

Jamul-Dulzura Union Elementary
Waiver #42-12-2016
Supplemental Information

Address of Resource Center subject to waiver request:

7200 Parkway Dr, Suite 113
La Mesa, CA 91942

District in which center is located:

La Mesa-Spring Valley School District (Elementary)
Grossmont Union High School District (High School)

Date Established:

Lease established Aug, 2013. Resource Center Opened January, 2015

Current Enrollment for La Mesa Resource Center:

185

Name of Bargaining Unit:

Jamul Dulzura United Teachers Association (JDUTA)

Representative Name & Title:

Diane Hulbert, President

Date Bargaining Unit was consulted:

11/21/16

Position of the bargaining unit:

Support

Discussion of the need for waiver:

Greater San Diego Academy is a non-classroom based independent study charter school authorized by the Jamul-Dulzura Union School District (JDUSD) on July 26, 1999.

On October 16, 2016, the 3rd District Court of Appeals ruled in AUHSD v. Shasta Secondary Home School that independent study charter schools may not have resource centers outside of the boundaries of the school district in which the charter school is authorized, but within the same county. Currently, the Greater San Diego Academy has one resource center that would be greatly impacted by this ruling. This waiver is necessary to allow the continued operation of Greater San Diego Academy's existing resource centers.

Students are served at two resource centers, one of which is located outside of JDUSD boundaries but within San Diego County in La Mesa (La Mesa Resource Center). The La

Mesa Resource Center provides special education services, small group tutoring, enrichment opportunities, and efficient access to textbooks, supplemental materials, and credentialed teachers.

The La Mesa resource center is a centralized location with easy access to public transportation. Two day per week support is provided in both ELA and Math, as well as enrichment opportunities for students in grades K-8. It also is the center of the high school support program which enables students to get support from highly qualified teachers in specific subject areas, complete A-G requirements such as hands-on science labs, and use school computers to complete work.

JDUSD has been very active in the Greater San Diego Academy's development and oversight. JDUSD staff and charter staff work closely to ensure efficient charter operations. To the best of District's knowledge, GSDA has operated its resource centers consistent with the advice and written guidance issued by the California Department of Education since 2002.

Greater San Diego Academy serves approximately 250 students from all over San Diego County. Approximately 180 students utilize the La Mesa Resource Center. Without a centralized resource center, many of the students would not have access to the additional academic and enrichment classes that support their academic performance and overall educational experience.

Additionally, the current lease on the La Mesa resource center expires on January 31, 2018. Therefore, the Greater San Diego Academy would remain liable for the remaining amounts due on the lease if the center were to close prior to the lease's expiration. Sudden closure of this center would displace approximately 180 students, including 16 staff members, who rely on this resource center. This sudden closure would result in both academic hardships for these students, employment hardship for the staff and financial hardship for the charter school. We are requesting a waiver through the end of the 2017-18 school year in order to meet the school's financial obligations while maintaining a continuity of academic supports for the duration of the school year. We are working on a transition plan that would be implemented by the end of the 2017-18 school year. Our transition plan will include relocating students from our La Mesa resource center to our resource center in Jamul.

Please note, Greater San Diego Academy's employees are not organized into bargaining units, but the JDUSD consulted with its employees' exclusive representatives prior to the submission of this waiver request, and they are in support of the waiver.