Greetings from Dr. Jacqueline Elliot, President & CEO

What a great start to the 2017-18 school year! Schools hit the ground running with great teaching and learning from day one. We once again held the PUC Kick-off at the Alex Theatre and our students’ performances were outstanding. We were thrilled that PUC Achieve Charter School once again joined us remotely from Rochester, New York. Our extremely talented staff members also thrilled us with the final performance of the day. They are such talented musicians! We are very fortunate to have such talented arts teachers and cheerleading coaches in PUC. Every school was represented in the show, even students from our newest PUC school, International Preparatory Academy (iPrep), who introduced some of the acts in Mandarin and Spanish! The student dancers amazed us and it was apparent that our dance teachers are extremely talented choreographers in addition to being great dancers! We were lucky enough to see these teachers also perform at the kick-off. Being able to see a couple of scenes from Little Shop of Horrors was a great treat and having a chance to view some of the tremendous student art work was fantastic. The students presented their artwork with such confidence and reflective, thought provoking comments. The visual arts teachers should be very proud. I am very grateful to every teacher, school leader, and staff member both from the schools and from PUC National who contributed to the kick-off in any way whatsoever. To Sam Robles who heads up the arts programs throughout the network and Rachel Lipson who generously gave her time to ensure that the technical aspects of the production ran smoothly, a huge thank you! Both of these individuals worked extremely hard to ensure that the hundreds of school and PUC National employees who attended the event enjoyed it thoroughly. Sincere congratulations to all of the employees who received 10 and 15-year employment awards. We look forward to presenting them with 20 and 25 year awards! Have a wonderful year!
As a community of teachers, school support team members, leaders and parents, we often are asking the question, “what can I do for you?” or “what can I do to help others?”

These questions are wonderful! But I often wonder if we are asking the question “what have I done for ME” enough? Being generous with your time, money and efforts is admirable and rewarding. But, after we give, we have to be sure to fill ourselves back up...do something that replenishes our energy and nourishes our soul.

The term “self care” is kind of a buzz word lately, but it is something crucial to our success. Most of us understand we should take care of ourselves but may not even know where to start. Eleanor Brownn, a self care educator, simplifies the sometimes intimidating idea, “Self care is any action you purposefully take to improve your physical, emotional or spiritual well being. Too often, we do not make time for sufficient self care because we’re too busy taking care of others. Life’s demands at home, in our community and at work can take our lives out of balance. Self care can be getting more rest, eating healthier food, spending more time in thoughtful reflection, being kinder to yourself, smiling more, playing, or engaging in any activity that renews you. By making time for self care, you prepare yourself to be your best so you can share your gifts with the world. Rest and self-care are so important. When you take time to replenish your spirit, it allows you to serve others from the overflow. Self care isn’t selfish. You cannot serve from an empty vessel.”

Are you trying to serve from an “empty vessel?” Answering that question honestly is the first step. The next step is to set aside time, even if you can only start with 10 minutes, and do what fills you up! I challenge you to take 10 minutes per day for the next 7 days, doing what feeds your soul. Your opportunities to give and serve others will be never ending, but your capacity to actually be a benefit to others is limited by how well you care for yourself.

Instead of our regular pattern of give, serve, give, serve, until we are empty, let’s commit to a new pattern: give, refresh, serve, replenish…and see how we, and those we give to, begin to thrive!
ROCKids Connect

Sixteen PUC Achieve scholars in grades 6-8 went on a family picnic with 16 high school students from one of our suburban districts. The event took place at Powder Mill Park. The students played games, fed the fish and did some getting to know you activities. The partnership is called ROCKids Connect (Rochester) and this is the start of our second year. The program is designed to have the high school students mentor our students and we do a variety of different projects including STEM as well as attending field trips together throughout the year.

The high school students also visit Achieve twice a year for a half of day and shadow our scholars. In return our scholars visit the high school and shadow them in return. In addition, Achieve will be participating in the fight against breast cancer on Sunday, October 15th by participating in a 1.5 mile walk in downtown Rochester with the community. We are currently taking donations online and raising money to support this cause. We have been advertising this event with morning announcements by scholars and passing out flyers.

www.makingstrides.org
TEAM PUC ACHIEVE
or contact Mr. Samuel
m.samuel@pucschools.org

Join The Stop Cancer Walk on Sunday October 15th

Please join Team PUC for a 5K or 10K walk or run (your preference) at Woodley Park in Van Nuys this weekend.

Register at www.stopcancer.org. This is an annual event for PUC, a great way to support cancer research, lots of fun, and great exercise! The event will take place from 7:00 am until noon and the walk/run will begin at 8:00 a.m. See you there!
This month, PUC NECA started a Phoenix Flyers run club! Our goal is to get students and families more active as we prepare for the San Fernando 5k on October 28th! Every Thursday, scholars, teachers, and families meet in the plaza to go for a run, walk or jog around our San Fernando community. Runners can choose between a 1mi, 2mi and 3mi course as they train for the 5k (3.1mi) race in October. Everyone who signs up for the 5k race also gets a special, one of a kind PUC NECA Phoenix Flyers t-shirt! Scholars and teachers are excited to sport their t-shirts every Thursday as we prepare for the big race! Students have been increasingly excited to participate and the club has boosted our after school program ADA, as all participants must be enrolled in our after school program. We are having a fabulous time getting fit, healthy and active as a school community!

Our motto:
Run as one!
Work as a team!
Finish as a family!

