

Statement to Media

November 1, 2017

Marcia Aaron, KIPP LA Schools
Malka Borrego, Equitas Academy Charter Schools
Dan Katzir, Alliance College-Ready Public Schools
Emilio Pack, STEM Preparatory Schools
Caprice Young, Magnolia Public Schools

“We are high performing public schools serving nearly 20,000 students who are mostly students of color in communities with limited access to free, high quality education options like the ones our schools provide. Some of our schools have been recognized as among the best in the nation by the U.S. Department of Education, California Department of Education, and by US News & World Report. We came together to seek solutions to policies that are not in the interest of our students and teachers – policies that take staff time, energy and resources away from the classroom while weakening transparency and accountability. After working for many months with LAUSD to solve these issues, we stand by the reasonable policy updates we’ve proposed that are simply necessary for us to keep providing a high quality education to our kids. We are committed to running schools that put student and teacher needs ahead of bureaucratic demands.

We have known that seeking better policies could cause complications for our petitions – this is a risk we have been willing to take. We remain hopeful that the LAUSD board on November 7th will do the right thing for students, make decisions based on the academic, fiscal and governance quality of our schools, and approve our petitions. If LAUSD’s Charter Schools Division will not provide the kind of authorizing environment that kids and teachers deserve and if the board chooses to deny our petitions, we will appeal to the L.A. County Office of Education so that our students continue to thrive. Regardless of the outcome of this vote, as organizations operating dozens of other schools within LAUSD, we maintain our ongoing commitment to working with the district to improve outcomes for all students.”