LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Report

ATTACHMENT A

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE SITE: CLAY MS

LOCAL DISTRICT 8 (Romero)   **BOARD DISTRICT 1 (LaMotte)**

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:
- Clay MS
- Green Dot Public Schools – Animo Clay (start a new school on the Clay campus)

RATIONALE:

Clay MS
I.   The application outlines a research-based instructional plan that emphasizes education of the whole child through integrated technology, Culturally Relevant and Responsive Education (CRRE) and personalization, which is a significant departure from the instructional program that is currently in place. The applicant team proposes to capitalize on the autonomies granted under the Expanded School-Based Management Model (ESBMM) governance structure to: 1) expand Project-based learning (PBL) through the development additional interdisciplinary projects that connect to subject-area standards; 2) implement weekly common planning time for Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to meet as well as weekly professional development; and 3) implement an Advisory period to name a few. Additionally, all students will be engaged in projects, reciprocal teaching and writing across the curriculum. Unfortunately, the proposal does not clearly define improved student outcomes, which will be important to hold the school accountable.

II. Although Clay MS has posted negative API growth over the last five years, there is evidence that the work of the last two years has laid the groundwork for accelerating achievement, especially if Green Dot will share its instructional strategies with the Clay team.

III. The proposal has evidence of partnerships with established community resources and articulates strategies for engaging some families. The plan, however, offers very few opportunities for parent involvement in decision-making. Additionally, the turnout for the advisory vote was low with only on 31 parents out of 10,553 eligible parents (approximately 0.34%) participating in the process.

IV. The proposal contains a clear instructional plan that should lead to a successful implementation.

Green Dot Public Schools – Animo Clay
I.   The application sets out an instructional plan that establishes a clear vision, mission and set of six core principles for operating a successful school. The proposal also clearly demonstrates a strong, research-based, data-driven instructional plan with a clear assessment strategy that is keenly focused on preparing all students for college. Additionally, the plan includes an emphasis on performance tasks as a means of engaging and assessing student learning, early inclusion of foreign language and built-in teacher planning and collaboration time.

II. While Green Dot Public Schools does not yet have a track record at the middle school level, they present strong documentation of past success in the operation and management of other existing schools serving a similar student population.

III. The proposal outlines strong partnerships with established community resources to engage and outreach to parents, community members and students; however, Green Dot will need to continue to strengthen their parent engagement efforts based on the results of the advisory vote process where only 31 parents out of 10,553 eligible parents (approximately 0.34%) participating in the process.

IV. The proposal demonstrates a strong relationship with other Green Dot schools, in particular, the other middle school; and is validated by a solid track record of success in the implementation of its other educational programs.

EVALUATION PROCESS DATA POINTS:

Clay Middle School
  I. **Initial Review Team Recommendation: Yes**
 II. **Superintendent's Panel Team Recommendation: Yes**
III. **Advisory Vote Tabulation for Applicant (# votes for applicant/# of votes)**

Students	Employees	Parents	Other Parents	Community Members	Uncategorized
N/A	87/92	19/31	8/33	65/91	4/4

Green Dot Public Schools – Animo Clay
  I. **Initial Review Team Recommendation: Yes**
 II. **Superintendent's Panel Team Recommendation: Yes with reservations**
III. **Advisory Vote Tabulation for Applicant (# votes for applicant/# of votes)**

Students	Employees	Parents	Other Parents	Community Members	Uncategorized
N/A	2/92	11/31	22/33	24/91	0/0

NEXT STEPS:
  1. Prior to the beginning of the 2011-12 school year, Clay MS and Green Dot Public Schools – Animo Clay must develop a comprehensive plan that discusses how they plan to engage families. This plan must be made available to families on or before the first day of school.

  2. On or before July 1, 2011, Local District 8 and Green Dot must develop a memorandum of understanding to commit to learn from each other. At a minimum the agreement should include:
      a. Formation of a campus council that meets monthly;
      b. A plan to host joint/collaborative Professional Development in multiple areas as well as tentative schedule of dates;

    c. A commitment to partner with all of the high schools in the area; and

    d. A strategy and plan to ensure that enrollment among the schools on the campus exhibit equity based on gender, ethnicity, language, special needs, socioeconomic status and language learner status.

2. By the end of May 2011, the applicant team will meet with the Superintendent to review and if necessary revise their Performance Management Matrix.

3. By October 2011, the school will meet with the Superintendent to discuss revisions to the Performance Management Matrix based on current data.

4. Bi-annually (or as needed) all Public School Choice sites will be reviewed by institutions of higher education, Local District Superintendents and the Superintendent's Office with an annual report submitted to the Board and Superintendent.

5. If Public School Choice sites are not meeting their annual targets, the Superintendent will work with the school to intervene as necessary.

6. Public School Choice site operators will be considered for renewal every five years.