



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP, INC

June 12, 2008

Mr. Vincent Matthews
State Administrator &
Oakland Unified School District
Board of Education
1025 Second Ave.
Oakland, CA 94606

State Administrator Matthews & Board of Education:

Youth Employment Partnership (YEP) established a charter school in 2004 to serve the unique population of Oakland youth who have dropped out of school or have otherwise ended their educational pursuits. By re-engaging them in work and learning and in many cases re-introducing them to Oakland district schools, YEP has been able to affect change in the lives of many Oakland young people. Our goal however, since the school's inception, has been to fully partner with OUSD in a joint effort to support these students. After four years of operation we have learned a great deal.

Over the past nine months, we have been engaged in dialog with the Office of Alternative Education and the Office of Charter Schools to develop an effective approach to this collaboration. We believe we have developed a vision for that work and our organization is excited about the opportunity to continue serving this unique population, now in greater cooperation with the District. Our charter expires on June 30, 2008 and we will not be seeking a renewal. We are hereby closing our charter school, effective June 30, 2008, to more fully invest in this collaborative effort.

Thank you for your support of YEP and thank you for your continued support of the unique needs of Oakland's children.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michele Clark'.

Michele Clark
Executive Director
Youth Employment Partnership, Inc.

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