



## YPI CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC

May 24, 2021

**TO:** YPI Charter School, Inc.  
Board of Directors

**FROM:** Yvette King-Berg  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve presenting notice to authorizing district, LAUSD, to reserve the right of YPICS schools to leave LAUSD SELPA at the end of the 2021-2022 school year**

### BACKGROUND

In 2011, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) reorganized its Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) to provide charter schools with a continuum of options for serving students with disabilities. The continuum spans from the least autonomous Option 1 to the most autonomous Charter Operated Program: Option 3 (COP3).

Since the reorganization, over 200 independent charter schools have embraced autonomy and responsibility in special education through COP3. This new autonomy has resulted in a steady increase in the percentage and range of students with disabilities enrolled in LAUSD charter schools.

### ANALYSIS

Although the relationship with the District and the results achieved by the charter schools in COP3 have been positive, the COP3 members recognize that special education arrangements with the LAUSD SELPA are subject to change. For this reason, charter schools must take steps necessary to preserve their autonomy and infrastructure by maintaining the ability to exit the SELPA should such action be in the best interest of the charter school and their students.

The YPI Charter Schools (YPICS), along with the other COP3 member schools, will submit a letter of notification that all (or selected) schools in COP3 reserve the right to exit the LAUSD SELPA effective July 1, 2022.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the submission of the notice to the authorizing district, LAUSD, to reserve the right of YPICS' to leave the LAUSD SELPA at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Attachment: Annual Collective SELPA Notice to LAUSD**

June 30, 2021

Anthony Aguilar  
Chief of Special Education, Equity, and Access  
Division of Special Education  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
333 South Beaudry Ave, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Aguilar,

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outstanding partnership between the Los Angeles Unified School District ("LAUSD") and charter schools in special education. On behalf of the charter schools participating in the Charter Operated Programs, Option 3 ("COP3"), I am writing to express our gratitude for this ongoing collaboration.

Over the past decade, COP3 has led to the development of a local charter school special education infrastructure that enables charter schools to provide an expanded range of innovative high-quality special education programs to an increasing number of students with disabilities. This year, the 190+ charter schools in COP3 served over 14,000 students with disabilities, which represents nearly 13% of their enrollment. Approximately 2.5% of all students are students with the most significant (low-incidence) needs. This is a testament to the fact that charter schools are an integral part of the continuum of special educational options within LAUSD and that our ongoing work together ensures that students and families are able to receive appropriate supports and services regardless of which school they attend.

We also recognize that special education arrangements within the LAUSD SELPA are subject to change. For this reason, charter schools must take the necessary steps to preserve their ability to exit the SELPA should such action be in the best interest of their students. Please accept this letter as notification that the undersigned charter schools reserve the right to exit the LAUSD SELPA effective July 1, 2022.

Please note that this letter is not binding upon the undersigned charter schools and serves the requisite administrative function of providing a one-year notice of intent to exit the SELPA. If, in consideration of all options, the charter schools find that it is not in the best interest of their students to exit the SELPA, they will remain with the LAUSD SELPA for the 2022-23 academic year.

We look forward to ongoing partnership in the service of all of our students and families.

Brian Bauer  
Board Chair  
LAUSD Charter Operated Programs, Option 3  
Executive Director, Granada Hills Charter School

CC:

Megan Reilly, Interim Superintendent  
Maribel Luna, Senior Director, Special Education  
Dixon Deutsch, Director, Charter Operated Programs, Division of Special Education  
Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Director, Charter Schools Division  
Alexa Slater, California Department of Education

