

Charter Renewal Staff Recommendation Oakland Unity High School

*OUSD Office of Charter Schools
October 10, 2024*



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students



Charter Renewal Overview

Charter School Renewal Overview

Background

Every 5 years (typically), a Charter School must submit a renewal petition to their authorizer in order to continue operating. The authorizer, the OUSD Board of Education, must evaluate the renewal petition based on criteria outlined in California Education Code and the school's Renewal Tier placement. The Board must vote within 90 days of submission to approve or deny the petition.

COVID-19 Impact on Charter Renewal

Due to the lack of Dashboard data after COVID, the State legislature extended all charters' terms by a total of **three years**. Therefore, all OUSD-authorized charter schools that are up for renewal this fall are currently in **year 8** of their charter term.

Timeline

Day 0

Submission

By Day 60

Initial Public
Hearing

15 Days Before
Decision Hearing

Staff Report
Posted

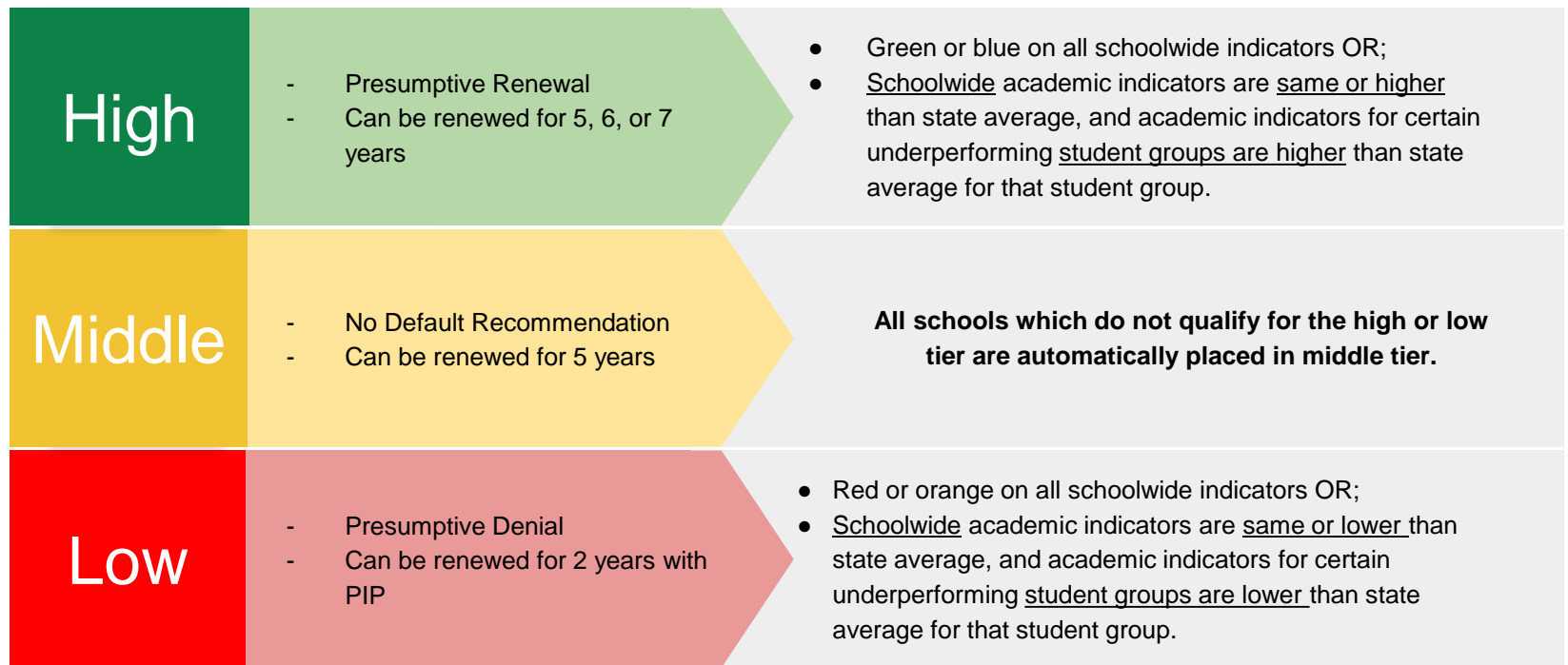
By Day 90


Decision
Hearing

Charter School Renewal Criteria

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 01 | Has the Charter School Presented a Sound Educational Program? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewal Tier Placement• State Testing Performance and CORE Growth Data (if applicable)• Graduation Outcomes (if applicable)• Verified Data• Site Visit Information |
| 02 | Is the Charter School Demonstrably Likely to Successfully Implement the Proposed Educational Program? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrollment Information and Demographics• Fiscal Analyses• Notices of Concern• Board Health and Effectiveness• Staffing and Teacher Credentialing |
| 03 | Is the Petition Reasonably Comprehensive? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis of 15 Required Elements per California Education Code• Analysis of other OUSD required items |
| 04 | Is the Charter School Serving All Students Who Wish to Attend? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State-provided Enrollment Data• Substantiated Complaints related to suspension/expulsion if applicable <p>Note: Ed. Code limits consideration to only these data sources</p> |

How Does CDE Calculate Renewal Tiers?





***Oakland Unity High
School
Renewal Analysis and
Staff Recommendation***

Oakland Unity High School Overview

| Oakland Unity High School | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Charter Management Organization | Unity Schools | Neighborhood | Frick |
| Grade Span | 9-12 | OUSD Attendance Area | Castlemont/CC PA/ Madison |
| OUSD Board | | Current | |

Unity High was placed in the Middle Tier
No default recommendation from State; Eligible for 5-year renewal term

Oakland Unity High School Renewal Timeline

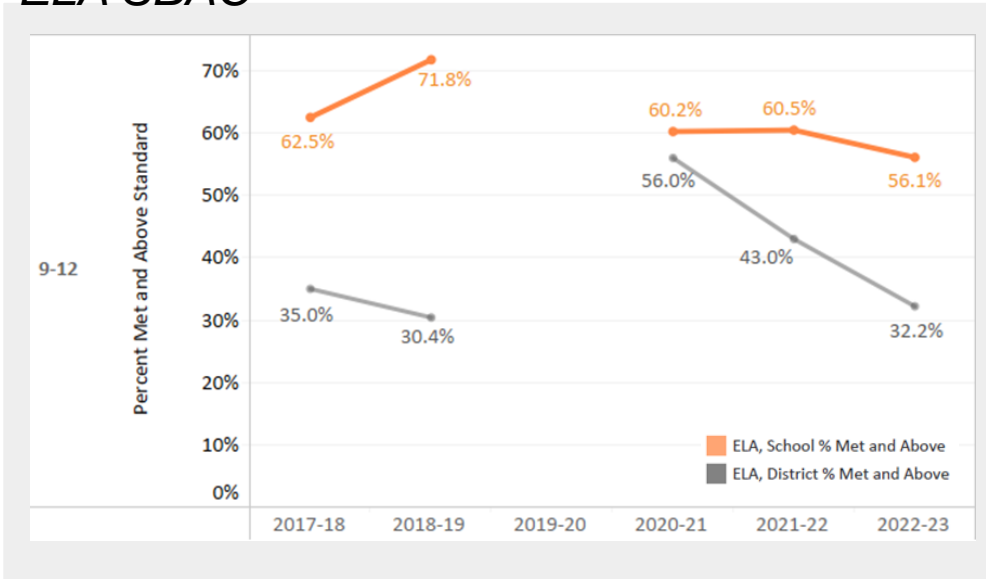


As part of the renewal process, the OUSD Office of Charter Schools conducted a site visit at Unity High on September 3, 2024 and a charter board interview with members of the Unity governing board on July 22, 2024.

