

# 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

15 Days Before  
Decision Hearing

Staff Report  
Posted

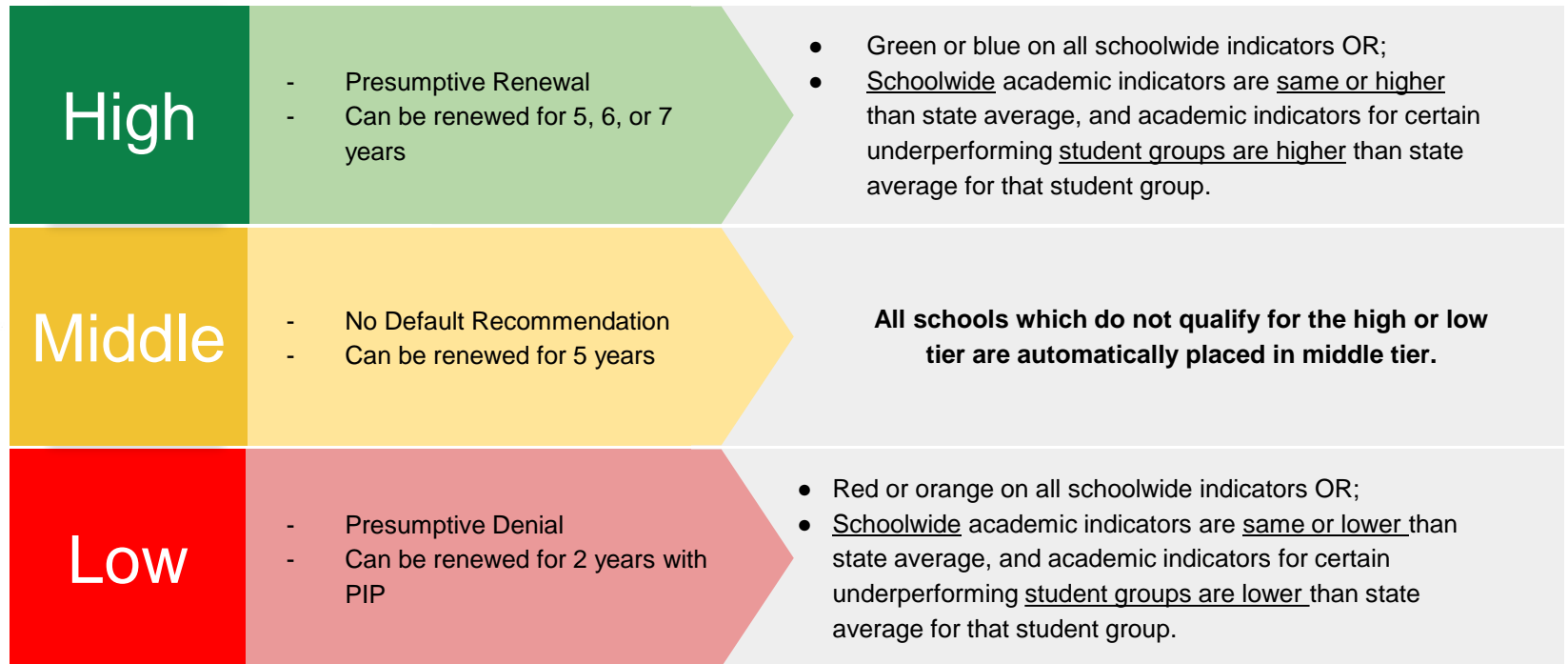
**By Day 90**


Decision  
Hearing

# Charter School Renewal Criteria

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

# How Does CDE Calculate Renewal Tiers?



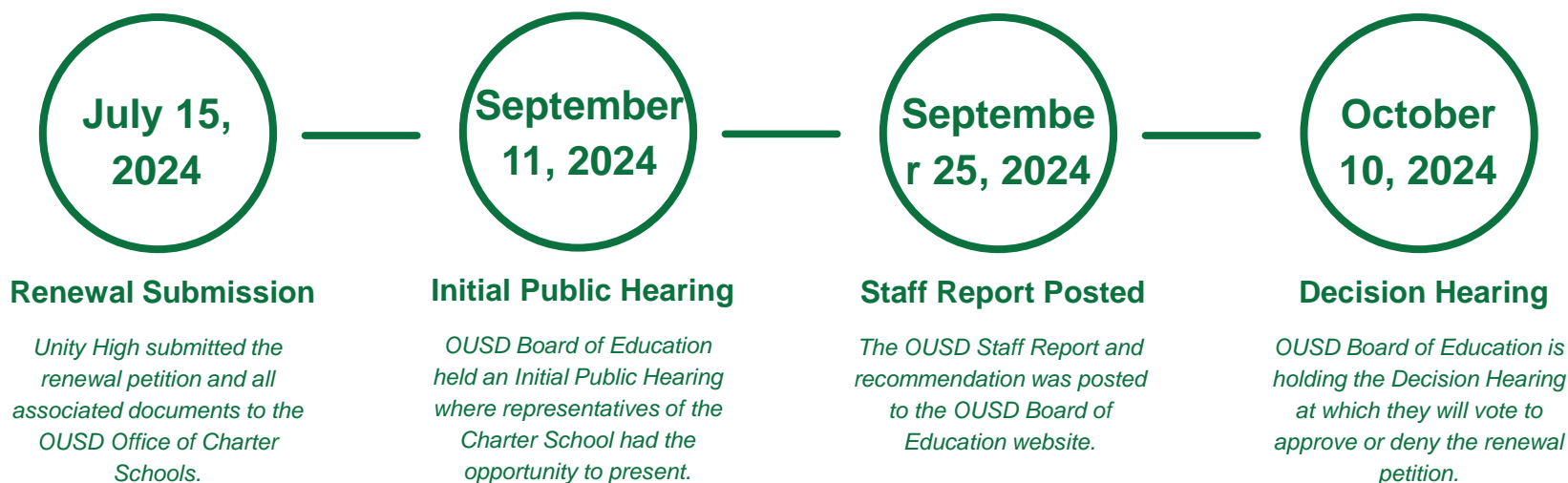


# ***Oakland Unity High School Renewal Analysis and Staff Recommendation***

# Oakland Unity High School Overview

Oakland Unity High School			
<b>Charter Management Organization</b>	Unity Schools	<b>Neighborhood</b>	Frick
