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News Release

For Immediate Release

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PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM ATTRACTS GREAT INTEREST *More Than 180 Applicants are Expected to Compete for LAUSD Schools*

Los Angeles—The Letters of Intent ran the gamut from major charter school operators to current and new partners, and teams of teachers, who want a chance to prove that they know how best to educate students.

“While I am encouraged by the level of interest expressed in our schools, I am disappointed that most of the attention focused on the new schools,” said Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines. “I am looking forward to the final applications, which are due in January.” At that point, applicants will articulate a detailed vision for how to improve an existing school that has been underperforming for years or take a new school to the highest level of student achievement.

The competition will be most intense for new schools, scheduled to open in September, 2010. As many as eight groups will compete to run one school. In all, there were 128 letters for 36 new schools.

A dozen low-performing schools, known as “focus schools” within the District, garnered 53 Letters of Intent. Again, multiple applicants are expected to compete to bring reforms to each campus.

Orientations for those who are applying are scheduled during the next three weeks. After applications are finalized, track records are reviewed, and community input is encouraged, the Superintendent will make recommendations to the Los Angeles Board of Education. A vote is expected in February.

Attached: List of letters of intent by school and Board informative

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LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent

Inter-Office Correspondence

To: Members, Board of Education **INFORMATIVE**
Date: November 17, 2009

From: Ramon C. Cortines
Superintendent

Subject: **PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE LETTERS OF INTENT**

This memo will provide an update on the number of Letters of Intent received in response to the Public School Choice RFP and outline the next steps of the implementation process.

Letters of Intent Received

Monday, November 16 at 5 p.m. was the deadline for the interested applicants to submit a Letter of Intent for the schools designated under the Public School Choice RFP. I am excited to share that we received responses from 181 applicants. Please find attached a list of all the applicants grouped by the corresponding District campus.

We also received several Letters of Intent for District campuses that were not designated under the Public School Choice RFP for this initial school year and are not included in the count provided above. The Office of the Superintendent will follow-up to clarify the intent and if applicable, provide guidance on formally becoming an Engagement School for next year. We intend to build upon this momentum and ensure those individuals are provided support to proceed with their reform efforts through the appropriate and applicable processes.

Next Steps

Throughout the end of November and beginning of December, we will convene regional Orientation Sessions. Every prospective applicant will be invited to attend one of these meetings. These meetings will cover the basic elements of the application process. Meetings dates and locations are posted on the Public School Choice website and open to the public and sent to all schools for them to post and share. Please find attached the schedule and locations for these Orientation Sessions.

Concurrently, LAUSD, in collaboration with Families in Schools and the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, will facilitate meetings of parents and community members at 20 regional sites near or at each focus school and new school participating in the Public School Choice (PSC) Resolution process. These meetings are to provide information to families and other stakeholders in anticipation of the January community review and advisory recommendation meetings. Applicants' proposals will be reviewed in detail during the January meetings. We will forward and post on the website meeting dates and locations as they are finalized and send a copy to schools.

By Friday, November 20, we will distribute a more detailed analysis of the Letters of Intent as well as post the Letters of Intent on the Public School Choice website.

ATTACHMENTS

- c: Leadership Council
 - Local District Superintendents
 - Jefferson Crain
 - Jerry Thornton

FOCUS SCHOOLS

District Campus	Local District	Board District	# of LOIs Received	Applicants
Burbank MS	4	5	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Burbank Middle School 3. Alliance College-Ready Public Schools 4. UTLA
Carver MS	5	7	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Partnership for Los Angeles Schools 3. Carver Middle School 4. UTLA
Gardena HS	8	7	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Gardena High School 3. UTLA
Garfield HS	5	5	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Garfield High School 3. Green Architectural Design Academy 4. Social Justice Leadership Academy 5. Montebello Unified School District 6. UTLA 7. The Eastside School of International Studies 8. Art House
Griffith Joyner ES	7	7	5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Griffith Joyner ES 2. Synesi Foundation 3. Partnership for Los Angeles Schools 4. Forefront Educational Group 5. UTLA
Hillcrest ES	3	1	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Hillcrest Uplifted 3. SANOKA Alliance 4. ICEF Public Schools 5. Garr Academy of Mathematics and Entrepreneurial Studies 6. UTLA
Hyde Park ES	3	1	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hyde Park Elementary School Community 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA
Jefferson HS	5	7	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jefferson HS 2. Partnership for Los Angeles Schools 3. Green Dot Public Schools 4. UTLA
Lincoln HS	5	2	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. UTLA 3. Law, Business & Government Academy Pilot

				4. The Lincoln High School Focus Team
Maywood Academy HS	6	5	4	1. Synesi Foundation 2. Maywood Academy High School Faculty 3. Maywood Academy High School 4. UTLA
San Fernando MS	2	6	5	1. Synesi Foundation 2. San Fernando Middle School Collaborative 3. Youth Policy Institute 4. ABC Learn, Inc. 5. San Fernando Visual & Performing Arts Academy
San Pedro HS	8	7	3	1. Synesi Foundation 2. San Pedro High School Community 3. UTLA

TOTAL APPLICANTS FOR FOCUS SCHOOLS: 53

NEW SCHOOLS

District Campus	Local District	Board District	# of LOIs Received	Applicants
Gratts PC	4	2	6	1. Synesi Foundation 2. UTLA 3. Para Los Ninos 4. Local District 4/Gratts ES 5. Youth Institute Policy 6. Camino Nuevo Charter Academy
Valley Region ES#6	1	6	7	1. Aprende Team 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA 4. Local District 1 5. Youth Policy Institute 6. Magnolia Schools 7. Valley Charter Elementary School
Valley Region ES#7 (Julie Korenstein ES)	2	6	8	1. Aprende Team 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA 4. Local District 2 5. Youth Policy Institute 6. Magnolia Schools 7. Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts 8. Valley Charter Elementary School
Valley Region ES#8	2	6	7	1. Aprende Team 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA 4. Local District 2

