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venture fund

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President and CEO

February 27, 2012

Honorable Bill Rosendahl
Councilmember, District 11
City of Los Angeles

Date: 2/28/12
Submitted in FLUM Committee
Council File No: 12-0088
Item No.: 6
Deputy: Comm from Public

Dear Councilmember Rosendahl,


I am writing to commend you on the pending agreement you have developed with the New West Charter Middle School.

That agreement, which will provide the option for any Brockton Elementary School graduate to attend New West, is a model for collaboration between high performing charter schools and their local neighborhood school.

Specifically, New West has given up certain rights stipulated in their charter in order to guarantee that Brockton students automatically have the option to attend New West going forward. What this means to Brockton families is that they now have several high quality middle and high school options accessible to them.

As a national funder of high quality charter organizations at NewSchools and as a former member of the authorizing body (California State Board of Education) for New West, I can say without hesitation that the New West/ Brockton agreement is a game-changer and a win, win for the community, New West, and the school district. I encourage you and your colleagues to use this framework as a way to encourage more high quality charter schools to become the neighborhood school for children in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,



Theodore R. Mitchell