<b>Grade Span</b>	9-12	<b>OUSD Attendance Area</b>	Castlemont/CC PA/ Madison
<b>OUSD Board</b>		<b>Current</b>	
<b>Unity High was placed in the Middle Tier</b> <i>No default recommendation from State; Eligible for 5-year renewal term</i>			

# Oakland Unity High School Renewal Timeline



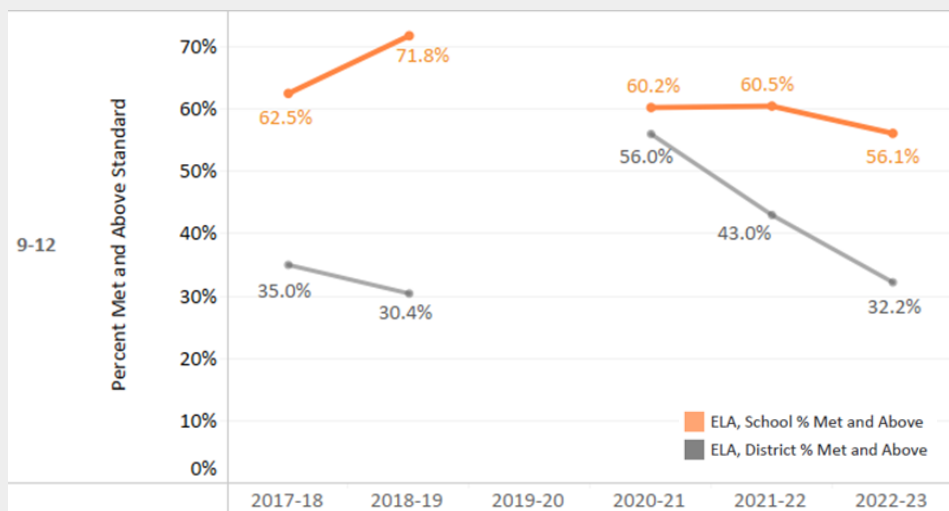
*As part of the renewal process, the OUSD Office of Charter Schools conducted a site visit at Unity High on September 3, 2024 and a charter board interview with members of the Unity governing board on July 22, 2024.*



