



Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, Superintendent

To: Fresno County Board of Education

From: Charter School Petition Review Committee

Subject: Charter Committee Report Regarding the Clovis Global Academy to Current Petition (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2028)

Date: July 31, 2024

The Fresno County Superintendent of School's ("FCSS") Charter School Petition Review Committee ("Charter Committee") has reviewed the Clovis Global Academy ("CGA") Material Revision to its current petition (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2028) ("Material Revision"). The purpose of this Committee Report is to provide a detailed discussion of the Charter Committee's review, concerns, and findings related to the Material Revision.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Material Revision Submission

Lead petitioner Harmit Juneja, Principal/Superintendent, is petitioning the Fresno County Board of Education (FCBE) on behalf of CGA for a Material Revision of its current charter petition (2020-2028). CGA submitted the current Material Revision on June 19, 2024. The FCBE conducted a Public Hearing regarding the Material Revision at the regularly scheduled July 18, 2024, FCBE meeting.

B. School Information

Multi-Year Enrollment by Ethnicity

School Year	Total	African Amer.	Am. Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Filipino	Hispanic or Latino	White	Two or More Races
2023-24	268	3.00%	0.40%	25.70%	1.10%	61.20%	6.30%	2.20%
2022-23	212	3.30%	0.00%	28.80%	0.90%	60.40%	5.20%	1.40%
2021-22	141	2.80%	0.00%	27.00%	0.70%	61.70%	5.00%	2.80%
2020-21	80	1.30%	1.30%	25.00%	3.80%	58.80%	10.00%	0.00%

Multi-Year Enrollment by Grade Level

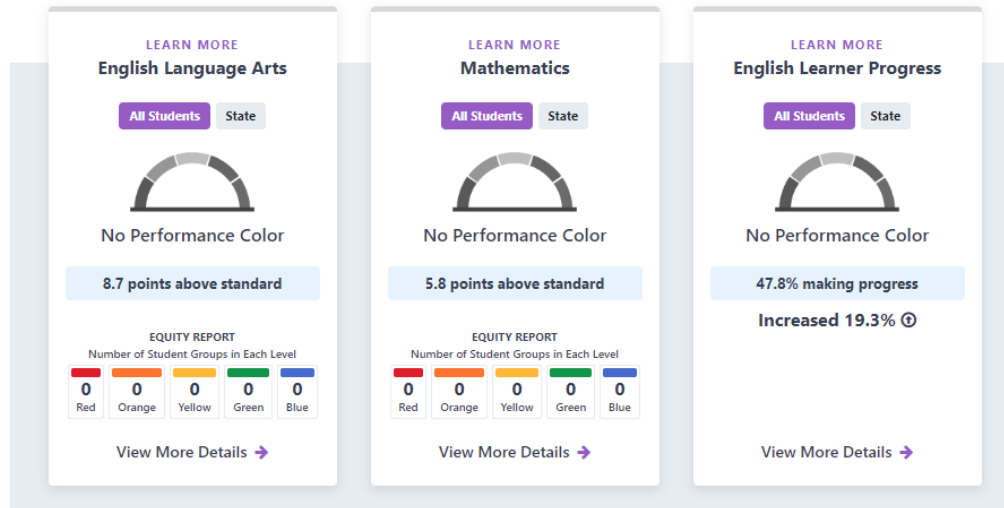
Academic Year	Total	Grade TK	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
2023-24	268	47	55	53	48	46	19
2022-23	212	0	94	47	49	22	0
2021-22	141	0	69	48	24	0	0
2020-21	80	0	55	25	0	0	0

