

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:29 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Letter of support for Valor Academy Elementary School

## Letter of Support for Bright Star Schools' Valor Academy Elementary School

Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

The PUC Clinical Counseling Program strongly supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Additionally, they have been a strong partner of ours. We partner through mental health services. We provide Bright Star Schools with mental health support. They care about their students' mental state and want to provide them access to support services to remove barriers to learning.


Why we support Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.
- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.

- **Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home.** The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Christine Sartiaguda", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Christine Sartiaguda, LMFT, Ed.D.  
Director of Clinical Service, PUC Schools

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:31 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Letter in support of Valor Elementary School



## Letter of Support for Bright Star Schools' Valor Academy Elementary School

Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Didi Hirsch has provided voluntary, school-based mental health services at the Bright Star Valor Academy Schools for the past ten years and our partnership has continued to grow through the years. Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Therapists from Didi Hirsch help provide much needed mental health support to help meet student needs.

Reasons why we support **Bright Star Schools** and **Valor Academy Elementary School**:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.
- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.

Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home. The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

We are pleased to lend our support to the Bright Star Schools' project to benefit the North Hills community.

Sincerely,

*Rachel Gloer, LCSW*

Rachel Gloer, LCSW  
Vice President, Whole Person Care  
Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services  
4760 South Sepulveda Blvd.  
Culver City, CA 90230

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:32 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Letter in support of Valor Elementary School



November 8, 2022

Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn:

The Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS** Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. The Chamber shares a strong passion for workforce development, and through our partnership with Bright Star, we can connect employers to talent through Bright Star's students.

In addition to our growing workforce development partnership, the Chamber supports Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School because it provides a high-quality, free public education for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. They stand apart from other schools because they also provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.

A robust public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools has a successful history of operating charter public schools across Los Angeles, with three in the San Fernando Valley, all authorized by LAUSD. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner committed to the future of North Hills.

Bright Star Schools does not have a permanent home in North Hills, and it's critical for students, families, teachers, and staff to have a permanent location where they can learn and grow.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community, and we ask that you approve their conditional use permit.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hoffman Vanyek, ACE  
Chief Executive Officer



## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:33 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Support Valor Academy Elementary School



## Letter of Support for Bright Star Schools' Valor Academy Elementary School

Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

Harvard-Westlake School strongly supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Additionally, they have developed a strong relationship with Harvard-Westlake that includes a number of after-school and summer program partnerships.

Why we support Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.
- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.



- **Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home.** The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ari Engelberg".

Ari Engelberg  
Head of Communications & Strategic Initiatives  
Harvard-Westlake School

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:35 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Support Valor Academy Elementary School



PHOENIX HOUSES OF LOS ANGELES, INC

December 7, 2022

Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

Phoenix House of California strongly supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Additionally, they have been a strong partner of ours. We work closely with them to provide mental health and substance use prevention services for their students and see how this will continue to promote the need to serve the youth in this community.

Why we support Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.

11600 ELDRIDGE AVE • LAKE VIEW TERRACE, CA 91342

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PHOENIX HOUSES OF LOS ANGELES, INC

- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.
- **Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home.** The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
EE6C405C7A18447...

Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D.  
President and CEO  
Phoenix House California  
11600 Eldridge Avenue  
Lake View Terrace, CA 91342

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## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:39 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Support Valor Academy Elementary School

12/06/22

Dear Council Woman Rodriguez

Hi! my name is Lucy I go to Valor Academy Elementary School and I am in 4th grade. I have been at this School for 6 years. I want to tell you a few things I love about VAES. First thing I love is that there are after school clubs for example, I am in art club. Next thing I love, is that teachers help you when you need it! Lastly, I love that they provide School lunches for us. I hope you have a good day!

Love,

Lucy



12/06/22

Dear Council Women Rodriguez

My name is Melvin. My grade  
is 3rd grade. I have been at VHS

Academy for 13 years. Some things

I love about my school is

I always feel safe at school

I hope you have a

good week.

♡♡♡

Sincerely,

Melvin

Dear

Councilwoman Rodriguez

My Name is Ethan iam

Good at bowling and i go to  
valor academy Ellementre School

One thing i love about Valor  
is people are kind. Another

reason i love valor is teachers

Always care. My last reason

i love vaes is we provide meteryes

Sincerely

Ethan

12-06-22

Dear Council Woman Rodriguez,

Hi my name is Clara. I have been in valor academy elementary school for 5 years. I am in 4th grade.

