

LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policy 0420.4

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plans

Charter Schools

The Board of Education believes that charter schools provide one opportunity to implement school-level reform and to support innovations that improve student learning. These schools shall operate under the provisions of their charters, federal laws, specific state laws, and general oversight of the Board.

The superintendent or designee may work with charter school petitioners prior to the formal submission of the petition in order to gather information about the proposal and suggest components that would align the petition with the district's vision and goals for student learning.

The superintendent or designee shall identify at least one staff member to serve as a contact for each charter school.

The Board and superintendent or designee may inspect or observe any part of the charter school at any time. The superintendent or designee shall visit each charter school at least annually.

In determining whether to grant or deny a charter, the Board shall carefully review the proposed charter and any supplementary information, consider public and staff input, and determine whether the charter petition adequately addresses all the provisions required by law. The Board shall not deny a charter school petition unless specific written factual findings are made pursuant to law and administrative regulation.

The superintendent shall ensure that any charter granted by the Board contains adequate processes and measures for holding the school accountable for fulfilling the terms of its charter. These shall include, but not be limited to, fiscal accountability systems as well as multiple measure for evaluating the educational program. In accordance with laws and the charter provisions, charters shall provide regular reports to the Board to assist in fulfilling its oversight responsibility.

The Board of Education shall not require any student to attend a charter school and shall not require any LUSD employee to work at a charter school.

Legal references:

Education Code

33054 Waivers
41365 Charter school revolving load fund
42100 Annual statement of receipts and expenditures
42238.51-42238.53 Funding for charter districts
44237 Criminal record summary
44830.1 Certificated employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony
45122.1 Classified employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony

46201 instructional minutes
47600-47616.7 Charter Schools act of 1992, as amended
47640-47647 Special education funding for charter schools
47652 Funding of first-year charter schools
48000 Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)
48010 Minimum age of admission (first grade)
48011 Minimum age of admission from kindergarten or other school
51745-51749.3 Independent Study
52052 Alternative accountability system
54032 Limited English or low-achieving pupils
56026 Special education
56145-56146 Special education services in charter schools
60600-60649 Assessment of academic achievement, including:
60605 Academic content and performance standards: assessments
60640-60649 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program

Government Code

3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act
54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

Penal Code

667.5 Definition of violent felony
1192.7 Definition of serious felony

Code of Regulations, Title 5

11700.1-11705 Independent Study
11960-11969 Charter Schools

United States Code, Title 20

6311 Adequate yearly progress
6319 Qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals
8061-8067 Charter schools program
8071 Charter school facilities

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34

200 Accountability

Attorney General Opinions

80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen 52 (1997) 78 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen 297 (1995)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS – Charter Schools: A Manual for
Governance Teams, 2002

CDE PUBLICATIONS: Special education and Charter Schools:
Questions and Answers, September 10, 2002

USDOE DRAFT NONREGULATORY GUIDANCE: Charter School
Program, August 31, 2003; The Impact of the New Title I
Requirements on Charter Schools, March 4, 2003

WEB Sites

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/charter>

Education Commission of the States: <http://www.ecs.org>

NSBA: <http://www.nsba.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

Policy

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