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Youth Policy Institute 6. ABC Learn, Inc 7. Magnolia Schools
Valley Region ES#9	2	6	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aprende Team 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA 4. Valley Charter Elementary School 5. Ivy Academia #3 6. Local District 2 7. Youth Policy Institute 8. Magnolia Schools
Valley Region ES#10	1	4	7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aprende Team 2. Synesi Foundation 3. UTLA 4. Magnolia Schools 5. Ivy Academia ES #2 6. Local District 1 7. ABC Learn, Inc
Central Region ES#13	3	1	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pio Pico Community – Local District 3 2. Synesi Foundation 3. It Takes a Village Cohort 4. Celerity Palamati Charter School 5. UTLA 6. Expectations of Educational Excellence Crescendo Charter Schools 7. Value Schools 8. Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts
Central Region ES#15	7	2	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UTLA 2. Synesi Foundation 3. Local District 7 4. Youth Policy Institute 5. Camino Nuevo Charter Academy 6. Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts
Central Region ES#16	5	7	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. College Bound Academy 3. Para Los Ninos 4. Local District 5 5. Celerity Cardinal Charter School 6. UTLA
Central Region ES#17 with Synergy Charter School	5	2	5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies 2. Synesi Foundation 3. Local District 5 4. Celerity Orion Charter School 5. UTLA
Central Region ES#18	5	2	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UTLA

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Synesi Foundation 3. Partnership for Los Angeles Schools 4. Para Los Ninos 5. Local District 5 6. Youth Policy Institute
South Region ES#1	7	1	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Local District 7 3. Watts Learning Center Foundation, Inc 4. Celerity EXA Charter School 5. UTLA 6. Expectations of Educational Excellence Crescendo Charter Schools 7. Be the Change in Education Foundation 8. Single Applicant: Celerity Educational Group, Expectations for Educational Excellence , New Designs Charter School
South Region ES#2	7	7	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Local District 7 3. UTLA 4. KIPP LA Schools 5. Celerity Tenacia Charter School 6. Expectations of Educational Excellence Crescendo Charter Schools 7. Joint Applicants: Celerity Educational Group, Expectations for Educational Excellence , New Designs Charter School 8. Forefront Educational Group
South Region ES#3	6	5	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. UTLA 3. Celerity Sirius Charter School 4. Bell/Cudahy Partners in Education
South Region ES#4	6	5	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. South Gate Community for Change 3. Aspire Public Schools 4. Parent-U-Turn 5. UTLA 6. Local District 6
South Region MS#2A South Region MS#2B South Region MS#2C	6	5	7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. UTLA 3. Alliance for College-Ready Schools 4. Quest Team

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Magnolia Schools 6. Local District 6 7. South Area Teacher Collaborative
Barack Obama Global Preparation Academy (South Region MS#6)	7	1	7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synesi Foundation 2. Local District 7 & Barack Obama Global Preparation Academy 3. UTLA 4. Expectations of Educational Excellence Crescendo Charter Schools 5. Celerity Octavia Charter School 6. Joint Applicants: Celerity Educational Group, Expectations for Educational Excellence , New Designs Charter School 7. ICEF Public Schools
Esteban Torres HS#1 Esteban Torres HS#2 Esteban Torres HS#3 Esteban Torres HS#4 Esteban Torres HS#5	5	5	14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Justice Leadership Academy 2. School of Communications, New Media and Technology 3. Art House 4. The Humanitas Art and Technology Academy 5. Local District 5 6. East Los Angeles Renaissance Academy 7. The Design High School 8. Synesi Foundation 9. Suzanna Guzman Academy of Performing Arts 10. Green Dot Public Schools 11. Alliance for College-Ready Schools 12. Los Angeles Education Partnership 13. C.H.O.S.E.N 1 Leadership Institute, Inc. 14. UTLA

TOTAL APPLICANTS FOR NEW SCHOOLS: 128

Public School Choice Process

ORIENTATION SESSIONS

Region	Local Districts	Schools	Date & Time	Proposed Location
East LA	5	Carver MS, Garfield HS, Jefferson HS, Lincoln HS, CRES#16, CRES#17, CRES#18, Esteban Torres HS (5)	Wednesday, November 18 5-7pm	Local District 5 Office Phil Saldivar Conference Room (1st Floor) 2131 North Soto Street Los Angeles, CA 91601
South LA – Harbor Area	7,8	Gardena HS, San Pedro HS, Joyner ES, SRES#15, SRES#1, SRES#2, SRMS#6	Monday, November 23 5-7pm	Local District 8 Sellery Auditorium 15805 S. Budlong Avenue Gardena, CA 90247
Southeast LA	6	Maywood Academy HS, SRES#3, SRES#4, SRMS#2A,2B,2C	Tuesday, November 24 5-7pm	Corona Avenue Elementary School Auditorium 3825 Bell Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90201
West LA	3	Hillcrest ES, Hyde Park ES, CRES#13	Tuesday, December 1 5-7pm	Local District 3 Office Main Conference Room 3000 S. Robertson Blvd. Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90034
Valley	1,2	San Fernando MS, VRES#7, VRES#8, VRES#9, VRES#6, VRES#10	Wednesday, December 2 5-7pm	Monroe High School Magnet Court Room 9229 Haskell Avenue North Hills, CA 91343
Downtown	4	Burbank MS, Gratts Primary Center	Thursday, December 3 5-7pm	LAUSD Headquarters, Blue Room (next to Board Room) 333 South Beaudry Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90017