Greetings from Dr. Jacqueline Elliot, President & CEO

Thanksgiving is the gateway to the holiday season and gives us the opportunity to pause and reflect on that for which we are grateful. Although our work is challenging, it presents us with a multitude of opportunities for gratitude. When I opened Community Charter Middle School 20 years ago with 100 families and 4 teachers, little did I know that I would have the opportunity to work with such tremendous professionals and have the amazing opportunity to watch many hundreds of our students grow to be such productive, ethical, kind human beings. For this, I am immensely grateful and deeply humbled.

Regardless of the role in which you serve in the PUC network, being committed to our mission and vision means working hard in support of the ultimate goal of student success. We are like a large wheel with many cogs and each of the cogs contributes to the smooth and effective turning of the wheel. Every cog is important and I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for the role you play in this critical work to positively shape the future of our communities and society overall. Whether you work for PUC National or for a PUC school (or a group of PUC schools), each of you is necessary and important. We are all committed to achieving the same outcomes for PUC’s students and we are all dedicated to the achievement of PUC’s 3 Commitments. Working together, united and supporting one another, we can achieve our goals.

Particularly at this time of year, I hope you are also able to pause and reflect on the fact that along with a large number of other incredibly dedicated human beings, you are positively helping to shape thousands of young lives and building a foundation for a remarkable legacy.

What we do in the PUC network is the work of “giving” and the rewards we receive from giving are unique and special. This type of reward touches our heart, lasts for the rest of our lives, and leaves a rippling effect for generations to come. I wish all of you a sense of gratitude for being able to work with such wonderful professionals, the knowledge that you are making historic contributions to society, and great rewards from seeing our students grow to be outstanding adults who contribute positively to making this a better world. I hope all of this will fill your heart with gratitude and joy now and forever!
Welcome to the Holidays! Friends, family, parties and the sweets of the season are in abundance. This time of year is wonderful but can be physically and emotionally draining because there are so many things to do, things to eat and places to go! My goal for you is to enjoy everything comes with this part of the year WITHOUT feeling run down or being over-committed. Your key to success this holiday season to prioritize and know when to say “no”.

Let’s learn to say NO to the things that you really don’t want to do, places you really don’t want to go or things you really don’t want to eat! This may seem like an obvious thing, but we all have moments we say YES to something and we immediately think, “I should have said NO to that!!!” Here are 3 quick questions to ask yourself before committing. Use these questions to prioritize activities so that you can say YES to things you truly want to be a part of and NO to things that might exhaust you.

1. Is this activity going to bring joy and/or peace to my life?
2. Is this day free of any other holiday commitments?
3. Will I be surrounded by people I enjoy spending time with?

If you can answer YES to all these questions regarding any activity, then it’s probably something you should attend! If the thought of attending an activity causes anxiety, worry or a feeling of overwhelm, assess if you really need to be there or not.

Wishing you the best Holiday season!!

In Health,
Jada
PUC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT SERIES: #PUCPROUDALUMNI

Meet our PUC College Liaisons! Join us in celebrating our 15 amazing College Liaisons for the 2018-2019 school year. These outstanding employees are PUC Alumni who have devoted time and energy to ensure the success of our first-year college going students. Take note of their amazing post-graduation plans and words of wisdom for current high school students!

AILYN GONZALEZ
PUC CCECHS 2015
Northwestern University class of 2019
BA in History, BA in Legal Studies

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is that I am facilitating student's college transitions in order to allow them to overcome barriers impeding their academic success.

Post-graduation I will attend law school in fall 2019, and hope to focus in public interest law.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, Dare to dream big! There are plenty of resources available that will help make anyone's education aspirations a reality.

ANDREW RIVERA
PUC CCECHS 2015
LA Mission College class of 2019
AA in Chicano Studies

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is sharing my experience and helping others with problems I once had.

Post-graduation I am hoping to attend CSUN or CSUDH for Chicano Studies, and I plan to become a History teacher with PUC to give back to the community. I hope to travel to England and Munich, Germany for vacation in-between.

One note of wisdom for current high schools students, Be courageous, fortune favors the bold.

DOMINIQUE FRIZ
PUC CCECHS 2015
Seattle University class of 2019
BS in Nursing

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is preventing unnecessary and avoidable hardship among first-gen students during their first year in college so they can focus on their studies. As College Liaisons we are bridging the disparities between first-gen students and their peers which is rewarding in itself.

Post-graduation I would like to attend a graduate program at UC Irvine to get a Masters in Anthropology with specialization in Science, Medicine, and Technology. I would like to work in giving direct patient care to people incarcerated in youth jails, prisons, and detention centers. Sometime in the future, I would like to continue my education with a DNP or PhD.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, What you may see as your weakness now, may become your strength and source of empowerment later.

