



**Vista Middle School**

Board District 6 (Martinez) | Local District 1 (Del Cueto)

Vista Middle School.....PROVISIONAL APPROVAL

**RATIONALE**

- The instructional program is sound and addresses many of the needs addressed in the thorough data analysis conducted by the writing team. Recent results have shown that some of the changes already implemented at the school have led to some gains already—the plan builds upon the strategies that the school has already identified as effective in the past year, including scaffolding and targeted interventions, along with more focused professional development.
- The plan proposes an integrated, standards based curriculum emphasizing project-based learning and Writing Across the Curriculum. Grade-level houses will continue to ensure a personalized learning environment, with Core Teams of teachers working with small groups of students. Each grade-level house consists of approximately 500 students with 20 teachers.
- Career-focused areas will include technology, environment, arts, media, and science/math (TEAMS) in the hopes of inspiring students to engage fully in real-world, relevant learning.
- Involvement in the Panorama City Community Partnership will ensure a continuation of services from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the community.
- No waivers were requested, but the school does plan to operate with the ESBMM governance model. The required faculty vote was conducted and 75% of the votes were in favor of adopting the alternative model.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Approval is contingent upon the enactment by UTLA of all waivers requested by the design team.
- Clarification required. The team must rewrite the plan to include a suspension plan to address the current high suspension rates—suspension data must be provided from the beginning to the school year through February 2012. The team must also address support for English Language Learners (including longer term ELL students) and students with disabilities. The rewrite should also explain what will be changed/improved at the school to ensure accelerated achievement at the school, particularly in Algebra I scores.
- Service Plan for Special Education – further clarification required.
- The deadline to submit all revisions is no later than **5:00 PM on April 27, 2012**. Detailed information will be provided to the design team via a letter from the PSC team. Additionally, a representative from the Intensive Support and Intervention Team or the Superintendent’s Office will be assigned to support you as you consider the additional information that must be submitted.
- Further details regarding upcoming support activities including, but not limited to scheduling follow-up parent meetings, dates of upcoming workshops, implementation support over the summer, etc., will be communicated to the team by the PSC Team in the coming weeks.