What I Love about Valor academy elementary is that there are kind teachers and people, Teachers keep us safe. Teachers and Counselors are very caring. There are kind students.

Sincerely Clara.

12/06/22

Dear Council Women Rodriguez,  
my name is Castiel from Valor  
Academy Elementary School I'm  
from third grade. I have been  
here for four years. Something  
that I love about Vaps is that  
they keep us safe, and they  
have a lot of materials, and they  
cheer us up. I hope you have  
a good and I hope you can  
come to our winter show.

Sincerely Castiel

12/06/22

Dear Council woman Rodriguez.

I am Leah Muñoz. I am in 4th grade.

I am here to talk about Valor Academy

Elementary School. What I love about

Vaes is everyone is very welcoming and kind!

Also, teachers help us learn new things. Family,

I love how everyone is so caring!

Sincerely

Leah

valor academy  
elementary school

12/06/22

Dear council Rodrigues

My name is Martin im in  
third grade I have been in  
valor for four years. Somethings  
I like about valor is how they  
keep us safe and have a lot  
of materials and have nice  
teacher. Bye have a nice  
day.

Sincerely

Martin

12/06/22

Dear Council Woman Rodriguez,

My name is Tessa Rivas and I am a 4th grade student at Valor Academy Elementary School. I am here to share with you a few things I love about my school. First of all, I love how the teachers share equality with others! Next, I love how our teachers make learning fun! Lastly, I love how teachers help us learn new things! By the way, please come to our winter show on Friday the 9th at 8:45 AM. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely  
Tessa Rivas

12-02-22

Dear Councilwoman Rodriguez,

Hi my name is Maryana Iamin  
4th grade and I have been  
a student at Valor Academy  
Elementary School since third  
grade. The teachers give you  
help right away. If you  
have trouble with something  
they will make sure that you  
are safe.

Maryana



12/06/22

Dear Council Woman Rodriguez,

My name is Collette. I'm in 3rd grade and this is my first year at Valor Academy Elementary School. Something I love about VAES is that students learn new things everyday! Another thing I love about Vaes is that the teachers are so nice!

Sincerely,  
Collette

12/06/22

Dear Council woman Rodriguez,

My name is Dua. I'm in third grade and this is my fourth year at Valor Academy. Something

I love about my School is how kind the teachers are and how the teachers keep us safe.

Another thing I like about VAES is how the Students learn New Knowledge.

Sincerely, Dua

Alan

Dear Council woman Rodriguez,

my Name is Alan and You can  
have fun in this School  
because, this is a fun School

Sincerely

Alan

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:40 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Support Valor Academy Elementary School



Esther Ahn  
LA City Planning Department  
Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

Worthy Beyond Purpose strongly supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Additionally, they have been a strong partner of ours. In 2021, we brought our mindfulness & meditation program into the third grade classes at Valor Academy Elementary School (VAES). We love the students and their desire to learn and explore new techniques that help them feel and manage their emotions. With the tireless support of the teachers and the administration, in 2021, we have grown our program to reach the fourth graders as well. VAES is, hands down, one of our very favorite schools and we look forward to a lifetime of partnership with them.

Why we support Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community.

Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.

- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.
- **Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home.** The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community.

Sincerely,

Connie Clotworthy  
Executive Director  
Worthy Beyond Purpose

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 10:42 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Support Valor Academy Elementary School



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Letter of Support for Bright Star Schools' Valor Academy Elementary School

**Esther Ahn**

LA City Planning Department

Via email: [esther.ahn@lacity.org](mailto:esther.ahn@lacity.org)

Re: Case Number CPC-2022-5865-CU-SPR - 15526 Plummer Street

Dear Ms. Ahn,

New Horizons: Serving individuals with Special Needs strongly supports Bright Star Schools' project to build a permanent elementary school campus for Valor Academy Elementary School at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills.

Bright Star Schools serves nearly 1,500 students and their families in the North Hills community through their Valor Academy charter public schools. Additionally, they have been a strong partner of ours. We look forward to their continued partnership to enhance and provide value to our community.

