



Renewal of Aspen Public School Charter Petition

April 5, 2017

Overview

Renewal of the Aspen Public School (“Aspen”) Charter Petition, with proposed name change to Aspen Meadow Public School.

This presentation will cover the following:

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

Aspen Public School

- Aspen started as a replication of Valley Preparatory Academy.
- Initially authorized by Fresno Unified in January of 2016 for a one-year term.
- Aspen opened in August of 2016.
- The mission of Aspen Public School is to transform the community by developing exceptional leaders.

Aspen Public School

- Aspen's target population is students who are most underserved: socio-economically disadvantaged (including those in extreme poverty), foster youth, and children who are homeless or experiencing housing instability.
- Current student enrollment is 95 with the following demographics:
 - 62% Hispanic
 - 15% African American
 - 9% White
 - 7% Native American
 - 4% Asian
 - 3% Pacific Islander

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 assess if the approved educational program has been successfully implemented; 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. Aspen data consistently demonstrates that student performance is moving in a positive direction.
2. Aspen's Educational Program is being followed as designed.
3. Aspen is projecting a positive fund balance for 2016-17.
4. Aspen has fulfilled its legal obligations.

7 Assessment of Renewal Petition – Step Two

□ Staff Review of Current Aspen Operations

- ▣ The District Charter Review Team has determined that the Aspen renewal petition presents a sound educational program.

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 Aspen Public School, with name change for a five-year term from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022.