

Dear Families of LADH,

We have received several questions regarding our move and hopefully I can clarify most of the questions you may have. First of all, I truly understand your questions and concerns regarding our sudden move. However, I would like to provide you with some background information. LADH has been trying to move into a new facility for several years to ensure LADH is in a public facility before we recharter for the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, when the chance to move presented itself (at the very last minute), the governing council and I jumped on this great opportunity. I understand that the move may be inconvenient and transportation may become an issue for some students, but I can assure you that I am going to try my best to address any obstacles to make sure all students continue to attend LADH as we look forward to having all our students return for the 2018-2019 school year.

Will LADH be providing transportation?

Unfortunately, at this time we will not be providing transportation services. We did not anticipate the move and did not apply for any transportation funding; however, I have been in contact with the New Mexico Public Education Department Transportation Dept. to determine if LADH can apply to provide transportation services. I apologize for any inconvenience our move has created. I will continue to keep you updated regarding transportation services.

Is LADH part of the Las Cruces Public School District?

LADH is still a state charter school and is not a school within the LCPS district. LADH is only leasing a building from LCPS to comply with the state statutes of:

22-8B-4.2. Charter school facilities; standards.

A. The facilities of a charter school that is approved on or after July 1, 2005 and before July 1, 2015 shall meet educational occupancy standards required by applicable New Mexico construction codes.

C. On or after July 1, 2011, a new charter school shall not open and an existing charter school shall not relocate unless the facilities of the new or relocated charter school, as measured by the New Mexico condition index, receive a condition rating equal to or better than the average condition for all New Mexico public schools for that year or the charter school demonstrates, within eighteen months of occupancy or relocation of the charter, the way in which the facilities will achieve a rating equal to or better than the average New Mexico condition index.

*D. On or after July 1, 2015, a new charter school shall not open and an existing charter **shall not be renewed unless the charter school: (1) is housed in a building that is: (a) owned by the charter school, the school district, the state, an institution of the state, another political subdivision of the state, the federal government or one of its agencies or a tribal government;***

As mentioned above, LADH is scheduled to renew our charter for the 2019-2020 school year; therefore, it was vital for LADH to move into a public facility and a facility that has received a condition rating of equal to or better than the average condition for all NM public schools to assist LADH with the renewal

process. The facility located at 1480 N. Main St. was rated the worse facility in the entire state of NM and would have a negative impact when renewing our charter. Therefore, the new facility will benefit LADH as we move forward with the renewal process.

Will the school hours remain the same?

The hours of operation for the 2018-2019 school year have changed. The new hours of operation are 8:30-3:30. We have attached the 2018-2019 school calendar and the new Bell Schedule for your convenience.

Will LADH provide an afterschool program?

We are currently looking into various options to assist with families who need assistance. However, at this time LADH does not have an afterschool program schedule this school year. We will keep you posted if anything changes.

I would like to thank you all for your warm wishes and congratulatory remarks regarding the new facility. I believe it is in the best interest of our school, staff, and most importantly students. I would also like to thank you for your patience and understanding as this opportunity happened very sudden and I can understand all your questions and concerns. I am hoping together we can lessen your concerns and meet the needs of all students as I look forward to seeing all students return to LADH. Please do not hesitate to contact Dalia, Mirna, and/or myself via email (as our phone lines are still out of order) with any other questions.

Thank you,

Melissa A. Miranda