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# Response from Promise Academy



## **SUMMARY OF PROGRESS**

April 26, 2019

# Progress obtaining a facility

Promise Academy has received a final Prop 39 Facilities offer from the San Jose Unified School District for Allen at Steinbeck school located at 820 Steinbeck Dr. in south San Jose. We have a walk-through with a CDE representative and SJUSD on April 29th. We will have access to 7 classrooms, office space and shared use of other facilities (i.e. cafeteria, gym, locker rooms, etc.)

## Recruiting and hiring staff

Promise is nearly fully staffed for the 2019-20 school year. We have attended several local teacher career fairs and use digital marketing to attract a deep pool of applicants. Our hiring process has been rigorous (1. Phone screening 2. In-person interview 3. Visit Navigator Schools (similar to our school model) 4. Teach a sample lesson observed by our parent leaders)

$\circ$	All but (1)	classroom	teacher	hired for the	2019-20	school yea	r
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- O All teachers assistants hired for the 2019-20 school year
- Community Engagement Coordinator hired
- Office Manager (Offered)
- O Remaining Positions to Hire:
  - 5/6 ELA & Social Studies Teacher
  - Special Education Teacher
  - Campus Liaison/Monitor (security, P.E., recess, etc.)

#### Curriculum materials

All scopes and sequences are complete and nearly all curriculum has been collected and organized. This includes intervention materials. All materials are now being uploaded to Padlet, an online platform we are using that materials by grade level, subject, weekly presentations and assessment, and daily exit tickets. The interface with core curriculum for teachers and teacher's assistants will be very user friendly and allow them to focus on differentiation for students.

#### Professional development plans

We have our first new staff dinner the evening of April 26th. We also have (1) Professional Development (PD) Session planned in May and will hold intensive PD with all staff from July 17th through our start date of August 12th.

Over a three week period, teachers and teacher's assistants will engage in various sessions that address core instructional strategies, data analysis techniques and other core components

of the Promise Academy model including but not limited to 1:1 student meetings and weekly instructional coaching. (please see full Summer Professional Development Calendar)

# Stakeholder engagement

Promise Academy has continued to engage families and stakeholders in various ways. Some of these include:

- 1:1 meetings with newly registered students
- Personal follow-up calls to each applicant
- School Design Team Meetings (first Tuesday of each month) parents have worked in committees and give input on every aspect of the school ranging from uniform selection, school song, dress code, images and quotes to place in classrooms and on campus, etc.
- Parent Leader Meetings (typically 3rd week of each month) focused on strategy to secure our facility, student recruitment, engaging local elected officials, etc.

# Community activities

Promise has engaged in several successful community events this spring. We have documented some of these events on the Promise Academy Facebook page (linked <a href="here">here</a>). Some of these events include:

- Family movie night
- Tabling at a local middle school expo
- Tabling at community events and plazas
- Family Fiesta/Picnic
- School Presentations (preschools, daycares, elementaries)

Over the next few months, we intend to continue to host our own events as well as table at local community events, churches, etc. to promote our school and engage with community members.

