



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.2

Meeting Date: January 22, 2015

Subject: Public Hearing on the Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE Public
Schools- Oak Park Preparatory Academy

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

Division: Office of the Superintendent

Recommendation: To conduct public hearing to consider the level of support for the renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy.

Background/Rationale: The Governing Board will hold a public hearing in accordance with Education Code section 47607 (b) to consider the level of support for the renewal of Oak Park Preparatory Academy (Charter petition expiration date: June 30, 2015). Sacramento City Unified School District received Oak Park Preparatory Academy's charter renewal petition on January 5, 2015.

Financial Considerations: Financial and compliance considerations will be made available for this agenda item after staff has thoroughly reviewed the charter renewal petition.

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary
2. Public Hearing Notice
3. Executive Summary from the Charter Renewal Petition

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Sue Lee, Ed.D., Charter Oversight, Coordinator II

Approved by: José L. Banda, Superintendent

Board of Education Executive Summary

Office of the Superintendent

Public Hearing on the Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE Public Schools -
Oak Park Preparatory Academy
January 22, 2014



I. OVERVIEW / HISTORY

Sacramento City Unified School District granted Oak Park Preparatory Academy's charter petition for establishment on October 6, 2011, and approved the charter petition for three years. The charter petition expires on June 30, 2015.

Sacramento City Unified School District received a charter renewal petition from Oak Park Preparatory Academy on January 5, 2015. Oak Park Preparatory Academy is seeking a five-year renewal term for their proposed independent charter school for students in grade levels seven and eight. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the level of support for the renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy.

II. DRIVING GOVERNANCE

The charter renewal process is guided by Education Code 47607 (b). A charter school seeking renewal of its charter shall submit a written request to the Board at least 120 days before the term of the charter is due to expire, but not more than six months before the term of the charter is set to expire. Upon receipt of the notice that a charter school wants to renew its charter and at least 90 days before the expiration date of the charter, the Board shall conduct a public hearing to receive input on whether or not to renew the charter. At least 30 calendar days before the expiration date, the Board shall either grant or deny the request for renewal.

A charter may be renewed an unlimited number of times; however, each renewal must be for exactly five years. (EC § 47607). If a school district fails to make written factual findings to support a denial within 60 days of the district's receipt of a petition, the charter school's petition is automatically renewed. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, §11966.4(c).)

III. BUDGET

The budget for Oak Park Preparatory Academy should be detailed within the charter renewal petition and appendices. District staff will present a review of the charter's financials and provide the Board with a review of the findings and a recommendation for approval or denial at the Board Meeting on February 19, 2015.

IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND MEASURES

The goal of the Public Hearing is for the Board of Education to consider the level of support for the renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy. District staff will present a comprehensive review of the charter renewal petition and provide the Board of Education with

Board of Education Executive Summary

Office of the Superintendent

Public Hearing on the Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE Public Schools -

Oak Park Preparatory Academy

January 22, 2014



a review of the findings and a recommendation for approval or denial at the Board Meeting on February 19, 2015.

V. MAJOR INITIATIVES

Not Applicable.

VI. RESULTS

Not Applicable.

VII. LESSONS LEARNED / NEXT STEPS

- District staff conducts a thorough and comprehensive review of the charter renewal petition.
- District staff presents the findings and a recommendation for approval or denial of the charter renewal petition at the Board Meeting on February 19, 2015.
- The Board reviews District staff's findings and recommendations, and the Board approves or denies the renewal of the charter at the Board Meeting on February 19, 2015.

The charter renewal petition is available online at:

<http://www.scusd.edu/document/oak-park-preparatory-academy-charter-school-renewal-petition>.

Sacramento City Unified School District
St. HOPE Public Schools – Oak Park Preparatory Academy

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Sacramento City Unified School District hereby gives notice that a
Public Hearing will be held as follows:

Topic of Hearing:

**Public Hearing on the Renewal of the Charter for St. HOPE Public Schools - Oak Park
Preparatory Academy**

Copies of this program may be inspected at:

**Serna Educational Center
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824**

The Sacramento City Unified School District Governing Board will hold a public hearing in accordance with Education Code section 47607 (b) to consider the level of support for the renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy. The district received Oak Park Preparatory Academy's charter renewal petition on January 5, 2015.

