



YPI CHARTER SCHOOLS

December 9, 2019

TO: YPI Charter Schools Board of Trustees

FROM: Yvette King-Berg
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Recommendation to ratify and accept Memorandum of Understanding and Grant Agreement with **Think Together**

BACKGROUND

Youth Policy Institute (YPI) was instrumental in the receipt of After School Education and Safety (“ASES”) and 21st Century Learning Centers (“21st CCLC”) Program grants on behalf of the YPI Charter Schools (YPICS). Bert Corona Charter School, Bert Corona Charter High and Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School were recipients of the 21st Century grants; Bert Corona Charter School and Monsenor received ASES grants. These grants provided essential after school opportunities for students, often a key factor as parents determine enrollment options.

ANALYSIS

On October 25, 2019, Youth Policy Institute closed its doors, and the many schools serviced by the organization were at a loss as to how the grants would proceed, if at all. Think Together is a community-based organization with over twenty years of experience serving the needs of communities through after school programs, early learning opportunities, student support services and in-school training to support school improvement. On October 26th, Think Together began on-boarding former YPI employees to ensure ASES and 21st CCLC grants continued operation at the many charter schools across Los Angeles that had depended on YPI for grant implementation and oversight.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Think Together and FCPS was signed on October 28th and all programs at all YPIC were conducted as usual on Monday, October 28th. The transition was seamless.

A second Memorandum of Understanding was signed and back-dated to October 21, 2019 to ensure all former 21st Century Kids staff members who continued to work through the bankruptcy were paid and covered with grant dollars during the week of uncertainty with YPI. Many reported to work on Friday, October 25th at MORCS (the Valley schools were closed due to fire danger) understanding there was no guarantee they would be paid for their work that day or even for the days already worked that week. This MOU covers salaries for that week, and also formally recognizes Think Together as the agency working with YPCS to implement the 21st CCLC program grants received for BCCS,

and MORCS. The MOU allows Think Together to serve as the fiscal and administrative agent, necessary if any YPICS tutors desire to work in the after school program as well as working as a YPICS teacher assistant, which is the case with many of the workers.

Finally, a Grant Program Services Agreement was signed on October 21" for the same reasons stated above, but for a different grant: the ASES grant program. This program also continued uninterrupted at BCCS and MORCS.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees ratify and accept the Executive Director's execution of the MOU and Grant Agreement with Think Together as presented.