# Unity High CA Dashboard Results

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

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



### 2023 ELA CORE Growth

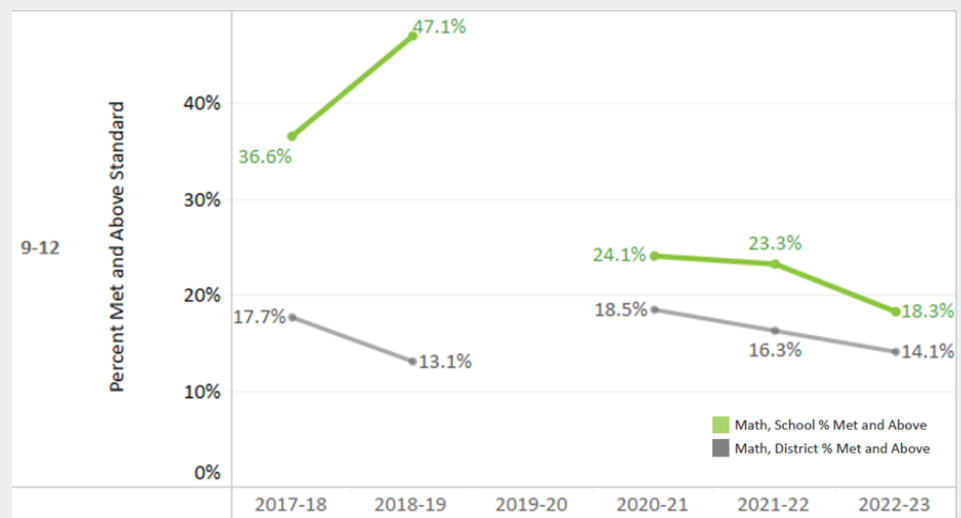
(Based on 2022 and 2023 ELA SBAC)

*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



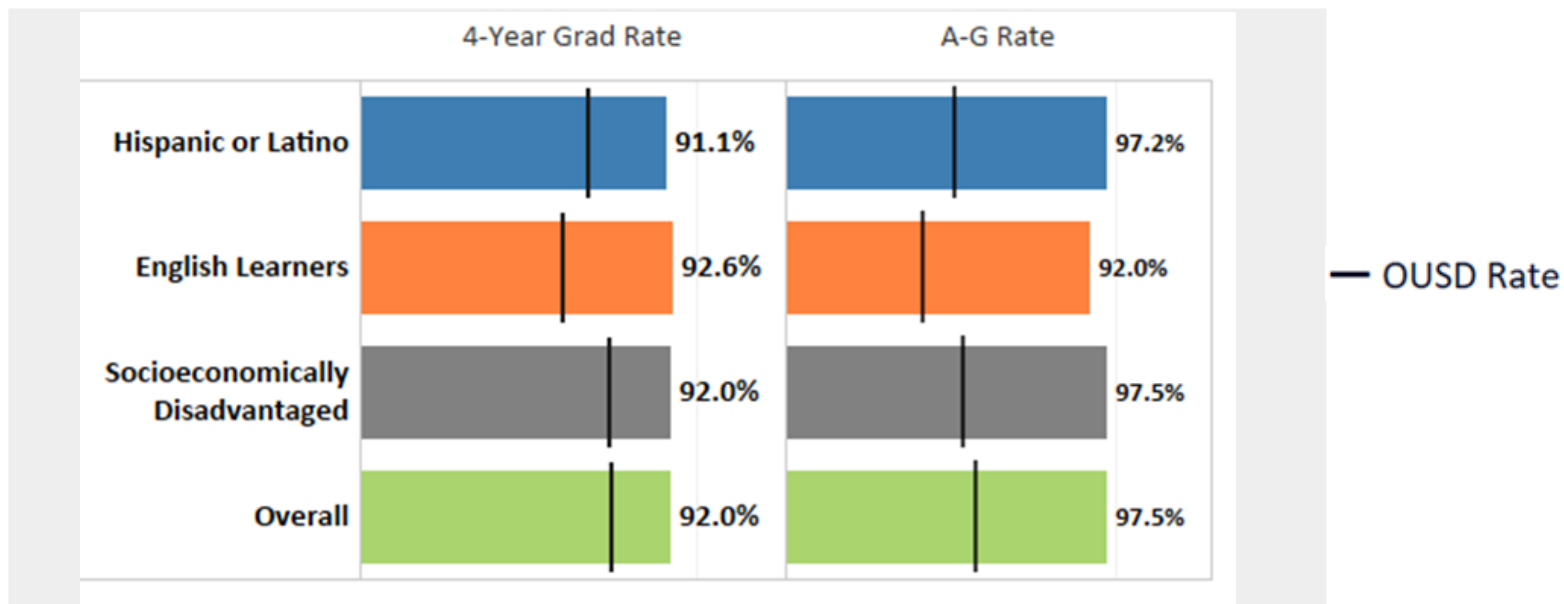
### 2023 Math CORE Growth

(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?