HEARING DATE: Thursday, January 22, 2015

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Serna Educational Center
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: Sue Lee at sue-lee@scusd.edu or (916) 643-9079.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oak Park Preparatory Academy (“Oak Park Prep” or “OPPA”) is a public, high performing, college preparatory, independent charter school operated by St. HOPE Public Schools (“SHPS”), authorized by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education (“SCUSD” or the “District”) for an initial three-year charter term in October 2011. The Charter School is currently in its third year of operation and serves students in grades 7-8.

It is based on objective student and school results, as well as overwhelming parent and community support, that St. HOPE Public Schools, in accordance with the Charter Schools Act of 1992, hereby petitions the District for renewal of the charter for Oak Park Preparatory Academy. Enclosed please find a petition providing clear evidence that OPPA has far exceeded the charter renewal criteria set forth in Education Code Section 47607. For the past three years, OPPA has offered a strong educational program and has exceeded the outcomes outlined in the original charter approved by the District in 2011. The petition also demonstrates that OPPA is operationally and fiscally viable and is compliant with all relevant laws and regulations.

As required by the Charter Schools Act of 1992, the petition contains a reasonably comprehensive description of each of the 16 elements identified in California Education Code Sections 47605(b)(5)(A-P). In addition to the renewal petition, the requisite assurances are provided as well as supplemental materials (referred to as Appendices). These supplemental materials provide supporting information, but are not incorporated into nor considered an official part of the petition.

OPPA is operated by St. HOPE Public Schools (SHPS), a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation. In the 2014-15 school year SHPS operates four schools in Oak Park, serving approximately 1,800 students in a PreK-12 education pipeline focused on empowering students to obtain a four-year college degree and to serve as leaders in their communities.

OPPA serves a traditionally underserved population of students who, on average, have struggled to achieve at high levels and who have often been denied the choice of a high quality public education. SHPS, in collaboration with the District as its authorizing partner, have established OPPA as a school that provides an academic program rivaling the best in the state. In the following pages, the Charter School has provided a brief overview of OPPA’s performance and accomplishments to date.

Mission

Oak Park Prep shares the same mission as all schools within SHPS: To graduate self-motivated, industrious, and critically thinking leaders who are prepared to attend a four-year college, committed to serving others and passionate about life-long learning.

However, Oak Park Prep’s mission breaks down the mission and vision of SHPS to target the population of students at the time they will be attending the Charter School. This mission is: To educate students in grades seven and eight to excel in a rigorous high school, succeed at a four year university and lead in their chosen profession.

Need

In 2014, our country celebrated the 60th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the historical civil rights case that ordered in free and equal access to public education. *Brown* signaled the Supreme Court's desire to truly leave no child behind. Unfortunately, sixty years later, *Brown's* promise of improved educational opportunities for all children is still unfulfilled, especially for our most underserved children. The achievement gap in education - the difference in tested academic skills between white and minority students and between affluent and poor students - reflects the continuation of an unequal education system. All students need and deserve schools that inspire in them the belief that they can and will achieve. They need schools to foster respect, discipline, motivation and belief, and develop in them the critical academic skills and knowledge necessary to compete on a level playing field.

In 2013, in the Sacramento City Unified School District, fewer than 30% of eighth graders taking General Mathematics in South Sacramento middle schools scored proficient or above; and fewer than 40% of eighth graders at these schools were proficient or advanced in ELA.

Oak Park and South Sacramento are in need of high quality stand-alone middle schools that are (1) focused *solely* on addressing the needs of middle school students, (2) committed to outstanding academic achievement, and (3) provide a college-preparatory curriculum for every student. For students to be able to succeed in demanding college-preparatory high schools, they must have the fundamental literacy skills that underpin a rigorous middle school program. In order to be truly college-ready, students must be able to enter high school prepared to take rigorous and challenging college-prep courses.

Our Beliefs

At Oak Park Prep, we believe that:

- Literacy is the most essential academic skill upon which the majority of all future skill and knowledge acquisition is based.
- All students, regardless of race or socio-economic status, deserve a quality college-preparatory education.
- When provided with a highly structured, disciplined and supportive learning environment, and with quality, targeted instruction, all students will achieve to the highest academic standards.
- Frequent and continuous assessment is needed for a quality learning environment.
- Our most important partnership is our partnership with our parents.

