



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.1

Meeting Date: May 15, 2014

Subject: Public Hearing on Charter School Petition: New Joseph Bonnheim
Community Charter School (NJB)

- ☐ 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 conduct a public hearing to consider the level of support for the New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter petition.

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 proposed K-6th grade. The district received the New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter Petition on April 23, 2014. The staff report and recommendation are being presented for Board action on June 19, 2014.

Financial Considerations: A report on the financial considerations will be made when staff has thoroughly reviewed the charter petition.

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary
2. Public Notice
3. Charter Petition <http://www.scusd.edu/new-joseph-bonnheim-charter-petition>

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Teresa Cummings, Ph.D., Chief Accountability Officer

Approved by: Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent

Board of Education Executive Summary

Public Hearing on New Charter Petition

The New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School (NJB)

May 15, 2014



I. Overview of New Charter School Petition

On April 23, 2014, the New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School ("NJB" or the "School") submitted a petition to establish a dependent charter school ("petition") with the Sacramento City Unified School District ("SCUSD" or "District"). The petition proposes to create a charter school to serve K-6th grade that would "develop responsible, respectful, and proactive citizens to become caretakers of our community, our state, our country, and our planet. This begins with our concept for the New Joseph Bonnheim (NJB) being centered on agriculture" (Petition, p.8). Petitioners seek to begin operations with 323 students in 2014-2015 school year.

The public hearing is scheduled for May 15, 2014 to consider the level of support for Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School. After staff does a thorough review of the charter petition, a capacity interview will be conducted with the lead petitioners and proposed founding team for JBCC on May 19, 2014 in an effort to clarify various aspects of the petition, as well as to evaluate the petitioners' ability to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.

II. Driving Governance

The Charter Schools Act of 1992 ("Act") governs the creation of charter schools in the State of California. The Act includes Education Code section 47605(b), which provides the standards and criteria for petition review, and provides that a school district governing board considering whether to grant a charter petition "shall be guided by the intent of the 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." (Ed. Code, §47605(b).) Specifically, the governing board may not deny a petition unless it makes written factual findings setting forth for specific facts to support one, or more of five findings:

- 1) The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the students to be enrolled in the charter school;
- 2) The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition;
- 3) The petition does not contain the number of signatures prescribed by Education Code section 47605, subdivisions (a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B)
- 4) The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions set forth in Education Code section 47605, subdivision (d), including that the charter school: (1) will be nonsectarian in its admission policies, employment practices and all other

Board of Education Executive Summary

Public Hearing on New Charter Petition

The New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School (NJB)

May 15, 2014



- operations; (2) will not charge tuition; and (3) will not discriminate against any student on the basis on the characteristics set forth in Education Code section 220.
- 5) The petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of sixteen certain elements in its program and operations as set forth in Education Code section 47605, subdivision (b)(5) (A-P), which describes sixteen separate elements that must be addressed in every petition to establish a charter school. These elements include a description of the School's governance structure, admissions policy, and health and safety and student discipline policies.

Charter School petitions are also required to include discussion of the impact on the chartering district, including, the facilities to be utilized by the School, the manner in which administrative services will be provided, potential civil liabilities for the school district, and a three year projected operational budget and cash flow. (Ed Code 47605 (g)).

III. Budget

The budget for the proposed the New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School is detailed in the charter petition and appendices. Staff will present full review of findings at the scheduled Board Meeting, June 19, 2014.

IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures

The goal of the Public Hearing is for the Board of Education to consider the level of support for Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School's petition.

District staff will present full comprehensive review of the New Joseph Bonnheim's petition and provide the Board finding of facts and recommendations for approval or denial at the scheduled Board Meeting, June 19, 2014.

V. Major Initiatives

N/A

VI. Results

N/A

Board of Education Executive Summary

Public Hearing on New Charter Petition

The New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School (NJB)

May 15, 2014



VII. Next Steps

- Hear the petitioners' presentation on their proposed charter school
- Continue with a thorough and comprehensive review of the charter petition
- Conduct Capacity Interview
- Present board staff findings of facts and recommendations of approval or denial of the charter school petition at June 19, 2014 Board Meeting

Sacramento City Unified School District
Proposed New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School

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 Charter School Petition- New Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter School

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 proposed K-6th grade. The district received the Joseph Bonnheim Community Charter Petition on November 4, 2013. The parties executed an agreement on November 18, 2013 pursuant to Education Code 47605 as well as 5 C.C.R. 11966.4, subdivision (c), extending the statutory deadlines to allow the District to review the Petition and the District Board to take action at scheduled Board Meeting, December 19, 2013. The staff report and recommendation are being presented for Board Action on December 19, 2013.

HEARING DATE: Thursday, May 15, 2014

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Accountability Office, (916) 643-9449