California Department of Education

Charter Schools Division

Created 03/2024

lacb-csd-apr24item02

Attachment 11

# Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination Request

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This document presents the determination of funding request for Dimensions Collaborative (charter #1946). Information from the school has been exported from the web-based Funding Determination Form at [Nonclassroom-Based Determination of Funding - Charter Schools (CA Dept of Education)](https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/nclrbifunddet.asp#form).

Responses from the school have been provided, as is, and have not been edited by the California Department of Education for capitalization, punctuation, or spelling.

## Dimensions Collaborative Determination of Funding Request 2023–24

### Section 1. General Information

Charter School Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Charter School Name | Dimensions Collaborative School |
| Charter School Authorizer | San Diego County Office of Education |
| Charter School Number | 1946 |
| County District School (CDS) Code | 37-10371-0137752 |
| Street Address | 1441 Montiel Road, Suite 143 |
| City | Escondido |
| County | San Diego |
| ZIP Code | 92026 |
| Grade Levels Served | TK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Date Charter Expires | 6/30/2026 |
| Contact First Name | Douglas |
| Contact Last Name | Miller |
| Contact Title | CBO |
| Contact Phone Number | 760-743-5815 |
| Contact Email Address | dmiller@myelement.org |

Funding Determination Request Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this a reconsideration request? | No, this is not a reconsideration request. |
| Requested Funding Level | 100% |
| Beginning Period Requested | FY 2024–25 |
| Number of Years Requested | 5 |
| Source Data | FY 2022–23 Audit |
| If the source data used was “Other”, provide a description. | [No Response] |

### Section 2. Financial Information

#### A. Total Resources

Revenues and Other Resources

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Federal Revenues[[1]](#footnote-1) | $204,720 |
| Public Charter School Grant Program Funds (separately identified) | $0 |
| State Revenues[[2]](#footnote-2) | $6,514,267 |
| In-Lieu of Property Taxes (separately identified) | $67,573 |
| Local Revenues | $873,517 |
| Other Financing Sources | $0 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$7,592,504** |

**If Other Financing Sources were reported, provide a description:**

[No Response]

#### B. Total Expenditures and Other Uses

Instruction and Related Services

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits for Instruction and Related Services | $3,073,388 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $340,851 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $421,834 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Services | $287,726 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Support | $242,338 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: All Other Instruction Related Operating Costs | $349,103 |
| **Total Instruction and Related Services** | **$4,715,240** |

Operations and Facilities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $115,061 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $24,192 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs | $493,990 |
| Facilities Acquisition and Construction | $0 |
| **Total Operations and Facilities** | **$633,243** |

Allowable Facilities Costs

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total facility square footage occupied by the charter school | 22502 |
| Enter total classroom-based P-2 ADA reported in the prior fiscal year. Do not include nonclassroom-based ADA. | 0 |
| Enter total student hours attended by nonclassroom-based pupils at the school site in the prior fiscal year. | 429018 |
| Calculated Facilities Costs | $494,260 |
| **Allowable Facilities Costs** | **$494,260** |

Administration and All Other Activities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $214,220 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $284,132 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $106,423 |
| Contracts for Other Administrative Services | $0 |
| Supervisorial Oversight Fee | $51,549 |
| All Other Administration and Other Activities, Services, and Operating Costs | $167,828 |
| **Total Administration and Other Activities** | **$824,152** |

Other Outgo and Other Financing Uses

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Debt Services | $0 |
| Transfers to Local Educational Agencies | $0 |
| All Other Transfers and Outgo | $0 |
| **Total Other Outgoing and Other Financing Uses** | **$0** |

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for Transfers to Local Educational Agencies and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

[No Response]

**Describe the nature of the transaction(s) for All Other Transfers and Outgo and identify the accounts or entities involved in the transfer(s).**

[No Response]

#### C. Fund Balance

Total Expenditures and Fund Balance

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total Expenditures | $6,172,635 |
| Revenues Over Expenditures | $1,419,869 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | $3,503,791 |
| **Ending Fund Balance – June 30** | **$4,923,660** |

#### D. Reserves

Reserves

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | $2,550,379 |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | $1,500,000 |
| Reserves Required by Charter Authorizer | $196,947 |
| Other Reserves | $632,321 |
| Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | $44,013 |
| **Total Reserves** | **$4,923,660** |

