October 15, 2014

TO: Santa Clara County Board of Education

FROM: Toni Cordova, Chief Strategy Officer
Office of the Superintendent

VIA: Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on the Charter School Petition for Voices College-Bound Language Academy at Morgan Hill

Background

On September 26, 2014, the Office of Innovative Schools of the Santa Clara County Office of Education received a petition from Voices College-Bound Language Academy seeking approval to open Voices College-Bound Language Academy at Morgan Hill. This petition was submitted on appeal from the Morgan Hill Unified School District, having been denied by the District’s Board of Education on September 23, 2014.

California Education Code Section 47605(b) requires that “no later than 30 days after receiving a petition... the governing board of the school district shall hold a public hearing on the provisions of the charter, at which time the governing board of the school district shall consider the level of support for the petition by teachers employed by the district, other employees of the district, and parents.” The Education Code further requires that “the governing board of the school district shall either grant or deny the charter within 60 days of receipt of the petition, provided, however, that the date may be extended by an additional 30 days if both parties agree to the extension.”

This item will be placed on the Board agenda for a vote on November 19, 2014.
Voices
College-Bound Language Academy
Find your path and prepare for the future!

Santa Clara County Public Hearing
October 15, 2014

at Morgan Hill
VOICES PUBLIC SCHOOL

Same standards....
Same teacher credentials....
Same state testing.....
Same students and families.....

Extraordinary results!
OUR MISSION

Prepare all students for the challenges of higher education
Provide academically rigorous dual-language program
Ensure students:
• demonstrate high academic achievement
• apply critical thinking skills
• make sense of their role within their own culture and the greater society
FLAGSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION

- Top three Dual Immersion schools in California
- Top three English Learner API (Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties)
- Top three Hispanic API (Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties)
- Top two Latino API (Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties)
- Closing the achievement gap
FLAGSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS

- 435 K-8 students
- 500+ waiting list
- 90% Hispanic
- 75% Free/Reduced lunch
- 75% English Learners (kinder)
- 7% Special Education
ENGLISH LEARNER DEMOGRAPHICS AND RESULTS (FLAGSHIP SCHOOL)

• 75% of incoming kindergarten students English Learners
• 58% of incoming kindergarteners Beginning and Early Intermediate CELDT levels
• 36% English Learner Redesignation rate (17% higher than state average)
• Met ALL AMAO’s (state wide accountability system)
• Top performing DI school in Santa Clara County (898 API)
THE NEED IN MORGAN HILL

- White API
- Hispanic API
- English Learner API
VOICES IS ELIMINATING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP!

- School Wide API
- Hispanic API
- English Learner API

Voices College-Bound Language Academy
TIME LINE

• 2013-14 Morgan Hill parents toured Voices and implored Voices to submit a petition in Morgan Hill
• 4/22/14 Voices sent introductory email to MH Superintendent Betando and trustees expressing desire to collaborate and meet
• 4/23/14 Trustee Thomas responded directing we work with Superintendent (Sup. Betando cc’d)
• 4/27/14 Trustee Badillo accepted invitation to meet and tour Voices
• 4/28/14 Trustee Benevento declined our request to meet.
• 6/20/14 First communication from Superintendent Betando
• 6/26/14 Petition submitted to MHUSD
• 9/23/14 MHUSD denied petition
• 9/26/14 County appeal submitted
VOICES AT MORGAN HILL

- Open 2015-16 school year
- Slow growth model: Begins with kindergarten and first grade
- Extended School Day
- Built-In Enrichment and Intervention
- Summer School
- Special Education LEA
FOUNDATIONS FOR LEARNING:
A PROGRAM THAT WORKS!

- Responsive Dual Immersion Program
- More Time Learning
- Culture of Learning
- Data-Driven Culture
- College-Bound Culture
- Project-Based Learning
SERVING LANGUAGE LEARNERS

- Academic language and content access support (SIOP)
- Systematic English Language Development
- Cutting-edge Dual Immersion Program
- Multiple measures of achievement and growth
RESPONSIVE DUAL IMMERSION PROGRAM

- Data-driven programmatic decisions
- Responsive to learner needs (SES, disability, demographics)
- Content, knowledge, and skills applied in both languages
- Integration of progressive educational techniques into DI model
ALL STUDENTS DEVELOP STRONG LANGUAGE SKILLS IN ENGLISH & SPANISH
CONTENT IS APPLIED IN BOTH LANGUAGES

For example:

Social Studies lesson taught in English
Related reading later in the day in Spanish
Homework in Spanish

Science Lesson taught in Spanish
Related project later in the day in English
Homework in English
COLLEGE-BOUND CULTURE
A sincere appreciation to the SCCOE staff, Superintendent and Trustees for their consideration of the Voices at Morgan Hill charter petition.