



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 10.1

Meeting Date: December 20, 2012

Subject: Charter School Renewal Petition – Bowling Green Charter School

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Accountability Office

Recommendation: To conference and take action to approve the Bowling Green charter renewal petition.

Background/Rationale: The Governing Board held a public hearing in accordance with Education Code section 47607 (b) to consider the level of support for the renewal of Bowling Green (Charter renewal date: June 30, 2013). District staff has conducted an extensive review of the petition. The staff report and recommendation are being presented for Board Action on December 20, 2012.

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I. Overview/History of Department or Program

Sacramento City Unified School District authorized the 18th charter school in California, Bowling Green Elementary in 1993. Since that time SCUSD has approved four "dependent" charter schools and nine "independent" charter schools.

On September 7, 2012, Bowling Green Charter, a dependent charter of Sacramento City Unified School District, submitted its petition for Charter Renewal. The parties executed an agreement pursuant to Education Code § 47605 as well as 5 C.C.R. § 17000.030.

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- 3) The petition does not contain the number of signatures prescribed by code;
- 4) The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions prescribed by code; and
- 5) The petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of sixteen certain elements in its program and operations.

In addition, a charter school seeking renewal must also meet at least one of the following criteria as set forth in Education Code §47607:

- 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; and
- 4) The entity that granted the charter determines that 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.

If one of the above standards is met, the governing board may grant the renewal assuming that the renewal petition also complies with the standards and criteria of Education Code §47607.

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III. Results of Petition Review:

Although the originally submitted renewal petition provided the information required by the Act, Staff recommended revisions to improve the petition in the following eight areas: 1) Element A, Education Program; 2)

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3. Element G, Means to Achieve Racial and

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requested that several provisions of the Revised Petition be stricken or modified to avoid language which financially commits the District to situations where the District is best reacting to on a case by case basis. Therefore, Staff recommended that Bowling Green delete the following language from the petition: "If a deficiency exists at the end of the year, the charter school will borrow from the SCUSD to cover the deficiency and repay the loan and any interest incurred by the district from the next year's budget."

Bowling Green's Response: The revised petition removed the above language from the petition.

6. Element J, Pupil Suspension and Expulsion

Staff Recommendation: This element of the charter referenced "memorandum of understanding between the authorizer and the charter school." Staff recommended language to be removed since there is no memorandum of understanding between district and charter school.

Bowling Green's Response: The revised petition removed the language above from the petition.

7. Element N, Dispute Resolution Process

Staff Recommendation: This element of the charter petition should read, "The Principals and the Superintendent (or designee) shall informally meet and confer in a timely fashion to attempt to resolve the dispute. In the event that this informal meeting fails to resolve the dispute, both parties shall appoint two representatives who shall jointly meet with the Superintendent (or designee) and the Principals and attempt to resolve the dispute."

Bowling Green's Response: The specific concern above is fully addressed in the revised petition (Revised Petition, pg. 24).

8. Financial Statements and Plan

Staff Recommendation: The petition must be supplemented to include financial statements for:

Current year.

Projections for at least next three years of operations.

Bowling Green's Response: The revised petition included supplemented information to address staff's concerns.

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SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2730

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PETITION TO RENEW THE CHARTER OF
BOWLING GREEN**

WHEREAS, petitioners for Bowling Green (“Petitioners”) submitted to Sacramento City Unified School District (“District”) a charter renewal petition (“Petition”), dated September 7, 2012, for Bowling Green Charter School (“Bowling Green”); 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 December 6, 2012 and took board action on December 20, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has considered the level of public support for Bowling Green 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