

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 15, 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	
Name of applicant (for profit entities may not apply)	Los Angeles Unified School District Local District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local District 4 • Gratts Elementary School
Address	Local District 4 333 South Beaudry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017 Gratts Elementary School 309 South Lucas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone	Local District 4 (213) 241-0100 Gratts Elementary School (213) 250-2932
Website	http://www.lausd.net/District_4/
Main contact name and phone number	Luis R. Valentino, Ed.D. Director, Elementary Support Services (213) 241-0132 Titus Campos Principal, Gratts Elementary School (213) 250-2932
Basic Proposed School Information and Description	
Proposed neighborhood school/site name (must agree to serve all students in that community)	Gratts Elementary Academy will encompass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gratts Early Education Center, ages 2 - 4 • Gratts Primary Center, grades K – 2 • Gratts Elementary School, grades 3 – 6
Brief description of community engagement activities planned or	Community Engagement during the month November, Local District 4, in partnership with

completed

Gratts Elementary School, included a series of community meetings to engage parents and community members in the following:

- Understanding the Public School Choice Initiative, its objectives, and its options
- Providing feedback and partnership objectives
- Outlining goals and expectations for the proposal

Community and Plan Development Meetings

Community Meeting: October 9, 2009
(Monthly principal/parent meeting to discuss the Public Choice Initiative)

Community Meeting: October 12, 2009
(School Site Council Meeting to debrief teacher and parent representatives on Public School Choice Initiative)

Staff Informational Meeting: October 23, 2009
(Meeting with off-track teachers to inform and update progress with the Public School Initiative)

UTLA Public School Choice Meeting: October 27, 2009 (with UTLA representatives John Horta and Dan Barnhart)

Plan Development Meeting: October 28, 2009
(with teachers and administrators)

Community Meeting: November 2, 2009
(with Local District 4 (LD 4) Superintendent Byron Maltez, Special Assistant to Ramon Cortines Sharon Robinson, Director of Charter Division Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Board of Education President Monica Garcia, parents, teachers, and administrators)

Community Meeting: November 3, 2009
(with LD 4 Director of Pilot Schools Edmundo Rodriguez and UTLA representatives John Horta and Dan Barnhart, parents, teachers, and administrators)

Plan Development Meeting: November 6, 2009
(with resource staff, teachers, and UTLA representatives to select teacher representatives to attend UTLA Letter of Intent Workshop)

Plan Development Meeting: November 10, 2009
(staff meeting to discuss mission, vision, educational

	<p>plan, and select teacher representatives for planning committee)</p> <p>Plan Development Meeting: November 12, 2009 (initial planning committee meeting to focus on letter of intent)</p>
<p>Brief description of proposed vision, mission, education plan, and partnerships</p>	<p>Vision</p> <p>Our vision is to create a safe and innovative learning continuum from early education to 6th grade. Parents, teachers, and our community members will prepare and motivate students to participate in a life-long, transformative journey of self-discovery through inquiry and application. We support and trust our children to live up to their potential and achieve their goals.</p> <p>Mission</p> <p>The Gratts Learning Academy is committed to empowering students through rigorous, standards-based instruction. The program ensures core curriculum is student centered, constructivist in orientation, and employs research based instructional practices and assessments. The academy gives multiple opportunities to practice and exercise 21st century skills. We value bilingualism and technology as gateways to global success. Parents, teachers, students, staff, academic partners, and community members form an alliance in the educational process through joint decision-making and authentic opportunities to support and reinforce the whole child’s learning. This structure will provide a seamless continuity for each child’s development.</p> <p>Educational Plan</p> <p>The Gratts Learning Academy educational plan incorporates a global perspective that addresses equity, diversity, and social justice. Students will experience academic discourse that is rigorous and standards-based. Instruction will guide them through a seamless continuum. With research-based</p>

pedagogical practices and assessments, students will acquire 21st century skills through inquiry, discovery, and application as they transition from early education through preparation for middle school.

Integral to the successful implementation of the educational plan is a strong collaboration among all stakeholders: teachers, parents, students and the community. Parents will be empowered through workshops and active participation to become learners, teachers, and equal partners in their child's education.

Partnerships

The Gratts Learning Academy is a comprehensive early education to 6th grade education complex. To fully implement its core mission, Gratts will expand existing partnerships and create new ones.

The Urban Teaching Residency Program at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) will focus on supporting the Early Education program. In addition, it will provide professional development support to faculty and staff. **The Center for Multilingual & Multicultural Research**, at the University of Southern California (USC) will provide training and support to our English Language Learners in both the bilingual and English immersion programs. **The ConnectEd Multiple Pathways Project** will provide support in the acquisition and application of 21st Century Skills and multiple pathways. **The Belmont Full-Service Community Program** will provide comprehensive academic, social, health, and enrichment services to meet student, family, and community needs. **The GEL For Kids Healthy Start Program** will provide comprehensive health, academic, and social services to students and their families.