



OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

# Oakland Youth Services Staff Recommendation April 28, 2021



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# Ask of the Board

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- This item is presented for the purpose of a decision (vote) on the proposed new charter petition from Oakland Youth Services (OYS).

# Outline

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- Background
- Summary of proposed charter
- New charter petition criteria and staff analysis
- Strengths and challenges of proposed charter

# Background

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Petition submitted by OYS to the District	February 1
Board initial public hearing	March 10
Office of Charter Schools (OCS) petition evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Staff review of written petition</li><li>● Interview with lead petitioner</li><li>● Interview with proposed board members</li><li>● Community engagement with neighboring schools</li></ul>	February/March
OCS recommendation posted publicly	April 13
Board decision meeting	April 28

# Summary of Proposed Charter

School Name	Oakland Youth Services		
Lead Petitioner(s)	Barbara Swoffard		
Charter Operator	N/A	Grade levels served in Year 1	TK-K
Proposed school address	Not provided	Anticipated enrollment in Year 1	84
Proposed neighborhood	Elmhurst	Grade levels served at scale	TK-3
Proposed Board District	7	Maximum enrollment at scale	210
Instructional focus	Constructivist approach	Proposed SELPA	Unknown
Other distinguishing characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Year-round program</li> <li>● Teachers loop with students for all of grades TK-3</li> </ul>		

# New Charter Petition Criteria and Staff Analysis

Criterion	Does the Petition Meet the Standard for this Criterion?
<i>Criterion 1:</i> Does the Charter School Present a Sound Educational Program?	No
<i>Criterion 2:</i> Is the Charter School Demonstrably Likely to Successfully Implement the Proposed Educational Program?	No
<i>Criterion 3:</i> Is the Petition Reasonably Comprehensive?	No
<i>Criterion 4:</i> Is the Charter School Demonstrably Likely to Serve the Interests of the Entire Community in Which the School is Proposing to Locate?	No
<i>Criterion 5:</i> Is the School District Positioned to Absorb the Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Charter School?	No

# Strengths

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- Proposed school leadership team has a demonstrated commitment to serving the Elmhurst community.
- Petitioners are deeply motivated by the low student achievement in the area, and are proposing some effective instructional strategies to address the root causes of that low achievement.

# Challenges

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- Numerous and substantial inconsistencies within the petition, as well as between the petition and the capacity interviews.
- There is a significant dearth of details of how to operationalize the proposed program.
- The petition does not demonstrate an understanding of how the proposed school would impact the existing Elmhurst school communities
- The District is not positioned to absorb the fiscal impact of a new charter school, due to being under state receivership.



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# Quality Schools in Every Neighborhood!



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