Unity High CA Dashboard Results

| | ELA | Math | EL Progress | Suspension | College / Career | Graduation Rate |
|---------|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------|---|
| 2021-22 | Medium 25.3 pts above standard | Low 74.7 pts below standard | Medium 46.5% making progress | Low 1.3% suspended | N/A | Medium 87.2% graduated |
| 2022-23 | Yellow 14.5 pts above standard Decreased 10.9 pts | Orange 89.6 pts below standard Decreased 14.8 pts | Orange 41.5% making progress Decreased 5% | Orange 3.8% suspended Increased 2.5% | High 60.2% prepared | Green 92.1% graduated Increased 4.9% |

Criteria I: Has the Charter School Presented a Sound Educational Program? ELA SBAC



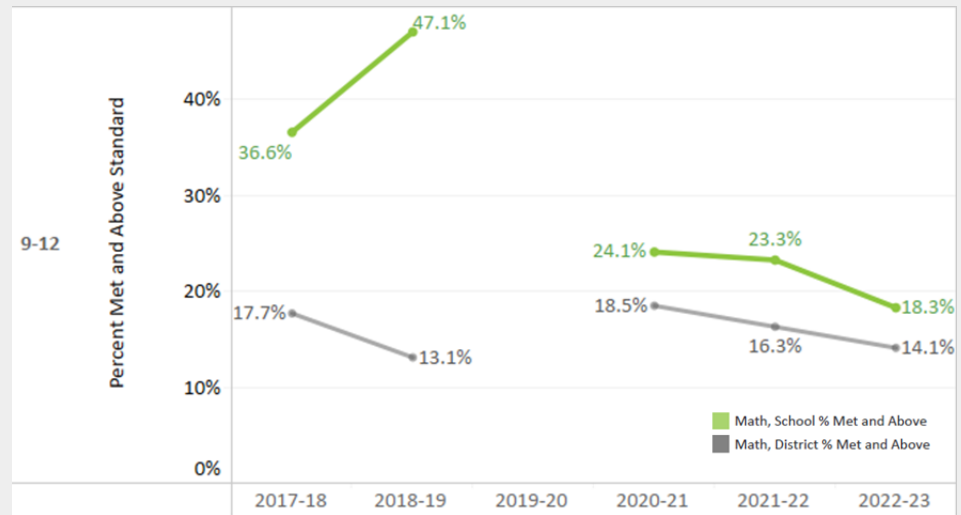
2023 ELA CORE Growth (Based on 2022 and 2023 ELA SBAC)

*The growth percentile is **97** which represents **above average growth**. Students in this case grew 39 scale score points greater than similar students.*

Although the charter school's proficiency dropped slightly in 2022-23, students at Oakland Unity had very high growth compared with similar students.

Criteria I: Has the Charter School Presented a Sound Educational Program?

