

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BCS and LASD Approve 2-Year Facilities Agreement
Another Step Towards a Long-Term Plan**

On Thursday, May 9, Bullis Charter School (BCS) and the Los Altos School District (LASD) executed a two-year facilities agreement, taking a step towards a long-term facilities agreement.

Under the terms of the agreement, LASD will provide BCS with guaranteed facilities for two years, thereby avoiding the time-consuming Proposition 39 facilities allocation process. Both groups concur that the agreement will ensure all students continue to receive an excellent educational experience.

“The two-year agreement will provide us the time and opportunity we need to engage the community in a transparent, thoughtful process as we work to finalize a longer-term facilities agreement. Most importantly, we can all focus our attention on the educational success of our students,” said Jessica Speiser, President of the LASD Board of Trustees.

“We believe this agreement is in the best interest of all students and our community,” said Joe Hurd, President of the Bullis Charter School Board of Directors. “We are looking forward to working together with LASD over the next six months to engage the community and finalize a long-term agreement in early 2020.”

The two year agreement provides BCS students with additional classroom space and facilities use at its current locations at Blach and Egan Junior High schools and caps BCS’s enrollment at 1,111. The agreement on the interim, two year plan arose when the mediation teams from BCS and LASD proposed a ten year long-term agreement, which would relocate the Egan school community to a brand new school in Mountain View and provide 16 acres of the current Egan campus to BCS. After weeks of school site forums, public board meetings by both BCS and LASD, extended LASD Board Office Hours and hundreds of community emails about the proposal, the BCS and LASD boards agreed that the public needed more time for a full and transparent communication process to finalize an agreement with community understanding and support.

Both the BCS and LASD boards have their respective next scheduled board meetings on May 13. LASD plans to discuss a timeline for community engagement that will commence in Fall 2019 and end in January 2020, and BCS plans to provide an update about the two-year agreement. The LASD board will also discuss the specifics of the plan for public engagement at its May 28 board meeting. This process is expected to involve members of both BCS and LASD boards, as well as a representative cross section of the community. With public participation and the collaboration of both parties, both BCS and LASD boards anticipate that a new long-term agreement will build a successful educational future for all students.

The approved agreement is available at each respective website: lasdschools.org and bullischarterschool.com.

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