

**California Department of Education
 Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination
 Mitigating Circumstances Request Summary Sheet
 Fiscal Year 2017-18**

A. Charter School Information (Complete lines 1 to 4)

1. Charter Name	Taylion High Desert Academy/Adelanto	2. Charter #	1520
3. Requested Funding % with Mitigating Circumstances	100%	4. CDS Code	36 67587 0128462

B. Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination Criteria

Funding Determination Criteria	Certificated Staff Costs to Total Public Revenues Ratio	Instruction and Instruction-Related Services Costs to Total Revenues Ratio	Pupil toTeacher Ratio
100% Funding (5 CCR Section 11963.4[a][3])	= or > 40%	= or > 80%	< 25 : 1
85% Funding (5 CCR Section 11963.4[a][2])	= or > 40%	= or > 70%	Not Applicable
70% Funding (5 CCR Section 11963.4[a][1])	= or > 35%	= or > 60%	Not Applicable

C. Reported Charter School's Expenditure Ratios and Pupil to Teacher Ratio (Use data from FDF)

	Certificated Staff Costs to Total Public Revenues Ratio	Instruction and Instruction-Related Services Costs to Total Revenues Ratio	Pupil toTeacher Ratio	
Enter the charter school's calculated ratios from the FDF in Section VI. Line 1. and VI. Line 2.	20.49%	55.79%	22.4	: 1

If the reported expenditure ratios and/or Pupil to Teacher ratio do not meet the funding determination criteria for the funding level requested, review the regulations in Section D and complete Sections E and F. Sign and attach any documentation that provides further support or clarification.

D. Regulations

California Code of Regulations, Title 5 (5 CCR) Section 11963.4(e): A reasonable basis for the Advisory Commission on Charter Schools (ACCS) to make a recommendation other than one that results from the criteria specified in subdivision (a) may include, but not be limited to, the following: the information provided by the charter school pursuant to paragraphs (2) through (8), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 11963.3, documented data regarding individual circumstances of the charter school (e.g., one-time or unique or exceptional expenses for facilities, acquisition of a school bus, acquisition and installation of computer hardware not related to the instructional program, special education charges levied on the charter school by a local educational agency, restricted state, federal, or private grants of funds awarded to the charter school that cannot be expended for teacher salaries, or contracted instructional services other than those for special education), the size of the charter school, and how many years the charter school has been in operation.

E. Mitigating Circumstances (Complete lines 1, 2, and 3 and attach any supporting documentation)

1.	Explain why the charter school did not meet the criteria for the funding determination requested. Include specific measures or actions taken by the charter school to comply.
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Taylion High Desert Academy/Adelanto (THDAA) failed to meet both the 40% and the 80% ratios in the 2015-16 school year. THDAA experienced a high turnover in certificated staff. THDAA experienced a reduction of certificated staff partly due to high turnover and the challenge of finding highly qualified certificated staff in locations such as Adelanto, Victorville and San Bernardino. Additionally, in this same school year, THDAA fired their previous back office provider, Edhive, due to a variety of service deficiencies. As a result of firing Edhive in the middle of the school year, the school suffered from inadequate accounting services, poor fiscal management, and planning until the time that an appropriate firm was contracted. Since contracting with a new back office provider, Charter Impact, THDAA diligently worked to improve financial performance. THDAA met both the 40% and the 80% criteria in 2016-17. Since the beginning of THDAA's engagement with Charter Impact, both parties worked diligently to meet these ratios and operated under the understanding that the due date for the school's FDF was February 1, 2018, since this was the due date posted on CDE's website. Unfortunately, this was an error and CDE corrected the due date to February 1, 2017. THDAA missed this submittal date.

2. List and explain the mitigating circumstance(s) to be considered by the California Department of Education (CDE) and ACCS.

The mitigating circumstances to be considered related to THDAA not meeting either the 40% or the 80% ratio are the following: 1. THDAA operated under the assumption that the due date for their FDF was February 1, 2018. This can be confirmed from Bill Fond's email admitting to the miscommunication of the due date on the CDE website. Additionally, TSDA, THDAA's sister school did submit their FDF on February 1, 2018 and the school met both the 40% and the 80% ratios for the 2016-17 school year. 2. THDAA did not perform well financially in 2015-16 and the school did not meet the criteria for this school year. However, THDAA was proactive and made changes by firing their back office provider and engaging with an effective back office provider that worked with the school to remedy financial and staffing deficiencies. 3. THDAA did make both the 40% and the 80% ratio criteria for 2016-17. In FY2016-17 THDAA had 47.73% Certificated Employee Salaries & Benefits to Total Public Revenue and 81.90% Spent on Instruction & Instruction-Related Services to Total Revenue. Additionally, FY 2016-17 had Net Assets of \$2,959,346 which includes \$2,366,619 of Cash and Cash Equivalents and an Ending Fund Balance of \$2,188,265.

3. 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.

Given the fact that while THDAA did not meet the criteria in 2015-16, yet did meet the criteria for 2016-17 and operated under the assumption that they were submitting the FDF for February 1, 2018 instead of February 1, 2017 it is our hope that the board will approve this FDF with Mitigating Circumstances. We are also happy to report that our authorizing board was very positive in working with us this time to get the waiver approved in a timely manner as they could see that we have made operational improvements and were doing our best to be in compliance.

F. Certification

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the information is true and correct.

 Signature of Charter School's Director, Principal, or Governing Board Chairperson

Timothy A. Smith

 Print Name of Charter School's Director, Principal, or Governing Board Chairperson

Executive Director

 Title of Authorized Individual

4/3/2018

 Date