Math SBAC



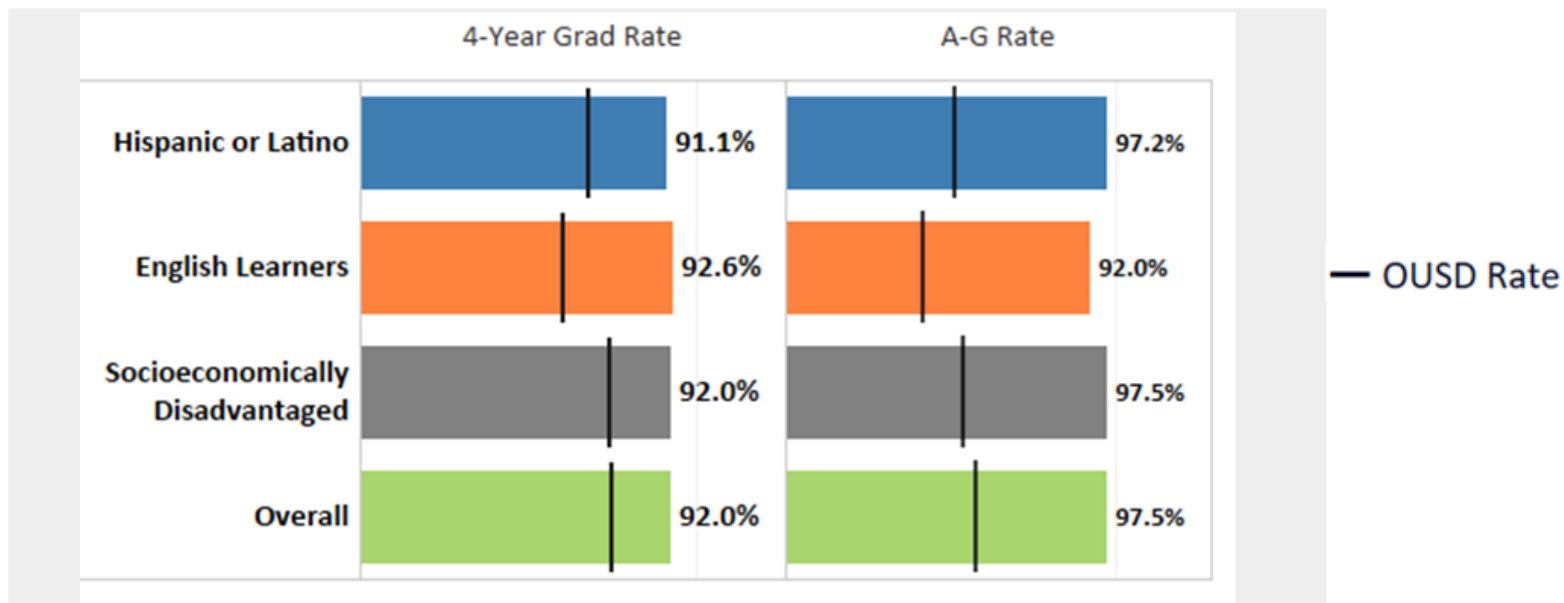
2023 Math CORE Growth

(Based on 2022 and 2023 Math SBAC)

The growth percentile is **99** which represents **above average growth**. Students in this case grew 49 scale score points greater than similar students.

Although the charter school's proficiency dropped slightly in 2022-23, students at Oakland Unity had very high growth compared with similar students.

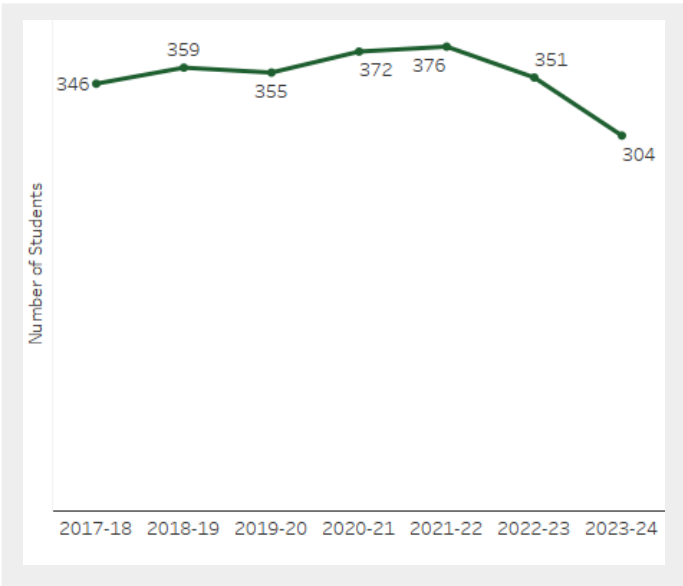
Criteria I: Has the Charter School Presented a Sound Educational Program?



The Charter School's 4-year graduation rate and A-G rate in 2022-23 were higher than the OUSD rates overall and for the above key student groups.

Criteria II: Is the Charter School Demonstrably Likely to Successfully Implement the Proposed Educational Program?

Total Enrollment



*Enrollment of 299 as of August 29, 2024

Fiscal Health

| Financial Indicator | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Ending Fund Balance | \$2,109,188 | \$2,922,762 | \$4,131,710 |
| Deficit Spending | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 3% Reserve | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Major Audit Findings | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Repeated audit finding: "Internal Control in the Closing Process/Financial Statements" during each year of the charter term, which was noted by auditors as a Significant Deficiency in the most recent annual audit.

Criteria III: Is the Petition Reasonably Comprehensive?

