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In Major Recognition of Innovative, High-Quality Public Education, Three Alliance Campuses Named 2019 California Distinguished Schools

Alliance Patti & Peter Neuwirth Leadership Academy, Alliance Judy Ivie Burton Technology High School, and Alliance Marc & Eva Stern Math and Science School bring prestigious honor to South and East LA Neighborhoods

February 26, 2019 - Los Angeles – Alliance College-Ready Public Schools, a network of 25 high-performing charter public schools serving 13,000 low-income students in and around Los Angeles, proudly announced today that three of its schools are on the 2019 California Distinguished Schools list released by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. This program recognizes outstanding education programs and practices. This year, it contains just 162 schools out of the roughly 10,000 that exist at all levels across the entire state. In Los Angeles Unified School District, only 17 of nearly 200 middle and high schools were awarded this prestigious distinction.

“The students of South LA and East LA are eager and ready to learn – they want the chance to do well, to succeed and achieve,” said **Alliance CEO Dan Katzir**. “Alliance schools give them that chance. I’m honored that the California Department of Education has recognized the great work of the educators, staff, and scholars at these remarkable schools.”

The three high schools, Alliance Patti & Peter Neuwirth Leadership Academy, Alliance Judy Ivie Burton Technology High School, and Alliance Marc & Eva Stern Math and Science School, serve the students and families of South and East LA.

The three Alliance California Distinguished Schools join other Alliance schools in raising the bar for what is possible in public education. Despite the fact that the average scholar enters an Alliance school reading four grade levels behind, 95% of Alliance scholars graduate from high school and are accepted to college. In the past two years, Alliance schools have turned their

sites to a new aspiration – ensuring their scholars not only get into college, but are graduating from college. Through innovative peer mentoring and college matching programs, Alliance schools are striving to achieve a 75% college graduation rate.

“Our goal is to lift up communities by ensuring kids have access to a great public school and the opportunity for success in higher education” **Katzir** added. “Family income or zip code should not determine a young person’s educational opportunity or their future. We’re proud of this honor, and look forward to seeing more young people in our community achieve and thrive.”

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Alliance College-Ready Public Schools is one of the largest and most successful charter public school networks in the nation, operating 25 high-performing, public charter middle and high schools that educate nearly 13,000 students from Los Angeles’ lowest income communities. Alliance schools have been recognized among the best in the nation by US News & World Report, Newsweek, the U.S. Department of Education and the California Department of Education. Since opening its first school in 2004, 95% of Alliance graduates have been accepted to college.