KARINA ULLOA
PUC CCECHS 2015
UC Merced class of 2019
BA in Political Science, double minor in Spanish and Writing

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is reconnecting with peers you once went to high school with and connecting with our PUC students about college. It is really rewarding to be a helping hand for freshman because I know how tough it can be your first year in college without any guidance.

Post-graduation I plan on landing a job in my field of study and I plan to get a master’s in a year or so.

One note of wisdom for current high schools students, In college it is extremely important to manage your time wisely because it is also really important to take advantage of the amazing opportunities your campus may offer.

LISA REYES
PUC CCECHS 2015
UCI class of 2019
BA in Criminology, Law and Society
BA in Psychology and Social Behavior
The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is knowing that my knowledge, advice and experience is empowering to someone. I enjoy being able to help and guide PUC alumni throughout their freshman year of college. Post-graduation I am still debating about going to Grad School after my undergraduate career or going in to the workforce for more experience. I plan on applying to the Psychological Science Ph.D. program. If I decide to take a gap year in order to save money, I would like to secure a job as a counselor at a non-profit organization that helps emotionally and behaviorally troubled youth. One note of wisdom for current high school students, **There are going to be times when you feel like you are not meant to be a college student and these are the times when you must resist and keep pushing. College is hard, but it will be worth it in the end. Study hard, get involved, make new friends, and don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone. College is about finding yourself.**

**VICTOR AGUIRRE**  
PUC CCECHS 2017  
SDSU Class of 2021  
BS in Economics

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is being able to help out others who are going through the things I went through. Post-graduation I plan on landing an internship in a good company to begin working within my degree field. One note of wisdom for current high schools students, **Deadlines come faster than in high school. College days are full of stress so be prepared with good time management skills.**

**ALEXA TRUJILLO**  
PUC eCAL 2016  
UC Berkeley class of 2020  
BA in Social Welfare and Ethnic Studies, minor in Public Policy  

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is knowing you are helping a student navigate through college. This can be a scary time if one doesn’t know how to navigate through campus, I know it was for me. Therefore, knowing that I am informing my students about the resources and opportunities in order graduate is very rewarding. Post-graduation I am planning on traveling to Madrid, Spain the summer right after I graduate through my school to take advantage of the last financial aid I can receive. I will also be taking a year off to gain experience in a field before going off to graduate school for public policy and/or social work. These plans are still tentative. One note of wisdom for current high school students, **Be able to ask for help! This is super important because through this you can find a community on campus so it won’t feel so big. Getting involved in certain clubs or organizations you are interested in also helps with building a supportive community.**

**ALEXANDRA MEDINA**  
PUC LCHS 2015  
UC Berkeley class of 2019  
BA in Social Welfare, minor in Political Economics  

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is being able to connect with students and answer their questions to guide them through the challenges and obstacles that I have faced before. Post-graduation I am planning on applying to many corporations around my hometown to fill in a position in the Human Resources Dept. while attending college for a master’s in Business Administration. One note of wisdom for current high schools students, **Be in the present, enjoy the now!**

**BLANCA CUEVAS**  
PUC LCHS 2016  
UCLA class of 2020  
BA in Sociology, minor in Education

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is being able to share what I have learned thus far and helping others achieve their goals. Post-graduation I plan on taking some time off from school before going into grad school to obtain my master’s in Education. One note of wisdom for current high schools students, **It’s okay to feel confused and unsure of what you hope to achieve. College is a place of discovery.**

**BRIANA CABAN**  
PUC LCHS 2016  
CSUN class of 2020  
BS in Family and Consumer Sciences, Nutrition and Dietetics
The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is knowing that I can make an impact in someone’s college experience for the better. I have the power to make their college experience that much better because they know that I am there for them whenever they need me. Post-graduation I am planning on getting my Masters in Public Health while completing my Dietetic Internship at CSUN.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **Put yourself out there and don’t be afraid to be the first one to reach out. Start now to be involved in anything that interests you.**

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**JESSICA ESCOJIDO**  
PUC LCHS 2016  
CSUN class of 2020  
BS in Cellular Molecular Biology

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is helping other students navigate through college, knowing that I’m making a difference in their educational life.

Post-graduation I would like to attend grad school at UCI.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **Find a way to get priority registration by either joining honors, a peer education group, sport, or being a note taker. It’s a huge help!**

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**VANESSA TARAX**  
PUC LCHS 2016  
CSUN class of 2020  
BA in English, focus in Creative Writing

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is being able to give support to other college students to help each other out through this difficult time of adjustments as well as forming a community on campus.

Post-graduation I hope to be a part of PUC ATP to help guide me through the route of being an educator.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **Start being organized now. The sooner you develop this habit the more likely you will stay in this habit. Also speak up if you need help! Self-advocate if you’re having problems with school work or even personal problems make sure to speak to someone about them to see if there is anything they can do to help.**

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**ADRIANA LOPEZ**  
PUC TCHS 2016  
UCSB class of 2019  
BA in Film and Media

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is being able to help people with questions I had when I started college.

Post-graduation I am planning on working in the film industry on the ground level and working my way up.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **College is all about time management.**

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**DANIEL SALOMON**  
PUC TCHS 2015  
CSUN class of 2020  
BA in Sociology

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is making sure that new college freshmen have all the proper tools to be the best college students they can possibly be.

Post-graduation I plan to apply for grad school to get a masters in college counseling.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **College really allows you to excel and prepares you for the real world.**

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**JALYSSA AGUIRRE**  
PUC TCHS 2015  
Mount Saint Mary’s University, LA class of 2019  
BS in Business Administration, emphasis in Management

The most rewarding part of being a college liaison is giving back to students that graduated from the PUC organization. I enjoy that I am remaining actively involved in PUC because I really enjoy what they stand for and believe in the academic message they are sending to students. I love serving my community in a way that is beneficial to students in their college career.

Post-graduation I plan to get a masters in student affairs or college/career services. I really would like to work in a higher academic setting.

One note of wisdom for current high school students, **Get involved as soon as possible, especially if graduate school is something that you are interested in. Being a part of clubs/organizations and having a leadership role on campus for more than one year shows you are a devoted and active student. Also, try to participate in research whenever you can. If you do, you will definitely stand out in your graduate applications.**
As the PUC Alumni Network we hope to celebrate any alumni who is seeking success post-high school. If you have anyone that you would like to nominate for the Alumni Spotlight Series, email Amy Villaseñor at a.villasenor@pucnational.org or call 818-916-8380. #PUCproudalumni

It’s Not Magic... It’s SCIENCE!

Our kindergarten scientists at PUC Community Charter Elementary have been working on NGSS standard K-PS3-1. make observations to determine the effect of sunlight on Earth’s surface. They started the unit with a hands on exploration of sand, soil, rocks, and water to determine how earth’s materials are alike and different.

Once they had an understanding of what Earth’s surface is made of, they went on a scavenger hunt around our school to find the different earth’s materials right on our campus! They observed the temperature of sand, rocks, water, and soil to compare how some materials felt hotter than others and vice versa.

They have enjoyed making connections by using this knowledge to explain why when it’s hot we need to wear shoes on the sand but not on the grass or why we need a light jacket in the mornings but not in the afternoons. It is fun and exciting to hear our youngest scholars have the opportunity to apply science or scientific vocabulary in their conversations!
How to Get Students Excited about Community Service

What's In It For Me (WIIFM)? When talking with students about community service we need to get them interested and even EXCITED about the benefits of volunteering. We can show them how volunteering can benefit their current and future selves, by fostering intrinsic motivation to serve their community now and forever!

WAYS TO PROMOTE VOLUNTEERING TO STUDENTS:

Make Opportunities Relevant To Students
Help students find volunteer activities that are related to their interests and causes they are passionate about
Have students register in x2VOL to search service opportunities, register and log hours

Access link is located at the bottom of students’ Naviance Student home page

Contact local chapters of professional associations and find out if they need volunteers for some of their events, possible annual conference or convention
Contact city’s Parks & Recreation department, and get a list of annual events and find out if they need volunteers
Local charities and business that may provide service or opportunities for students
Support students with creating their own volunteer activity that uplifts the community! Identify a need in the area and build an event to be a part of the solution.

Provide Value
WIIFM - What can they gain from volunteering (contextual perspective)?
How does volunteering relate to what they are learning in class?
How will it enhance their experience, education and/or career?

Meet new people
Opportunity to develop important networking skills
Career exploration opportunity
Find their passion
Gain new experiences to enhance their resume for college admissions, scholarships & careers (show students how to document this on their resumes)
Help broaden understanding and compassion for others
Health benefits – Proven to help reduce stress, increase confidence, combat depression & prevent feelings of isolation
Possibly get a free t-shirt ☺

Develop A Culture Of Service
PUC high schools – Get students registered in x2VOL and have them find service opportunities, sign up & log their hours

Training and PR resources are available on the Intranet
Celebrate service year-round – Give shout-outs to staff, students & families who complete and/or develop service projects (Announcements, Social Media, Newsletters, etc.)
Print x2VOL reports to celebrate service & even build some health competition using the grade level and PCE class service reports
Build school-wide service events and/or promote days of service

