISHANI SELLATHURAI**  
**Editor in Chief**

On January 2019, more than 300,000 teachers all around Los Angeles went on a strike. The strike, which lasted six school days, ended on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 22.

The union United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) which represents teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) negotiated on a new contract for over a year with officials from the district. According to the New York Times, UTLA's requests included a full time nurse for each school. Many schools only had a nurse once a week. The union also requested a raise for teachers, along with more counselors and librarians to serve students.

Even though there is a \$1.8 billion reserve, the district claimed that it was not enough to supply improvement toward increasing the wages, creating new educational programs and hiring fulltime staffers.

Charter schools and class sizes was another major issue brought up in the negotiations.

It is difficult for public schools to compete against charter schools because charters can deplete public school funding and students can leave public schools to join charters.



**TEACHERS FOR TEACHERS** Crowd outside of the school supporting teachers in the LAUSD strike.

Photo Provided by Tammy Scorcia

"Charter schools make up around 18% of schools in the LAUSD," Javier Gutierrez, bargaining committee member of the Alhambra Teachers Association (ATA) said.

"Which expands on the problem of privatization in schools all around the country."

On Friday morning, Jan. 18 teachers from ATA members and other supporters gathered in front of the school for a rally to represent their support for the LAUSD teachers. They proudly waved signs that read, "I Stand With LA Teachers" in both English and Spanish while parents dropped their children off at school. Alhambra City Council members Adele Andrade-Stadler and Katherine Lee also joined the protest.

"We just finished our contract negotiation... last year, and to be honest, I think we have a really strong contract with our teachers," ATA segment director and history teacher David Jauregui said.

The Los Angeles Times reported that a final contract between the UTLA and LAUSD will give teachers a 6 percent raise. Schools

will be given more nurses and counselors. The agreement, the final votes of which should be in by Friday, also promises to lower class sizes by one student per class.

## Animals Only Sold To Shelter

**LEAH CEDULLA**  
**Staff Writer**

At the start of the year, the state of California issued a law prohibiting pet stores from selling pets that are not from shelters. This law is the first of its kind in the United States. Although sudden, this law was enforced to ensure the safety and health of dogs, cats and rabbits. Its purpose originated from controversial breeding facilities such as puppy mills. These places often "house animals in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions without adequate food, water, socialization or veterinary care," according to California's Assembly Bill No. 485.

Now, the protection of potential pets has been reinforced through a new set of rules. Old rules were minimal and only required owners to clean cages once a week and have cages that were only six inches larger than the animal kept in the cage. Pet store owners who break the new rules will have to pay a fine of \$500 per animal. To ensure the success of this law, the government vowed to provide \$250 million a year for housing animals in shelters.

Not all California officials agree with this new policy. Some concern has been placed on its possible negative effects.

"People argue that a pet sale ban is going to be the magic bullet," Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council president Mike Bober said.

Bober believes there are alternatives to supporting animals and animal lovers without having to put businesses at risk.

## Netflix Prices Increase Again

**BINTA DIALLO**  
**News Editor**

Netflix has announced that its prices will raise for customers once again. After announcing this, Netflix's stock prices have also rose about 6.5 percent last week. The new prices are expected to raise the cheapest plan from \$8 plan to \$9, the HD plan which is now \$11 will raise to \$13, and the 4K premium plan will go cost up to \$16. Although, the company's stock prices have increased, customers have showed their discontent with the recent news.

"To be honest I think it's whack because Netflix should be at a low price for everyone. Netflix is a great source for entertainment, and if they [raise] the prices it's going to lose out on a lot of customers," Senior Khrysti Hightower said. "I think that Netflix should keep their same prices."

However, some customers believe that the increase of price is actually reasonable.

"\$10 each month for a Netflix account is a relatively low price to pay," Junior Sharif Diallo said. "Nowadays, it's practically taken over cable T.V., and cable likely costs much more. There is an endless supply of entertainment accessible from almost any device that uses internet, the \$10 a month sounds like a good purchase to me."

Netflix has already raised its prices last year on Jan. 15. According to CNN, current subscribers will start to see the rate increase sometime over the next three months. this is the biggest rate hike since Netflix began in 2007.

## District Marching Band to Perform in 2020 Rose Parade

**LYLLI DUONG**  
**Copy Editor**

The Pasadena Rose Parade started in 1890 and has always been on New Year's Day. As the years progressed, more people from all over the country have come to see the floats made of flowers and the many performers. Next year, residents from Alhambra will have even more incentive to watch as a marching band made up of students from the Alhambra Unified School District high schools will be marching along the route.

The parade is held annually from Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena to Orange Grove Boulevard.

In 2009, a combined marching band made up of students from Alham-

bra High, San Gabriel High and Mark Keppel High School performed in the Pasadena Rose Parade. Now, in 2020, they were selected to perform again.

"It's going to be a great experience for us and all those who participate," Junior Matthew Lares, percussionist, said. "I can't wait to walk those glorious miles."

The band has to walk five and a half miles down Colorado Boulevard for the parade. The band has less than a year to prepare for the parade. Thanks to the pressure of the parade, people in the band and in Colorguard are already striving to be the best they can be.

"With the Rose Parade [coming up], I've been constantly getting better at both my instrument and perfor-

mance," Junior Christina Jones, third chair trumpet and Color Guard Captain.

Being chosen to perform in the Rose parade twice is a huge accomplishment and an honor. Knowing this, many people were even more excited about joining band.

"In one of my performances in eighth grade, Mr. [Mark] Trulson announced that eighth graders can [eventually] be in the Rose Parade," Joshua L said. "I thought that it could be cool if I was in the Rose Parade, so I learned trombone... when I got to high school."

Any students interested in joining the marching band or colorguard should talk to talk to Trulson in M1. Band practices are on Mondays and Thursdays starting at from 3 p.m.

## Record-Breaking Partial U.S. Government Shut Down Continues

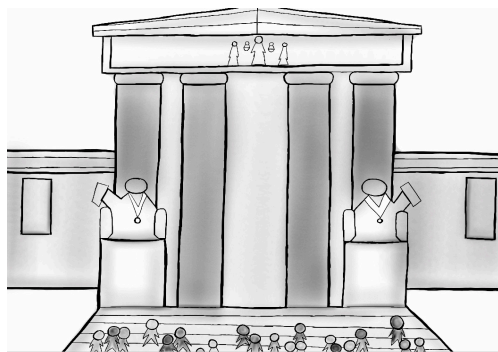
**JULIET ALEMAN**  
**Staff Writer**

The United States government has been on a partial shutdown since Dec. 22, due to a dispute over the amount of funding for border security. This is the longest partial government shutdown in U.S. history.

Over 800,000 people who work in government funded facilities are not getting paid since many government funded facilities are closed down. As many as 54,000 employees from Customs and Border Protection, for example, are currently working to secure the southern U.S. border; however, they are working without paychecks.

"The government shutdown is a selfish

act as 800,000 federal employees are bearing the consequence and their livelihoods have



been disrupted," Junior Amber Giang said. The shutdown has surpassed the

previous record of 21 days. Until Republicans and Democrats can negotiate an agreement, it will continue and there has not been much progress made.

"The government shutdown is unjust because the people who decide whether to end it aren't the ones who are not getting paid," Senior Diego Kielty said.

Democrat Nancy Pelosi has responded by calling this project expensive and ineffective as there are better ways to secure the border. The New York Times reports that Trump recently proposed that if Democrats agree to fund the wall, he will allow all the children in detention centers to live freely in the United States for three years. Nevertheless, Democrats still will not budge because three years does not provide permanent security.

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