January 21, 2015

TO: Santa Clara County Board of Education
FROM: Toni Cordova
Chief Strategy Officer
VIA: Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Public Hearing on the Material Revision to University Preparatory Academy Charter School Petition

Associated Goals
Goal 1: Improve student equity and reduce access discrepancies to high quality education
Goal 2: Provide support to districts, communities, schools, and students

Background
On January 12, 2015, the Santa Clara County Board of Education received a letter from University Preparatory Academy Charter School requesting a material revision to the charter currently authorized by the Santa Clara County Board of Education. This item will be placed on the February 4, 2015 board agenda for a decision.

Attachments
January 12, 2015

Darcie Green		Jon R. Gundry
Board President	County Superintendent of Schools
Santa Clara County Office Of Education
1290 Ridder Park Dr.
San Jose, CA 95131

Dear President Green and Superintendent Gundry:

On behalf of the University Preparatory Academy (UPA) Board and staff we would like to extend our appreciation to the County Board and your staff for approving the UPA Charter Petition for another 5 years. As I stated on several occasions during the hearings our school is about celebrating success and moving forward with solving some of the issues we face as a school; we aim to keep getting better and better.

During discussions with county office staff and as indicated by the County Board, UPA needs to increase its number of low Socio-Economic students. We have increased our recruitment efforts as outlined in the approved reauthorization but in response to Board concerns, expressed during reauthorization approval we would like to go a step further and propose that the school give priority status to low Socio-Economic students in the school’s lottery process. UPA considers this a significant change in our lottery process and thus we are seeking approval from the County Office of Education Board to amend our lottery procedures.

For the Board’s reference, we are attaching the recently approved petition. The amended language can be found on page 64 of the petition. Amended language is indicated in bold italics.

Please contact me should you, your staff or the Board need additional information.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ordez
Executive Director
University Preparatory Academy

cc: Toni Cordova
Chief Strategy Officer

Don Bolce
Director, Special Projects

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