California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-002 (REV. 11/2017)

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# **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 1, 2018

**TO:** MEMBERS, State Board of Education

**FROM:** TOM TORLAKSON, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT:** Academic Progress of State Board of Education-Authorized Charter Schools

## Summary of Key Issues

This Information Memorandum provides a summary of the academic progress of State Board of Education (SBE)-authorized charter schools for the 2016–17 school year. As the charter authorizer, the SBE provides oversight monitoring of the charter schools it authorizes. The SBE has delegated this responsibility to the California Department of Education (CDE), and under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the SBE and each SBE-authorized charter school, the CDE reviews the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) English language arts (ELA)/literacy and mathematics academic test results of those SBE-authorized charters that were open during the 2016–17 school year and that administered the CAASPP in the spring of 2017. Additionally, the CDE reviews the California Accountability Model and School Dashboard data. In the course of oversight monitoring, if the CDE finds that a charter school did not make satisfactory academic progress, the CDE may provide recommendations to the SBE to take appropriate action, as deemed necessary, including issuing a notice of violation or revocation.

All SBE-authorized charter schools in operation and serving pupils in grade three through grade eight and/or eleven, must administer the CAASPP in the spring of each year. In 2016–17, the following SBE-authorized charter schools were in operation and administered the CAASPP:

* Academia Avance Charter
* Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory of North America
* Audeo Charter ll
* Barack Obama Charter
* Baypoint Preparatory Academy
* High Tech Elementary Chula Vista
* High Tech Elementary North County
* High Tech High Chula Vista
* High Tech High North County
* High Tech Middle Chula Vista
* High Tech Middle North County
* Magnolia Science Academy Santa Ana
* New West Charter
* Olive Grove Charter
* Paramount Collegiate Academy (School closed in February 2018; no information is included)
* Ridgecrest Charter
* School of Arts and Enterprise
* Thrive Public

The following SBE-authorized charter schools were not in operation in 2016–17 and did not administer the CAASPP:

* Celerity Himalia Charter
* Celerity Rolas Charter
* Grossmont Secondary
* Ross Valley Charter
* Sweetwater Secondary

The following SBE-authorized charter schools were in operation in 2016–17, but did not serve pupils in grade three through grade eight and/or grade eleven and therefore, did not administer the CAASPP:

* OnePurpose
* Prepa Tec Los Angeles High
* Rocketship Futuro Academy
* The New School of San Francisco

### Academic Progress of SBE-Authorized Charter Schools

For the purposes of preparing this summary report, the CDE considered whether SBE-authorized charter schools that administered the CAASPP Met Progress or did Not Meet Progress based on the 2016–17 CAASPP test results for ELA/literacy and mathematics on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment. The CDE reviewed the schoolwide percentage for all grades that fell below Standard Not Met and determined whether that percentage exceeded the State’s Achievement Level Distribution percentage by greater than 15 percentage points.

Additionally, the CDE determined which SBE-authorized charters were or were not making satisfactory progress in one or more Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) priorities, both schoolwide and by pupil subgroups. In making this determination the CDE reviewed the 2016–17 California School Dashboard data based on inadequate change in Average Distance from Level 3 in either ELA/literacy and/or mathematics.

Schools predominantly within the red and orange academic indicator bands are not considered to be making adequate academic progress. SBE-authorized charter schools that predominantly fall within blue, green, and yellow are considered to be making adequate progress.

For the purposes of this Memorandum, each SBE-authorized charter school Board chair and administrator received a request from the CDE to provide an optional written response regarding their review of the fall 2017 Dashboard results, identifying areas of greatest progress and areas of greatest need. Additionally, each charter school was asked to provide a summary of performance in Element Two: Measurable Pupil Outcomes and Element Three: Method for Measuring Pupil Outcomes of the charter petition. With the exception of The New School of San Francisco and OnePurpose, all SBE-authorized charter schools provided this document; each document is an attachment to this Memorandum.

### SBE-Authorized Charter Schools Determined to Have Not Met Adequate Progress

#### Letter of Academic Concern

Of the schools that were in operation and that administered the CAASSP, the following SBE-authorized charter schools are determined to have not met adequate academic progress in LCFF priorities and exceeded the Standard Not Met percentage of the State’s Achievement Level Distribution percentage by greater than 15 percentage points; the CDE issued these charter schools a Letter of Academic Concern:

* Academia Avance Charter
* Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory of North America

On February 21, 2018, the CDE issued Letters of Academic Concern to the Governing Board of the charter with a request for corrective action and to provide additional documentation including, but not limited to, the process by which the Board will review Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals and analyze 2017 pupil data including how the Board will consult with stakeholders, the specific actions the Board will take to address changes to curriculum, curriculum materials, instructional practices, the daily school schedule, methods for measuring pupil progress, the charter’s formative and/or benchmark assessments, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Interim Assessments, staffing, professional development, and the Board’s goals for change in Average Distance from Level 3 for each subgroup indicator.

