



Renewal of Valley Preparatory Academy Charter School Petition

February 8, 2017

Overview

Renewal of the Valley Preparatory Academy (“VPA”) Charter School Petition, with proposed name change to Aspen Valley Prep Academy.

This presentation will cover the following:

- ▣ Background of VPA
- ▣ Charter School Renewal Process
- ▣ District Assessment of VPA
- ▣ Recommendation

Valley Preparatory Academy Charter School

- Valley Preparatory Academy was originally started as a tutorial center in 2001.
- In August 2004, Valley Preparatory Academy submitted its petition as an independent study program to Fresno Unified School District
- In 2007, the charter transformed into a site-based program with an independent study component.
- The mission of Valley Preparatory Academy is to unlock the potential future Fresno leaders by setting high expectations for all and creating a culture that celebrates each individual's strengths and background.

Valley Preparatory Academy Charter School

- VPA's target population is students who are most underserved: socio-economically disadvantaged, foster youth, and children who are homeless or experiencing housing instability
- Current enrollment of students is approximately 365 with the following demographics:
 - ▣ 63% Hispanic
 - ▣ 20% White
 - ▣ 8% African American
 - ▣ 5% Two or More Races
 - ▣ 4% Asian

Renewal Process

In the renewal process, there are two steps that must be met in order for the District to make a recommendation to renew a charter:

- **Step One** – Site visit to review the status of the charter school’s operations over the last five years; and
- **Step Two** – Review the Renewal Petition to ensure the program represents a sound educational program, demonstrates the likelihood of successful implementation, fiscal soundness, an affirmation of nondiscrimination, and reasonably comprehensive descriptions of charter petition elements.

District Assessment – Step One

Step One

1. Is the charter school an academic success?
2. Is the charter school an effective, viable organization?
3. Is the charter school fiscally sound?
4. Has the charter school remained faithful to the terms of its charter and fulfilled its legal obligations?

Outcomes

1. VPA has met the Measurable Pupil Outcomes outlined in its charter.
2. VPA's Educational Program is being followed as designed.
3. VPA's financial position is stable and it has maintained fiscal solvency.
4. VPA is not in compliance with Title I regulations.

Educational Program Implementation

Measurable Pupil Outcomes

- VPA will meet or exceed standardized test scores of the sponsoring district when demographically similar schools are compared.
- VPA will increase subject standards proficiency annually.
- VPA will increase the percentage of students attaining the Healthy Fitness Zone designation.
- VPA will decrease the number of suspensions annually.

Outcomes

- VPA met the established criteria.
- VPA has increased prior year's scores.
- VPA has increased the percentage annually.
- VPA has decreased the number of days suspended by 50% within 5 years.

Assessment of Renewal Petition – Step Two

□ Staff Review of Current Valley Prep Operations

- The District Charter Review Team has determined that the Valley Prep renewal petition presents a sound educational program, however the petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of Elements B, C, and D: measurable pupil outcomes; method to assess pupil progress toward outcomes; and governance.

Compliance Obtained with Revisions

- Charter has crafted *new* draft Elements B and C
 - ▣ Measurable Pupil Outcome and Methods to Assess Pupil Progress Toward Outcomes
- Valley Prep has agreed to form an English Language Advisory Committee and a School Site Council.

Recommendation

- It is the recommendation of staff; based on its thorough analysis of the charter school's performance, to **Approve** the charter renewal petition of Valley Prep Academy, with the aforementioned revisions and name change for a five-year term from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022.