This year will be our third year running the San Fernando 5k and we are especially excited to offer race entry fees at 1/3 of the cost to the public. Even better, 100% of the proceeds go back to support our scholars! We can’t wait for race day and hope you’ll join us too! If you and your family are interested, please reach out to our main office at 818-256-1951 OR our Principal Fidel Ramirez at f.ramirez@pucschools.org or Assistant Principal Heather Yoshioka at h.yoshioka@pucschools.org
The 3 R’s at PUC Community Charter Early College High School

The PUC Community Charter Early College High School community of students, teachers, parents, staff, and alumni have embraced the school’s 2017-2018 theme of Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships! As an extension of the academic program at PUC CCECHS, members of the student organization, LatinX Association, responded to the news of the earthquake in central Mexico by organizing, planning, advertising to the CCECHS community, collecting, and coordinating the delivery of essential goods to the survivors of the earthquake. LatinX Association members coordinated with their teacher advisors, Melissa Cepeda and Laura Valenzuela, as well as the family of alumni Alex and Jesus Cano who will collect and send all of the donations to Mexico.

The CCECHS community is extremely proud of the strong legacy of academic success and community partnerships and empowerment exemplified by the leadership of the LatinX Association and CCECHS students, alumni, parents, and community members.
PUC Nueva Esperanza High School has begun its pilot program with LA Mission College. Each Friday the junior class travels to LA Mission College to take an Art 300 lab course. The dual enrollment allows the students to earn credits toward their ‘F’ requirement, as well as college credits. In the spring semester, the juniors will take an Art History course, which will fulfill the ‘F’ requirement. Through this partnership, the NECA HS juniors get to experience what it means to be a college student, all the way down to having college IDs and full access to the campus. Actually getting to take courses on the college campus helps to frame their college-going mindset and further drive their motivation to persist in learning. It also has an impact on the freshman and sophomores. They see the juniors getting this experience and want to thrive to get that opportunity as well, so it has helped create students taking more ownership over their academics. Students are talking more about grades and advocating more and more for themselves. This is an exciting partnership that will continue to benefit all our students as we continue to grow it.
In an effort to motivate and inspire PUC Valley High Schools’ freshmen to take advantage of Early College High School (ECHS), we partnered with Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC), and held our 2nd Annual PUC Valley High Schools & LAMC ECHS Event.

This event took place on LAMC’s campus on Wednesday, September 27th, 2017, where approximately ~480 freshmen and chaperones attended. The Class of 2021 heard presentations from LAMC and PUC staff, toured the campus, and enjoyed lunch on LAMC’s quad.

The event opened with a warm welcome and words of encouragement from LAMC’s Vice President Saber, Mr. Gonzales, Dean of Student Success, PUC Valley Superintendents Ms. Abich and Dr. Reyes.

Students learned about the many benefits of taking ECHS courses, benefits of becoming a LAMC college student, and the tremendous opportunity the LA Promise program offers. Ms. Morales, College Counselor at PUC Lakeview stressed that students have the opportunity to earn 30 FREE units of college credit in high school, and an additional 30 FREE units after high school through The LA Promise. Students who take advantage of both ECHS and LA Promise may earn 60 units of college credit for FREE!

Members of LAMC’s Career Technical Education (CTE) department presented on their programs, sparking students’ curiosity about their early childhood education, criminal justice and health sciences programs. The forensics crime scene and finger printing courses under the criminal justice program had the audience chattering with interest.

To help freshmen get a glimpse of what it is really like to take college classes, a panel of successful, PUC Valley high school students shared their experiences taking college classes on LAMC’s campus and taking college classes at their high school. These students noted valuable lessons of perseverance, tips for success, and words of encouragement.

### WHY TAKE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL COURSES (ECHS)?

**Increase Time to Degree Completion** – A student who acquires at least 12 college credits prior to high school graduation has the highest likelihood of graduating from a post-secondary institution within four years (Adelman, 2006) *.

**Reduces Tuition Costs** - Save money by earning college credits for FREE while in high school, hence reducing time to college degree completion.

**Explore Career Options** – Students may take courses in a variety of interest areas before declaring a major when they apply to college senior year.

**Reduce 1st Year College Stress** – Students gain college self-confidence by experiencing college academic success.

**Become A More Competitive Career & College Applicant** – Increased course rigor & demonstrate college academic success.

*Clifford Adelman has served nearly 30 years as a senior research analyst at the U.S. Department of Education. Adelman contributed to key background studies of the high school curriculum to the landmark, including: A Nation at Risk (1983), Involvement in Learning (1984), The Toolbox (1996), and The Toolbox Revisited (2006).
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!

PUC Schools Recruitment @pucschools_recruitment @PUC_Recruitment
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.

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.

Human Resources has AMC tickets available for sale. As of August 1, 2016, AMC will no longer sell Silver, Gold or Green Tickets; they have decided to move to one ticket going forward which will be the Black Ticket. PLEASE NOTE: May be subject to surcharge. All restrictions are listed in back of ticket.

AMC tickets have no expiration date. The price for a black ticket is $10.25 per 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 Black tickets, please contact Isamar Muñoz, HR Assistant.

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

Sprint is pleased to offer monthly service discounts to eligible employees, students and organization members. Click on the Sprint logo above to visit Sprint’s promo website or visit the PUC Intranet, Employee Perks under the Team Member Tools tab.
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 Isamar Muñoz from the Human Resources Department in order to place an order. You can reach her at i.munoz@pucschools.org or 818-478-2130.

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

PUC Laptop Bag: $40