Reserves as a Percentage of Total Expenditures

| **Reserves** | **Percentage of Total Expenditures** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | 41.32% |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | 24.30% |

**Explanation for reserves designated for economic uncertainties if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

The Board has designated that 65% of fund balance after accounting for specail reserves should be allocated to an economic uncertainity reserve. Reserves of this magintude are needed in times of fiscal crisis or uncertainity as the State has shown over the years their willingingness to defer funding into the next fiscal year or clawback revenues in order to balance their budget. An example of this need occured in the FY 20/21 school year when multiple months of State funding were deferred. Even with our healthy fund balance our charter still needed to participate in the Charter ASAP program in order to meeting monthly cash flow requirements.

**Explanation of Other Reserves:**

Restricted resource funds.

**Explanation for reserves designated for facilities acquisition or capital projects if these reserves exceed the greater of $50,000 or 5 percent of total expenditures:**

All of our charter facilities are leased. The Board has designated this reserve in order to prepare for the purchase of a building if one becomes available or two modernize our buildings as they become out of date, need repairs, etc.

**Explanation of school’s unassigned/unappropriated fund balance and details regarding the school’s plans for these funds: *(Optional)***

It is a small amount of funds, approximatley $44,000. The Board of Directors has increased the facility aquisiton/modernization reserve to $2,000,000 in the FY 23/24 fiscal year, so any excess fund balance will be directed towards that goal.

### Section 3. Pupil-Teacher Ratio

Pupil-Teacher Ratio

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| FY 2022–23 Average Daily Attendance for independent study pupils | 465.27 |
| FY 2022–22 Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study | 30.4 |
| Among the unified school districts in the county or counties in which the charter school operates, do any districts report a PTR greater than 25 to 1? | [No Response] |
| Provide the name of the unified school district that reports a PTR greater than 25 to 1. | [No Response] |
| Enter the PTR for the district above. | [No Response] to 1 |

### Section 4. Funding Determination Calculations

Calculated Percentages

| **Criteria** | **Funding Determination Calculations** |
| --- | --- |
| Percentage Spent on Instructional Certificated Salaries and Benefits to Total Public Revenues | 45.74% |
| Percentage Spent on Instruction and Related Services and Allowable Facility Costs | 68.61% |
| 2022–23 Pupil-Teacher Ratio | 15.30 to 1 |
| Pupil-Teacher Ratio of Largest Unified School District in the County or Counties in which the Charter School Operates | [No Response] to 1 |

### Section 5. Supplemental Information

#### A. Virtual Charter Schools

Virtual Charter Schools

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Is this charter school a virtual or on-line charter school as defined in 5 *CCR* Section 11963.5? | No |
| If yes, can the charter school demonstrate compliance with 5 *CCR* sections 11963.5(b)(2) to (8)? | [No Response] |

#### B. Entity and Contract Information

Entity and Contract Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Did any entity receive or will receive $50,000 or more or 10% or more of total expenditures from the school in FY 2022–23 or FY 2023–24? | Yes |
| Number of reportable entities | 9 |

##### List of Reported Entities

Reported Entity 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Kaiser Foundation Health Plan |
| Amount | $286,002 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Healthcare benefits for staff |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Specialized Therapy Services |
| Amount | $241,598 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Special education services |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Caster Family Trust |
| Amount | $232,766 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Lease payments |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 4

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | BG Consolidated |
| Amount | $158,644 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Lease payments |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 5

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Amazon Capital Services |
| Amount | $131,212 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Instructional materials and supplies |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 6

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Caster Family Enterprises, Inc. |
| Amount | $102,477 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Lease payments |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 7

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | U.S. Bank |
| Amount | $88,116 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Calcard puchases of supplies, materials, services |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 8

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | First Congregational Church of Escondido |
| Amount | $74,280 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Lease payments |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

Reported Entity 9

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | San Diego County Office of Education |
| Amount | $53,752 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Oversight fee |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | Yes |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | [No Response] |

#### C. Current Governing Board Information

##### List of Board Members

Board Member 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Jared |
| Last Name of Board Member | Sinclair |
| Title of Board Member | President |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2022 to 06/2024 |

Board Member 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Barbara |
| Last Name of Board Member | Rohrer |
| Title of Board Member | Vice President |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2023 to 12/2024 |

