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# Decision on Renewal of the Alameda Community Learning Center Charter

Board of Education  
March 23, 2010

# Background

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- The charter renewal petition was submitted to AUSD on January 12, 2010 at a regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting
- The Board of Education held a public hearing on February 9, 2010
- Pursuant to Ed Code section 47605(b), on February 24, 2010 ACLC and AUSD agreed to a 30 day extension of the time for AUSD to act on the charter renewal petition
- The Board of Education will make a decision to approve or deny the charter petition tonight (March 23, 2010)

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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## Education Code 47605

1. The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.

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- The ACLC charter renewal petition presents a **sound** educational program:
  - Academic performance data confirms that the educational program is sound.
  - The renewal petition describes a standards-based curriculum that promotes the practice and mastery of California state standards through an empowerment model offering self directed, project-based learning opportunities that address multiple interdisciplinary standards (page 11).
  - ACLC’s educational model has been in place for 14 years promoting a technology-rich environment for individualized learning (page 12).
  - ACLC learners demonstrate academic and social emotional growth, e.g., through Learner Led Conferences where learners provide evidence of growth based on ACLC’s “Learning to Learn” rubrics (pages 15, 133-154)

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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2. The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.

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- The petitioners **are** likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
- The petitioners and Board members are very capable individuals with considerable experience in running ACLC. ACLC's history of successful achievement is the best evidence for concluding that the petitioners will successfully implement the program set forth.
- For purposes of Special Education, in 10-11 ACLC will become its own LEA pursuant to Education Code Section 47641 (a) and will utilize the El Dorado County Charter School SELPA similar to their other CLCS charter school, Nea Community Learning Center

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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3. The petition does not contain the number of signatures required by subdivision (a).

A petition must be signed by one of the following:

- a. A number of parents/guardians equivalent to at least one-half of the number of students that the charter school estimates will enroll in the charter school for its next year of operation.
- b. A number of teachers equivalent to at least one-half of the number of teachers that the charter school estimates will be employed at the school during its next year of operation.

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ACLC selected b:

It ***does contain*** the required signatures: 13 teacher signatures

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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4. The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code 47650(d).

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- The petition ***does contain*** an affirmation of each of the required conditions contained in Education Code Section 47605(d)(1).

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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5. The petition does not contain reasonable comprehensive descriptions of the charter provisions in Ed Code 47605(b) listed in “Components of Charter Petition” above.

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- The petition **does contain** reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.

# Additional Criteria for Denying Charter Renewal Petition

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In addition to the five criteria set forth in Education Code § 47605, Education Code § 47607(b) requires for a renewal that a charter school meet at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Attained its Academic Performance Index (API) growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years, or in the aggregate for the prior three years.*
- (2) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API in the prior year or in two of the last three years.*
- (3) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year or in two of the last three years.*
- (4) Academic performance of the charter school is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the charter school pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the charter school is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the charter school.*



# Additional Criteria for Denying Charter Renewal Petition

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Although it need only meet one criterion, ACLC meets all four of the criteria.

## *ACLC:*

- (1) Attained its Academic Performance Index (API) growth target in two of the last three years*
- (2) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API in the prior year and in two of the last three years.*
- (3) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year and in two of the last three years.*
- (4) The academic performance of the charter school is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the charter school pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the charter school is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the charter school.*

# Recommendation to Board of Education

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Staff recommends that the AUSD Board of Education approve Resolution No. 10-0041 granting the petition for the renewal of the charter of the Alameda Community Learning Center.

The petition satisfies the five legally required criteria of Education Code 47605 as well as the additional criteria of Education Code 47607(b).

# Recommendation to Board of Education

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- The term of this charter will be from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015.
- A charter may be revoked by the authority that granted the charter if the authority finds that the charter school committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in its charter.
- The approval of this charter shall incorporate the text revisions, conditions and associated deadlines set forth in the Resolution.