The charter petition included a reasonably comprehensive description, per State standards, of the 15 required elements outlined in California Education Code.

Criteria IV: Is the Charter School Serving All Students Who Wish to Attend?

There were no substantiated complaints related to noncompliance with suspension, expulsion, or involuntary disenrollment procedures and no evidence in the State-provided enrollment data which suggests the Charter School is not serving all students who wish to attend.

Staff Recommendation Summary

The OUSD Office of Charter Schools recommends APPROVAL WITH BENCHMARK

Strengths

- Met all indicators in the School Performance Analysis based on the California State Dashboard results.
- ELA proficiency has been significantly higher than the District average, with student groups performing much higher than their respective District averages.
- The school has consistently outperformed the District average in Math proficiency, with most student groups above their respective district averages.
- Extremely high CORE growth in both ELA and Math.
- Very high graduation rates and A-G completion rates.
- Trusting and warm school culture fosters high expectations for students and staff.
- Despite declining enrollment, the school remains at a sustainable size with a healthy fund balance.

Challenges

- The school has had repeated audit findings regarding fiscal controls, with the latest annual audit noting it as a significant deficiency.
- Enrollment demographics do not reflect the diversity of OUSD as a whole, nor the diversity of OUSD schools in the comparison attendance area. The school serves a lower percentage of Black/African American students than the OUSD average. The recruitment and retention plan outlined in Element 7 for this student group in particular was minimal.



