

Letter of Intent

Organization Information	
Name of applicant	Pio Pico Community-Local District 3
Address	1512 S. Arlington Avenue LA 90019
Phone	310-253-7100
Website (if applicable)	www.piopicospanschool.org
contact name and phone number	Gay Havard, 310-253-7100, gay.havard@lausd.net
Basic Proposed School Information and Description	
Proposed neighborhood school/site name	<p><i>The Pio Pico community of parents, teachers, administrators and staff of the current PK-5th grade program are submitting this application in order to relieve overcrowding of the current Pio Pico Span School. We intend for the new school to enroll the neighborhood students, reflective of our current population, which consists of approximately 89% Hispanic, 60% English Language Learners, 8% African America, and 12% with disabilities. The school will be a Title I school based on the demographics currently served in our area.</i></p> <p><i>School Name – to be determined at later date.</i></p>
Brief description of community engagement activities planned or completed	<p><i>Central Elementary School #13 (CE #13) will be a community school with a focus on promoting mutual respect and responsibility between parents, students, teachers, staff and administrators. At our school, family and community members are valued and viewed as an integral part of the learning process. To this end School staff, students and parents have met several times to discuss a vision and mission for the new elementary school. Weekly planning and writing meetings have been held on a flexible schedule to encourage maximum parent/community involvement. The plan writing meetings were held on the following dates: August 28; September 1, 3, 9, 16, 23, 30; October 13, 27, 31; November 3, 10, 12. Future dates include November 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15, 22.</i></p>
Vision, mission, educational plan and partnerships	<p><u><i>Vision</i></u></p> <p><i>Serving as the core of the community, Central Elementary#13 will strive for personal and academic excellence, while building relationships and honoring cultural and social diversity.</i></p> <p><u><i>Mission</i></u></p> <p><i>CE #13 is a learning community in which all students recognize and embrace their unlimited potential to realize their goals and dreams. Students will be provided with a variety of opportunities to expand and enhance their learning experience through</i></p>

research based learning tools, strategies, and methods designed to ensure that all students are fully prepared to succeed. It is a place where family and community members will not only be valued as the child's first educator, but will be an integral part of the learning process. The school will reflect dedication on the part of all stakeholders to inspire students to become responsible members of Los Angeles and the global community.

Education Plan

Recognizing that all students learn differently and have varied strengths and needs, the instructional plan at Central Elementary #13 will be designed to provide a fluid, multi-tiered system of support. It will include rigorous standards- based first instruction along with a menu of research based prevention, intervention and enrichment opportunities. Our design will meet the academic, behavioral, cultural and learning style of each individual student. Structured according to the Response to Instruction and Intervention research (NASDE, 2006; Fuchs 2007, O'Connor, 2007) Central Elementary #13 will follow the practice of using data to guide high-quality instruction and interventions matched to student need, monitoring progress frequently to make decisions about changes in instruction or goals, and applying child response data to make critical educational decisions

Central Elementary #13 will offer a rigorous, balanced, technology-enriched curriculum that meets the California state standards, and utilizes state approved textbooks, supplemental materials and replacement curriculum. Individual student needs will be met by using the curriculum with flexibility and supplementing with intervention materials. Teachers will work in grade-level teams to integrate current technologies, fieldwork, visual and performing arts into the curriculum. Teachers will departmentalize for instruction and intervention. Students will be grouped by identified need in language arts and math to provide more targeted instruction. Teachers will use cooperative groups, academic language, instructional conversations, graphic organizers and other differentiated strategies to support the individual needs of students. Professional Development will evolve from grade level teams to collaborate with peers in teaching the curriculum with fidelity and utilizing strategies of differentiation for academics and behavior.

This represents a shift in culture and staff commitment in moving towards high expectations for our students at Central Elementary #13. The plan will consist of integration of Pio Pico's vision with a philosophy and mission that reflect the intellectual and developmental needs and characteristics of young children through adolescence. We are committed to the implementation of an educational program that is comprehensive, challenging, purposeful, integrated, relevant, and standards-based. We are bound to the development of an organization and structure that supports academic excellence and social –emotional growth. Our intent is to provide the delivery of classroom instruction, appropriate to the diverse needs and characteristics of young adolescents, provided by skilled and knowledgeable

teachers, with fidelity to the core curriculum. We will organize strong educational leadership that encourages, facilitates, and sustains involvement, participation and guidance in development of a learning community. We will adhere to the implementation of multi-tiered network of academic and behavior supports available for all students, and monitored for response to intervention. Involvement by all staff in professional learning activities and staff development programs that are purposeful, collaboratively developed, and promote the creation of a learning community.

The overarching goal for CE #13 is to create an engaged learning community through teaching practices and professional development that fosters exploration and in-depth understanding, classroom environments that support student risk-taking, inquiry and imagination, and assessment practices aligned with creative learning. Teaching and learning strategies will be standards-based, will promote basic skills in the context of complex thinking and problem solving, and will stimulate students to further their own understanding.

Woven throughout the instructional component is the interdisciplinary and theme based curriculum planned collaboratively by highly qualified teachers and staff. Teams of teachers will work to develop these themes that integrate different curricular subject areas including music, dance, drama, art and outdoor education. The community of CE #13 has a strong commitment to integrating environmental awareness and responsibility into the daily life of the school. Respect and care for the environment, sustainable living, and intergenerational responsibility will be integrated at every level of the curriculum to understand how our actions affect the local and global environment. The campus will serve as a local resource in support of efforts to increase environmental awareness in the community at large. Other key aspects include the use of technology and the use of traditional and alternative assessments like portfolios, projects, and investigation. The CE #13 school design calls for the involvement of all stakeholders: students, teachers, staff and administrators, and parents. Everyone will share in the responsibility to establish and monitor high goals for student learning and be active participants in continuous improvement efforts.

Partnership

CE #13 will continue its partnership with Local District 3, feeder middle and high school, Amigos de UCLA, The Para Los Nino's After-School Program, Korean Youth Community Center, Los Angeles Child Guidance, Education through Music L.A., California Dance Institute, Arts Prototype and Los Angeles County Museum of Art to extend and support the education program.