



PACOIMA STUDENTS HOST ‘SHARK TANK’ ENTREPRENEUR FAIR DESPITE FEARS LAUSD WILL VOTE TO CLOSE SCHOOL

WHAT: Middle school learners at iLEAD Pacoima present their businesses, seek community support
WHEN: Thursday March 1 at 1 p.m.
WHERE: iLEAD Pacoima
11261 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima

MEDIA CONTACT

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PACOIMA, Calif. – More than 100 middle schoolers at iLEAD Pacoima are heading into the shark tank and inviting the public to check out their growing businesses – all part of a year-long project to foster entrepreneurship and executive management skills.

The iLEAD Pacoima entrepreneur fair comes amid growing fears from students and families about the potential closure of their school – and less than a week before LAUSD board members will decide the school’s fate. iLEAD Pacoima serves hundreds of low-income families, with a staggering 96 percent of the children who attend the school on free and reduced lunch. Many students also have special education needs and serious emotional issues, and some are English language learners. LAUSD will decide the fate of “iLEAD San Fernando,” which includes Pacoima and two sister sites, on Tuesday.

Despite concerns about their school being shuttered, the middle schoolers are inviting the media and community to their annual entrepreneur fair, where all of the businesses and prototypes will be on display. The projects help teach English, math, history and science to the young students – all while growing their interest in running a real business. In total, 120 kids are participating in Thursday’s entrepreneur fair, which gets underway at 1 p.m. at iLEAD Pacoima.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Site Director Dave Trejo, teachers, students and parents will be available for interviews about the entrepreneur fair and the potential closure of iLEAD Pacoima.