Appendix

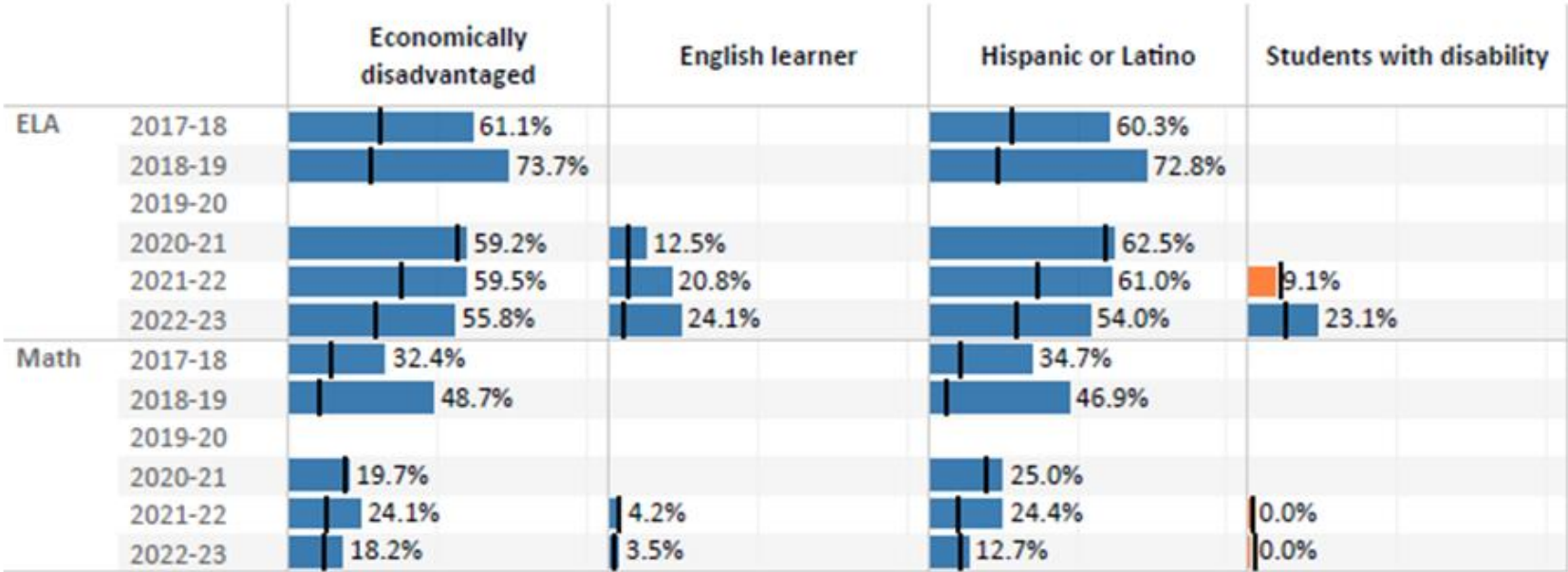
2023-24 Student Demographics

| Student Group | Charter School | OUSD schools in Comparison HSA | OUSD |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Hispanic/Latino | 66.8% | 73.4% | 47.3% |
| Black/African American | 3.9% | 18.5% | 20.1% |
| Asian | 0.3% | 1.7% | 9.8% |
| White | 0.7% | 1.3% | 11.5% |
| Two or More Races | 0.7% | 1.6% | 6.8% |
| Other Race/Ethnicity | 0.3% | 2.1% | 1.9% |
| Not Reported | 27.3% | 1.4% | 2.6% |
| Socioeconomically Disadvantaged | 98.4% | 99.0% | 81.4% |
| English Learners | 31.6% | 43.3% | 32.9% (9-12 only: 28.5%) |
| Special Education | 16.4% | 18.3% | 16.3% (9-12 only: 18.1%) |

Renewal Tier Analysis - Criterion 2

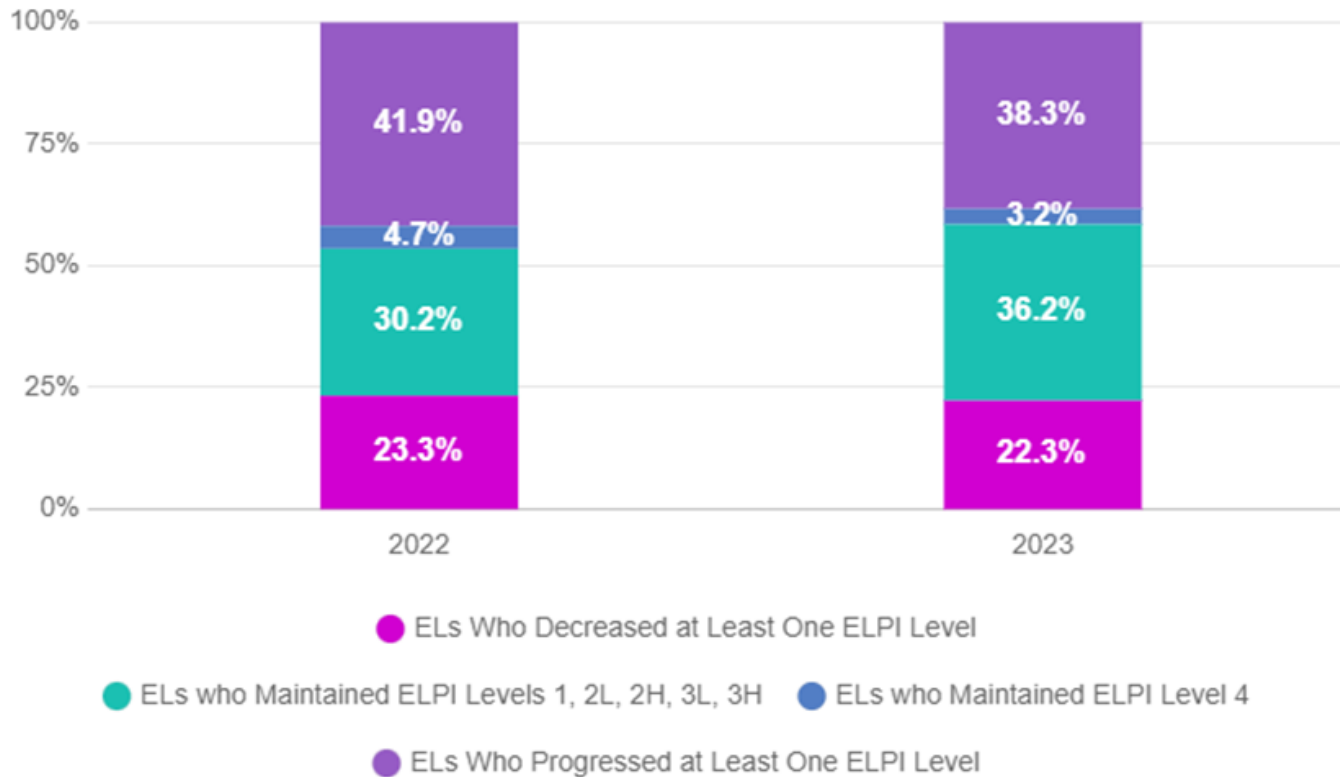
| Indicator | Student Group | 2022 | | | 2023 | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------|---------------|--------------|--------|
