



COASTAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Adele Healy
President

Brian Vassallo
Vice President

George Palazio
Secretary

Robert Campbell
Treasurer

March 10, 2017

Dear LAUSD Board Members, Superintendent King and Local District Superintendent Downing:

The purpose of this letter is to express the strong support of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council for the construction of a new middle school Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) magnet at the site currently known as the Christensen Science Center (2201 Barrywood Ave, San Pedro).

Our Neighborhood Council has participated in ongoing engagement meetings with the participation of LAUSD staff and with teacher and community representatives from San Pedro for over one year. Based on the input from these stakeholders and discussions with District staff, this new school will represent an opportunity for innovative and high-quality instruction to provide 21st century STEAM-themed teaching and learning to our San Pedro students. As proposed, this school promises to attract families that are currently exiting LAUSD to seek improved instruction and opportunities at non-LAUSD schools for their children.

Through our engagement meetings and in collaboration with District staff we have envisioned a high-tech facility that will be host to science, technology and art labs; a multi-purpose room; a unique Ship/Vessel Mechanical repair classroom; Tide Pools to promote student marine interactions; the preservation of the existing Community Gardens as possible; Running/Walking Trails; a physical education field; and a focus on interactive learning opportunities with animals and marine life. Local District South staff has presented quarterly updates on this process at our Neighborhood Council meetings and we have received additional input from members of our council and community members in attendance.

The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council stands firmly behind this proposed school and looks forward to further engagement throughout the planning, review and site construction. We respectfully request that the LAUSD Board of Education approve this new school without delay and ensure that the San Pedro community and families benefit from this middle school STEAM magnet as soon as possible. The establishment of this unique school will allow San Pedro families' access to a state-of-the-art learning experience that will be second-to-none in its goal of preparing students for the career paths of the 21st century.

Respectfully submitted,

Adele Healy
President

On behalf of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board