



March 21, 2025

Subject: Strengthening Our Schools for a Brighter Future

Dear MSE and BPA Community,

At Berkeley Charter Education Association (BCEA), our mission has always been to nurture a thriving educational environment where students, educators, and families can flourish. Our schools are not just places of learning; they are the heart of our community, shaping the leaders of tomorrow. Today, we reaffirm our steadfast commitment to ensuring that every child receives the highest quality education possible.

To that end, BCEA has taken necessary steps to safeguard the future of our schools. Recently, we pursued legal action against Red Apple Development, LLC due to a breach of contractual obligations, specifically related to inflated lease agreements that resulted in excessive rental costs—funds that should be invested directly in our classrooms. Shortly afterward, Charter Schools USA (CSUSA), the sister company to Red Apple Development, took legal action against us. CSUSA is the for-profit management company responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations at Mevers School of Excellence (MSE) and Berkeley Preparatory Academy (BPA). We want to be clear—this was their decision, not ours, and their actions put the well-being of our students and educators at risk.

After thoughtful deliberation and numerous attempts to resolve concerns amicably, the BCEA board unanimously passed a resolution to terminate services from CSUSA, effective June 30, 2025, due to contractual, financial, and operational concerns that impact the well-being of our schools.

While change can be daunting, it is also an opportunity—an opportunity to build stronger, more sustainable schools that put students first. As we navigate this transition, we are fully committed to retaining our dedicated teachers and staff, ensuring stability and continuity for our students. Our unwavering focus remains on fostering a well-supported learning environment where every child can reach their fullest potential.

This moment is about more than legal disputes; it is about standing up for what is right. It is about ensuring that our resources are used wisely, that our teachers are supported, and that our students receive nothing less than the best education. We refuse to be diverted from our mission. Instead, we will continue to advocate for excellence, financial responsibility, and the long-term success of our schools.

Our community is built on resilience, passion, and the shared belief that education is the key to a brighter future. We will navigate this transition with transparency, integrity, and a steadfast



commitment to our students, educators, and families. Your support and dedication inspire us, and together, we will shape a future where our schools thrive.

We are committed to keeping you informed every step of the way and welcome your questions, comments, and letters of support. Your voices matter, and your input will help shape the future of our schools. Reach out to us at info@berkeleycharter.org or visit www.berkeleycharter.org for updates. Thank you for standing with us in our mission to provide the best for our students.

With gratitude and determination,

Berkeley Charter Education Association