California Department of Education

Charter Schools Division

Created 03/2024

lacb-csd-apr24item02

Attachment 16

# Nonclassroom-Based FundingDetermination Request

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This document presents the determination of funding request for HomeTech Charter (charter #67). 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.

## HomeTech CharterDetermination of Funding Request 2023–24

### Section 1. General Information

Charter School Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Charter School Name | HomeTech Charter School |
| Charter School Authorizer | Paradise Unified School District |
| Charter School Number | 67 |
| County District School (CDS) Code | 04-61531-6112585 |
| Street Address | 6249 Skyway Rd |
| City | Paradise |
| County | Butte |
| ZIP Code | 95969 |
| Grade Levels Served | TK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Date Charter Expires | 6/30/2025 |
| Contact First Name | Julie |
| Contact Last Name | Crandall |
| Contact Title | Superintendent/Principal |
| Contact Phone Number | 530-872-1171 |
| Contact Email Address | jcrandall@hometech.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) | $21,002 |
| Public Charter School Grant Program Funds (separately identified) | $0 |
| State Revenues[[2]](#footnote-2) | $1,497,568 |
| In-Lieu of Property Taxes (separately identified) | $376,374 |
| Local Revenues | $238,974 |
| Other Financing Sources | $0 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$1,757,544** |

**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 | $800,495 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $110,697 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $52,948 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Services | $0 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Support | $0 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: All Other Instruction Related Operating Costs | $265,617 |
| **Total Instruction and Related Services** | **$1,229,757** |

Operations and Facilities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $476 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs | $93,478 |
| Facilities Acquisition and Construction | $20,174 |
| **Total Operations and Facilities** | **$114,128** |

Allowable Facilities Costs

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total facility square footage occupied by the charter school | 10000 |
| 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. | 27849 |
| Calculated Facilities Costs | $32,084 |
| **Allowable Facilities Costs** | **$32,084** |

Administration and All Other Activities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $96,546 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $2,780 |
| Contracts for Other Administrative Services | $0 |
| Supervisorial Oversight Fee | $6,335 |
| All Other Administration and Other Activities, Services, and Operating Costs | $74,239 |
| **Total Administration and Other Activities** | **$179,900** |

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 | $1,523,785 |
| Revenues Over Expenditures | $233,759 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | $1,811,546 |
| **Ending Fund Balance – June 30** | **$2,045,305** |

#### D. Reserves

Reserves

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | $2,045,305 |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | $0 |
| Reserves Required by Charter Authorizer | $0 |
| Other Reserves | $0 |
| Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | $0 |
| **Total Reserves** | **$2,045,305** |

Reserves as a Percentage of Total Expenditures

| **Reserves** | **Percentage of Total Expenditures** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | 134.23% |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | 0.00% |

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

HomeTech's enrollment has been unpredictable in the past few years related to the wildfires and subsequent global COVID-19 Pandemic. In addition, previous hold-harmless funding legislation related to both of the above circumstances are no longer in place. It is imperative that HomeTech build and maintain reserves beyond the minimum required amount to ensure the long-term fiscal viability of the school.

**Explanation of Other Reserves:**

[No Response]

**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:**

[No Response]

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

[No Response]

### Section 3. Pupil-Teacher Ratio

Pupil-Teacher Ratio

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| FY 2022–23 Average Daily Attendance for independent study pupils | 90.45 |
| FY 2022–22 Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study | 7.5 |
| 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 | 52.71% |
| Percentage Spent on Instruction and Related Services and Allowable Facility Costs | 71.80% |
| 2022–23 Pupil-Teacher Ratio | 12.06 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 | 3 |

##### List of Reported Entities

Reported Entity 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Boys and Girls Clubs of the North Valley |
| Amount | $62,658 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Facility Lease |
| 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 | Butte County Office of Education |
| Amount | $47,681 |
| Purpose/Explanation | MOU for Business 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 | California's Valued Trust |
| Amount | $113,597 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Employee Health Benefits |
| 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 | Ariane |
| Last Name of Board Member | Fialon |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Parent Representative |
| How was this member selected? | elected |
| 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) | 11/2022-11/2024 |

Board Member 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Tina |
| Last Name of Board Member | Hamm |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Teacher Representative |
| How was this member selected? | Rotation |
| 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) | 08/2023-06/2024 |

Board Member 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Julie |
| Last Name of Board Member | Crandall |
| Title of Board Member | Principal/Superintendent |
| Board Member Type | Principal/Superintendent |
| How was this member selected? | Role |
| 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) | 07/2021- |

