

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



MARIO UMANA MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMY

Dr. José A. Salgado
Principal

To The Boston Museum,

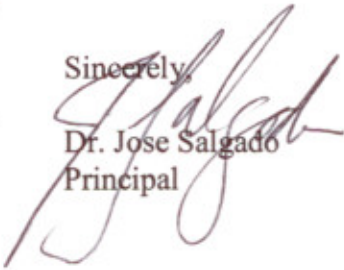
I am writing this letter in support of the programming that The Boston Museum has provided to middle school-aged students in partnership with the Mario Umana Middle School Academy as part of the longer school day.

We are excited to work with The Boston Museum to bring essential resources to the school that will support our students. Our current Expanded Learning Time (ELT) model is working with The Boston Museum and with sufficient funding we will be able to expand their services as part of our longer school day schedule. The Umana has a strong infrastructure in place that can support community-based organizations seeking to provide services as part of the longer school day. The Umana's experience with ELT for the past two years has allowed the school to refine its mission, vision, and systems for partnering with organizations like The Boston Museum.

The Umana's student population is considered one of the most at-risk when using demographic, sociological, and health data. The majority of our students come from low-income households, most of them live in homes where English is not the primary language, and many of them have emigrated from other countries. These factors, coupled with the limited educational opportunities for their parents and the lack of value placed on education by their communities, contribute to the students' poor academic achievement. The Umana seeks to address students' barriers to learning through ELT and the classes offered as part of the longer school day.

The Boston Museum will allow us to address some of the barriers to learning our students face, provide opportunities for students to travel outside of East Boston and through "the tunnel", and use the City of Boston, including their community of East Boston, as classroom. In particular, we are proposing to partner with The Boston Museum to provide classes as part of the longer school day that will allow our students to learn more about the history of "their City" by visiting historic locations, to learn more about the people who built "their City" throughout history, and to learn more about the people who make up "their City" today.

Sincerely,


Dr. Jose Salgado
Principal

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