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News Release

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SCHOOL BOARD VOTES ON PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICANTS *APPROVES MAJORITY OF SUPERINTENDENT CORTINES' RECOMMENDATIONS*

(LOS ANGELES) —The Los Angeles Board of Education today approved most of the Public School Choice applicants recommended by Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines to operate 24 new schools and 12 low-performing 'focus' schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) beginning in the 2010-2011 school year.

"Our students are the real winners as we continue to focus on providing high quality schools throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Improving education is the core mission of Public School Choice," Cortines said.

Approved last year by the Los Angeles Board of Education, Public School Choice allows charter schools, nonprofit groups and collaborative teams of educators to operate existing schools and new schools in the District. The comprehensive application and selection process included informational meetings open to the community; advisory votes by parents, guardians, school staff, high school students and others interested in the decision; an initial review process of prospective applicants; an evaluation by the Superintendent's review panel, and individual evaluations of each application by Superintendent Cortines before he presented his recommendations to the Board of Education today.

"Throughout this process I have remained focused on three guiding principles: educational quality, community involvement and urgency," Cortines said before explaining his recommendations.

In four instances, the Board, on a variety of split votes, went against his recommendations. A charter school was eliminated from the campus of the new Barack Obama Middle School. Two charter schools were replaced by pilot schools on the campus of the new Esteban Torres High School. Griffith Joyner Elementary School went to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's nonprofit partnership. In addition to Cortines' picks, a majority of the Board recommended adding a pilot school on the campus of Gratts Elementary School.

"While some of us may disagree on how we get to our end goal of graduating all students college-prepared and career-ready," the Superintendent said, "we all agree
(more)

that we need to reach this goal.

“We must now begin to move forward on accountability in the next phase,” Cortines continued. “We need to be sure all of us, especially our Local Districts, help our schools implement their plans and provide the appropriate oversight to ensure they are successful.”

FINAL SELECTIONS

	District Campus	Proposal Applicants
1	Barack Obama (South Region MS#6)	Local District 7 & Barack Obama Global Preparation Academy
2	Burbank MS	Environmental Studies Pilot School w/ reservations
	Burbank MS	Luther Burbank School of Humanities & Fine Arts w/ reservations
	Burbank MS	Science Technology English Arts Mathematics (STEAM) 6th Grade Academy w/ reservations
3	Carver MS	Partnership for Los Angeles Schools
4	Central Region ES#13	Pio Pico Community – Local District 3
5	Central Region ES#15	Camino Nuevo Charter Academy
6	Central Region ES#16	Local District 5
7	Central Region ES#17 with Synergy Charter	Local District 5
8	Central Region ES#18	Partnership for Los Angeles Schools
9	Esteban Torres HS	Social Justice Leadership Academy
	Esteban Torres HS	The Humanitas Art and Technology Academy
	Esteban Torres HS	Engineering & Technology Academy (Local District 5)
	Esteban Torres HS	East Los Angeles Renaissance Academy
	Esteban Torres HS	East Los Angeles Performing Arts Academy (Suzanna Guzman Academy of Performing Arts)
10	Gardena HS	Gardena High School w/ reservations
11	Garfield HS	Garfield High School w/ reservations
11	Garfield HS	Green Architectural Design Academy

12	Gratts PC	Para Los Niños
12	Gratts ES	Gratts Teachers' Pilot
13	Griffith Joyner ES	Partnership for Los Angeles Schools
14	Hillcrest ES	Hillcrest Uplifted
15	Hyde Park ES	Hyde Park Elementary School Community - YES Academy w/ reservations
16	Jefferson HS	Jefferson HS
17	Lincoln HS	Law, Leadership in Entertainment & Media Arts
	Lincoln HS	The Lincoln High School Focus Team w/ reservations
18	Maywood Academy HS	Maywood Academy High School
19	San Fernando MS	San Fernando Middle School Collaborative
19	San Fernando MS	Youth Policy Institute
20	San Pedro HS	San Pedro High School Community
21	South Region ES#1	Local District 7
22	South Region ES#2	Local District 7
23	South Region ES#3	Bell/Cudahy Partners in Education
24	South Region ES#4	Aspire Public Schools
25	South Region MS#2	Magnolia Schools
25	South Region MS#2	South Area Teacher Collaborative & UTLA 2
25	South Region MS#2	South Area Teacher Collaborative & UTLA 3
26	Valley Region ES#6	Local District 1
27	Valley Region ES#7 (Julie Korenstein ES)	Local District 2 w/ reservations
28	Valley Region ES#8	Local District 2 (work with middle school to create feeder pattern for dual-language program)
29	Valley Region ES#9	Local District 2
30	Valley Region ES#10	Local District 1

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