

Santa Barbara School Districts

Board Policy

BP 0420.4

Mission, Goals, and Plans

CHARTER SCHOOLS

The districts acknowledge the intent of the legislature that charter schools are and should become an integral part of the California educational system and that establishment of charter schools should be encouraged. (California Charter Schools Act, Part 26.8 of the Education Code, sections 47600 through 47664)

The Board of Education believes that charter schools provide one opportunity to implement school-level reform and to support innovations, which improve student learning. These schools shall operate under the provisions of their charters, federal laws, specified state laws and general oversight of the Board.

As needed, the superintendent or designee may work with charter school petitioners to establish workable plans for technical assistance or contracted services, which the district may provide to the proposed charter school.

In determining whether to grant or deny a charter, the board shall carefully review the proposed charter and any supplemental information, consider public and staff input, and determine whether the charter petition adequately addresses all the provisions required by law. The board shall not deny a charter school petition unless specific written factual findings are made pursuant to law and administrative regulation.

The board shall ensure that any charter granted by the board contains adequate processes and measures for holding the school accountable for fulfilling the terms of its charter. These shall include, but not be limited to, fiscal accountability systems as well as multiple measures for evaluating the educational program. To assist the board in its general oversight responsibility, charters shall provide regular reports to the board related to the charter provisions as further outlined in the administrative regulation and any memorandum of understanding between the district and the charter school.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33054	Waivers
41365	Charter school revolving loan fund
42100	Annual statement of receipts and expenditures
42238.51-42238.53	Funding for charter districts
44237	Criminal record summary
44830.1	Certificated employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony
45122.1	Classified employees, conviction of a violent or serious felony
46201	Instructional minutes

47600-47616.7 Charter Schools Act of 1992, as amended
 47640-47647 Special education funding for charter schools
 47652 Funding of first-year charter schools
 48000 Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)
 48010 Minimum age of admission (first grade)
 48011 Minimum age of admission from kindergarten or other school
 51745-51749.3 Independent study
 52052 Alternative accountability system
 54032 Limited English or low-achieving pupils
 56026 Special education
 56145-56146 Special education services in charter schools
 60600-60649 Assessment of academic achievement, including:
 60605 Academic content and performance standards; assessments
 60640-60649 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program
 GOVERNMENT CODE
 3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act
 54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act
 PENAL CODE
 667.5 Definition of violent felony
 1192.7 Definition of serious felony
 CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
 11700.1-11705 Independent study
 11960-11969 Charter schools
 UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
 6311 Adequate yearly progress
 6319 Qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals
 7223-7225 Charter schools
 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
 200.1-200.78 Accountability
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
 80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 52 (1997)
 78 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 297 (1995)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Charter Schools: A Manual for Governance Teams, 2002

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Special Education and Charter Schools: Questions and Answers, September 10, 2002

USDOE DRAFT NONREGULATORY GUIDANCE

Charter School Program, August 31, 2003

The Impact of the New Title I Requirements on Charter Schools, March 24, 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/charter>

Education Commission of the States: <http://www.ecs.org>

NSBA: <http://www.nsba.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

Policy: SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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