



OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Next Steps Regarding Proposed Changes to Board Policy 0420.4

Charter Matters Committee 4/28/22

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BP 0420.4 Update Process

8/26/21 (Charter Committee) - Staff shared existing BP 0420.4 language and examples of BP language from other districts. Committee discussed their likes and dislikes of the existing BP language. Committee also discussed the format for community engagement for changes to the BP.

9/23/21 (Charter Committee) - Staff continued reviewing existing language of BP 0420.4 and provided a summary of the themes that arose from committee members during previous meeting's discussion. Committee members discussed what they would like to see in the updated BP language. Committee members also discussed staff recommendations for the format of future community engagements.

10/28/21 (Charter Committee) - Based on feedback from the charter committee from the previous two meetings, staff presented, for committee discussion, potential red-line edits to three sections of BP 0420.4 (framing, new petition review, and renewal determinations). The committee also discussed what edits they wanted to see in the fourth section on oversight. The committee also scheduled three engagement sessions – one with each committee member, for November, 2021.

November, 2021 - The engagement sessions were postponed to 2022, based on community feedback that more time was needed prior to engaging the community. Engagements were rescheduled for February 2, 10, and 16, 2022.

2/2/22 and 2/16/22 - Directors Gonzales and Thompson held engagement sessions to solicit feedback on proposed edits to BP 0420.4.

2/24/22 (Charter Committee) - Staff provided a summary of themes and highlights from the first two engagement sessions as well as written feedback. Committee members discussed how to move forward with this feedback.

4/12/22 - Townhall engagement led by Director Hutchinson to solicit additional feedback on proposed edits.

Themes from the Feedback

Shared definitions	Timeframe	Tone	More family-focused language
<p>“Can the measurements be more specific - what does it mean to put students first, for example? We need a shared definition and to be less vague.”</p> <p>“What are the high levels of accountability, what are the conditions for this?”</p> <p>“What does significant degree of autonomy mean for charters?”</p> <p>[What’s missing?] “Charter schools are public schools”</p>	<p>“What happens when board makeup changes? Will language be changed again?”</p> <p>“What happens when the board changes and they are not there – will it change again? The emotional continuity constantly changes..so that is what is going to happen. Wanting to change the language on the back of teachers and community.”</p>	<p>“Want process to be neutral to whether we have pro-charter or anti-charter folks on the Board.”</p> <p>“The term “in exchange” doesn’t set a neutral tone”</p> <p>“What is missing in the language is the togetherness. For several decades we have been pitting ourselves against each other.”</p> <p>“Are we holding charters to a much higher standard? Seems like we’re playing charters against the public.”</p>	<p>“Overall, I feel like it (the proposed language) does not have language for parents to understand.”</p> <p>“Need a sentence that honors the family choice for the schools that families make”</p> <p>[New Petition] “Nothing about student centered in the first or second option”</p>

Committee Discussion

1. Are there any comments or questions from the feedback sessions that you would like to discuss further?
2. How would the Charter Matters Committee like to move forward with updating the Board Policy?

Appendix

What is Board Policy 0420.4?

- Board Policy, and specifically Board Policy 0420.4, is intended to describe the Board's general philosophy, goals, and objectives with regards to charter authorization.
- Board Policy typically does *not* contain detailed processes for administering a policy.
 - More detailed information about policy implementation can typically be found in Administrative Regulations documents (written by staff).
 - In the Office of Charter Schools, we create and publicly share Handbooks for renewal, new petitions, and material revisions.

Summary of Engagements

Charter Committee members sponsored community engagement sessions regarding proposed changes to Board Policy 0420.4

- February 2: Director Gonzales
 - 78 attendees
- February 16: Director Thompson
 - 58 attendees
- April 12: Director Hutchinson Townhall
 - 22 attendees

Participants: Charter leaders, staff, families, and students; OUSD principals and staff; community members

Note: the document with complete feedback from the sessions is available on the OCS website on the Engagements page.