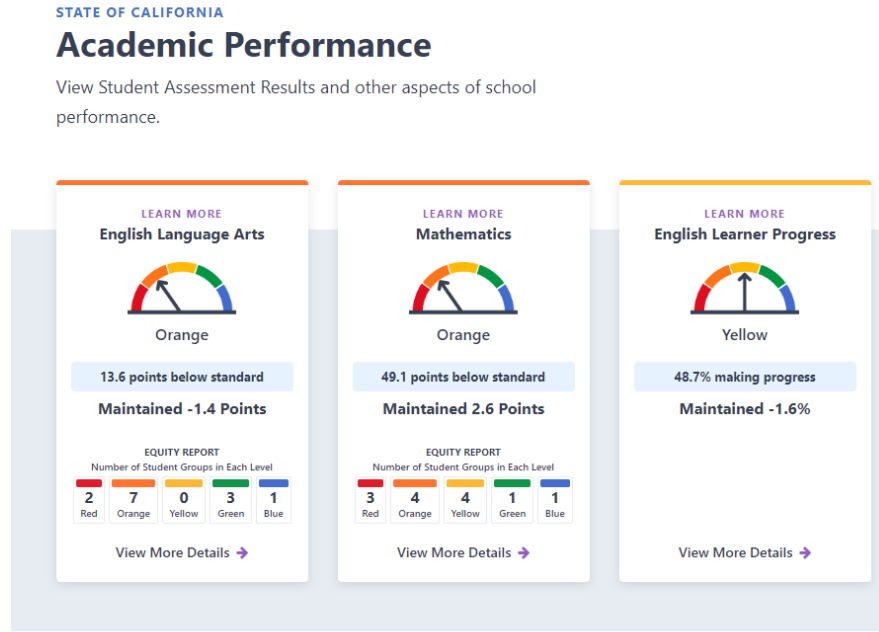
Academic Performance

CLOVIS GLOBAL ACADEMY

Academic Performance

View Student Assessment Results and other aspects of school performance.





The graphics above represent the California Dashboard performance of CGA students and the California Dashboard performance of students statewide. The CGA outcomes reflect the 2023 SBAC (3rd Graders) and English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC) performance of eligible CGA students. Students in all grade levels who are classified as English Learners at CGA complete the ELPAC annually.

C. Summary of the Material Revision

In response to long waiting lists and interest from parents and other educational partners, CGA seeks to expand its operations and service to students and families. The expansion, as reflected in this Material Revision request includes implications on facilities, the educational program, enrollment projections, and finances.

1. **Facilities-** CGA is located at 44 E. Shaw and occupies multiple suites in the building that constitutes classroom and other learning spaces. This request seeks to expand its learning spaces to include suites at 96 Shaw Ave. and 20 Shaw Ave, both of which are in the same building complex as the existing campus. The total additional square footage is approximately 11,000 square feet and will include occupancy in phases over the next two years. CGA plans tenant improvements to meet the operational needs of the school. CGA has obtained a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from the City of Clovis. No changes are needed to the current pick-up or drop-off practices to account for these additional facilities.
2. **Educational Program-** CGA operates a Dual-Immersion English-Spanish instructional methodology. The existing petition includes a Spanish Language Enrichment pathway for students who enter CGA from other schools in Grades 2-5 (pp. 67). CGA up to this point has not offered the Spanish Language Enrichment pathway. The Spanish Language Enrichment model, as described on page 67 of the original petition will now be offered from Grade K-8 in addition to the Dual Language Immersion model. This implementation is in response to increased demand, allowing families to access CGA at all grade levels. CGA currently has a waiting list of 330 students across five grade levels.
3. **Enrollment-** The Material Revision seeks to increase CGA's enrollment by approximately 27 students per grade level. Additionally, the average class size for TK will be updated to 24 students. The projected enrollment will be 810 students in 2032-33. The enrollment projection in the current petition is 615 students by 2027-28.
4. **Finances-** The charter school proposes to increase facility costs due to an increase in students served and associated instructional programs. The budget reasonably anticipates added revenue and expenditures for the expansion beginning in 2024-25. The school ended 2022-23 with a healthy operating surplus and anticipates doing so again in 2023-24.

II. MATERIAL REVISION CRITERIA

The Charter Committee reviewed the CGA Material Revision based on the requirements set forth in applicable laws, including Education Code ("EC") sections 47605, 47607, and in the Memorandum of Understanding between FCBE and CGA for the charter term of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2028 ("MOU").

EC section 47607 provides in part:

(a)

...

(3) *A charter school that, concurrently with its renewal, proposes to expand operations to one or more additional sites or grade levels shall request a material revision to its charter. A material revision of the provisions of a charter petition may be made only with the approval of the chartering authority. A material revision of a charter is governed by the standards and criteria described in Section 47605.*

(4) *The findings of paragraphs (7) and (8) of subdivision (c) of Section 47605 shall not be used to deny a renewal of an existing charter school, but may be used to deny a proposed expansion constituting a material revision. For a material revision, analysis under paragraphs (7) and (8) of subdivision (c) of Section 47605 shall be limited to consideration only of the impact of the proposed material revision.*

(5) *The chartering authority may inspect or observe any part of the charter school at any time.*

(b) Renewals and material revisions of charters are governed by the standards and criteria described in Section 47605, and shall include, but not be limited to, a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed.

