



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

# Lodestar Charter School New Petition Approval Recommendation

Office of Charter Schools



Presented by Silke Bradford

Presented to OUSD Board of Education Meeting

10-28-15

[www.ousd.org](http://www.ousd.org)



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# Lodestar Charter School

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Staff recommends that the OUSD Board of Education **approve** the petition for Lodestar to serve students in grades TK-12<sup>th</sup> and to begin operation as an OUSD authorized charter school on July 1, 2016.



# Reasons for Approval of Lodestar

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- Lighthouse Community Charter Schools (LCCS) **operates two charter schools in Oakland** (K-8/9-12)
- LCCS is funding **four (4) full time employees** (including teachers) **in Year 0** (2015-16)
- **Personalized and differentiated courses of study** through Common Core aligned “Learning Expeditions” and multi-age groupings
- Participated in/met all **OUSD Fall Call** requirements of charter schools



# Areas of Concern to be Addressed

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- Create a **plan** to address **high school persistence** at Lodestar in order to prevent replication of, and also address, the **low cohort graduation rate at Lighthouse Community Charter High School**.
- Required Text Revision- to state that the enrollment meeting is “optional.”

# “CONDITIONS ON OPENING”- Appendix II

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## **Unified Enrollment**

- Lodestar commits to participation in creating a unified recruitment and enrollment process\* that ensures equitable access to educational opportunities for all students of all demographic backgrounds and academic abilities.

\*At this time, Oakland Unified School District does not have a unified enrollment system, but should Oakland Unified School District adopt one, the expectation would be that Lodestar fully participate in the design of such a system.

# “CONDITIONS ON OPENING ”

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## **Unified Enrollment**

Lodestar commits to establishing recruitment and enrollment strategies that will support achieving a student demographic that is aligned to the demographics of Oakland.

Lodestar will align enrollment timelines with Oakland Unified School District enrollment due dates (i.e. application and enrollment packet submission dates).

# “CONDITIONS ON OPENING ”

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## **Special Education**

- Given the shared commitment of district-run and district-charter schools to serve all students of all demographic backgrounds and academic abilities, Lodestar will partner with Oakland Unified School District to ensure that all families are aware of, and able to, access enrollment and a Free and Appropriate Public Education at Lodestar.
- Lodestar commits to targeted recruitment of students with severe disabilities, with the goal of more closely reflecting the percentage of Oakland Unified School District’s severe special education population, which is 1.98% of total enrollment.

# “CONDITIONS ON OPENING ”

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## **Expulsions**

- Lodestar will provide advanced notification (in alignment with parent notification) of expulsion hearings to the Oakland Unified School District Office of Charter Schools, so that an Oakland Unified School District representative may attend.
- Lodestar will provide to the Oakland Unified School District Office of Charter Schools for review, all documentation of findings/evidence related to expulsions; including an audio or video recording, or authenticated written transcript, of the hearing. All documentation needs to be submitted to the Oakland Unified School District Office of Charter Schools within 1-2 business days of the expulsion hearing decision.



# LODESTAR APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

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- Petition presents a sound educational program
- Petitioners are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition
- Petition contains the required signatures and affirmations
- Petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the 16 elements required by the California Charter Schools Act