

June 30, 2020

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  
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Dear Mr. Aguilar,

Over the past decade, the partnership between the Los Angeles Unified School District (“LAUSD”) and charter schools in the area of special education has become an extraordinary model of innovation of and collaboration. 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 partnership.

Since its inception, 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 180+ charter schools in COP3 served over 12,000 students with disabilities, which represents nearly 11.5% of their enrollment. Approximately 2.5% of all students are students with the most significant (low-incidence) needs. This data 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 collaboration ensures that students and families are able to receive appropriate supports 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, 2021.

Please note that this notice 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 2021-22 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 High School

CC: Austin Beutner, Superintendent  
Dixon Deutsch, Director, Charter Operated Programs, Division of Special Education  
Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Director, Charter Schools Division  
Alexa Slater, California Department of Education

