

**Oro Grande School District
Nonclassroom-Based Charter School Resource Center Location Waiver Request
On Behalf of
Mojave River Academy
Additional Information**

Bargaining Unit – Mojave River Academy does not have a collective bargaining unit. The Oro Grande School District bargaining unit was consulted regarding the waiver request.

- Name of Bargaining Unit: **Oro Grande Elementary School Teachers Association**
- Representative Name and Title: **Suzy Watts, President**
- Date the bargaining unit was consulted: **January 27, 2017**
- Position of the bargaining unit: **Support**

Mojave River Academy in-county-out-of-district Resource Centers

Address	District(s)	Established	# of Students
11497 Bartlett Avenue, Adelanto, CA 92301	Adelanto Elementary	December 2006	64
2151 W Main Street, Barstow, CA 92311	Barstow Unified	August 2006	132
851 South Mt. Vernon, Colton, CA 92324	Colton Joint Unified	August 2006	185
8922 Beech Avenue, Fontana CA 92335	Fontana Unified	August 2015	34
14466 Main St, Hesperia CA 92345	Hesperia Unified	January 2016	34
9723 Sierra Vista Rd, Phelan CA 92371	Snowline Joint Unified	March 2016	21
16519 Victor Street, Victorville CA 92395	Victor Valley Union High, Victor Elementary	August 2006	193
12384 Palmdale Rd, Victorville CA 92392	Victor Valley Union High, Adelanto Elementary	August 2014	263

Need for Waiver:

When the Mojave River Academy (“MRA”) charter started in the small rural community of Oro Grande it quickly became clear that many students beyond the district boundaries were attending and benefiting from the program. Because the program focuses on credit recovery and generally students that have struggled in traditional school, we serve a high percentage of socioeconomically disadvantaged students. Our students often struggle with transportation costs. Combined with the geographically large and spread out nature of the High Desert and San Bernardino County at large, it became clear MRA needed to establish Resource Centers in the communities where our students lived. Each of the MRA Resource Centers serves a small, but diverse population of students. Nearly all are socioeconomically

disadvantaged minority students. They receive tutoring, conduct science labs, access and check out technology, take local and state assessments, meet with Teachers, conduct IEP meetings and receive appropriate special education services at each center. As everyone would agree, each of our in-county-out-of-district Resource Centers was established at a time when the accepted interpretation of the education code allowed for such centers. Clearly the *Anderson* court decision has changed that interpretation. MRA and the Oro Grande School District are committed to coming into compliance with the new interpretation. MRA and OGSD already have a transition plan in process, which will bring each center into compliance. However, putting together and fully implementing new charters and other such changes is a time consuming process. We anticipate full implementation of the plan will fall into the 2017/2018 school-year. During this transition period MRA does not wish to negatively impact the students and families who are receiving such tremendous benefit from the program, by having to close sites prior to the completion of the plan. Additionally, near term closure of any site would not end MRA's financial obligations regarding each facility, nor the staff who work at each center.