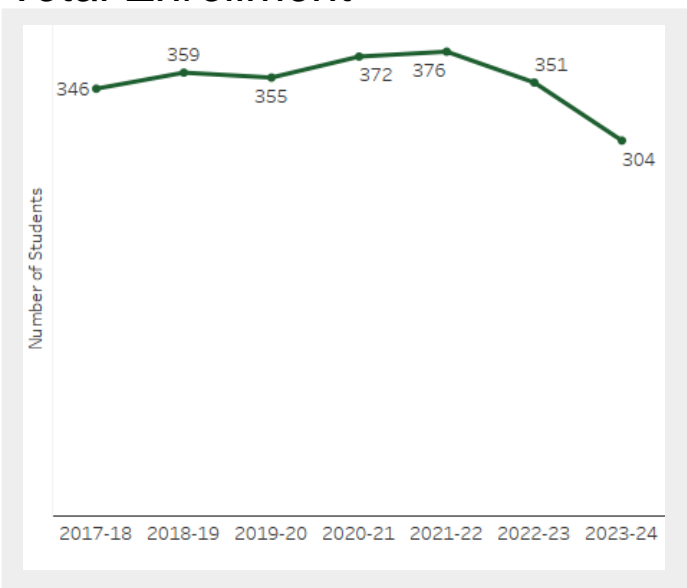


*The Charter School's 4-year graduation rate and A-G rate in 2022-23 were higher than the OUSD rates overall and for the above key student groups.*



## 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***



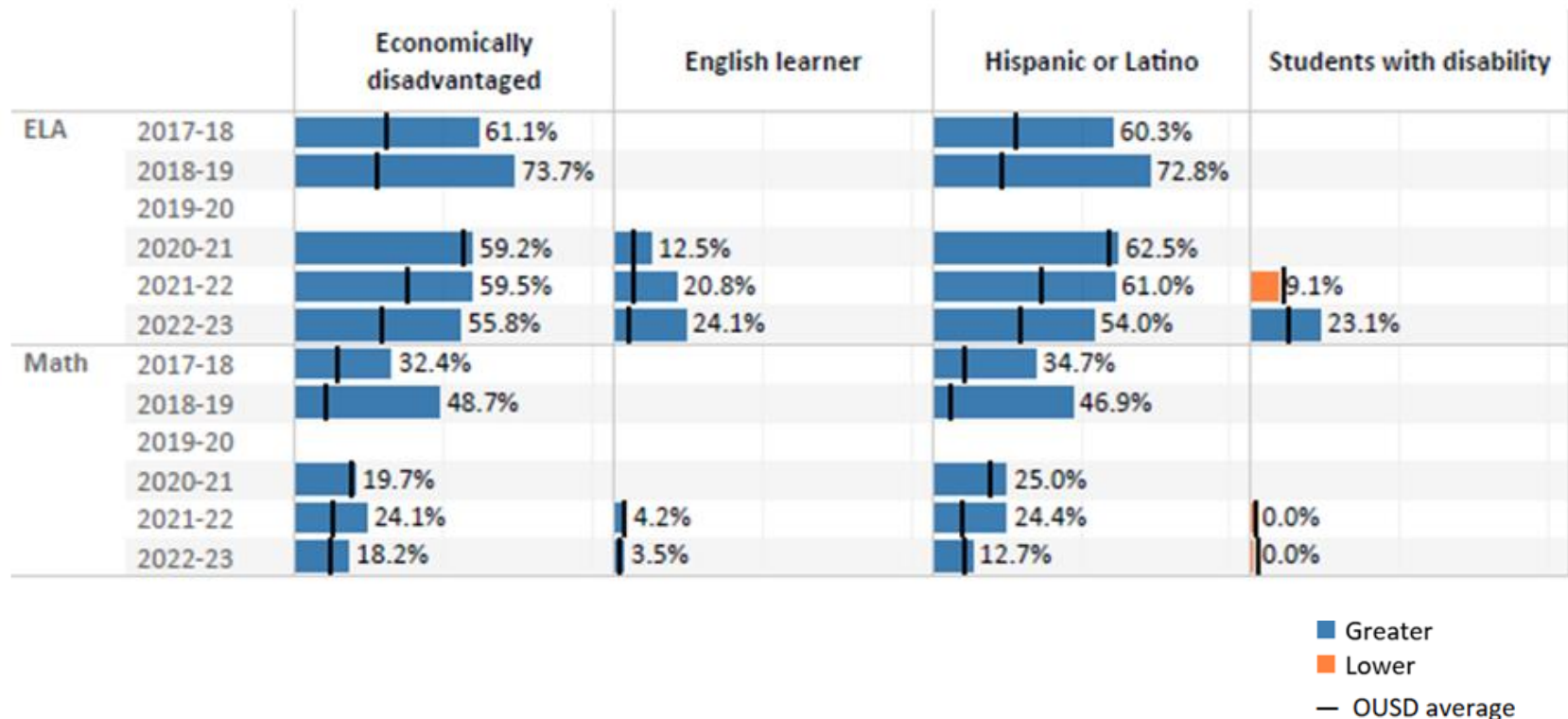
# 2023-24 Student Demographics

Student Group	Charter School	OUSD schools in Comparison HSAA	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%)

