California Department of Education

Charter Schools Division

Created 03/2024

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Attachment 2

# Nonclassroom-Based Funding Determination Request

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This document presents the determination of funding request for Big Sur Charter (charter #1000). 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.

## Big Sur Charter Determination of Funding Request 2023–24

### Section 1. General Information

Charter School Information

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Charter School Name | Big Sur Charter School |
| Charter School Authorizer | Big Sur Unified School District |
| Charter School Number | 1000 |
| County District School (CDS) Code | 27-75150-0118349 |
| Street Address | 304 Foam Street |
| City | Monterey |
| County | Monterey |
| ZIP Code | 93940 |
| Grade Levels Served | TK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| Date Charter Expires | 6/30/2026 |
| Contact First Name | Aimee |
| Contact Last Name | Alling |
| Contact Title | School Director |
| Contact Phone Number | 831-324-4573 |
| Contact Email Address | director@bigsurcharterschool.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 | Other |
| If the source data used was “Other”, provide a description. | \FY 2022-23 Audit, the FY 2023-24 Budget and Escape accounting system fiscal reports |

### Section 2. Financial Information

#### A. Total Resources

Revenues and Other Resources

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Federal Revenues[[1]](#footnote-1) | $29,463 |
| Public Charter School Grant Program Funds (separately identified) | $0 |
| State Revenues[[2]](#footnote-2) | $1,045,570 |
| In-Lieu of Property Taxes (separately identified) | $480,783 |
| Local Revenues | $130,177 |
| Other Financing Sources | $6,287 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$1,211,497** |

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

Interest

#### B. Total Expenditures and Other Uses

Instruction and Related Services

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits for Instruction and Related Services | $489,327 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $174,006 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $43,161 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Services | $17,193 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: Contracts for Instructional Support | $52,199 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs: All Other Instruction Related Operating Costs | $14,852 |
| **Total Instruction and Related Services** | **$790,738** |

Operations and Facilities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $0 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $2,041 |
| Services and Other Operating Costs | $112,951 |
| Facilities Acquisition and Construction | $8,742 |
| **Total Operations and Facilities** | **$123,734** |

Allowable Facilities Costs

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Total facility square footage occupied by the charter school | 3895 |
| 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. | 58982 |
| Calculated Facilities Costs | $67,952 |
| **Allowable Facilities Costs** | **$67,952** |

Administration and All Other Activities

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Certificated Salaries and Benefits | $84,189 |
| Classified Salaries and Benefits | $46,674 |
| Books, Supplies, and Equipment | $5,490 |
| Contracts for Other Administrative Services | $51,173 |
| Supervisorial Oversight Fee | $11,150 |
| All Other Administration and Other Activities, Services, and Operating Costs | $3,792 |
| **Total Administration and Other Activities** | **$202,468** |

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 | $1,116,940 |
| Revenues Over Expenditures | $94,557 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | $293,942 |
| **Ending Fund Balance – June 30** | **$388,499** |

#### D. Reserves

Reserves

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | $50,000 |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | $63,363 |
| Reserves Required by Charter Authorizer | $60,000 |
| Other Reserves | $215,136 |
| Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | $0 |
| **Total Reserves** | **$388,499** |

Reserves as a Percentage of Total Expenditures

| **Reserves** | **Percentage of Total Expenditures** |
| --- | --- |
| Designated for Economic Uncertainties | 4.48% |
| Facilities Acquisition or Capital Projects | 5.67% |

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

[No Response]

**Explanation of Other Reserves:**

Total net assets with donor restrictions consisting of grants received during the year and restricted for a specific purpose. Assets to be spent in the 2023-24 school year and beyond.

**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:**

Earmarked for capitol projects for the Learning Center including new windows, flooring, and painting of the interior of the building.

**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 | 84.26 |
| FY 2022–22 Full-Time Equivalent certificated employees responsible for independent study | 5.23 |
| 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 | 45.52% |
| Percentage Spent on Instruction and Related Services and Allowable Facility Costs | 70.88% |
| 2022–23 Pupil-Teacher Ratio | 16.11 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 | 1 |

##### List of Reported Entities

Reported Entity 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Entity | Gerda Marotta |
| Amount | $96,822 |
| Purpose/Explanation | Lease for our learning center |
| Are contracts based on specific services rendered? | No |
| If no, are payments based on amount per ADA or some other percentage? | No |

#### C. Current Governing Board Information

##### List of Board Members

Board Member 1

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Chad |
| Last Name of Board Member | Bollmann |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 24-Jun |

Board Member 2

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Jennifer |
| Last Name of Board Member | Ross |
| Title of Board Member | Treasurer |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 24-Jun |

Board Member 3

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Jessica |
| Last Name of Board Member | Ramey-Herne |
| Title of Board Member | Board Chair |
| Board Member Type | Community Member |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 24-Jun |

Board Member 4

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Rachael |
| Last Name of Board Member | Black |
| Title of Board Member | Secretary |
| Board Member Type | Parent |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 24-Jun |

Board Member 5

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Susan |
| Last Name of Board Member | Graybill |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Parent |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 24-Jun |

Board Member 6

| **Prompt** | **Charter School’s Response** |
| --- | --- |
| First Name of Board Member | Chantel |
| Last Name of Board Member | Kjellgren |
| Title of Board Member | Member |
| Board Member Type | Former Teacher |
| How was this member selected? | Board 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) | 26-Jun |

### 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.**

Meeting the spending targets is a challenge for small schools as our necessary operational costs, including a student information system, internet, phone, insurance, utilities, and other support that are more or less fixed without regard to school size. Because of this, smaller schools comparatively pay a larger percentage of their budget for operational costs.

We will continue to do our best to minimize our operating costs and recuit more students to increase our student ratio and therefore our instructional spending. It is our hope that the CDE and ACCS will take into consideration the location and size of Big Sur Charter School in your review. Our unique school works with an extremely small staff to meet the needs of anywhere from 80-100 students at any given time. We have been extremely resourceful in providing an outstanding program to our families, and conscious of keeping our administrative and non-instructional costs to a minimum.

We have successfully delivered a Common Core aligned and California Standards based education to our students with a focus on our local community as the context for learning. Our program promotes community involvement and civic engagement, while striving to create opportunities for our students and families in our local area. We enjoy a good working relationship and the support of our sponsoring district, our county office of education and our SELPA. It is unfortunate that these circumstances affected our ability to meet the required ratio and have resulted in the less than 100% funding determination. We appreciate the time and consideration you are giving to this request in order for us to continue to offer our school the full public support needed to provide our students with exceptional learning opportunites.

### 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.**

Additional Information: In the 2022-23 school year, we were informed that we could no longer use the Monterey & San Benito P&L JPA as our liability insurance and worker's compensation carrier. We were able to obtain insurance through CharterSafe, however our liability insurance increased from $4,842.00 to $22,852.61 annually.

In addition, Monterey Peninsula is one of the most expensive areas in the nation. Commercial real estate is exorbitantly costly and there is a lack of available appropriate facilities for a learning center. And though we are a "non-classroom" based charter school, we offer weekly classes taught by credentialed teachers and support a unique learning experience. We also provide our students with an opportunity for collaboration with peers in core subjects and offer art, tutoring and outdoor education classes.

Last year our ADA was lower than expected following COVID return to classroom. This may be partially due to the number of students that either remained in wholly independent study programs or returned to the 5 day a week classroom. In response to this lessened ADA, we also hired a marketing firm to boost community knowledge of our school and improve our student enrollments numbers.

### 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.**

Aimee Alling

**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)