| | | School Status | State Status | Result | School Status | State Status | Result |
| ELA | Schoolwide | 25.3 | -12.2 | Higher | 14.5 | -13.6 | Higher |
| | English Learner | -29.6 | -61.2 | Higher | -35.8 | -67.7 | Higher |
| | Hispanic/Latino | 27.3 | -38.6 | Higher | 14.1 | -40.2 | Higher |
| | SED | 26.7 | -41.4 | Higher | 13.8 | -42.6 | Higher |
| Math | Schoolwide | -74.7 | -51.7 | Lower | -89.6 | -49.1 | Lower |
| | English Learner | -121.2 | -92 | Lower | -138.2 | -93.4 | Lower |
| | Hispanic/Latino | -73 | -83.4 | Higher | -98.3 | -80.8 | Lower |
| | SED | -75.9 | -84 | Higher | -93.8 | -80.8 | Lower |
| College / Career | Schoolwide | N/A | N/A | N/A | 60.2% | 43.9% | Higher |
| | English Learner | N/A | N/A | N/A | 37% | 15.3% | Higher |
| | Hispanic/Latino | N/A | N/A | N/A | 59.5% | 35.5% | Higher |
| | SED | N/A | N/A | N/A | 60.2% | 35.4% | Higher |
| EL Progress | | 46.5% | 50.3% | Lower | 41.5% | 48.7% | Lower |

