Greetings from Dr. Jacqueline Elliot, President & CEO

On February 9, events occurred that included some of the most proud and significant moments in the history of PUC. On that day, the PUC Excel renewal charter petition and the petition to establish a new language immersion school in NE Los Angeles were approved, despite the Charter School Division’s recommendations for denial of both.

Approval of the petitions can be attributed to 3 weeks of non-stop hard work leading up to the board meeting, on the part of PUC parents, students, and staff aimed at convincing board members to approve the petitions.

On the morning of February 9, one hundred and forty PUC parents, staff and students began arriving at LAUSD as early as 6:00 am and stayed for almost 14 hours until the agenda items were heard. It was a very hot day but PUC National staff brought everybody chairs and canopies to shield them from the heat, hot spots so that they could work on their computers, and ample water and food to sustain them for the long day ahead. Despite the fact that everybody waited for 6 hours to get into the boardroom and an additional 7 hours before the school agenda items were heard, everybody remained cheerful and positive.

Parents, students, teachers, leaders, and a PUC alumnus who is now a PUC teacher addressed the board members passionately about the culture and achievements at PUC Excel and 2 young students who have been attending a language immersion elementary school spoke beautifully (one in Mandarin and English and one in Spanish and English) about their desire to attend the new PUC language immersion middle school. All of the speeches were extremely compelling, heartfelt, and brilliant.

The events of February 9 demonstrated the great power that exists when PUC parents, staff, teachers, and students unite and stand up for what they know to be true about the schools they love, about the mission of PUC, about the rights of parents and communities to have viable options in public education, and about the tremendous outcomes that have been achieved in PUC schools over the course of the past 17 years.
PUC Achieve Celebrates with Families, Students and Staff

Black History Month Celebration Theater and Choir Performance

**Cotillion:** On the coldest day of winter, we had over 80 girls and their male role models at the Cotillion dance. Over 150 dresses were donated. Check out: [http://13wham.com/news/local/charter-school-hosts-cotillion-dance](http://13wham.com/news/local/charter-school-hosts-cotillion-dance)

**Family Game Night:** Students played board and card games with their parents. They discovered that you can learn by playing.
PUC EXPANDED DAY PROGRAM (ASES) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY ROCKS!

All of our PUC Schools serve students during the after school hours either through the ASES program or the 21st Century Grant program (YPI). The PUC Expanded Day Program (ASES) is in full swing. The ASES program serves Kindergarten through 8th grade and all students are welcomed. One of our goals this year is to provide quality staff to our deserving students and one way we are doing this is through professional development. Saturday, January 23, 2016, PUC brought together all staff from all eight schools (PUC EXCEL, PUC MILAGRO, PUC CALS MS, PUC SANTA ROSA, PUC COMMUNITY CHARTER MS, PUC LAKEVIEW MS, PUC TRIUMPH MS, AND PUC NUEVA ESPERANZA MS) to engage in various activities designed to enhance the skill and knowledge level of our ASES staff. In addition, all campus aides from all PUC schools were also invited to participate. We had over 70 participants. Topics that were covered ranged from how to de-escalate a student situation to safety preparedness. Ms. Malena Otero presented an engaging review of PUC’s Handbook and Policy statements. Ms. Christine Sartiaguda brought in the Family Counseling staff to work in small groups with the staff and went over different types of scenarios to help them better understand how to de-escalate a situation that may arise. The professional development ended with each school reflecting on next steps and goal setting for the rest of the year. Thanks to everyone who assisted with putting the PD together. We look forward to future PUC-wide ASES professional development.

Mr. Montero, Director of Compliance
Congratulations are in order for PUC High School CIF basketball and soccer teams that just finished their season. All of the teams and their coaches worked extremely hard and played with great tenacity and passion.

Over the course of the past 5 years the number of PUC high school CIF athletic teams have increased and every year they have been a great source of pride to PUC. Most recently, it was especially exciting that PUC CCECHS had 3 teams go all the way to city finals. These teams were the girls’ basketball team, boys’ soccer team, and girls’ soccer team. In addition, the Sotomayor girls’ soccer team also earned a spot in city finals. Other highlights included the PUC LCHS boys’ basketball team that went undefeated for almost the entire season.

The LA Times wrote an article about the boys’ PUC LCHS basketball team emphasizing that they are scholar athletes. In PUC, our coaches and athletes recognize that the field or court is a metaphor for life and the tremendous effort and team spirit they demonstrate while playing their sport is the same effort we see these exemplary scholars demonstrating in their classrooms. Congratulations and thank you to all of our PUC athletes and their coaches for an outstanding, very exciting fall season!
PUC Alumni Serve on Partnerships to Uplift Communities Boards of Trustees

The vision of co-founders Dr. Jacqueline Elliot and Dr. Ref Rodriguez always was that our alumni would assume an increasing number of roles in our organization as they merged into adulthood and became college graduates. True to this vision, over the course of the past few years the number of alumni working in our organization has steadily increased as have the variety of roles that they have assumed. We now have PUC alumni serving in multiple roles that include but are not limited to teachers, office managers, office clerks, tutors, coaches, campus aides, inclusion specialist assistants, and more. All of them are doing outstanding jobs and nobody better understands the mission and vision of our organization than our very own alumni who grew up in our schools.

