

SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Our Children's Future is our Mission"



408 JUNIPERO SERRA DRIVE • SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA 91776
(626) 451-5400 • FAX (626) 451-5494 • www.sgusd.k12.ca.us

GOVERNING BOARD

CHERYL A. SHELLHART, *President* • **GINA CHI**, *Vice President*
DR. GARY THOMAS SCOTT, *Clerk* • **ROBERT MERCADO**, *Member* • **ROCHELLE KATE HAAS**, *Member*

Re: Letter of Recommendation - School Leaders / Program and Project Management Services

I am writing in support of School Leaders for program and project management services. School Leaders has been San Gabriel Unified School District's bond program management partner since 2003, and our experience with the firm has been excellent.

What I look for in a bond program partner - as a Superintendent who has to answer to a Board, a community, and a citizens' oversight committee - is a firm that protects my District's interests on every project while keeping a clear, accountable relationship with our taxpayers. School Leaders has done that consistently. Their team understands the difference between a project that builds a building and a project that builds public trust, and they treat both as essential.

On the execution side, School Leaders has run our bond program with the kind of disciplined scheduling, budgeting, and document control that lets a Superintendent and a Board of Education lead with confidence. They handle the work that lets our administration focus on instruction. Their interactions with our Board, our Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, and our community have been professional, transparent, and - when stakes have been high - calm and well-prepared.

I have particular confidence in Joe Dixon's leadership of the firm. Joe's work on the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH) and his decades of California K-12 facilities experience translate directly into the quality of service we receive. Joe and his team are known across the California school facility community, and that reputation is earned.

I recommend School Leaders without hesitation to any district seeking an experienced, district-centered partner for program and project management services.

Please feel free to contact me at Symonds_j@sgusd.k12.ca.us or Phone at 626-4379571 if I can answer any questions about our experience.

Sincerely,

James Symonds
Superintendent
San Gabriel Unified School District

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Symonds".

James Symonds

Superintendent
San Gabriel Unified School District

ADMINISTRATION

JAMES SYMONDS, *Superintendent* • **DR. DERRICK CHAU**, *Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*
DR. JOAN PEREZ, *Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services* • **ROSS PERRY**, *Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources*