



**GERMAN AMERICAN
SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

February 8, 2010

Dr. Ruth Perez
Superintendent
Norwalk - La Mirada Unified School District
12820 Pioneer Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

RE: International Charter School of La Mirada

Dear Dr. Perez,

It is with great pleasure that we recommend the International Charter School to you and your Board for consideration. We hope that you will grant their charter so that they may show you how such a school will become a great asset to your community.

By exposing their students to a learning concept like the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program, the International Charter School presents a unique opportunity for the children of this district and beyond. This program of global significance enhances students' awareness and allows them to go beyond the confines of normal learning within certain subject areas by working through a framework of inquiries and in-depth investigations.

The International Charter School will be open to students of all cultural and language backgrounds who are interested in learning another language and thereby also strengthen their English skills using the schools' German language program. Research has shown that foreign language learning not only improves understanding of the students' native language, but enhances listening skills, improves memory and gives a new perspective and understanding of language itself.

Multilingualism is the norm in most of the world and we believe that children who speak and write more than one language will be better prepared for life in the 21st century with its growing global economy.

The best way to master another language is to start learning at an early age, not in high school. By exposing their students to a new culture, the school will instill in them respect for the diversity of humankind and promote international awareness and informed, active and responsible world citizenship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rita Reiff".

Rita Reiff
President