



## NEW COALITION LAUNCHES TO BUILD A MORE EQUITABLE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROCESS IN LOS ANGELES

**Los Angeles, CA** – Seven leading educational equity organizations in Los Angeles joined together today to officially launch the [Partnership for Equitable Access to Public Schools in Los Angeles](#) (PEAPS-LA), focused on increasing access for all families to high performing public school options in Los Angeles through more equitable school application and enrollment processes.

PEAPS-LA believes that high quality public schools should be accessible to every child and all families should be able to choose the public schools that are best for their children, but that the complexity of the current public school choice landscape erects significant and unnecessary barriers preventing many families from accessing quality public school options.

“We’ve seen that a parent’s opportunity to find and enroll their children in high quality public schools can change the trajectory of a young person’s life,” said Seth Litt, CEO of Parent Revolution. “We believe that all families in Los Angeles should be able to easily choose the best public schools for their children. School application and enrollment systems and processes can and should be tools to increase educational equity.”

“We are excited to help launch this new coalition working to increase equity in the school choice process,” said Oscar E. Cruz, President and CEO of Families in Schools. “For far too long, we have made it too difficult for low-income families to choose the right public schools for their children. Pursuing equity requires that we make our processes much more user-friendly to ensure greater opportunity and access by families held back from fully participating and benefitting.”

“Education access is a civil rights issue. The enrollment and application process must be inclusive and ensure equitable access for low-income students, children with special needs and other vulnerable populations,” said Ines Kuperschmit, Co-Executive Director & Co-Founder of Learning Rights Law Center.

“Unified enrollment provides a pathway to education equity for students and families,” said Joan Sullivan, CEO of the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools. “We applaud LAUSD’s commitment to simplify the enrollment process and we are excited to partner with the district and the PEAPS coalition to ensure we see a unified system as soon as possible.”

PEAPS-LA believes both LAUSD and the charter sector can improve systems and practices to ensure the public school choice system is inclusive and useful for all Los Angeles families. As such, the coalition is eager to work with education and community leaders to improve:

- **Access to Information:** Ensuring families in Los Angeles have access to on and offline resources where they can easily compare all of their public school options
- **Application Process:** Reducing the number of separate applications and processes that families must navigate, leading to a single application process for all public school options, both district and charter
- **Enrollment Process:** Ensuring enrollment policies, practices and timelines maximize equitable access to quality schools and support the ability of schools to accurately budget and hire staff
- **Access to Quality Public Schools:** Ensuring quality public schools are accessible to all families in Los Angeles by supporting the improvement of existing schools, a needs-based expansion of quality school options and improved school transportation availability

"A more equitable enrollment system is essential for Los Angeles and will only be achieved if the district, the charter sector, educators, partners and parents come together to push for more equity," said LAUSD School Board member Ref Rodriguez. I'm grateful that the new PEAPS LA coalition is committed to this vision and will help us achieve greater equity in how families access schools."

"United Way of Greater Los Angeles advocates for the equitable distribution of resources to ensure that all students – regardless of color or income – have access to a high quality education," said Elise Buik, President & CEO of United Way of Greater Los Angeles. "We believe this coalition will play a crucial role, along with other community organizations and leaders, to ensure that L.A. Unified's enrollment system makes it easier for families to understand their options and access the best possible schools for their children."

PEAPS-LA leaders represent a diverse constituency of community voices through their long-standing work advocating for an equitable and quality education system. They include: Alliance for a Better Community, Learning Rights Law Center, Los Angeles Urban League, Parent Revolution, and Partnership for Los Angeles Schools.

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**PARTNERSHIP FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS (PEAPS-LA)**

PEAPS-LA works to ensure every child in Los Angeles has access to high quality public schools through an equitable enrollment process. *To learn more, please visit:* <http://peaps-la.org>.