EC section 47605(a)(4) provides:

(4) After receiving approval of its petition, a charter school that proposes to expand operations to one or more additional sites or grade levels shall request a material revision to its charter and shall notify the chartering authority of those additional locations or grade

levels. The chartering authority shall consider whether to approve those additional locations or grade levels at an open, public meeting. If the additional locations or grade levels are approved pursuant to the standards and criteria described in subdivision (c), they shall be a material revision to the charter school's charter.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between FCBE and CGA provides:

5.1.1 MATERIAL REVISION DEFINED. A "Material Revision" is any change to the Charter and/or MOU that is any of the following:

...

5.1.1.6 Addition of any new Charter School Site, or elimination of any Charter School Site listed on the Cover or in an amendment.

...

5.1.2 REQUEST FOR MATERIAL REVISION.

5.1.2.1 GENERALLY. Charter School may submit to Authorizer, and Authorizer will consider, any proposed Material Revision to the Charter and/or MOU in accordance with Authorizer's policies and procedures, if any, that are in effect at the time that Charter School submits the proposed Material Revision. Unless stated otherwise in Authorizer's policies and procedures, Charter School shall submit any proposed Material Revision at least 90 days before the date on which Charter School intends the Material Revision to take effect. The proposed Material Revision shall be in writing and state, at a minimum, the following: (A) a description of the proposed Material Revision; (B) the date on which Charter School anticipates the proposed Material Revision to take effect; and (C) the name and contact information of the person at Charter School with whom Authorizer is to communicate regarding the proposed Material Revision.

5.1.2.2 ADDITION OF CHARTER SCHOOL SITE. In addition to the requirements in Section 5.1.2.1 above, in any request for a Material Revision to add a new Charter School Site, Charter School shall allow Authorizer to inspect the new facility as part of Authorizer's consideration of such request.

5.1.3 AMENDMENT REFLECTING MATERIAL REVISION.

5.1.3.1 GENERALLY. Except as provided otherwise in this Article 5 in which case such provision shall apply, any Material Revision shall be set forth in an amendment, which must be approved and executed by the Parties. Any amendment to the Charter that requires County

Superintendent to perform any services or assume any obligations must be signed by County Superintendent to be binding on County Superintendent.

5.1.3.2 ADDITION OF CHARTER SCHOOL SITE. In addition to the requirements in Section 5.1.3.1 above, the following shall apply to any amendment for a Material Revision to add a new Charter School Site:

5.1.3.2(A) The amendment shall state the full street address of the new Charter School Site.

5.1.3.2(B) At least 30 days before Charter School's first day of occupancy of the new Charter School Site, Charter School shall submit to Authorizer a certificate of occupancy or other documentation issued by the appropriate governmental agency(ies) authorizing Charter School to use the new Charter School Site for the purposes intended by Charter School.

5.1.3.2(C) Charter School shall submit evidence to Authorizer that the new Charter School Site complies with the provisions of Sections 7.2.1 and 7.2.2.

7.2.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. Each Charter School Site that Charter School operates shall comply with the following requirements:

7.2.1.1 Health, safety, and fire code requirements applicable to California charter schools.

7.2.1.2 Federal and California laws applicable to charter school facilities.

7.2.1.3 Requirements under the ADA.

7.2.1.4 California and local regulations governing the operation of charter school facilities.

7.2.1.5 One of the following unless a Charter School Site is exclusively owned or controlled by an entity (e.g., federal government) that is not subject to the California Building Standards Code: (A) the California Building Standards Code (Part 2, commencing with Section 101 of Title 24 of the CCR) as adopted and enforced by the local building enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the area in which Charter School is located; or (B) the Field Act, EC 17280 et seq. and 17365 et seq.

7.2.1.6 Location in an area properly zoned for operation of a school and has been cleared for pupil occupancy by local authorities with jurisdiction of the Charter School Site.

7.2.1.7 Local approvals, including but not limited to, applicable fire marshal clearance, certificate of occupancy or other documentation authorizing Charter School to use the facility for the purposes intended

by Charter School, signed building permit inspections, and any approved zoning variances.

7.2.2 NUMBER OF CHARTER SCHOOL SITES. Charter School shall only operate at the Charter School Sites set forth on the Cover."

III. CHARTER PETITION REVIEW COMMITTEE ANALYSIS

The Material Revision went to public hearing at the regularly scheduled FCBE meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2024. Members of the CGA leadership team presented their plan to execute the items listed in the Material Revision. During the public hearing, CGA leadership presented the need for the Material Revision by sharing grade-level waiting lists. Additionally, CGA leadership explained the phase-in of a Spanish-Language enrichment cohort of students.

