



MAY 11 2011

SHERMAN THOMAS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

May 9, 2011

Jay Harris
Nonclassroom-based Funding Determinations
Charter Schools Division
1430 N Street, Suite 5401
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Dear Mr. Harris,

Sherman Thomas Charter High School (STCHS) is requesting the staff of CDE to consider the \$137,462 received for the Public Charter Schools Grant Program (PCSGP) Start-up grant to be looked at as a mitigating factor. We would ask that CDE take the Public Charter Schools Grant Program (PCSGP) grant out of the equation for Total Public Revenue in the formula in determining the funding eligibility. If it is taken out, STCHS expenses jump compared to revenue to about 125% which is well above the requirement. This would also exceed the 40% level of Certificated staff compensation of Total Public Revenue as well as the Total Expenditures on Instruction and Related Services would increase to over 80% and cause STCHS to be funded at the 100% funding level. Our pupil to teacher ratio will not exceed the 25:1 ratio.

The PCSGP grants are "one time" funds which we received \$137,462 with a September 30, 2010 date which time was a factor in which we had to use the funds. The use of these funds were necessary to pay for staff salaries/benefits, books, computers/software, facility renovations for the American Disability Act and all instructional supplies for the first year (2009-10) of operation of Sherman Thomas Charter High School.

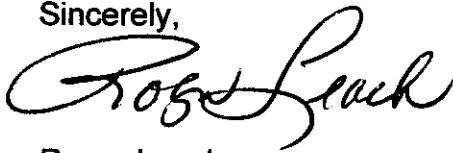
We received apportionment amounting to \$58,812 for FY 2010 in October (one time) then P-1 from March-May, of this we carried over \$39,078 to begin FY 2011. With the state mandated apportionment deferrals in place and STCHS having no exemption of deferral (due in part to the Start Up Grant allowing us to remain in the black for the first year of operation) we felt compelled to carryover at least 50% of the apportionment received (we carried over 66%). This carryover allowed us to hire another teacher to the staff as our enrollment tripled the second year of operation. This next year STCHS will also have a sizable increase in student enrollment as we add grade (12).

We will add at least, another teacher and classified staff to monitor and instruct students in required courses and career planning classes. We have just had our initial WASC visit for accreditation.

We request your consideration of these "one time" funds excluded from the calculation and treated as a mitigating factor because they were the only funds available to us to begin the first year of operation.

STCHS has had a tremendous impact on many students in our area and we continue to desire to build a quality and caring charter school to service students of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Leach". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Roger" and last name "Leach" clearly distinguishable.

Roger Leach
Director