2022-23 Key Student Group Performance vs. OUSD



■ Greater
■ Lower
 — OUSD average

English Learner Progress



Teacher Credentialing Data

| | Charter School | OUSD |
|---|----------------|-------|
| Clear <i>Authorized by clear or preliminary credential or by local assignment option</i> | 86.6% | 60.9% |
| Intern <i>Authorized by intern credential</i> | 6.1% | 3.9% |
| Out-of-Field <i>Authorized by GELAP, SELAP, short-term waiver, emergency EL permit, or Local Assignment Option</i> | 0.0% | 1.2% |
| Ineffective <i>No legal authorization or authorized by emergency credential (PIP, STSP), variable term waivers, or substitute permits</i> | 7.3% | 31.6% |
| Incomplete <i>Missing or incorrect information was reported to CALPADS about the assignment</i> | 0.0% | 2.3% |

CDE Enrollment Data - Data Set 1

| Data Set 1 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2022-23 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Percent of students enrolled at the charter school between start of the school year and census day who were not enrolled at the end of the school year | 4.3% (15 of 351) | 7.1% (26 of 365) | 5.7% (21 of 368) | 7.4% (27 of 366) |
| Number of these students with State test results from the prior year | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Average Distance From Standard (DFS) on the English State test from the prior year these students compared to school average | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* |
| Average Distance From Standard (DFS) on the Math State test from the prior year these students | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* |

CDE Enrollment Data - Data Set 2

| Data Set 2 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2022-23 |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Percent of students enrolled at the charter school during the prior school year who were not enrolled as of the census day for the specified year (excluding graduating students) | 7.8% (27 of 348) | 5.7% (280 of 351) | 7.1% (26 of 365) | 9.2% (35 of 380) |
| Number of these students with State test results from the prior year | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Average Distance From Standard (DFS) on the English State test from the prior year these students compared to school average | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* |
| Average Distance From Standard (DFS) on the Math State test from the prior year these students | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* | N/A* |