



ROSS VALLEY
CHARTER
A K-5 Public School

California State Board of Education
July 14, 2016

MATERIAL REVISION REQUESTS:

1. Delay Ross Valley Charter (RVC) opening by one year to allow more time to secure a facility
2. Clarify enrollment preferences
3. Allow students who have accepted admission for 2016 to roll up a grade for 2017

UPDATE

- January 14: SBE unanimously approved RVC
- January 18: Ross Valley School District Board voted 4-1 to end Multi Age Program (MAP), inspiration for RVC, regardless of whether RVC is able to lease a facility to open in the fall
- April 9: RVC reached agreement with CDE on language for technical amendments
- April 20: RVC's PCSGP \$375,000 award was approved, conditional on RVC opening by September 15, 2017

Update (Cont'd)

- During state approval process, only one concern arose: MAP less diverse than District
- Diverse student body is RVC priority and we committed to both ACCS and SBE in January we would strategically market to EL and FRPL communities
- Told ACCS and SBE we would use the preferences in our petition for EL and FRPL students to help meet or exceed District percentages
- RVC conducted focused recruitment of EL and FRPL students before lottery in February (additional smaller lottery held in June)

Current Enrollment Results

RVC had planned to open August 2016, admitted 204 students, and exceeded District diversity:

	Ross Valley School District '14-'15	RVC Target for '16-'17	Parents accepting admission for '16-'17
English Learners	3.9%	6%	5.4%
FRPL	9.9%	12%	11.8%

REQUEST #1: DELAY OPENING TO SECURE FACILITY

- Starting October 2015: RVC volunteers, lawyers and real estate consultants spent hundreds of hours searching for potential facility; identified 20 possible locations within RVSD, most unavailable or not feasible for 2016 opening because of required zoning and improvement changes
- January 18: formally requested to rent 10 classrooms at Red Hill School, a District surplus property
- February 9: District Board decided to put Red Hill out for public bid

REQUEST #1: DELAY OPENING TO SECURE FACILITY cont'd

- April 19: District Board rejected RVC bid and a private school bid; RVC offered to negotiate a lease under Ed Code Provision 17477(a)(1); Board rejected offer, voted to do another bid process
- June 7: District rejected RVC bid (the only bid) and declined RVC offer to negotiate a lease under Ed Code 17477(a)(1)

FACILITY STRATEGY FOR FALL 2017 OPENING

- Continue to offer to negotiate with District for Red Hill under either Ed Code 17477(a)(1) or Prop 39 “in lieu.”
- Resume search for private facility made possible by additional time for zoning changes
- Submit Proposition 39 Request: 3 empty classrooms projected at Manor School in 2016-17; around 6-7 more Manor classrooms freed up when RVC opens; also 3-4 empty classrooms at a neighboring District elementary school

REQUEST #2:

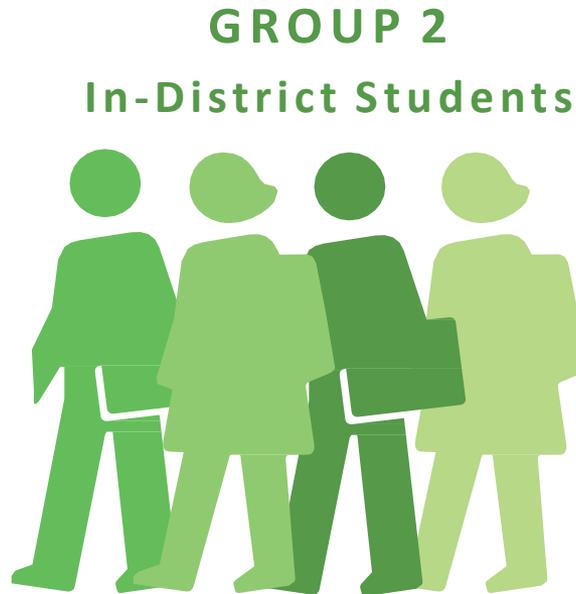
SUB-PREFERENCE CLARIFICATION

- CDE's first petition review requested technical amendments, but did not question EL/FRPL preferences
- RVC had discussed with ACCS and SBE importance of preferences to achieve diversity goals
- RVC had concluded sub-preferences within the broader preference categories of in-district and out-of-district were acceptable
- March 24: met with CDE to discuss technical amendments and facility situation--became apparent RVC had misunderstood CDE requested changes
- CDE requested we clarify preferences in material revision

SUB-PREFERENCE CLARIFICATION

GROUP 1

Existing
Students



GROUP 3
Out-of-District Students



(none in first year)

- EL/FRPL
- founders' and full-time employees' children
- siblings of existing/ admitted students
- all other In-District students

- EL/FRPL
- founders' and full-time employees' children
- siblings of existing/ admitted students
- all other Out-of-District students

SUB-PREFERENCE CLARIFICATION

Within in-district resident category:

1. EL and/or FRPL students – critical tool to ensure reaching diversity targets
2. Children of 10 founding families and full-time charter employees. Ross Valley District gives preference to out-of-District employees
3. Siblings of existing/admitted students – Ross Valley District provides this preference because parents prefer to keep children at same school
4. All other District residents

SUB-PREFERENCE CLARIFICATION

Out-of-district category: same sub-preferences as above

RVC's proposed preferences meet requirement of Ed Code Sec 47605(d)(2)(B):

“Other preferences may be permitted by the chartering authority on an individual school basis and only if consistent with the law.”

Many charter schools use similar preferences which are granted by many authorizers throughout the state

PREFERENCE ASK

- The ACCS voted unanimously to recommend authorization of these sub-preferences and not accept the CDE technical amendment on this issue.
- We are therefore asking the SBE to permit these sub-preferences for “pupils who reside in the district,” as the law allows it to do.

REQUEST #3: USE THE RESULTS OF 2016 LOTTERIES FOR 2017 ENROLLMENT

- Uncertainty about opening date/location caused significant disruption to interested families
- No reason to make applicants go through new lottery process
- Keeps EL and FRPL numbers strong
- Keeps RVC focus on securing facility, building school community, education; less emphasis on marketing in 2017

REQUEST #3: USE THE RESULTS OF 2016 LOTTERIES FOR 2017 ENROLLMENT

- Request to keep results of 2016 lottery is detailed on page 163 of Material Revision Petition and CDE has taken no position on this issue.
- The ACCS voted unanimously to recommend accepting this request and we ask that the SBE clarify that rolling over the results of this year's lottery to next year is acceptable.

SUMMARY

- Adding Public school options is needed more than ever since District has discontinued MAP and Marin has only two charter schools.
- Need additional year to secure facility
- Need EL/FRPL preference to ensure diversity; sibling preference for families
- Want students who have accepted admission for 2016 not have to go through another lottery