

These documents were submitted, as is, to the California Department of Education (CDE) as written public comment for **Mayacamas Charter Middle School** for Agenda Item 3 of the Advisory Commission on Charter Schools August 2022 Meeting Agenda and is posted to the CDE website to meet the legal requirements of California *Education Code* Section 33009.5. Minor formatting changes may have occurred during document remediation.

For more information regarding the content of this material, please contact the Charter Schools Division by phone at 916-322-6029 or by email at charters@cde.ca.gov.

Item 3 Written Public Comment Received via Email for Mayacamas Charter Middle School

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via Email for Mayacamas Charter Middle School

accs-aug22item02
Public Comment 3
Page 2 of 5

From: [Tony Parise](#)
To: [CHARTERS](#)
Cc: [Tony Parise](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Mayacamas Middle School Charter Petition (Napa, CA)
Date: Monday, August 8, 2022 2:39:58 PM
Attachments: [tst_logo-signature-eb70c77d-727d-4b07-b26f-9222d683.png](#)
[facebook-sm-05-ebef-70fef3.png](#)
[instagram-f1b9-71b0-71e0-7020ef1f8.png](#)
[linkedin-b1ef02-40f0aea4.png](#)
[twitter-0feab077-720d-47729741eaf.png](#)
[youtube-eb7161-6e37e9132.png](#)

CAUTION! This email originated from outside the California Department of Education. Be careful of links and attachments.

Dear Commissioner(s):

I am one of the many vocal Napa Valley middle school parents who has been both aghast and appalled at the NVUSD's treatment of their constituent families and parents.

We removed our NVUSD middle school child completely from the District, when, in what many consider a blindsided move sheltered from "blame" by direction given by the District's Board of "Trustees", the non-local Superintendent went from closing one NVUSD Middle School to additionally completely disbanding a 20+ year successful and highly-sought-after SEL learning program and school.

I remained just as vocal in the fight as a parent supportive of the Mayacamas Middle School Charter petition recognizing the need and desire for the unique combination of social-emotional and project-based learning offered by this potential new option. And I remained thoroughly dismayed as I listened and participated in many hours of "meetings" listening to outright mistruth and fabrications of data by the District Superintendent and Staff to not only manipulate but also tacitly threaten underprivileged families of the District with removal of their also needed programming "if this special interest Charter was approved". I can only sadly wonder how many hundreds of thousands of District (nee: taxpayer) dollars have been spent in fighting both the community parents, local NCOE and now this Commission against the concept of educational diversity in the NVUSD.

I am:

TONY PARISE

Member - Napa Foundation for Options in Education

AUGUST 2022 ACCS MEETING AGENDA – Advisory Commission on Charter Schools (CA Dept of Education) – Item #3

Please approve this petition so our families and community can heal and move on.

Thank you,

Tony Parise
Senior Vice President



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From: [REDACTED]
To: [CHARTERS](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Mayacamas Middle School Charter - Napa, CA
Date: Monday, August 8, 2022 2:55:36 PM

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Commission:

I am the parent of a previous middle school child at River Middle School.

I am saddened by the efforts our Superintendent and Staff have gone to deny and vilify that Charter School, its long history and the newer efforts to resurrect the project-based learning programs through the Mayacamas Middle School Charter petition.

This District has had an agenda from the beginning to homogenize the learning environment in the NVUSD. From the beginning of the stated process to "close a Middle School" to the end result of doing that and additionally shuttering a program that meant so much to many - it has never been about the children; fighting for the almighty dollar and their own paychecks (fearing a state takeover of the School District) has resulted in the District turning parents of varying ethnicities against each other while threatening program closures due to lack of available funds "if this new Charter is allowed to start".

My child will soon age out of the Middle School program but my fear and disgust for the way the NVUSD has been run has me considering non-District schools for high school as well.

Please help our community.

Thank you,
Lori Parise
Parent - Napa, CA
Advisory Commission on Charter Schools - AGENDA ITEM #3

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CHARTERS](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mayacamas Charter School
Date: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 1:34:56 AM

CAUTION! This email originated from outside the California Department of Education. Be careful of links and attachments.

My name is Alan Little and I encourage the Advisory Commission on Charter Schools to support the granting of a charter to Mayacamas Charter Middle School in Napa, California. I taught at both the River School and New Technology High School from 1997 to 2008 and understand the need for educational opportunities for students needing a highly personalized program that is not offered in the traditional middle and high schools in Napa. Although these traditional schools are fine schools in their own right, there exists a group of students who do not feel accepted nor welcome in these schools. These students are found in all socio-economic and ethnic groups and deserve the opportunity for an education that will allow them to flourish and become productive members of their community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Alan Little