🌟 Monday, 1/21/19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day – **MLK Day of Service**

🌟 Sunday, 3/31/19 – Cesar Chavez Day – Celebrate the birth and legacy of the civil rights and labor movement activist Cesar Chavez

Embed community service projects into curriculum & promote service scholarships

**Youth Service America** (YSA) – Youth community service information and collaboration

**Be Fearless Be Kind Pledge** – Hasbro and YSA are calling on youth to BE FEARLESS BE KIND, by standing up for others, being inclusive and making a difference through service projects and kind acts

**The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards** (Grades 5-12), Annual application deadline early November

If you’d like to continue the conversation about community service or would like x2VOL community service platform implementation support please contact Nicole Murphy, n.murphy@pucnational.org, x1422.

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**Congratulations to 6 PUC Charter Schools on their Renewals!**

In November, the charter petitions of the following PUC charter schools were renewed for five years: PUC Community Charter Middle and Early College High School, PUC Lakeview Charter Academy, PUC Santa Rosa Charter Academy, PUC Milagro Charter Academy, and PUC Inspire Charter Academy, all of which had their charter petitions renewed for 5 years. In addition, PUC Community Charter Elementary School was renewed for 5 years in early December. The renewals will go into effect on July 1, 2019. Staff, parents, and students turned out in strong numbers to support their schools at the LAUSD school board meetings when the voting took place for their renewals. Congratulations to all of these outstanding schools!
Glassdoor and Indeed

PUC is on the Glassdoor and Indeed job site where you can leave a review about your experience here at PUC!

In case you’re not familiar with the job sites they are similar to Yelp!

See our links below:
http://www.glassdoor.com/Overview/Working-at-PUC-Schools-EI_IE465918.11,22.htm
http://www.indeed.com/cmp/Puc-Schools

Leave us a review!
We’re here! Follow the Recruitment Team on social media to stay updated on events, new openings, and much more!

PUC Schools Recruitment  @pucschools_recruitment  @PUC_Recruitment
Open Positions

Discounted Software Available For Home Use

Exclusive for your company, get the completely NEW Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2019 suite for your home. Or if you use a Mac, get Office Home and Business 2019 for Mac for the same low price, $14.99.

The link below provides the details as well as the new program code necessary to purchase Office.

https://intranet.pucschools.org/Help%20Documents/PUC%20Microsoft%20Home%20Use%20Program%202019.pdf
Human Resources Employee Perks Program

Human Resources is pleased to announce a new employee benefit. All employees now have exclusive access to the Working Advantage discount network which allows you to save up 60% on ticketed events and online shopping. Through Working Advantage you can save on: Movie Tickets, Theme Parks, Ski Tickets, Broadway Shows, Sporting Events, Hotels and Travel, Health and Fitness, Museums and City Passes, Merchant Gift Certificates, Online Shopping…and much more! To subscribe, you may access the Working Advantage website by clicking here: www.workingadvantage.com. When opening an individual account you will need the PUC Schools ID #413401740.

Working Advantage offers 24-hour online shopping and customer support Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM Eastern time. If you have specific questions regarding the site, please contact Working Advantage at 800-565-3712.

Human Resources has AMC tickets available for sale. As of August 1, 2016, AMC will no longer sell Silver, Gold or Green Tickets; they have decided to move to one ticket going forward which will be the Black Ticket. PLEASE NOTE: May be subject to surcharge. All restrictions are listed in back of ticket.

AMC tickets have no expiration date. The price for a black ticket is $10.25 per ticket.

PAYMENT METHOD: ONLY CASHIER’S CHECK, PERSONAL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. NO CASH! Please make check or money order to: PUC Schools. If you are interested in purchasing AMC Black tickets, please contact hr@pucschools.org.

T-Mobile offers exclusive discounts for PUC Schools Employees. Click on the T-Mobile logo above to visit T-Mobile’s promo website. To enroll by phone, contact Advantage Direct at 866-464-8662 and use promotional code 20356TMOFAV.

Sprint is pleased to offer monthly service discounts to eligible employees, students and organization members.

Click on the Sprint logo above to visit Sprint’s promo website or visit the PUC Intranet, Employee Perks under the Team Member Tools tab.
PUC Polo Shirts and Laptop Bags for Sale

You can now purchase PUC Polo Shirts and PUC Laptop bags! Items can be purchased throughout the year. Please contact HR at hr@pucschools.org to place an order. Please be sure to indicate your shirt size. We have men’s and women’s sizes.

**PUC Polo:** $20 for either the male or female cut.

**PUC Laptop Bag:** $40