



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.6

Meeting Date: March 1, 2012

Subject: Charter School Renewal Petition – Sacramento New Technology High School

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Accountability Office

Recommendation: To conference and take action to approve or deny the renewal petition of the Sacramento New Technology High School. Staff report will be presented at the March 1, 2012 board meeting.

Background/Rationale: The district received the Sacramento New Technology High School renewal petition on January 17, 2012 and a public hearing was held on February 2. District staff conducted an extensive review of the petition. The staff report and recommendation are being presented for Board Action on March 1, 2012.

Financial Considerations: The financial considerations are outlined within the executive summary document.

Documents Attached:

1. Charter Petition is located on the District web-site: www.scusd.edu
(under Board of Ed./Board Meetings, February 2nd Board Meeting – agenda item 9.2)
2. Revised documents are located on the District web-site: www.scusd.edu
(under Board of Ed./Board Meetings, March 1st Board Meeting – Agenda item)
3. Executive Summary

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Chiem-Seng Yaangh, Ph.D., Coordinator

Approved by: Mary C. Shelton, Chief Accountability Officer

Board of Education Executive Summary

Accountability Office

Charter School Renewal Petition

March 1, 2012

SNTHS timely and effectively responded to staff concerns by submitting to the District the Revised Petition.

1. *Element A, Education Program as it Relates to Special Education Students and English Language Learners*

The original renewal petition can be strengthened through a more explicit description of the services and instructional support provided to students with special needs. This would need to include how instruction is designed and differentiated to provide accommodations and modifications as well as how student learning is monitored. Similarly, the English Language Learner section needs more detailed description of how students will be supported to acquire English language proficiency and how learning of English is monitored.

SNTHS's Response: The revised petition expanded the Special Education and English Language Learner sections, which provided the comprehensive descriptions that are required for Element A. The Special Education section described how students with disabilities are served at SNTHS. For instance, SNTH asserts:

Special Education students are admitted through cooperation between SCUSD and the administration of SNTHS. All incoming IEP students have a meeting during which the IEP which during

Board of



Board of Education Executive Summary

Accountability Office

Charter School Renewal Petition

March 1, 2012

whose work hours make it difficult to come during the day may attend afternoon workshops offered by the counseling office or evening student/parent college/career workshops held by grade level each semester.

(Revised Petition, page 4)

Furthermore, parents at SNTHS also are provided many opportunities to participate in leadership roles and decision making opportunities to improve the school. Some of these opportunities include:

- Membership on the Charter Advisory Board (CAD)
- Membership on the Parent Teacher Organization (PTSA)
- Volunteer opportunities—project panels, evening presentations, fieldtrips, Career Conversations
- Fundraising
- Community outreach and recruitment
- Marketing

(Revised Petition, pages 4-5)

3. Element G, Means to Achieve Racial/ Ethnic Balance Reflective of District

The description in this element requires more detail description, including a list of several specific practices and policies likely to lead to a diverse applicant pool/enrollment. The practices and policies should be selected to target relevant racial and ethnic groups.

SNTHS's Response: The revised petition provided further details of outreach strategies in the hopes to obtain racial and ethnic balance reflective of the District. Some of the examples include:

- Lunchtime outreach efforts at all Middle Schools, K-8s and parochial schools
- Attend and recruit at all Open Enrollment Fairs
- The advertisement of outreach activities on its website, through community newsletters and in local newspapers, ethnic radio broadcasts, as appropriate.
- Bulletins and table displays at ethnic supermarkets
- Presence at local ethnic festivals

(Revised Petition, Page 18)

4. Element M, Description of Employee Rights

This element of the charter did not describe sick/vacation leave ability to carry it over to and from charter school, did not describe whether st

Board of Education Executive Summary

Accountability Office

Charter School Renewal Petition

March 1, 2012

SNTHS's Response: The revised petition further addressed employee rights and this element is now reasonably comprehensive. As district employees, faculty and staff at SNTHS:

- are part of the collective bargaining unit;
- may resume employment within the district if they leave SNTHS;
- sick/vacation leave carry over;
- continue to earn service credit (tenure) while at the charter school;
- are salaried employees of SCUSD;
- eligible for all SCUSD employee benefits;
- earn tenure per the SCUSD policy;
- are eligible for STRS or PERS per SCUSD policy

(Revised Petition, page 20)

IV. Budget Implications

Even though a negative financial impact to the District cannot be used as criteria to deny a charter school petition, the potential loss of district students does reduce available revenue. The following are estimates based upon known information:

To estimate the Loss of Revenue Limit and Lottery Funds for 312 ADA for 2012 2013 school year, offset by a reduction in expenses for teachers and supplies, the potential reduction of funds to the district is approximately \$500,000.

These losses would be offset by any fees paid to the district, including (but not limited to) fees for lease of facility. Also, one percent of the Charter School's state revenues would be paid to the district for oversight.

V. Conclusion:

The revisions made to the Petition by SNTHS meet the requirements and recommendations of the District. Staff recommends that the Petition be approved.

VI. Next Steps:

Upon board approval, District Staff will continue to monitor the development and implementation of Sacramento New Technology High School's goals and objectives set forth in the petition.

