



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ALL MALIBU PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW FUNDRAISING ENTITY

Malibu LEAD now actively soliciting support from a broad parent, public, and private coalition to ensure educational excellence for all students

Malibu, CA – We are pleased to introduce Malibu LEAD, the newly formed fundraising entity for all Malibu public schools. Our mission is to engage the community to invest in Malibu public schools and create an educational experience for our children beyond what is possible with public funds alone. Malibu LEAD believes that Malibu public schools have the capacity to become the best public schools in the country, leading in educational innovation, socio-emotional focus, and child-centered practices. Malibu LEAD's volunteers, in partnership with parents, teachers, school administrators, and the community, will ensure that every student in Malibu public schools experiences an enriched and fulfilling education and is prepared for success after high school.

Malibu LEAD is a public 501(c) (3) non-profit run by a Board comprised of parent leaders from each of the four Malibu public schools (Malibu Elementary, Webster Elementary, Malibu Middle School, Malibu High School); it runs with your voice and for your benefit. Each school's PTA, The Shark Fund, and Malibu Schools Leadership Council are all represented, as well as Malibu resident School Board member Craig Foster as a key LEAD advisor.

What does the creation of Malibu LEAD mean in practice and why was it necessary?

First, all private fundraising for Malibu's public schools is under Malibu's control and all donated funds are spent exclusively in Malibu. Local control has been a fundamental right sought by our community for some time. The return of all fundraising for our schools to Malibu is an important milestone as we continue to execute Malibu's vision for its public schools. All of our fundraising entities have collaborated to reshape our effort, preserving what works and adding new capabilities and opportunities. We will continue to raise money from each of our schools' parent community to fund the locally created budget of staff, programs, equipment, supplies, etc. The familiar fundraising campaigns of the past, whether fun fundraising events, direct donation drives, spirit-wear, and all the rest, will continue as before, with funds raised flowing to each school through Malibu LEAD. In addition to this we now have the opportunity to hold large scale, Malibu-wide fundraising events to benefit all four Malibu schools. The collective collaboration will help to ensure greater fundraising opportunities and reduce community donor fatigue.

Second, Malibu LEAD has achieved something the PTAs and The Shark Fund were unable to previously – approval from SMMUSD to pay for additional personnel with donated funds, including classroom aides, arts teachers, and more, and a voice in the hiring of these valuable educators.

Gardia Fox, current Chair of the Malibu LEAD Board, announced the group will be actively seeking support for Malibu public schools from the non-parent community as well, commenting, "We believe community members, from local small businesses, to larger, locally connected and national institutions all have an interest in helping us ensure our kids' educational advancement. Malibu LEAD will perform strategic outreach to key potential

stakeholders to help bridge the public funding gap and provide innovative programs and engaging, relevant curriculum for all Malibu students. It is LEAD's job to work with the SMMUSD and worldwide community of caring advocates to bring to life many of this generation's most pressing educational needs and opportunities, creating the skills, knowledge, and habits that prepare our students for the world that awaits them."

Malibu LEAD is honored and grateful to serve the Malibu community in this capacity. We look forward to engaging with you in support of the students of today that will build our tomorrows.

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For more information or to make a donation please contact:

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