Results to Date

OPPA has extremely high expectations for all students and members of the school community. Ambitious goals are set for academic achievement and all members of the OPPA team and family are held accountable for meeting these goals. Specifically, OPPA aims to provide all students with the quality of education and schooling that is available at the highest performing schools in the state and nation. All students and families deserve access to excellent schools and OPPA is providing this option to the children of Oak Park and Sacramento. OPPA's short history shows its students are achieving the established goals and the Charter School is one of the top performing stand-alone middle schools in Sacramento.

Students at OPPA have made significant academic strides since the Charter School opened in 2012. Students at OPPA scored the second highest when compared to all stand-alone middle

schools in SCUSD on the 2013 English Language Arts (ELA) CST, as shown in Table 1. Students scored the highest when compared against the same schools on the 2013 7th grade Math CST, as seen below in Table 2. The trend set in 2012-13 continued the following year as OPPA students were the highest scoring among the same peer group on the 2014 8th grade Science CST, displayed in Table 3.

Table 1	
2012-13 CST - ELA	% Prof/Adv (7th grade only)
Sutter Middle	75%
OPPA	73%
Sam Brannan	66%
California Middle	61%
Fern Bacon	52%
Will C. Wood	48%
Albert Einstein	46%
Kit Carson	36%



Table 2	
2012-13 CST - Math	% Prof/Adv (7th grade only)
OPPA	78%
Sutter Middle	73%
Fern Bacon	70%
California Middle	68%
Sam Brannan	48%
Albert Einstein	47%
Will C. Wood	43%
Kit Carson	27%

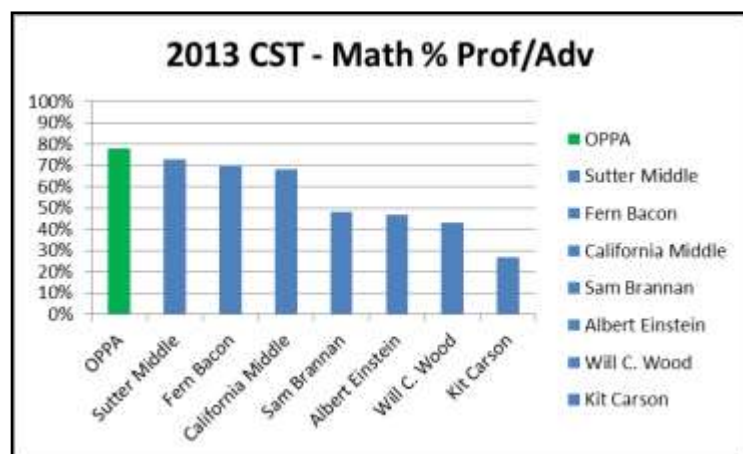
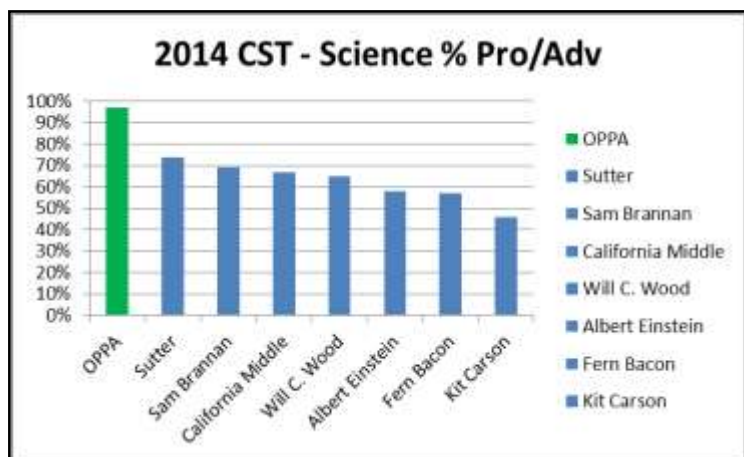


Table 3	
2014-15 CST - Science	% Prof/Adv
OPPA	97%
Sutter	74%
Sam Brannan	69%
California Middle	67%
Will C. Wood	65%
Albert Einstein	58%
Fern Bacon	57%
Kit Carson	46%



These data show definitively that what is happening at Oak Park Prep works – that all students, even traditionally low-performing subgroups, can achieve at the highest levels and meet ambitious achievement goals if the expectations are high, all stakeholders work relentlessly, and the necessary support is provided to students, families and staff. Oak Park Prep’s academic program is intentionally and strategically designed to ensure all students are meeting the mission, and prepared for college by catching them up when they are not on grade level. As shown by the data, all students are making significant progress and achieving at extraordinary levels.

