
Decision Regarding Academy of Alameda Charter Petition

Board of Education
December 15, 2009

Background

- Chipman Middle School is in Program Improvement, Year 4
- As required, the school invested time to pursue options as outlined by the state and federal government
- Through a process, the school decided to submit a charter school petition
- Charter petition was submitted to AUSD on October 27, 2009
- The governing board held a public hearing on November 10, 2009
- The governing board will make a decision to approve or deny the charter petition tonight (December 15, 2009)

Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

Education Code 47605

1. The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.
- Academy of Alameda charter petition presents a ***sound*** educational program:
 - **Curriculum that is aligned with California state standards**
 - **The instructional design and curriculum require the use of various research-based pedagogical strategies and tools including body/brain compatible learning, Strategic Instruction Model (SIM), and Pure Reading**
 - **The master schedule supports student development and maximizes learning, i.e., block schedule for social studies 7 science, courses aligned to optimize learning time**
 - **There is an explicit plan for low achieving as well as high achieving students, including an advisory class**

Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

2. The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
- The petitioners and Board members are ***extremely capable*** individuals with considerable experience in public education generally and in Alameda specifically.

Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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 first 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 first year of operation.**

Academy of Alameda Charter petition selected part b.

It ***does contain*** the required signatures: 25 teacher signatures

Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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

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

Staff recommends that the AUSD Board of Education approve Resolution No. 09-0079 granting the charter petition for Academy of Alameda Middle School.

The petition satisfies the five legally required categories of Education Code 47605.

Recommendation to Board of Education

- 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 it 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 on opening and associated deadlines.
- The District retains the authority to delay opening for a period of up to one year, if any of the conditions on opening are not satisfactorily met by the deadlines.
- If the school does not open on or before Sept. 30, 2012, it will be considered a demonstration of petitioners' lack of capacity to implement the program set forth in the petition and the District will initiate charter revocation procedures.