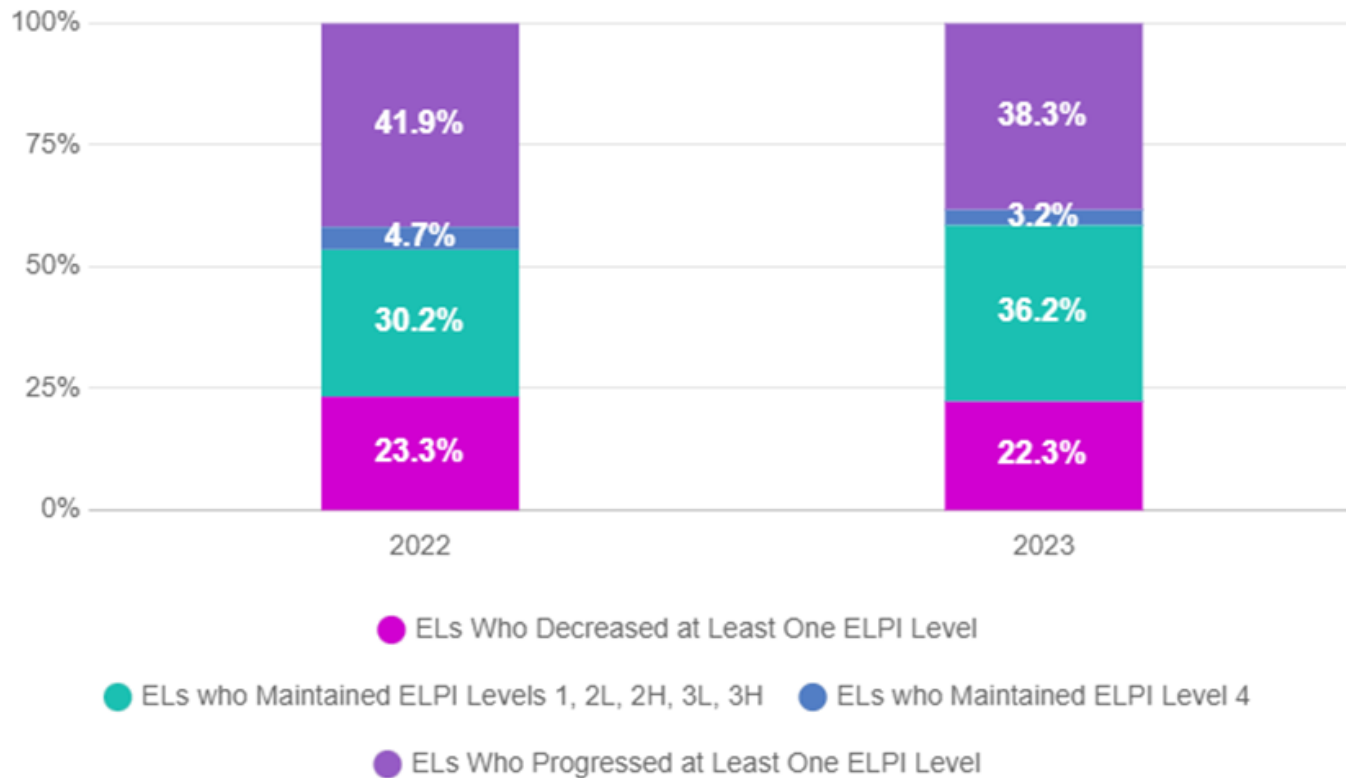
# Renewal Tier Analysis - Criterion 2

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



# English Learner Progress





# Teacher Credentialing Data

	Charter School	OUSD
<b>Clear</b> <i>Authorized by clear or preliminary credential or by local assignment option</i>	86.6%	60.9%
<b>Intern</b> <i>Authorized by intern credential</i>	6.1%	3.9%
<b>Out-of-Field</b> <i>Authorized by GELAP, SELAP, short-term waiver, emergency EL permit, or Local Assignment Option</i>	0.0%	1.2%
<b>Ineffective</b> <i>No legal authorization or authorized by emergency credential (PIP, STSP), variable term waivers, or substitute permits</i>	7.3%	31.6%
<b>Incomplete</b> <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 <b>English</b> 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 <b>Math</b> 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 <b>English</b> 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 <b>Math</b> State test from the prior year these students	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*