



**Office of the Mayor
City of Los Angeles**

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**PARENTS AND TEACHERS VOTE FOR CHANGE, SAY “YES” TO
JOINING MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA’S PARTNERSHIP FOR LA
SCHOOLS**

*Stakeholders at six LAUSD campuses support reform efforts, decide to join the
Partnership for LA Schools*

LOS ANGELES - Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, LAUSD Superintendent David Brewer, School Board President Monica Garcia, UTLA President AJ Duffy, and teachers and parents at Markham Middle School announced today that six LAUSD campuses targeted for reform voted to join the Partnership for LA Schools.

“The votes are in and the status quo is out,” Mayor Villaraigosa said. “Yesterday, at six schools across Los Angeles, thousands of teachers, parents and community members cast a decisive vote for change.

“By voting to join the Partnership, parents and teachers said ‘yes’ to lower drop-out rates, higher student achievement and safer campuses.”

On Tuesday, December 11, teachers and parents from seven LAUSD campuses – Roosevelt, Santee, and Jordan High Schools, and Hollenbeck, Stevenson, Markham and Gompers Middle Schools – cast their votes in favor of joining the Partnership for LA Schools. This represents an historic step toward bringing the LAUSD and the City together in the effort to accelerate the pace of school reform in LA public schools.

The ballots at Jordan High School are still being certified by the LAUSD.

The following tables provide an overview of the parent and teacher votes at all seven campuses, as well as the total number of petition signatures supporting the Mayor’s reform efforts in different parts of the City:

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**PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS VOTING TO JOIN THE
 PARTNERSHIP FOR LA SCHOOLS
 (As of 2:00 AM on December 12, 2007)**

School	Teacher % (Yes)	Parent % (Yes)
Roosevelt High School	71.2	80.7
Stevenson Middle School	88.6	90.7
Hollenbeck Middle School	64.8	72.2
Santee High School	62.2	95.6
Gompers Middle School	80	94.8
Markham Middle School	69.8	97.4
Jordan High School	51	85.6
Overall Average	69.7	88.1

**NUMBER OF PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS SIGNING PETITIONS
 SUPPORTING REFORM IN LA SCHOOLS
 (As of 2:00 AM on December 12, 2007)**

Neighborhoods	Number of Signatures
Watts	7,633
Santee	6,807
Boyle Heights	6,238
Total	20,678

Following yesterday's vote, Mayor Villaraigosa and the LAUSD will begin reaching out to dozens of elementary schools who have expressed interest in joining the Partnership. They will also work to create specific school sites plans, goals and strategies for implementing reforms for the 2008-09 school year.

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS

The Partnership for Los Angeles Schools is a nonprofit organization committed to reforming some of the lowest-performing schools within the LAUSD so that all children in Los Angeles graduate from high school prepared for college and careers.

Working alongside LAUSD's Innovation Division (iDivision), the Partnership will directly support and manage families of schools, which include a high school, and the middle and elementary schools that feed into it.

The Partnership will work with parents and teachers and enlist the help of the entire school community universities, community based groups, faith-based organizations, labor unions, business and philanthropic organizations to develop and implement new education reforms that will lead to dramatic increases in student achievement throughout LAUSD.

The families of schools will serve as models of reform whose best practices will be shared with the iDivision and replicated throughout the District.

Mirroring the pillars of the Mayor's Schoolhouse Framework, the overall foundation for the Partnership schools will center on core values of empowering teachers and principals; engaging parents and the community; and providing students with clean, safe and small schools.

Under the Partnership, each school will draw up comprehensive plans outlining the vision and goals for improving student achievement and the specific benchmarks for measuring that achievement. These plans will be locally driven; increase autonomy and school site decision making; increase accountability; leverage city resources; and invest private and philanthropic resources.

Taken together, The Partnership expects these strategies to improve student achievement, increase teachers' job satisfaction and uplift neighborhoods around Partnership schools.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE ENDORSED THE PARTNERSHIP

20th St. Elementary School Committee of Bilingual Parents
25th St. Block Club
Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCDD)
Federation of South Central Leaders
Los Angeles South Central Farmers
South Central LAMP
St. Juan Diego Church
St. Odilia Church
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science
Community Call to Action and Accountability (CCCA)
Concerned Citizens of South Los Angeles
Gangsters for Christ
Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Morning Star Church
U-Can International
Mt. Olive 2nd Missionary Baptist Church
St. John's United Methodist Church
South Los Angeles Baptist Church
Crusaders Temple Church

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Greater St. Rest Missionary Baptist Church

Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church

Bethel Baptist Church

Plain Truth Missionary Baptist Church

Watts Century Latino Organization

Watts Gang Task Force

Watts Neighborhood Council

Watts Labor and Community Action Committee

Boyle Heights Learning Collaborative

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