# Charter Renewal Staff Recommendation

Aspire College Academy October 21, 2025



# **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**



#### **Criterion 1**

Has the Charter School Presented a **Sound Educational Program?** 



#### **Criterion 2**

Is the Charter School **Demonstrably Likely** to Successfully Implement the **Proposed Educational** 



#### **Criterion 3**

Is the Petition Reasonably Comprehensive?



#### **Criterion 4**

Is the Charter **School Serving All Students Who Wish** to Attend?\*

\*Limited to enrollment data from CDE and suspension, expulsion, and disenrollment compliance

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# Renewal Analysis and Staff Recommendation Aspire College Academy

# **Charter School Overview**

Aspire College Academy ("ACA")							
Charter Management Organization	Aspire Public Schools	OUSD Attendance Area	Castlemont/CCPA/ Madison				
Grade Span	TK-5	Current Enrollment	196				
OUSD Board District	District 6	5-Year Projected Enrollment	242, 268, 266, 272, 296				

#### **ACA** was placed in the Middle Tier

No default recommendation from State; Eligible for 5-year renewal term

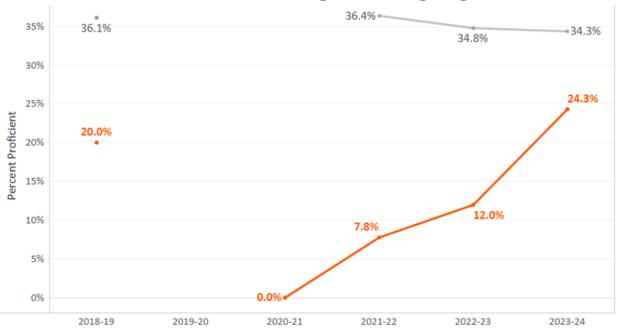
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# **CA Dashboard Overview**

	ELA	Math	EL Progress	Suspension	Chronic Absenteeism
2022-23	Orange 100.2 pts below standard Increased 11.1 pts	Yellow 87.3 pts below standard Increased 26 pts	No Color 29.5% making progress	<b>Blue</b> 0.4% suspended Declined 1.9%	Yellow 48.2% absent Declined 15.6%
2023-24	Yellow 68.8 pts below standard Increased 31.5 pts	Yellow 58.9 pts below standard Increased 28.5 pts	<b>Green</b> 52% making progress Increased 22.5%	Orange 2.9% suspended Increased 2.4%	Yellow 44.6% absent Declined 3.6%



**Academic Performance - English Language Arts** 



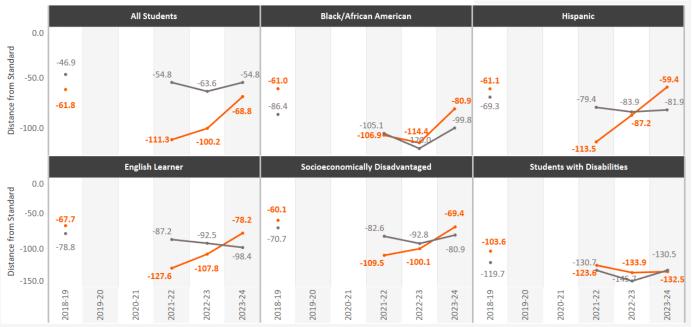
ELA Proficiency has increased significantly post-pandemic, but remains under the District average.







### **Academic Performance - English Language Arts**

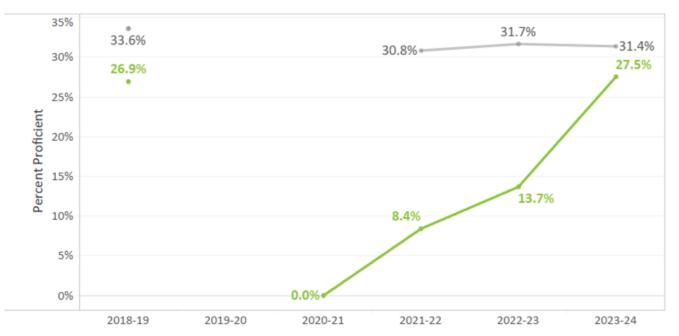


From 2021-22 to 2023-24 all above student groups saw an increase in average DFS with the exception of Students with Disabilities.





#### **Academic Performance - Math**



Math Proficiency has increased significantly post-pandemic, but remains slightly under the District average.







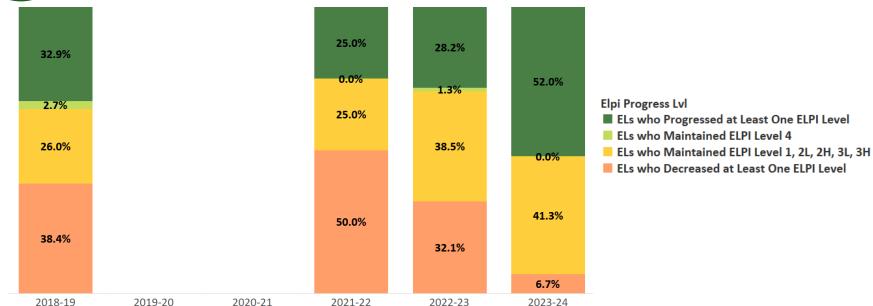
**Academic Performance - Math** 



From 2021-22 to 2023-24 all above student groups saw an increase in average DFS with the exception of Students with Disabilities.



#### **English Learner Progress**



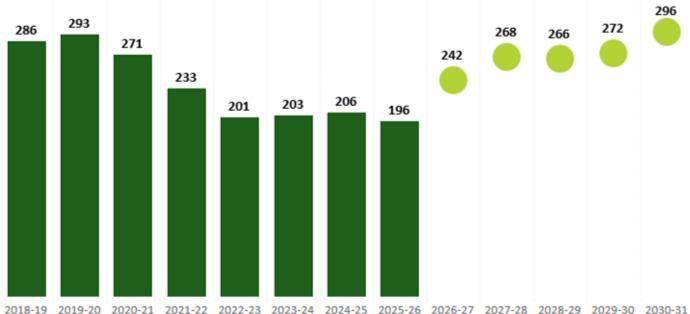
The percentage of students progressing at least one ELPI Level increased significantly in 2023-24, while the percentage of students decreasing at least one level declined to only

6.7%





**Total and Projected Enrollment Over Time** 



ACA's total enrollment has decreased post-pandemic from a high of 293 in 2019-20 to a low of 196 during the current school year.









#### **Fiscal Health**

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 2nd Interim
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,049,350	\$1,517,116	\$1,116,536	\$882,934
Annual Surplus or (Deficit)	(\$381,984)	\$467,766	(\$400,580)	(\$233,602)
Budgetary Reserve	6%	9%	9%	4%
Audit Findings	Yes	None	Yes	N/A







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



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

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# Staff Recommendation

#### The OUSD Office of Charter Schools recommends APPROVAL

with a Fiscal Benchmark to track audit finding clearance.

#### **Strengths** Challenges Declining DFS for Students with Disabilities post-ELA proficiency and DFS show strong postpandemic. pandemic upward trajectory. Most recent audit identified two material Math proficiency and DFS have increased weaknesses. significantly post-pandemic. ELs making progress has increased, with a Green ELPI indicator. Despite declining enrollment, school remains a sustainable size with a healthy fund balance.