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# Decision Regarding Academy of Alameda Charter Petition

Board of Education  
December 15, 2009

# Background

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- Chipman Middle School is in Program Improvement, Year 4
- As required, the school invested time to pursue options as outlined by the state and federal government
- Through a process, the school decided to submit a charter school petition
- Charter petition was submitted to AUSD on October 27, 2009
- The governing board held a public hearing on November 10, 2009
- The governing board will make a decision to approve or deny the charter petition tonight (December 15, 2009)

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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## Education Code 47605

1. The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.
- Academy of Alameda charter petition presents a ***sound*** educational program:
    - **Curriculum that is aligned with California state standards**
    - **The instructional design and curriculum require the use of various research-based pedagogical strategies and tools including body/brain compatible learning, Strategic Instruction Model (SIM), and Pure Reading**
    - **The master schedule supports student development and maximizes learning, i.e., block schedule for social studies 7 science, courses aligned to optimize learning time**
    - **There is an explicit plan for low achieving as well as high achieving students, including an advisory class**

## Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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2. The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
- The petitioners and Board members are ***extremely capable*** individuals with considerable experience in public education generally and in Alameda specifically.

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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3. The petition does not contain the number of signatures required by subdivision (a).

A petition must be signed by one of the following:

- a. **A number of parents/guardians equivalent to at least one-half of the number of students that the charter school estimates will enroll in the charter school for its first year of operation.**
- b. **A number of teachers equivalent to at least one-half of the number of teachers that the charter school estimates will be employed at the school during its first year of operation.**

Academy of Alameda Charter petition selected part b.

It ***does contain*** the required signatures: 25 teacher signatures

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4. The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code 47650(d).
- The petition ***does contain*** an affirmation of each of the required conditions contained in Education Code Section 47605(d)(1).

# Criteria for Denying Charter Petition

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5. The petition does not contain reasonable comprehensive descriptions of the charter provisions in Ed Code 47605(b) listed in “Components of Charter Petition” above.
- The petition ***does contain*** reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.

Staff recommends that the AUSD Board of Education approve Resolution No. 09-0079 granting the charter petition for Academy of Alameda Middle School.

The petition satisfies the five legally required categories of Education Code 47605.

# Recommendation to Board of Education

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- The term of this charter will be from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015.
- A charter may be revoked by the authority that granted the charter if the authority finds that it committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in its charter.
- The approval of this charter shall incorporate the text revisions, conditions on opening and associated deadlines.
- The District retains the authority to delay opening for a period of up to one year, if any of the conditions on opening are not satisfactorily met by the deadlines.
- If the school does not open on or before Sept. 30, 2012, it will be considered a demonstration of petitioners' lack of capacity to implement the program set forth in the petition and the District will initiate charter revocation procedures.