Why we support Bright Star Schools and Valor Academy Elementary School:

- **Bright Star Schools provide a high-quality, free public education** for students of all backgrounds and abilities from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Additionally, they provide up to 6 years of higher education support for their alumni.
- **Bright Star Schools is a nonprofit organization that operates 9 charter public schools across Los Angeles, all authorized by the LAUSD.** Bright Star Schools' three schools serving North Hills include Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, and Valor Academy High School.
- **Bright Star Schools was selected by the owner of 15526 Plummer Street to purchase the property and build a campus for their existing elementary school that will benefit the community for generations to come.** A strong public education system is critical to the future of North Hills' children, their families, and our community. Bright Star Schools is an important community partner that is committed to the future of North Hills.
- **Bright Star Schools will, and has always planned to, preserve the historic home on the property at 15526 Plummer Street.** Bright Star Schools has been in full support of preserving the home and has plans to preserve the home's historical defining features.

*Empowering Individuals with disabilities to reach their full potential since 1954*

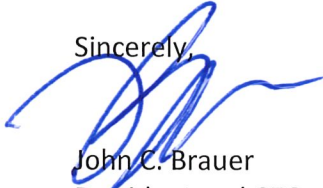
P | 818.894.9301 F | 818.894.7801 W | [www.newhorizons-sfv.org](http://www.newhorizons-sfv.org) A | 15725 Parthenia Street, North Hills, CA 91343-4999



- **Bright Star's Valor Academy Elementary School students, families, teachers, and staff deserve a permanent home.** The children of North Hills and the surrounding communities are the future of our city. They deserve a beautiful, permanent school campus where they can learn and grow, and in the years to come, where their children and their grandchildren can too.

Thank you for considering Bright Star Schools' project to benefit our North Hills community.

Sincerely,



John C. Brauer  
President and CEO  
New Horizons

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/10/2023 04:59 PM

**Council File No:** 23-0340

**Comments for Public Posting:** Just because you can, doesn't mean that you should. As of January 1, if you're in a hurry and don't want to walk up to the crosswalk, you can cross the street without using the crosswalk and you will not be breaking the law. However, if you are on a busy street and you have your young child with you, wouldn't you carefully consider your surroundings and look for dangers that might put your child in harm's way? If someone shouts to you, "Look out, a car is speeding this way!", holding your child's hand, wouldn't you slow down and stop to look and wait until there are no cars coming or dangers in your path to then guide your child safely and if there are too many risks, wouldn't you then choose to walk to the crosswalk? It seems to me that these appeals are shouts of warning about allowing this school project to move forward with the Determination that City Planning approved because the risks and possible dangers have not been carefully considered or mitigated and that the City should slow this down to examine the issues raised. I realize that the applicant paid for expedited processing, but I think that after looking at the concerns listed in the two appeals, EVERYONE, City Council, City Planning, Brightstar, parents, students and residents will want to take the time to carefully consider each issue brought up, conduct a full EIR for this site and re-evaluate the Site Plan and Conditional Use Permit. The excitement of a brand-new elementary school facility may have caught supporters up in the rush to move this through, but those responsible for approving and establishing this school for young children must look past the excitement and heed the shouts of warning. No one wants to be responsible for ignoring the warnings if things go wrong, increased pollution of dangerous toxins in the air resulting in asthma, respiratory or heart problems, trouble concentrating, death or injury walking to school because of inadequate sidewalk access because a careful and thorough examination might take too much time. Los Angeles was once again just rated the most ozone pollution region in the nation, despite efforts to clean up the air. Shouldn't we take that seriously before building a school perilously close to the 405 freeway, under the flight path of the Van Nuys airport, one half of a block from Sepulveda Boulevard with an ozone level of 95 (according to OEHHA)? A square peg might not fit into a round hole, maybe the peg needs to be shaved

off to fit properly but after taking a good look at the situation, the conclusion may be that it's just the wrong peg. An elementary school at this site might be the wrong peg for this site or it might need reshaping, but unlike a peg, people could be negatively impacted or hurt without careful and deliberate consideration of the issues that have been raised and not examined. Thank you, Jill Akahoshi