Executive Director of Facilities and Operations Jeff Becker, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Corey Greenlaw and the Director of Charter Schools, Dr. Jeffrey Hunt visited the site Wednesday, July 10, 2024. FCSS team members asked questions to CGA leadership during and following the site visit. The questions centered on costs, timelines, student safety, the terms of the CUP, and supervision of the additional space. These questions were responded to by CGA to the satisfaction of Dr. Hunt and Mr. Becker.

The Business Services division reviewed fiscal considerations for the additional space and determined that CGA is properly positioned to absorb the costs of construction and increased lease associated with the proposed additions. CGA ended 2022-23 with a healthy operating surplus and anticipates doing so again in 2023-24. With the information provided at this time, and based on current projections, it appears the school can afford the proposed changes to its program.

In addition to a description of the proposed change, each Material Revision to a petition must include a reasonable description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or renewed. The Charter Committee analysis of the petition is provided in the following table based on the standards and criteria set forth in EC section 47605(c). The request for material revision included a table that reflects updates to the CGA 2020-2028 charter petition. The page numbers where supporting information can be found in the Petition documents are provided for each criterion. Charter Committee comments are provided where needed for clarity.

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
1.	<i>The charter school presents a sound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.</i>	As is noted in the subsections, below, the Petition contains a complete description of a sound educational program, including application of the Local Control Funding Formula and corresponding Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).	X	
2.	<i>The petitioners are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.</i>	Based on FCSS charter oversight (including annual site visits), California Accountability Dashboard outcomes, and ongoing communication with the charter, petitioners are demonstrably likely to continue to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.	X	
3.	<i>The petition contains the number of signatures required by subdivision (a)</i>	This standard does not apply to material revisions.	N/A	
4.	<i>The petition contains an affirmation of each of the conditions described in subdivision (e).</i>	Signed affirmations can be found on pages 6-9 of the petition. The petition contains all required affirmations.	X	
5.	The Petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the following elements:			
	<i>(A)(i) The educational program of the charter school, designed, among other things, to identify those whom the charter school is</i>	The description of the educational program contains the required components as noted in EC 47605(c)(5) as well as addresses annual goals and associated actions related to the eight state priorities associated with the Local Control Funding	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<p><i>attempting to educate, what it means to be an “educated person” in the 21st century, and how learning best occurs. The goals identified in that program shall include the objective of enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners.</i></p> <p><i>(ii) The annual goals for the charter school for all pupils and for each subgroup of pupils identified pursuant to Section 52052, to be achieved in the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served, and specific annual actions to achieve those goals. A charter petition may identify additional school priorities, the goals for the school priorities, and the</i></p>	<p>Formula and Common Core State Standards.</p> <p>Element 1 Pages 22-140</p>		

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<p><i>specific annual actions to achieve those goals.</i></p> <p><i>(iii) If the proposed charter school will serve high school pupils, the manner in which the charter school will inform parents about the transferability of courses to other public high schools and the eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements. Courses offered by the charter school that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may be considered transferable and courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the "A to G" admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements.</i></p>			

