

WE THE PEOPLE HIGH SCHOOL

Hello everyone, my name is Isaiah Quevedo and this is my mom Irene Quevedo. I am a middle school student in seventh grade. I attend Adams Middle School. For the last few months, I've met up with different middle and high schoolers working to establish We The People and we've discussed a lot of things.

Personally I've been thinking a bit beyond the classroom. I've been thinking that maybe it's time - maybe it's time for a change. We wake up every week day the same way. I get up, make my bed, brush my teeth, comb my hair, pack my backpack and go to this place called school. On the surface, school is a place where we learn about things like Genghis Khan or the Pythagorean Theorem. But we don't talk about real world problems.

Ah yes we take an abundance of notes in a journal filled with paper so we'll be prepared if we want to be a historian or an archeologist. But we never talk about what taking all the notes on paper does the the trees, the rainforest, or the ecosystem. We talk about how the founding fathers of our country created America and called it the land of the free. But we don't talk about how people are being mistreated for the color of their skin or sexual preference.

This school has given me the chance to have my voice heard. The chance to really make a difference. Millions of students- me included- have gone through tough times and sometimes feel like we've hit a roadblock.

We The People can help students get to the next level through empowerment and action. I am very excited to be a part of this group and more excited to share my ideas and dreams with the world. We The People is not just any school. It's a place where kids can come and learn. Come and love life. No matter if they are white, black, gay, straight, girl, or boy. We The People is the Future.

FOUNDING DOCUMENTS, MARCH 2019

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Good afternoon members of the county board of education my name is Amaya Rayne and I am an 8th grade student currently in a charter school known as Viva Learning Space. Through 5th and 6th grade I have been completely taught at home, however from kindergarten through 4th grade I was in an online school called K12. K12 was a good way for me to learn in the comfort and safety of my own home where I didn't have to worry about getting bullied or made fun of which kept me happy for a while but K-12 ended up not working out. 5th and 6th grade I was taught at home which did not go as well as my mother and I would have hoped for.

I got enrolled in Viva Learning Space when I was in 7th grade and stayed for 8th grade I am still currently in 8th grade and hope to attend We the People High School in 2019. Today I am here in support of We the People high school!

I want to go to We the People High School because We the People cares, and supports their students success in education. We the people strives to prepare their students for college and career choices by offering advanced and accelerated classes which is a good push for me and that is why I would like to attend We The People high school. I also have interest in photography and We the People has an Art and Social Change class that will let me pursue my interest in that as well.

I Love to Socialize with other people and make new friends and I love to participate and learn new things in a caring environment which I think We the People can provide. I have a commitment to social justice and I go to a school that supports social justice now and We the People high school has a focus on social justice as well, so I can continue pursuing my passion for social justice.

I think that We the People high school will push me to put my best foot forward and be prepared for college. For all these reasons I have presented here today, I urge you to approve the charter petition for We the People high school. Thank you!

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Hello, my name is Maxine Russell, I'm thirteen years old and I am in seventh grade at Cubberley Middle School. I'm here because I care about We The People high school, and I am very passionate about doing what I can to make this school a reality. I go to a We The People founders meeting every month, so we, as students, have a say in the school's curriculum. We've brainstormed ideas for an event to raise awareness about Global Warming, we've discussed our ideas for classes, we've talked about different ways to teach classes, and we have a great time.

This school is different. It makes young people feel in control of their future. Not only does it have amazing class topics, a wonderful staff, and an incredible purpose, It brings people together. Last month, I brought some kids to a We The People meeting, all from different friend-groups, who didn't necessarily get along. But while we were discussing our ideas, all of our differences melted away, forming something much more important than cliques, fights, or frustration. It formed unity. We were all connected. We all shared the same passion. A passion for changing the world for the better.

This school is so important to me. It's a school that we will be able to have a say in our education. School shouldn't be a place where you are afraid of standing out, speaking up, and being who you are. We The People encourages you to stand out, and teaches you how to speak up. And here I am, after three days at the We The People workshop, more inspired, driven, and confident than I was before. Imagine what four years could do.

FOUNDING DOCUMENTS, MARCH 2019

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Good afternoon Members of the School Board, and school district leadership my name is Lola Burton and I am an incoming freshman at Millikan High School in the QUEST program. When I was seven years old I moved from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and ended up attending my local elementary school here in Long Beach. For every class I had I was told to sit quietly at my table and fill out worksheets. There was no hands on learning, sharing ideas with our peers, or interesting learning.

Then I went to IVA for middle school where I learned completely different things from what my best friend at my old school was learning. Although we were both learning about US history I was learning details about slave ships, native americans, and the injustice a lot of our country's founders placed upon other people while she did not I'm looking forward to all my high school has to offer but my biggest fear is going back to sitting in the classroom taking notes and doing worksheets.. Although I cannot attend We The People I look forward to see its development into an incredible school.

In some ways WTP is a sanctuary school that supports and shapes student to be activists while teaching students things as brutal as what I like to call hard history. There are no GPA requirements for getting into We the People. All students are welcome, and all students can learn. WTP will support kids like me and so many more because it will teach students their worth and how important their voices are. Thank you for your time.