

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Agenda Item# 11.1

Meeting Date: February 19, 2015

Subject: **Approve Resolution No. 2822: Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE
Public Schools - Oak Park Preparatory Academy**

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
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Approve Resolution No. 2822: Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE Public Schools - Oak Park Preparatory Academy
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Action Proposed:

Staff recommends approval of the renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy for five (5) years, beginning July 1, 2015 until June 30, 2020, to serve 180 students in grades K-8

February 22, 2015.

In addition, District Staff provided OPPA with a list of six (6) elements for consideration. In response, OPPA provided District Staff with a revised set of terms.

Under Section §47607, after a charter school has been in operation for three (3) years, it must meet one of the following criteria before receiving a charter renewal:

1. The school's performance index (API) growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years; or

2. The school's API, inclusive, on the API in the prior year or in two of the last three years; or

3. The school's API, inclusive, on the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year or in two of the last three years; or

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The Board of Education may deny a Renewal Petition if the charter school fails to meet the minimum standard for renewal, or if the Board of Education finds that:

- 1) The charter school presents an unsound educational program for students during the term of its renewal charter;
- 2) The charter school is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the renewal petition;
- 3) The renewal petition does not contain the necessary affirmations; or
- 4) Where changes to the charter school's operations are proposed, the Renewal Petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required elements set forth in the Charter Schools Act.

In addition, the District "shall consider increases in pupil academic achievement for all groups of pupils served by the charter school as the most important factor in determining whether to grant a charter renewal." Ed. Code § 47607(a)(3)(A). For the 2012-13 school year, OPPA did not have any significant subgroups.

District Staff's Review:

Based on the results of the District review process, staff assessed that OPPA meets the statutory requirements for renewal.

Oak Park Preparatory Academy's 2013 statewide API rank is 9, exceeding the minimum threshold rank of 4 required by Education Code Section 47607(b)(2).

Due to the suspension of the majority of the California Standards Tests in 2013-14, no API was calculated for OPPA. Schools that do not have a current year API calculation will use either the more recent API score, an average of the three most recent API scores, or an alternate measure that shows an increase in academic achievement (Assembly Bill 484; See Education Code sections 52052(e)(2)(F) and 52052(e)(4)). In its third year of operation, OPPA has only one API calculation in its history, a 2013 growth API score of 887. The state set 800 as the API target for all schools to meet.

Although the originally submitted renewal petition included the information required, District Staff recommended revisions to improve the petition in six areas: 1) Element A, Educational



ELEMENT A: Educational Program

Staff's Recommendation(s):

- Update ELD standards; revise, update, and clarify sections of the EL plan.
- Provide concrete examples of strategies designed to support low-achieving students.
- Include detailed discussion of enrichment and academic opportunities for high-achieving students.
- Clarify how technology needs are equally accessible to all students.
- Provide additional information regarding staff training/professional development with regard to special education and Section 504.

OPPA's Revision(s):

In the revised petition, there is a description of the research-based SIOP model of instruction for ELs and statements that staff uses it. Since no mention was made of this model in the previous iteration of the petition, the District is committed to monitoring OPPA's fidelity to the EL Program described in the revised petition.

The Renewal Petition has been revised to include additional discussion of the Charter School's targeted strategies for providing "intensive academic support" for low-achieving students. (Petition, pp. 72-76.) Specifically, the Renewal Petition now lists supports such as scaffolding daily materials, guided notes, graphic organizers, chunking reading passages, pre-teaching complex vocabulary, and targeted checks that are embedded within each lesson by classroom teachers. (Renewal Petition, p. 74.) Additional discussion of after-school tutoring and credit recovery opportunities for students who are struggling academically has also been added. Some general information regarding Tier 2 and 3 RtI (Response to Intervention) for students achieving "far below grade level" has been added. (Renewal Petition, p. 76.) Petitioners have also updated information regarding the Charter School's Mentoring Through Community Partnerships program.

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computer or internet access to complete assignments using the school's computers. (Renewal Petition, p. 47.) Petitioners note that with implementation of the PCSGP grant, the Charter School was able to secure five laptop carts and two Kindle carts and that every student now has access to technology during school hours.

Staff finds the revisions to be reasonably comprehensive.

ELEMENT B: Measurable Pupil Outcomes

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budget “does reflect months where expenditures exceed net cash.” (Renewal Petition, p. 150.) However, Petitioners further explain that the non-profit plans ahead for such shortfalls and adjusts expenditures accordingly. In the event those adjustments are inadequate, Petitioners indicate that they have received bridge loans from “financial institutions and close partners (including SCUSD).”

In addition, the Renewal Petition has been revised to align language on pages 149 and 151 to provide that District is named as an additional insured on all of the Charter School’s insurance policies.

Staff has concluded that the Charter Schxpendi8.1(R)-2(r St(pe)13p/12(b))-4(a8(pe)13((pe)4(.d4(8.1()2.1(ec7nt

SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2822
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PETITION TO RENEW THE CHARTER OF
OAK PARK PREPARATORY ACADEMY

WHEREAS, petitioners for Oak Park Preparatory Academy (“Petitioners”) submitted to Sacramento City Unified School District (“District”) a charter renewal petition (“Petition”), dated January 5, 2015, for Oak Park Preparatory Academy; and

WHEREAS, following feedback from District staff, the Petition was revised and submitted (“Revised Petition”);

WHEREAS, the District’s Governing Board held a public hearing on January 22, 2015 and took board action on February 19, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has considered the level of public support for Oak Park Preparatory Academy and has reviewed the Revised Petition and all information received with respect to the Revised Petition, including all supporting documentation; and

WHEREAS, in reviewing the Revised Petition, the Governing Board has been guided by the intent of the California Legislature that charter schools are and should become an integral part of the California educational system and that establishment of charter schools should be encouraged; and

WHEREAS, after analysis of the Revised Petition and the related supplemental materials, the Superintendent and District staff have recommended approval of the Revised Petition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sacramento City Unified School