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<p><i>(B) The measurable pupil outcomes identified for use by the charter school. "Pupil outcomes," for purposes of this part, means the extent to which all pupils of the charter school demonstrate that they have attained the skills, knowledge, and attitudes specified as goals in the charter school's educational program. Pupil outcomes shall include outcomes that address increases in pupil academic achievement both schoolwide and for all pupil subgroups served by the charter school, as that term is defined in subdivision (a) of Section 52052. The pupil outcomes shall align with the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of</i></p>	<p>Pupil outcomes aligned with the eight state priorities are found in Element 2 of the petition.</p> <p>Element 2 Pages 141-149.</p>	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<i>Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served by the charter school.</i>			
	<i>(C) The method by which pupil progress in meeting those pupil outcomes is to be measured. To the extent practicable, the method for measuring pupil outcomes for state priorities shall be consistent with the way information is reported on a school accountability report card.</i>	Element 3 of the petition identifies the methods by which pupil progress will be measured. ELEMENT 3 Pages 150-155	X	
	<i>(D) The governance structure of the charter school, including, but not limited to, the process to be followed by the charter school to ensure parental involvement.</i>	Element 4 of the petition describes the organization structure, leadership structure, leadership duties, parent involvement, and compliance with the Brown Act. ELEMENT 4 Pages 156-179	X	
	<i>(E) The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the charter school.</i>	Element 5 of the petition describes the qualifications to be met by employees of CGA. ELEMENT 5 Pages 164-179	X	
	<i>(F) The procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of</i>	Element 6 of the petition includes detailed procedures for maintaining a safe and healthy environment for pupils and staff.	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<p>pupils and staff. These procedures shall require all of the following:</p> <p>(i) That each employee of the charter school furnish the charter school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.</p> <p>(ii) The development of a school safety plan, which shall include the safety topics listed in subparagraphs (A) to (J), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 32282.</p> <p>(iii) That the school safety plan be reviewed and updated by March 1 of every year by the charter school.</p>	ELEMENT 6 Pages 180-183		
	<p>(G) The means by which the charter school will achieve a balance of racial and ethnic pupils, special education pupils, and English learner pupils, including redesignated</p>	The petition describes a student recruitment strategy that attempts to achieve a balance in student demographics reflective of students residing within the territorial jurisdiction of Fresno County and the district	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<i>fluent English proficient pupils, as defined by the evaluation rubrics in Section 52064.5, that is reflective of the general population residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the school district to which the charter petition is submitted. Upon renewal, for a charter school not deemed to be a local educational agency for purposes of special education pursuant to Section 47641, the chartering authority may consider the effect of school placements made by the chartering authority in providing a free and appropriate public education as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Public Law 101-476), on the balance of pupils with disabilities at the charter school.</i>	within which the CGA campus is located. ELEMENT 7 Pages 179-186		
	<i>(H) Admission policies and procedures, consistent with subdivision (e).</i>	Element 8 of the CGA petition describes non-discrimination statutes, open enrollment process, admission and enrollment procedures, and	X	

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	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
		public random lottery process should it become necessary. ELEMENT 8 Pages 187-190		
	<i>(I) The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority.</i>	Element 9 of the petition describes the process CGA applies for conducting a financial audit annually. The petition describes the qualifications of the auditor and the timeline for completing and submitting the audit report to the County Superintendent. CGA submits copies of completed internal audits to the County Superintendent's office each year. ELEMENT 9 Page 191	X	
	<i>(J) The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled from the charter school for disciplinary reasons or otherwise involuntarily removed from the charter school for any reason.</i>	Element 10 of the petition describes the procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons, or otherwise involuntarily removed from CGA for any reason as required by EC 47605(c)(5)(J). ELEMENT J Pages 192-211	X	
	<i>(K) The manner by which staff members of the charter schools will be covered by the</i>	Element 11 of the petition describes how staff members of the charter school will be covered by the State teachers'	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<i>State Teachers' Retirement System, the Public Employees' Retirement System, or federal social security.</i>	Retirement System, the Public Employees Retirement System, or federal social security. ELEMENT 11 Page 212		
	<i>(L) The public school attendance alternatives for pupils residing within the school district who choose not to attend charter schools.</i>	Element 12 of the petition describes public school attendance alternatives for students residing within the school district who choose not to attend the charter school. ELEMENT 12 Page 213	X	
	<i>(M) The rights of an employee of the school district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work in a charter school, and of any rights of return to the school district after employment at a charter school.</i>	Element 13 of the petition describes the rights of an employee of the district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work at the charter school. ELEMENT 13 Page 214	X	
	<i>(N) The procedures to be followed by the charter school and the chartering authority to resolve disputes relating to provisions of the charter.</i>	Element 14 of the petition describes the procedures to be followed by the charter school and charter authorizer to resolve disputes relating to the provisions of the charter. ELEMENT 14 Pages 215-216	X	

	Criteria	Committee Comments	Meets Criteria	
			YES	NO
	<i>(O) The procedures to be used if the charter school closes. The procedures shall ensure a final audit of the charter school to determine the disposition of all assets and liabilities of the charter school, including plans for disposing of any net assets and for the maintenance and transfer of pupil records.</i>	Element 15 of the petition includes a description of the procedures to be used if the charter school closes. ELEMENT 15 Page 217-218	X	
6.	<i>((6) The petition contains a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of Chapter 10.7 (commencing with Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code.</i>	The petition includes a signed affirmation that CGA declares that it shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of CGA for the purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act. Affirmations and Declarations- Page 6 of petition	X	

Additionally, the committee is unaware of any facts that would support denial of the Material Revision based on EC sections 47605(c)(7) & (8).

IV. CHARTER COMMITTEE FINDINGS

Based on a review of the petition, supporting materials, public hearing testimony, and site visit, the Committee recommends that the Board **approve** the Material Revision.