Upon receipt, the CDE reviewed the charter Board’s corrective action plan and additional documentation provided and issued a follow-up letter to the charter Board. The CDE will continue to monitor progress on LCFF priorities using the 2018 Dashboard data and CAASPP data.

### Charter Schools Determined to Have Made Some Adequate Progress

#### Letters of Academic Support

Of the schools that were in operation and that administered the CAASSP, the following SBE-authorized charter schools are determined to have met adequate progress on some LCFF priorities but not on others, and/or exceeded the Standard Not Met percentage of the State’s Achievement Level Distribution percentage by greater than 15 percentage points; the CDE issued these charter schools a Letter of Academic Support:

* Barack Obama Charter
* Baypoint Preparatory Academy
* Magnolia Science Academy Santa Ana
* New West Charter
* Ridgecrest Charter
* School of Arts and Enterprise

On March 2, 2018, the CDE issued Letters of Academic Support of Pupil Academic Achievement to the Governing Board of each school. These letters were issued to identify areas in which the school was not making academic progress but also to highlight areas where the schools had made improvements.

The CDE requested additional documentation including, but not limited to, the process by which the Board will review LCAP goals and analyze 2017 pupil data including how the Board will consult with stakeholders, the specific actions the Board will take to address changes to curriculum, curriculum materials, instructional practices, the daily school schedule, methods for measuring pupil progress, the charter’s formative and/or benchmark assessments, SBAC Interim Assessments, staffing, professional development, and the Board’s goals for change in Average Distance from Level 3 for each subgroup indicator.

Upon receipt, the CDE reviewed the charter Board’s corrective action plan and additional documentation provided and issued a follow-up letter to the charter Board. The CDE will continue to monitor progress on LCFF priorities using the 2018 Dashboard data and CAASPP data.

### Charter Schools Determined to Have Made Adequate Progress and/or Have Exceeded the Standard

* Audeo Charter ll
* High Tech Elementary Chula Vista
* High Tech Elementary North County
* High Tech High Chula Vista
* High Tech High North County
* High Tech Middle Chula Vista
* High Tech Middle North County
* Olive Grove Charter
* Thrive Public

## Attachment(s)

* **Attachment 1:** Academia Avance Charter (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 2:** Response from Academia Avance Charter (8 Pages)
* **Attachment 3:** Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory of North America (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 4:** Response from Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory of North America (11 Pages)
* **Attachment 5:** Audeo Charter ll (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 6:** Response from Audeo Charter II (6 Pages)
* **Attachment 7:** Barack Obama Charter (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 8:** Response from Barack Obama Charter (6 Pages)
* **Attachment 9:** Baypoint Preparatory Academy (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 10:** Response from Baypoint Preparatory Academy (8 Pages)
* **Attachment 11:** Celerity Himalia Charter (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 12:** Response from Celerity Himalia Charter (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 13:** Celerity Rolas Charter (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 14:** Response from Celerity Rolas Charter (8 Pages)
* **Attachment 15:** Grossmont Secondary (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 16:** Response from Grossmont Secondary (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 17:** High Tech Elementary Chula Vista (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 18:** Response from High Tech Elementary Chula Vista (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 19:** High Tech Middle Chula Vista (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 20:** Response from High Tech Middle Chula Vista (10 Pages)
* **Attachment 21:** High Tech High Chula Vista (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 22:** Response from High Tech High Chula Vista (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 23:** High Tech Elementary North County (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 24:** Response from High Tech Elementary North County (6 Pages)
* **Attachment 25:** High Tech Middle North County (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 26:** Response from High Tech Middle North County (9 Pages)
* **Attachment 27:** High Tech High North County (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 28:** Response from High Tech High North County (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 29:** Magnolia Science Academy Santa Ana (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 30:** Response from Magnolia Science Academy Santa Ana (10 Pages)
* **Attachment 31:** The New School of San Francisco (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 32:** New West Charter (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 33:** Response from New West Charter (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 34:** Olive Grove Charter (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 35:** Response from Olive Grove Charter (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 36:** OnePurpose (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 37:** Prepa Tec Los Angeles High (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 38:** Response from Prepa Tec Los Angeles High (10 Pages)
* **Attachment 39:** Ridgecrest Charter (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 40:** Response from Ridgecrest Charter (2 Pages)
* **Attachment 41:** Rocketship Futuro Academy (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 42:** Response from Rocketship Futuro Academy (2 Pages)
* **Attachment 43:** Ross Valley Charter (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 44:** Response from Ross Valley Charter (7 Pages)
* **Attachment 45:** School of Arts and Enterprise (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 46:** Response from School of Arts and Enterprise (9 Pages)
* **Attachment 47:** Sweetwater Secondary (3 Pages)
* **Attachment 48:** Response from Sweetwater Secondary (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 49:** Thrive Public (4 Pages)
* **Attachment 50:** Response from Thrive Public (10 Pages)