Charter Renewal Criteria

Evidence of Meeting Charter Renewal Standards Pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(b) and the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 11966.4(a)(1)

Education Code Section 47607(b) requires that a charter school must meet at least one of the following renewal criteria prior to receiving a charter renewal:

- (1) Attained its Academic Performance Index (API) growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years, both school wide and for all groups of pupils served by the charter school.
- (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, in the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year or in two of the last three years.
- (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.

The following shall serve as documentation confirming that OPPA exceeds the statutory criteria required for renewal as set forth in Education Code Section 47607(b) (see Appendix 2.4 for the 2013 CDE DataQuest Report):

- OPPA has achieved a statewide API rank of 9 in the prior year, exceeding the minimum threshold rank of 4 required in Education Code Section 47607(b)(2).

Due to the suspension of the CST 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)). OPPA has only one API calculation in its history, so OPPA's API will remain at the 2013 rate of 887, an API which received a statewide ranking of 9 out of 10. Data provided by the California Department of Education states that OPPA has exceeded the statewide minimum performance target for API (800), as shown in Table 4. OPPA has no numerically significant student subgroups.

Accordingly, OPPA has met all possible renewal criteria in accordance with Education Code Section 47607(b) given the school's years of operation, and data generated by the state, and therefore should be granted a five-year charter renewal term pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(a)(1).

Table 4							
API	Number of Students Included in 2013 API	Numerically Significant in Both Years	2013 Growth	2012 Base	2012-13 Growth Target	2012-13 Growth	Met Student Groups Growth Target
School-wide	53		887	B	B	B	
Black or African American	27	No	862				
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	No					
Asian	2	No					
Filipino	0	No					
Hispanic or Latino	17	No	920				
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	No					
White	2	No					
Two or More Races	4	No					

Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	49	No	879				
English Learners	10	No					
Students with Disabilities	7	No					
* "B" means the school did not have a valid 2012 Base API and will not have any growth or target information.							

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

OPPA did not meet AYP for 2013; however, the school does not have previous year's data to meet AYP through alternative methods. Because the CDE has suspended AYP for 2013-14 for K-8th grade schools (due to transition from CST to common core assessment starting in 2014-15), OPPA will hold in its current status for 2014-15, not in Program Improvement (see Table 5). To also be clear, the meeting of AYP has no role in the charter criteria as detailed above.

Table 5										
Percent Proficient - Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) 2012-13	English-Language Arts Target 89.2% Met all percent proficient rate criteria? No					Mathematics Target 89.5% Met all percent proficient rate criteria? No				
GROUPS	Valid Scores	Number At or Above Proficient	Percent At or Above Proficient	Met 2013 AYP Criteria	Alt. Method	Valid Scores	Number At or Above Proficient	Percent At or Above Proficient	Met 2013 AYP Criteria	Alt. Method
School wide	53	38	71.7	No		53	41	77.4	No	
Black or African American	28	18	64.3	--		28	21	75	--	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	--	--	--		0	--	--	--	
Asian	2	--	--	--		2	--	--	--	
Filipino	0	--	--	--		0	--	--	--	
Hispanic or Latino	17	14	82.4	--		17	14	82.4	--	
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	--	--	--		1	--	--	--	
White	1	--	--	--		1	--	--	--	
Two or More Races	4	--	--	--		4	--	--	--	
Socio-	49	34	69.4	--		49	37	75.5	--	

economically Disadvantaged										
English Learners	10	--	--	--			10	--	--	--
Students with Disabilities										

Oak Parks Prep's success in attaining significant gains in achievement for all students, especially those who are traditionally underserved, is a model for others across the city, state, and nation. Oak Park Prep looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with the District and other like-minded organizations, to provide a high quality educational option for the students of Oak Park and Sacramento. In this petition, along with its first two years of incredible results, OPPA has presented the case for continuing SHPS's mission and furthering Oak Park Prep's ultimate purpose – ensuring student achievement and college success. Overall, OPPA's initial performance is remarkable and will continue for the students of Sacramento.