THE VETERANS’ CENTER
FOR RECREATION AND EDUCATION

A 21ST CENTURY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
WITH BRENTWOOD SCHOOL
Brentwood School and the VA already have a longstanding strategic partnership. Since 1972, their relationship has included student and school service in support of veterans on campus and in the community, as well as use of VA land.
OUR 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY

Brentwood School, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, looks forward to being a dedicated community partner in manifesting the VA’s goal of honoring the 1888 vision of Bandini de Baker and Senator John P. Jones: the creation of a national home for our veterans.

Brentwood School has a more than 30 year strategic partnership with the West Los Angeles (WLA) VA, and is unique in that we can immediately offer veterans and their families at the WLA VA campus substantial veteran-centric opportunities funded by Brentwood School. Physical recreation, health and wellness, education, and vocational training can all take place at existing facilities built and maintained by Brentwood School.

Brentwood School is committed to creating The Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education as an integral part of our 21st century community.

THE VETERAN’S CENTER WILL BE FOUNDED ON FOUR CORNERSTONES:

1 | ACCESS FOR VETERANS EXCLUSIVE AND EXTENSIVE

2 | NEW OPPORTUNITIES EDUCATIONAL, VOCATIONAL, AND RECREATIONAL

3 | IMPROVEMENTS DELIVERED TO VETERANS QUICKLY AND ON-TIME

4 | SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUR 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY
BEFORE AND AFTER
In 1999, after decades of permitted and contractual use, Brentwood School signed a 10-year agreement with a 10-year option to utilize 20 acres in the northern-most (greenbelt) portion of the VA campus.

$15 million invested
$450K annually in rent
$150K annually for maintenance
$50K-$350K annually for deferred maintenance
THE FIRST CORNERSTONE
ACCESS FOR VETERANS
EXCLUSIVE AND EXTENSIVE

The abundant recreational facilities built and maintained by Brentwood School are a ready resource for activities that promote health and wellness, socialization, and skills building. Funded by Brentwood School, The Veterans’ Center will create a truly shared and robust community. Veterans will have daily, exclusive, and plentiful access to: tennis, volleyball, basketball, track, soccer, baseball, football, and more.

Access will be provided every weekday from 8:00 am until noon, and during extended hours on the weekends.¹

Recreational and lap swimming will be available on weekends in the competition pool.

A Welcome Center built by Brentwood School will provide a place for vets to check out sports equipment and store their gear.

The Veterans’ Center Liaison, created and funded by Brentwood School, will give VA officials a full-time contact to ensure that the Center is functioning at all times for the benefit of veterans.

At their expense, Brentwood School will provide onsite staff at The Veterans’ Center to help guarantee smooth day-to-day operations.

Brentwood School will operate a round-trip shuttle bus service between the WLA VA campus and The Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education.

Classes and clinics in swimming, weight training, conditioning, tennis, and more will be offered at no cost to veterans and their families by Brentwood School.

¹ To take advantage of extended daylight, veterans will have exclusive daily access from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm during summer months.
THE SECOND CORNERSTONE
NEW OPPORTUNITIES
EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Members of the Brentwood School community and veterans will build on past successes and continue to collaborate through service, educational outreach, and recreational activities. Educational opportunities, vocational resources, community service, intramural athletics, and entertainment are among the many benefits that will be made exclusively available to veterans and their families through the Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education.

OUR IDEAS INCLUDE:
Scholarships for the children of vets to attend Brentwood School summer camp.

Adult education classes for veterans and their families. Options include: GED tutoring, career counseling, resume building workshops, and finance training.

Veteran access to special events produced by Brentwood School: parent education workshops, screenings of popular new films, and the Hutson Memorial Guest Lecture Series. (Past speakers include Malcolm Gladwell, Gloria Steinem, Amy Tan, Alice Walker, and others.)

Brentwood School will continue to hire veterans.

Fundraising support to help raise money for the restoration of the historic core of campus. Brentwood School can offer expertise in grant writing, identification of foundations and other potential donors, and preparation of fundraising materials and solicitations.

Advocacy for the VA and veterans by promoting positive messaging on the Brentwood School website and through communications with Brentwood School families and friends.

As an enhancement to the thousands of hours of volunteer service to veterans already performed each year, the school can collect toiletries, blankets, clothing, food, and other supplies needed to support the housing of veterans and their families.

Host National Veterans Golden Age Games at The Veterans’ Center. Brentwood School last hosted the Games in 2002.
Brentwood School students and veterans learn from each other through a longstanding practice of community service at the VA. Students dedicate thousands of hours every year to programs that directly benefit veterans, and veterans routinely speak in classes and at assemblies.
THE THIRD CORNERSTONE
Beyond recreational, educational, vocational, and support options, Brentwood School can also play a role in developing other types of recreational and therapeutic facilities for veterans.

This can be accomplished much more expeditiously through the private sector as we are not reliant on the inherent limitations of government funding and approval processes.

Brentwood School and the VA can collaborate to understand what is beneficial to the veteran community. Over time, Brentwood School is open to financing the construction of additional veteran-centric therapeutic and recreational facilities.

**SUCH FACILITIES COULD INCLUDE:**

- **A weight room** for strength training
- **Separate and secure locker facilities** for men and women
- **An equipment room** and space for veterans to store their gear\(^1\)
- **A shallow therapy pool** exclusively for the use of veterans\(^2\)

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1. This equipment room for veterans was completed on August 3, 2015.
2. The feasibility of such a project may be impacted by building conditions as determined by geologic surveys.
THE FOURTH CORNERSTONE
SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUR 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY

Brentwood School’s complete financial responsibility for and staffing of the operation and maintenance of The Veterans’ Center, as well as the continued income from lease payments, will sustain our 21st century community.

Veterans can be confident about their continued access to these exclusive recreational, educational, and vocational opportunities offered at The Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education as they are not dependent upon governmental funding.

TO CREATE OUR 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY, BRENTWOOD SCHOOL IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR AS LONG AS WE HAVE CONTINUED USE OF THE LAND:

Brentwood School will continue, as it has since 1999, to pay market rate for the leased land in addition to annual cost of living increases.

Brentwood will pay all of the operations and maintenance costs of The Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education for as long as there is shared use of this VA land.

Brentwood School will assume all deferred maintenance and ongoing improvements for The Veterans’ Center.

Brentwood School believes that The Veterans’ Center for Recreation and Education is an integral facet of a successful 21st century community. As a result, Brentwood School will work with veterans and VA officials to engage in consistent monitoring of the facility and its programs, so that improvements are made quickly and effectively.

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1 It is important to note that, distinct from other community partners, Brentwood School has paid more than $5 million in rent, including scheduled increases, since the original agreement was approved in 1999.

2 Please note that the School already pays the largest amount of any of the entities that have leased VA land in West Los Angeles.