

On behalf of the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE), I am pleased to submit this application in support of our planned acquisition of the former CVS building. We believe that HCOE would be an ideal buyer for this property—not only because of our financial and organizational stability, but also due to the deep and lasting value our presence would bring to the neighborhood and broader community. HCOE is a long-established, mission-driven public agency that serves the educational needs of over 17,000 students across 31 school districts and 15 charter schools in Humboldt County. We enjoy a strong reputation for excellence, innovation, and collaboration, and we are deeply committed to improving the lives of students, families, and educators throughout the region.

This facility would be thoughtfully repurposed as a hub for educational leadership and support. We intend to convert the existing structure to house HCOE administrative offices, as well as provide a space for small professional development and meeting spaces for HCOE staff as well as staff from the districts and charters we serve. Potentially, we may use part of the space for adult education services in our efforts to support and enhance workforce development in Humboldt County. These activities align with our broader goal of expanding access to high-quality, community-centered education.

Our office works in partnership with school districts, tribal education programs, higher education institutions, nonprofit organizations, and local industries. This property would allow us to expand those partnerships and better serve the evolving needs of our county's diverse communities. We hope you will see the value in approving this General Plan Conformance Application for a trusted, community-focused organization that will maintain and utilize it with care, responsibility, and purpose. We look forward to the opportunity to steward this space in a way that honors HCOE's role in the community and brings lasting benefit to the people of Humboldt County.

Michael Davies-Hughes

Superintendent of Schools

Humboldt County Office of Education