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**TODAY'S FRESH START CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**4514 CRENSHAW BLVD.**  
**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90043**

**TODAY'S FRESH START CHARTER SCHOOL-INGLEWOOD**  
**APPEAL OF CHARTER RENEWAL DENIAL**  
**TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TAB 3**

**Letter Describing Changes to TFS-Inglewood's Charter Renewal  
Petition Necessary to Reflect the SBE as the Chartering Entity**

**TODAY'S FRESH START CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**4514 CRENSHAW BLVD.**  
**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90043**

January 24, 2020

Stephanie Farland, Director  
Charter Schools Division  
California Department of Education  
1430 N Street, Suite 5401  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

Re: Description of Changes to the Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Inglewood  
Renewal Charter Necessary to Reflect the California State Board of Education as  
the Chartering Entity

Dear Ms. Farland:

In accordance with 5 C.C.R. section 11966.6, subdivision (b)(4), the following changes to  
the Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Inglewood ("TFS-Inglewood") renewal charter are  
necessary to reflect the California State Board of Education ("SBE") as the chartering entity.

**CHARTERING AUTHORITY**

Throughout the renewal charter, any text referring to the "Inglewood Unified School  
District," "IUSD," or "District" as the chartering entity would be revised to read "State Board of  
Education," "State Board," or "SBE," as appropriate. This includes revising any language in the  
charter that requires TFS-Inglewood to provide documents or information to the District (*e.g.*,  
the obligation on page 124 to submit a copy of the annual independent audit report to the District  
and the obligation on page 153 to submit financial reports to the District) and that provides any  
rights to the District (*e.g.*, the right on page 156 to be indemnified by TFS-Inglewood).

**TITLE PAGE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS**

The title page of the renewal charter would be revised to reflect the date the renewal  
charter was submitted on appeal to the SBE, and to remove the name of the State Administrator.  
The table of contents will also need to be updated once all of the changes described in this letter  
are made.

**AFFIRMATIONS AND ASSURANCES**

In light of the Governor's education omnibus budget trailer bill, SB 75 (2019), the  
Affirmations and Assurances section on pages 5-7 of the renewal charter would be revised to  
include the new affirmations required under Education Code section 47605(d)(4):

- The Charter School shall not discourage a student from enrolling or seeking to enroll in the Charter School for any reason, including, but not limited to, academic performance of the student or because the student exhibits any of the characteristics described in Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B)(iii). [Ref. California Education Code Section 47605(d)(4)(A)]
- The Charter School shall not request a student's records or require a parent, guardian, or student to submit the student's records to the Charter School before enrollment. [Ref. California Education Code Section 47605(d)(4)(B)]
- The Charter School shall not encourage a student currently attending the Charter School to disenroll from the Charter School or transfer to another school for any reason, including, but not limited to, academic performance of the student or because the student exhibits any of the characteristics described in Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B)(iii). This subparagraph shall not apply to actions taken by the Charter School pursuant to the procedures by which students can be suspended or expelled from the Charter School for disciplinary reasons or otherwise involuntarily removed from the Charter School for any reason. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(4)(C)]
- The Charter School shall comply with Education Code Section 47605(d)(4)(D) by posting the appropriate notice on the Charter School's website and providing a copy to a parent, guardian, or student as required.

Although it's not a legally-required affirmation, TFS-Inglewood is also happy to include the following language about Government Code section 1090 and the Political Reform Act to make clear that we will comply with SB 126 (2019):

- The Charter School shall comply with Education Code Section 47604.1, as added by SB 126 (2019), and be subject to the Political Reform Act and Government Code Section 1090 *et seq.* as amended from time to time.

### **TEACHING CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Now that sections of AB 1595 (2019) have become effective as of January 1, 2020, we are happy to revise the affirmation regarding teaching credential requirements on page 6 of the renewal charter as follows:

- The Charter School shall ensure that teachers in the Charter School hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document required under Education Code Section 47605(l) or other applicable law, as amended from time to time.

The language on page 113 about teaching credentials would similarly be revised to remove the "flexibility" that was previously provided to teachers in charter schools.

## **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE – ELEMENT D**

Now that SB 126 (2019) has become effective as of January 1, 2020, Today's Fresh Start considers it appropriate to amend its Bylaws to re-affirm our commitment to complying with the Brown Act, and to align with the charter, key Brown Act requirements, and other new legal requirements. The Today's Fresh Start Board of Directors discussed the proposed amendments at its meeting on January 17, 2020.

## **SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION PROCEDURES – ELEMENT J**

Now that SB 419 (2019) has become effective as of January 1, 2020, pages 128 and 131 of the renewal charter would be revised to remove the offense of “disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties” from the list of offenses for which a student may be suspended and the list for which a student may be expelled.

## **DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES – ELEMENT N**

Element N of the charter on pages 148-150 would be revised to meet the requirements under 5 C.C.R. section 11967.5.1, subdivision (f)(14). The charter would be amended to recognize that the SBE may choose to resolve a dispute directly instead of pursuing the dispute resolution process specified in the charter, provided that if the SBE intends to resolve a dispute directly instead of pursuing the dispute resolution process specified in the charter, it must first hold a public hearing to consider arguments for and against the direct resolution of the dispute. If the substance of a dispute is a matter that could result in the taking of appropriate action, including, but not limited to, revocation of the charter in accordance with Education Code section 47604.5, the matter will be addressed at the SBE's discretion in accordance with that provision of law and any regulations pertaining thereto.

Recognizing the fact that the SBE is not a local educational agency, the dispute resolution language in the charter would be further revised to include specific provisions that the SBE determines necessary and appropriate. For example, the language regarding mediation on page 150 would be revised in recognition that the SBE cannot be pre-bound to an obligation to split the costs of mediation or agree to participate in mediation to resolve disputes.

## **SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES – ELEMENT O**

TFS-Inglewood's closure procedures beginning on page 151 of the renewal charter would be revised to reflect the SBE as the appropriate oversight authority, and to remove TFS-Inglewood's obligation to provide notice of closure to the District and work with the District to store the school's records.

## **INSURANCE**

The renewal charter would be revised on page 155 to meet any SBE requirements for the types and amounts of insurance coverage.

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

TFS-Inglewood is happy to discuss and revise the indemnification language on page 156 of the renewal charter to meet any SBE requirements.

## **TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS**

TFS-Inglewood will gladly comply with any additional, reasonable technical amendments to the charter as recommended by the SBE.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. We look forward to working with the SBE staff to finalize any additional and necessary changes to TFS-Inglewood's renewal charter to reflect the SBE as the authorizing entity. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
Today's Fresh Start