Board Member 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Tim |
| Last Name of Board Member | Tweeten |
| Title of Board Member | Board Clerk |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2023 to 12/2024 |

Board Member 4

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Rosella |
| Last Name of Board Member | Childers |
| Title of Board Member | Member at Large |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2022 to 06/2024 |

Board Member 5

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Aisha |
| Last Name of Board Member | Williams |
| Title of Board Member | Member at Large |
| Board Member Type | Parent (CM) |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2022 to 12/2024 |

Board Member 6

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Cecilia |
| Last Name of Board Member | Williams |
| Title of Board Member | Member at Large |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Nominating committee |
| Is this board member affiliated in any way with any of the reportable entities listed in the Entity and Contract Information section? | No |
| If so, explain the nature of the affiliation. | [No Response] |
| Board Member Term (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY) | 01/2023 to 12/2024 |

### Section 6. Mitigating Circumstances

**Explain why the charter school did not meet the criteria for the funding level requested. Include specific measures or actions taken by the charter school to comply. List and explain the mitigating circumstances to be considered by the CDE and ACCS.**

Dimensions Collaborative School did not meet the 80% spent on instruction and related services for three reasons:

1. Included in Local revenues is a transfer of $836,171.47 in fixed assets and a loan asset from the closed Dehesa Charter School. This transaction was a not a cash transaction but rather the transfer of assets from the closed charter schools balance sheet to the Dimension's balance sheet. This transaction did not result in any additional cash that could have been spent on instruction or instruction related services.

2. Included in State revenues is $63,097.00 for the Learning Recovery Block Grant that the State was going to clawback in FY 23/24 as part of State's balanced budget. The $63,097.00 was clawed back in October 2023.

3. Included in State revenues is $455,009.00 for several restricted use programs that had multiple fiscal years to spend the funds. These programs and funds were Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant of FY22/23. Funds received were $169,860.00 and program allowed those funds to be spend through fiscal year FY 25/26; Universal Prekindergarten Planning and Implemenation Grant FY 22/23. Funds received were $45,346.00 and the promgram allowed those funds to be spent through fiscal year FY24/25; Learing Recovery Emergency Block Grant FY 22/23. Funds received were $220,404.00 and the program allowed those funds to be spent through fiscal year FY 27/28; Educator Effectiveness Block Grant. Funds received were $19,399.00 and the program allowed for those funds to be spent through fiscal year FY25/26.

In summary, as a result of the noncash transfer in of assets in the amount of $836,171.47 in combination with the receipt of funding for four programs that allowed multiple fiscal years to spend the funds resulted in Dimensions Collaborative School in not meeting the 80% threshold. If the above mentioned transfers and program funds are removed from the calculation Dimenions would have met the 80% threshold. Thank you for your consideration.

### Section 7. Additional Information

**Provide any other pertinent information that may assist the CDE and ACCS in conducting a detailed review or develop a reasonable basis for a recommendation.**

Our reasons for Dimensions Collaborative School not meeting the 80% threshold are listed on the previous page. We would like to take this opportunity to advocate for changes in the Funding Determination process and calculations that take into account that many State programs provide funds with multiple years for the schools to spend those funds. There should be a way to account for that within the normal framework of the application rather than having to provide written explanations with no clear decision matrix on how CDE and ACCS account for those funds in this process. Also the current Funding Determination process does not have a way to notate noncash transactions that for accounting purposes result in the recognition of revenue that does not increase the schools cash balances. These noncash transactions skew the ratios and funding determination results and again require the explanations with no clear decision matrix on how CDE and ACCS account for those funding in this process.

### Section 8. Certification

**1) The information provided is true and correct to the best of my ability and knowledge.**

**2) This charter school's nonclassoom-based instruction is conducted for and substantially dedicated to the instructional benefit of the school's students.**

**3) This charter school's governing board has adopted and implemented conflict of interest policies.**

**4) All of the charter school's transactions, contracts, and agreements are in the best interest of the school and reflect a reasonable market rate for all goods, services, and considerations rendered for or supplied to the school.**

**Enter your name below which will serve as a signature and certify agreement with all of the above terms.**

Terri Novacek

**Indicate whether the certification is from the charter school's director, principal, or governing chairperson:**

Director

1. Includes Public Charter Schools Grant Program funds, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Includes In-Lieu of Property Taxes, if applicable [↑](#footnote-ref-2)