



Staff Report: Charter School Renewal Petition – George Washington Carver School of Arts and Science

March 1, 2012



Background & Time-Line

- America's Choice High 2003-2007
- GWC first opened 2008-2009 Year
- Five year term ends June 30, 2012
- GWC petition received January 17, 2012
- Public hearing February 2, 2012
- Recommendation March 1, 2012



Petition Review Criteria

Petition shall be granted unless:

- Unsound education program
- Petitioners unlikely to successfully implement program
- Absence of required affirmations
- Lacks reasonably comprehensive descriptions of sixteen required elements (Education Code 47605)



Petition Review Criteria

A charter school seeking renewal must also meet one of the standards for academic achievement as set forth in Education Code §47607.



Petition Review Criteria

District Staff has thoroughly reviewed GWC's renewal petition:

- Overall, the petition meets the requirements of charter school laws, including the academic performance standards and the 16 elements.



Staff Report

Academic Performance Index (API)

Year	API Base	API Growth	Growth Target	Gain/Loss
2008-2009	578	639	11	61
2009-2010	641	755	8	114
2010-2011	750	748	5	-2



Staff Report Continues

Statewide API Ranked in Deciles 4 to 10

2011 – 9

2010 – 2

- Compares a school to 100 similar schools
- Establishes a ranking of schools from highest to lowest by school type
- Range from 1 to 10 (low - high)



Staff Report Continues

Sound Education Program

- Curriculum aligns to state standards
- Waldorf methods of teaching and learning that engages the Head, the Heart, and Hands
- Waldorf integrates creativity, critical thinking and creative problem solving in all lessons



Staff Report Continues

GWC's petition contained acceptable affirmations and a reasonably comprehensive description of the 16 elements



Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Petition be approved