

June 1, 2018

Beth Kauffman
Associate Superintendent
Division on Special Education
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Ave, 17th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Beth.kauffman@lausd.net

Dear Ms. Kauffman,

Over the past several years, the partnership between the Los Angeles Unified School District ("LAUSD") and charter schools in the area of special education has become an extraordinary model in innovation and collaboration. On behalf of the charter schools participating in the Charter Operated Program, Option 3 ("COP3"), I am writing to express our gratitude for this ongoing collaboration.

Since its implementation, COP3 has led to the development of a local charter school special education infrastructure which has enabled participating charter schools to provide an expanded range of innovative and high-quality special education services and to increase the number and range of students with disabilities that they serve. The percentage of students with disabilities served by the 161 participating charter schools has increased over 40% since its inception (11.2% of total enrollment in 2017-18), and the relative proportion of students with low incidence disabilities has increased by 90% (2% of total enrollment in 2017-18). This data demonstrates the strength in the partnership as well as supports the fact that increased autonomy leads to an increase in both the numbers and the range of disabilities represented.

Nevertheless, we recognize that special education arrangements within 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 schools and their students.

Please accept this letter as notification that the undersigned charter schools reserve the right to exit the LAUSD SELPA effective July 1, 2019.

Please note that this notice is not binding upon the undersigned charter schools. 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 2019-20 academic year.

We look forward to ongoing engagement and collaboration.



Brian Bauer
Board President
LAUSD Charter Operated Program, Option 3
Executive Director, Granada Hills Charter High School

cc: Vivian Ekchian, Interim Superintendent
Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Charter Schools Division, LAUSD
Members of the LAUSD Board of Education
Alexa Slater, California Department of Education