

# Alameda Sun



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Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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## Letters to the Editor

### *Show support for BASE*

**Editor:**

I am a student in the transitions to college program at the Bay Area School of Enterprise (BASE), a public charter high school located on Alameda Point. On Tuesday evening, Feb. 14, the Alameda Board of Education will be voting on whether to renew the BASE charter for another five years. I was one of the students who presented our charter renewal proposal to the trustees Jan. 31, and I am writing now to express my support for my school.

Many education strategies make up the BASE program, including rigorous college and career preparation, opportunities to do advanced work and take college classes, and an emphasis on real world learning through community social action projects. For me, the part of the BASE program that is the most important is the expectation and opportunity to have a say in my own education. As a co-owner of my school, I have a voice in what I learn. This makes my educational experience more personal, meaningful and relevant.

An example of this idea in action is a leadership group, called "Enterprise: BASE," of which I am a member. In addition to advanced study of educational theory and governance, we have taken on BASE itself as one of our social action projects, ensuring that youth co-ownership and co-creation are a central part of the BASE program. We have made presentations locally, regionally, and nationally about our program. Over the last five months we have worked hard to revise and present our charter for renewal to the Alameda Unified School District.

I cannot wait to see a room full of supporters on Tuesday evening for the final vote. BASE has motivated me to be a better student and a better community member, and the community's support reinforces for me the importance of the BASE program.

— Rebecca Levine

### **AUSD: SCHOOL BOARD ACTION**

The Bay Area School of Enterprise's (BASE) charter renewal application was unanimously approved by the board during a public hearing. Board member William Schaff said, "This is one of the easiest votes I've had to make since I became a board member."

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