Board Member 4

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Wendy |
| Last Name of Board Member | Lightbody |
| Title of Board Member | Chairman |
| Board Member Type | Community Representative |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| 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) | 09/2019-10/2025 |

Board Member 5

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Carmel |
| Last Name of Board Member | Buckout |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Community Representative |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| 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) | 12/2022-12/2024 |

Board Member 6

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Christina |
| Last Name of Board Member | Powell |
| Title of Board Member | Vice Chairman |
| Board Member Type | Parent Representative |
| How was this member selected? | Elected |
| 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) | 08/2021-10/2025 |

Board Member 7

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Margaret |
| Last Name of Board Member | VanLann Martin |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Community Representative |
| How was this member selected? | Appointed |
| 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) | 09/2023-08/2025 |

### 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.**

HomeTech Charter School is located in Paradise, CA. On November 18, 2018, the Town of Paradise was decimated by the Camp Fire, the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in the history of the State of California. Approximately 95% of the Town's buildings were destroyed, and 85 people lost their lives in the fire. 100% of HomeTech's board members lost their homes in the fire, and nearly 100% of their staff and students also lost their homes. The fire also inflicted significant emotional damage on the community. Despite the fire occurring five years ago, the school, along with the Town of Paradise, still feels the effects of the fire. Prior to the fire, the Town of Paradise had a population of 26,000. Post fire, the population of the town is 6,000. The school's enrollment and Average Daily Attendance (ADA) have not rebounded from the fire and remain volatile. In the year before the fire (2017-18), HomeTech's ADA was 153.03. In the four years since, HomeTech's ADA has been 77.44 in 2019-20 and 2020-21 (held constant due to the pandemic), 90.28 in 2022-23, and 90.70 in 2022-23. While it seems to have steadied, it is still significantly down from where the school was pre-fire. Since charter schools do not receive the same declining ADA protection as traditional districts, the significant decrease in enrollment and ADA has created great uncertainty about funding levels and the future economic outlook for the school. Facing substantial reductions to its funding, the school has been forced to spend cautiously and build up its reserves over the last several years to ensure its long-term fiscal viability. These reserves are especially important given the current economic uncertainty forecasted for California's budget and the resulting impact on the education budget.

In addition to the impacts of the Camp Fire and the COVID-19 Pandemic, HomeTech's normal operating budget has been skewed by a significant influx of one-time funding. In 2022-23, HomeTech received a "victim's settlement payment" for the Camp Fire of $186,000. This payment significantly inflated HomeTech's ordinary revenues and watered down the percentage of the school's revenues that were spent on instructional-related expenditures. The board and the administration made the decision to hold these funds in reserve in order to develop a plan for expending the funds for the benefit of the students. HomeTech's Percentage of Total Revenues Spent on Instruction and Related Services was 71.80%. Had the victim's settlement funds been expended in the current year for instructional purposes, that percentage would have increased to 82.38% and the school would have met the requirement without needing a waiver.

In addition to this large settlement payment, HomeTech's regular revenues were inflated due to the record level of one-time funding provided to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) by the state and federal governments, much of it in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. HomeTech received nearly $228,000 in one-time revenues in 2022-23. HomeTech used most of this funding to provide continuity of services to their students. This funding supplemented the school's normal operating revenues and reduced the regular ongoing funding spent on these services. This influx of supplemental funding reduced the percentage of the school's revenues spent on instructional-related expenditures, as many of these services would have still been provided absent the one-time funding. We believe that had it not been for the significant amount of one-time dollars received, HomeTech would have comfortably met the required percentage of instructional-related expenditures.

### 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.**

While HomeTech continues to feel the Camp Fire's effects, our enrollment and ADA are beginning to level out. While still considerably below our pre-fire enrollment figures, we are beginning to see a "new normal" in enrollment and ADA. In addition, much of the one-time funding that has been provided over the last several years is starting to come to an end. Based on the economic forecast, we are not anticipating receiving the same level of one-time funding in the future. All this points to a leveling for HomeTech's revenues. HomeTech's primary focus remains to invest in our staff and students and provide them with the resources they need to succeed. We are confident that the school can get to a place where it regularly meets the funding requirements without requiring a waiver. The receipt of the victim's settlement payment, contributed to the school not meeting the requirement. We do not believe it would be fair to punish the school for receiving restitution for being the victim of a horrific event. In addition, it should be noted that HomeTech charter school serves some of the most at-risk, high-need students in Butte County. Many of these students suffered significant emotional trauma as a result of the Camp Fire, which was then compounded by the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Reducing the school's funding would significantly harm the school's budget and, in turn, harm a student population that has already suffered so much.

### 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.**

Julie Crandall

**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)