



# PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

## **PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL REPORT MAY 16, 2017**

### **PCHS recognized in annual “Best” list**

*U.S. News and World Report* – Best High School Rankings

The Best High School rankings identify the country’s top performing public high schools. Data sources used to produce the Best list include: U.S. Department of Education common data, Advanced Placement Data from College Board, statewide accountability proficiency test results and graduation rates.

According to *U.S. News and World Report*, “The methodology for identifying the Best High Schools was developed with a core principle in mind: that the best schools must serve all students well and must produce measurable outcomes that support this mission.” (Frequently Asked Questions: 2017 Best High School Rankings [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com))

PCHS, one of 247 LAUSD high schools, earned a silver medal and is ranked #94 out of more than 650 recognized California high schools, #541 in National rankings out of 6,041 eligible high schools, and #123 in Charter High Schools.

### **“Meet the Candidates” forum for LAUSD Board District 4**

Candidates Nick Melvoin and incumbent Steve Zimmer participated in a debate held in Gilbert Hall on Monday, May 8. PCHS junior Amir Ebtehadj facilitated the meeting. Pali Production live streamed the event which is viewable at this link:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B2Vi0oCHwKO5Mkh5ckZXVHRiS00>

Both candidates have also visited PCHS to meet with teachers. The election will be held on Tuesday, May 16.

### **LAUSD Charter School Division Annual Compliance Visit**

The annual oversight visit from the LAUSD Charter Division is scheduled for next week. Wednesday, May 17 is reserved for document review and fiscal review. Friday, May 19 is dedicated to evaluation of instruction and academic programs, focus group interviews, and classroom visits.

### **Annual Stakeholder Survey through Teachers College at Columbia University**

Each spring PCHS seeks to gather feedback from all stakeholder groups. This information is used to determine school effectiveness in addressing the current year’s school-wide goals and to determine the goals for the coming school year. Faculty and Staff completed their survey during the May 2 All Staff Meeting. Parents received information on May 6. The parent survey is open from May 6-20. Students will complete their survey during the Activity Day time on Friday, May 26. All feedback is confidential. Results of the surveys will be shared with the school community at the start of the 2017-18 school year.



## **Proposition 51 Application Process**

PCHS is working with GKK Architects and Charter Facilities Consulting to prepare and submit the application for Prop. 51 facilities funds. Prop. 51 is a statewide facilities funding program intended to assist charter schools in securing long-term facilities through (1) new construction of charter facilities on District and non-District sites, and (2) rehabilitation of aging District facilities for long-term charter school use. PCHS has completed the initial step of submitting letters of intent to apply for state funds to LAUSD. While many school districts across the state are supporting both new construction and rehabilitation projects, LAUSD has indicated that they will not support rehabilitation projects. The California Charter School Association is advocating on behalf of LAUSD charter schools and has submitted a letter reminding the District of its stated commitment to establishing long-term facilities for charter schools and asks that they reconsider their stance against rehabilitation projects.

## **LAUSD Sharing Promising Practices Together Forum – Saturday, June 2 from 8:30am-2:30pm at Julian Nava Learning Academy**

Several PCHS administrators and teachers will participate in the upcoming forum hosted by LASUD Superintendent Michelle King. The event includes a keynote address on the neurology of education and teaching practices to engage adolescent youth in the classroom.

Monica Iannessa and Pam Magee will present on Dolphin Leadership Academy and the PCHS Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

## **California Charter School Association Legislative Update**

The last week of April was the deadline for legislation with fiscal impact to be heard by respective policy committees. As a result, hundreds of bills were voted on in a marathon of committee hearings throughout the week with 395 bills failing to meet the deadline. Here is an update on all charter related legislation that was voted on during the week:

- **AB 950 (Rubio):** CCSA's sponsored bill to improve countywide and statewide benefit authorizing options **passed the Assembly Education Committee with a 4-1 vote** and heads to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 765 (Weiner):** CCSA's sponsored bill providing charters access to district surplus property **passed the Senate Education Committee with a 5-1 vote** and heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 808 (Mendoza):** CCSA opposed legislation that would eliminate charter school appeal options and potentially result in the closure of hundreds of charter schools **was heard by the Senate Education Committee for testimony only and is now a two-year bill.** SB 808 will be held until January in 2018 pending informational hearings in the Los Angeles area in the Summer.



- **SB 806 (Glazer):** CCSA’s sponsored bill on conflict of interest and for-profit charter schools **failed passage in the Senate Judiciary Committee with a 2-1 vote**. SB 806 is now a two-year bill.
- **AB 1224 (Weber):** CCSA’s sponsored bill to establish a county charter authorizing pilot program under the State Board of Education was pulled by the author and not taken for a vote. AB 1224 is now a two-year bill.
- **AB 1360 (Bonta):** CCSA’s opposed legislation that would impose restrictive procedures on charter school discipline and admissions practices **passed the Assembly Education Committee with a 5-2 vote**. CCSA is in the process of working with the author and sponsors of this bill in good faith on amendments to remove areas of opposition.
- **AB 1661 (Limon):** AB 1661 is a newly amended bill intended to align current law to the new state accountability system. However, this bill significantly changes the renewal criteria for charter schools. CCSA opposes this bill unless it is amended to address our concerns on the charter renewal changes. AB 1661 **passed the Assembly Education Committee with a 4-2 vote** and heads to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**Upcoming Senior Class Events**

Prom

May 20 The Annex Hollywood

Senior Awards reception

May 24 3:30pm Mercer Hall

Senior Spectacular

June 2 6:00pm PCHS

Commencement Ceremony

June 8 5:30pm Stadium by the Sea