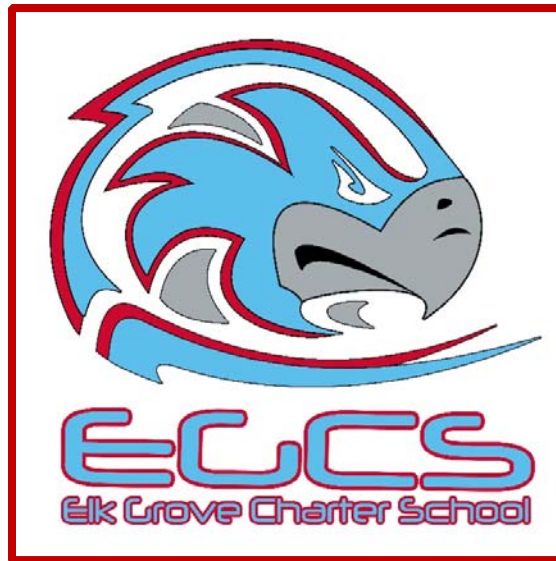


Elk Grove Charter School Petition Renewal



Marc LaVine, EGCS Principal

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Purpose of Presentation

- Provide an overview of:
 - The legal requirements for renewing a charter school's petition
 - Elk Grove Charter School (EGCS)
 - The process EGCS and EGUSD completed to bring the renewal before the Governing Board
- Allow for discussion about the request to renew the EGCS petition

Petition Review Criteria

- Each charter must be considered for renewal every five years.
- Renewals and material revisions of charters are governed by the standards and criteria in Section 47605.
- In making its decision to approve or deny a petition renewal, a Governing Board must determine, based on findings of fact, whether:
 - The charter presents a sound educational program.
 - The petitioners are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program in the petition
 - The petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the **required elements** set forth in Education Code.
 - The petition provides the required assurances regarding discrimination, admissions policies, tuition and handling of expelled students.

Required Elements

- A. Description of Educational Program
- B. Measurable Pupil Outcomes
- C. Method of Measuring Pupil Progress
- D. Governance Structure
- E. Employee Qualifications
- F. Health and Safety Procedures
- G. Racial and Ethnic Balance
- H. Admission Requirements
- I. Annual Independent Financial Audits
- J. Suspension and Expulsion Procedures
- K. Retirement Coverage
- L. Public School Attendance Alternatives
- M. Post-employment Rights of Employees
- N. Dispute Resolution Procedures
- O. Closure Procedures

Petition Review Criteria

The authorizer shall consider increases in academic achievement for all groups of pupils as the most important factor in determining whether to grant a charter renewal.

Petition Review Criteria

To be eligible for renewal, the Charter must have achieved at least one of the following criteria (Criteria 1-3 have been suspended):

- Criterion 1: Attained its API growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years both schoolwide and for all groups of pupils served by the charter school (suspended).
- Criterion 2: Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API in the prior year or in two of the last three years (suspended).
- Criterion 3: Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year or in two of the last three years (suspended).
- Criterion 4: Academic performance is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the charter school pupils would otherwise have attended, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the charter school is located.

Charter Petition Renewal Process

- Initial revision of petition completed by EGCS staff and community members, Fall 2019
- Input provided by EGUSD leadership and legal counsel, Winter 2019
- Draft and final versions of petition presented to EGCS staff and Advisory Council, Spring 2020
- Public hearing at EGUSD Board Meeting on June 9, 2020
- Request for EGCS authorization at EGUSD Board Meeting on June 30, 2020

EGCS Overview

- Authorized by EGUSD as a dependent charter school in 1999; renewed in 2005, 2010, and 2015
- Serves grades 7-12 with a hybrid independent study and direct-instruction model
- Averages 257 students enrolled at CBEDS
 - Offers continuous enrollment and serves nearly 400 students a year
- Two types of diploma requirements: comprehensive & alternative
 - 236 graduates the past 3 years (highest graduation rate=84.5%)
- Staffing includes:
 - Principal and Vice Principal
 - 9 contracted teachers
 - 8 hourly teachers (full/part-time)
 - 1 counselor
 - 2 full-time and 2 part-time classified staff

EGCS Operations

- Accreditation
 - In 2017, EGCS received a 6-year WASC accreditation with a 1-day review
 - 1-day review in 2020 was suspended
 - Next WASC self-study will be in 2023
- Active advisory council
 - Quarterly meetings
 - 5 current members (parents and community members); desire to add staff and student representatives
- LCAP
 - Aligned with all other accountability and continuous improvement plans (WASC, CSSP, SPSA)
- Budget
 - 3-year average working budget: \$2.472 million
 - 3-year average expenditures: \$2.297 million

Looking Ahead

- Opportunity for renewal, deepening relationships and re-envisioning EGCS's mission
- Next steps for 2020-25:
 - Develop EGCS's vision for the future
 - Brand EGCS's services and role within the larger EGUSD community
 - Refine operational structures including staffing processes, professional development and administration
 - Increase involvement of staff, students, parents and community members
 - Increase enrollment to meet the needs of identified student body

Findings Regarding Petition to Renew Charter

- All required elements have been met.
- Regarding academic achievement:
 - EGCS student academic performance is equal to students in the district taking into account the composition of the student population and type of program at EGCS.

Memorandum of Understanding

Charter schools and their authorizers typically execute an MOU to stipulate operational components of their relationship. The draft MOU between EGCS and EGUSD addresses the following components:

- Funding
 - LCAP Reporting
 - Supervisorial Oversight
 - District Services
- Staffing
- Special Education Services
- Data Reporting
- Budget and Finance

Summary

Based on these factual findings, EGUSD staff believe the EGCS petitioners have met the legal threshold for:

- Presenting a sound educational program
- Demonstrating that they are likely to implement successfully the program in the petition
- Providing reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the required elements set forth in Education Code

Next Steps and Discussion

- Recommendation is that findings of fact support approval of the petition.
- Questions?