

Letter of Intent

This Letter of Intent will provide formal notice to LAUSD regarding an applicant's intention to submit a proposal for the 2010-2011 school year. The information presented therein is non-binding; specific details provided below may be finalized in the proposal submission.

Applicants must submit this Letter of Intent and the following data where applicable: CST, API, AYP, EL reclassification, CAHSEE, SAT and AP no later than 5 p.m. on November 16, 2009. If you should have any questions about any of the requirements listed in this Letter of Intent, please contact LAUSD at (213) 241-7000. Letters of Intent must be submitted via superintendent@lausd.net.

| Organization Information | |
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| Name of organization (for profit entities may not apply) | Teachers and Parents for the future College Bound Academy (Central Region ES #16) |
| Address | 120 E 57 th Street Los Angeles, CA 90011 |
| Phone | See Main contact name and phone number below |
| Website | Under construction |
| Main contact name and phone number | Leo Villarreal, 714.925.4811, lvillarreal@ucla.edu |
| Basic Proposed School Information and Description | |
| Proposed neighborhood school/site name (must agree to serve all students in that community) | The "College Bound Academy" located in South Los Angeles on Main Street between 57 th and 58 th Street will offer standards-based curriculum and instruction for pre-kinder through 5 th grade students. Our academic programs will include Structured English Immersion, Dual Language Programs in English and Spanish, Special Education Programs and SRLDP. Main Street School's students are 90% Hispanic/Latino, 8.4% African American/Black and .7% Asian or Caucasian. Aurora's students are 93% Hispanic and 6.3% African American. We look forward to continuing to serve all students in our community in the attendance area of College Bound Academy. Main Street Elementary API 721 Aurora Elementary API 743 Main Street Elementary AYP Met 17 of 17 criteria Aurora Elementary AYP Met 13 of 17 criteria Main Street Elementary EL Reclassification 114 Aurora Elementary El Reclassification 90 |
| Brief description of community engagement activities planned or completed | We are scheduling meetings to inform our community about the Public School Choice Motion, the opening of Central Region ES #16 in 2010 and the impending choices for their children's education. We will also use our upcoming parent conferences, currently scheduled for Monday through Friday, November 16- 20, 2009 to distribute questionnaires to our parents, and elicit their feelings about a wide variety of possible priorities for Aurora, Main St. and our new school, College Bound Academy. We will utilize their responses |

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| | <p>to inform our mission, vision and educational plan and to create the platform for future community meetings. We expect to hold two community meetings, one at Main Street, and one at Aurora ES where we can further our collaboration with our parents and community members in the design of our new school. Already, there is an ongoing gardening project at Aurora (the Beautification Project) where parents, teachers and students work together to beautify the school and offer students a safe place to play. Saturday, November 21st, we expect to come together for a day of school beautification. The goal of College Bound Academy staff, which will be comprised of teachers from Aurora and Main, is to continue this kind of community involvement and relationship-building at our new school. We expect to include several key Aurora and Main Street parents in our plan writing process over the next several months.</p> |
| <p>Brief description of proposed vision, mission, education plan and partnerships</p> | <p>Our vision is that the College Bound Academy will provide a positive, safe, and nurturing learning environment where all stakeholders are deeply engaged and aligned towards excellence in teaching and learning. All students will make progress toward achieving or exceeding grade level standards through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly defined goals • Implementation of a variety of research-based programs and instructional strategies. Proposed strategies would include teaching all standards and content through the use of the Guided Language Acquisition Design Model (GLAD). The GLAD model entails using a variety of strategies that work together to enhance rigor and expectations for all students while carefully embedding appropriate scaffolds for differentiating based on language needs. We propose to root our instruction behind a well balanced literacy approach that includes guided reading instruction and a writers workshop approach that would teach both reading and writing cohesively to our students. In addition, we would look into using programs as the Accelerated Reader and Envision Math with a focus on concept teaching for the math instruction. We also expect to use our technology skills to enhance our instruction thus the learning of our students in this new state-of-the-art facility. Finally, we will use the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) to evaluate students learning and monitor effective teaching practices. • Reflective and collaborative teaching practices. Teachers will implement grade level teaming and take ownership of all students in a grade level instead of simply students in an individual class. • We expect our new traditional calendar to enhance our opportunities as educators without interrupting student instruction and learning in the middle of an academic year. Moreover, it will also help prepare our students for the California Standardized Test to continue showing academic growth. • Aurora ES and Main St both made gains in API scores, with Main St. making a 52-point gain in their API scores for the 2008-2009 academic year. We expect to continue our successful strategies as we blend respective faculty members in our new school. • Response to Intervention and Instruction, RTI2, will be implemented to ensure that all students are screened and offered any needed interventions immediately. A monitoring process will be established |

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| | <p>to measure growth and instruction effectiveness for the identified students. All students would be monitored on a consistent basis by using grade- level common assessments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will target Gifted Students by providing them with Enrichment and extra-curricular activities that will help challenge and motivate them to strive for success. A GATE coordinator would be assigned and would help with the proper assessment and organization. • Parent and Community support services and organization will be a great asset to our school. We will establish a Parent Center that is focused on meeting the needs of our community, develop a school volunteer program to support student achievement, and create parent workshops that will focus on parents interest and on developing understanding of standards based instruction. For example, Math Nigh in which community, staff members, and students get together for fun learning activities that will help parents be able and provide support to their children at home. Also, book of the month, parent workshops in which teachers target a particular standard that is difficult in their grade level to provide parents support and demo lessons. This will benefit both parents and students in order to succeed with their education. <p>Mission: College Bound Academy recognizes that each child is an individual; that all children can go to college; that all children need to succeed. Therefore, College Bound Academy respects the individual needs of children; fosters a caring and creative environment; and emphasizes the social, emotional, intellectual development of each child.</p> <p>Our long-term goal is to instill in every one of our students the desire, confidence and academic proficiency to ultimately graduate from the college of his or her choice. We expect to achieve this goal by, among other things, continuing and enhancing already developed partnerships and relationships with local universities e.g., UCLA, USC, Cal State Dominguez Hills, among others through field trips, student teaching internships, and other site-based projects and activities.</p> |
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