

# THE LAUSD WASTE BASKET



## Something fishy at LAUSD: \$13,000 for sushi maker

**“Sushi robot” sits on shelf unused for six years.**

Calling it a “raw deal” for students, the *Daily News* recently revealed that in 2002, LAUSD paid a whopping \$13,000 for a stainless steel Sushi Chef Robot for University High. But somehow—and of course no one at LAUSD knows why—it was never used and has been sitting on a storage shelf for six years.

The one bright spot is that the sushi robot is finding new life at Santee Education Complex, where it will be used in the culinary arts program. It is a bit surprising that it is not being sent to LAUSD headquarters—what better match for the flat-screen TV in the cafeteria than a pricey machine that could churn out California rolls for out-of-classroom bureaucrats?

The sushi robot scandal begs the question: How many other sushi robots—or the wasteful equivalent—are out there, gathering dust, doing nothing to help student learning? It’s yet another glaring example of waste and mismanagement at LAUSD, where a lack of spending oversight drains precious resources from our schools.



### **“FAX THE FACTS” AND HELP EXPOSE WASTE**

In November, if contract talks head from mediation to the fact-finding stage, UTLA members will be doing our own fact-finding by “faxing the facts” of upside-down priorities, waste, and unsafe schools. Look for more details coming soon.

**LAUSD: Get your priorities straight.**