

Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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DORIS YAMASHIRO-TANAKA Hawaii State Teachers Association

DAVID YOSHIHARA Association of California School Administrators April 29, 2015

Dr. David Unruh Head of School/CEO American University Preparatory School 345 South Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90071

Dear Dr. Unruh:

The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and College is pleased to announce that American University Preparatory School has been granted initial accreditation (grades 9th through 10th), expiring on June 30, 2018.

Prior to the end of this initial accreditation period, schools must complete a self-study assessment and submit a self-study report, including the progress made in meeting the recommendations of the Initial Visit Committee. Self-study training will be provided and schools will be expected to have key staff participate in these training sessions. An ACS WASC Visiting Committee will conduct a site visit to review the school's self-study findings and supporting evidence, conduct classroom observations, and dialogue with all stakeholders. The committee will evaluate the school's programs and operations and the impact on student learning.

It is the obligation of the chief administrator to notify the ACS WASC Executive Director of any changes which might be substantive in nature with an explanation of the change and the anticipated effect on the educational program. We have enclosed a copy of the ACS WASC Substantive Change Policy and Procedures for your information.

In order to gain a better understanding of the ACS WASC accreditation process during the initial accreditation period, we encourage schools to arrange for staff members to serve on ACS WASC Visiting Committees to other schools. A Volunteer Member Data Sheet is enclosed to allow you to apply for this opportunity.

The approval of initial accreditation entitles you to use the following phrase on transcripts or in school advertising: "Fully Accredited by (or) Accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges," until such time as your accreditation has either lapsed or been denied. If all grade levels operated by the school were included in the initial visit review, the above statement is sufficient. In other cases, the statement must specify the grade levels accredited, i.e., "Fully Accredited for Grades (9–12 for example) by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges."

Transcripts of students who are graduating or transferring from grades covered by the accreditation may be stamped or embossed with the ACS WASC accredited seal which can be obtained from the ACS WASC office, or the "Accredited by ..." phrase can be typed on the transcript.

If you choose to disclose your status in any communications with the public, you must specify the programs or grade levels which are covered by the initial status. You must also include the name, address and website of the Accrediting Commission for Schools in the same communication. The information to include is:

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Again, welcome to the ACS WASC family. We believe that ACS WASC can support you in adding value to the education of the students whom you serve. Please contact us if you have questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Fred Van Leuven, Ed.D. Executive Director

Enclosures: Initial Visit Visiting Committee Report

Substantive Change Policy and Procedures

Volunteer Member Data Sheet

ACS WASC Accreditation Stamp Information Sheet

cc: Chairperson, Initial Visit Committee