This year yet another role was assumed by three of our outstanding alumni, who are now serving on the Partnerships to Uplift Communities Boards of Trustees. All three attended PUC schools from grades 6 – 12. They are Jesse Almeida and Genesis Morales, both of who were members of and graduated from the founding classes of PUC CALS Charter Middle School and PUC CALS Early College High School, and Jessica Lopez who attended and graduated from PUC Community Charter Middle School and PUC Community Charter Early College High School.

These three incredible young adults are stellar role models for our students. Jesse is a graduate from UCLA, Genesis earned her BA at UC Santa Cruz and completed her graduate degree at USC, and Jessica completed her BA at CA State University Northridge and plans to go to law school. All three are now working professionals. It is an honor and a privilege to have them serving on our Boards of Trustees. Pictured from left to right are Genesis Morales, Jessica Lopez, and Jesse Almeida.
Glassdoor and Indeed

PUC is on the Glassdoor and Indeed job site where you can leave a review about your experience here at PUC!

In case you’re not familiar with the job sites they are similar to Yelp!

See our links below:

http://www.glassdoor.com/Overview/Working-at-PUC-Schools-EI_IE465918.11,22.htm

http://www.indeed.com/cmp/Puc-Schools

Leave us a review!
Social Media

We’re here! Follow the Recruitment Team on social media to stay updated on events, new openings, and much more!

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Discounted Software Available For Home Use

Exclusive for your company, get the completely NEW Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2016 suite for your home. Or if you use a Mac, get Office Home and Business 2016 for Mac for the same low price, $9.95.

The link below provides the details as well as the new program code necessary to purchase Office.

Thank you everyone & happy holidays.

Human Resources Employee Perks Program

Human Resources is pleased to announce a new employee benefit. All employees now have exclusive access to the Working Advantage discount network which allows you to save up to 60% on ticketed events and online shopping. Through Working Advantage you can save on: Movie Tickets, Theme Parks, Ski Tickets, Broadway Shows, Sporting Events, Hotels and Travel, Health and Fitness, Museums and City Passes, Merchant Gift Certificates, Online Shopping...and much more! To subscribe, you may access the Working Advantage website by clicking here: www.workingadvantage.com. When opening an individual account you will need the PUC Schools ID #413401740.

Working Advantage offers 24-hour online shopping and customer support Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM Eastern time. If you have specific questions regarding the site, please contact Working Advantage at 800-565-3712.

PUC employees will no longer be able to purchase discounted Disneyland Resort tickets from the website link previously featured on the PUC Intranet. However, Working Advantage offers a variety of Disneyland Resort tickets at a discounted price as well. For more information, visit: Working Advantage Disneyland Tickets

Human Resources has AMC tickets available for sale. As of August 1, 2015, AMC will no longer sell Silver or Gold Tickets; they have decided to move to one ticket going forward which will be the Green Ticket. The Gold tickets that remain in distribution will be honored as stated in the terms and conditions listed on the tickets. PLEASE NOTE: Green Tickets will NOT be eligible for any movie distributed by The Walt Disney Company, including but not limited to Pixar, Marvel, and Lucas Films. AMC tickets have no expiration date. The price for a green ticket is $9/ticket. PAYMENT METHOD: ONLY CASHIER'S CHECK, PERSONAL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. NO CASH! Please make check or money order to: PUC Schools.

If you are interested in purchasing AMC Green tickets, please contact Isamar Muñoz, HR Assistant.

T-Mobile Advantage Program

T-Mobile offers exclusive discounts for PUC Schools Employees. Click on the T-Mobile logo above to visit T-Mobile’s promo website. To enroll by phone, contact Advantage Direct at 866-464-8662 and use promotional code 20356TMOFAV.

Any questions regarding our employee perks program, please contact Isamar Muñoz, HR Assistant, i.munoz@pucschools.org or (818) 559-7699
PUC Polo Shirts and Laptop Bags for Sale

You can now purchase PUC Polo Shirts and PUC Laptop bags! Items can be purchased throughout the year. Please contact Jonathan Liu from the Human Resources Department in order to place an order. You can reach him at j.liu@pucschools.org or 818-478-2093.

PUC Polo: $20 for either the male or female cut.

PUC Laptop Bag: $40