

Public Call for Non-Renewal 2014

CCSA Calls for the Non-Renewal of 5 Charter Schools as a Result of Academic Underperformance

The California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) has called for the non-renewal of five (5) charter public schools across California that are below CCSA's Minimum Criteria for Renewal. These five charter schools are among the most underperforming schools in the state, have not demonstrated substantial growth over time, and have consistently ranked near the bottom of state and local measures of academic performance.

2014-15 Charter Schools Below CCSA's Minimum Accountability Criteria

1. South Sutter Charter School (Sutter County)
2. Manzanita Middle School (Contra Costa County)
3. New City Charter School (Los Angeles County)
4. RAI Online Charter School (San Diego County)
5. Oasis Charter Public School (Monterey County)

By the Numbers

- CCSA publicly called for the nonrenewal of charter schools that were not meeting CCSA's Minimum Criteria for Renewal for the first time in 2011.
- Over the past 6 years, 180 charter public schools have closed. Of those with sufficient data to complete analysis, CCSA saw that over half were performing in the bottom quartile.
- Over the past five years, California has reduced by approximately one third the percentage of charter schools performing in the bottom tenth quartile, and has held nearly constant the large percentage of charters in the top tenth according to [CCSA's 2014 Portrait of the Movement report](#).
- 91,000 students are on charter school waiting lists in California.
- 87 new charter schools opened in the 2014-15 school year.
- 1,184 charter schools currently operate in California.
- Nearly 548,000 students attend a charter school in California.
- California leads the nation in the number of charter school students and in the number of charter schools.

Summary

- Charter public schools operate with greater autonomy and flexibility than traditional public schools in exchange for increased accountability.
- CCSA and its members are committed to ensuring charter schools deliver on their promise to students and their families.
- CCSA developed its Accountability Framework in 2009, working closely with technical experts and CCSA's Member Council.
- The Accountability Framework is a multi-dimensional model valuing academic rigor, and giving schools credit for growth and for taking on the challenge of serving traditionally disadvantaged students well.
- The Framework provides the basis for CCSA's Minimum Criteria for Renewal, a minimum performance standard that CCSA uses as part of its advocacy efforts for charter schools seeking renewal.
- Charter school renewal is the time when charter school authorizers must determine if a charter school is fulfilling its promise.
- As charter schools come up for renewal, the Framework allows CCSA to support high-performing schools and identify schools that are chronically underperforming.

CCSA's Accountability Framework

CCSA developed its Accountability Framework in 2009, working closely with technical experts and CCSA's Member Council, comprised of charter school leaders from every region of the state. This framework is a multi-dimensional model that values academic rigor while also giving schools credit for growth and for taking on the challenge of serving traditionally disadvantaged students well. It provides the basis for CCSA's Minimum Criteria for Renewal, a minimum performance standard that CCSA developed and uses as part of its advocacy efforts for charter schools seeking a renewal of their petition.

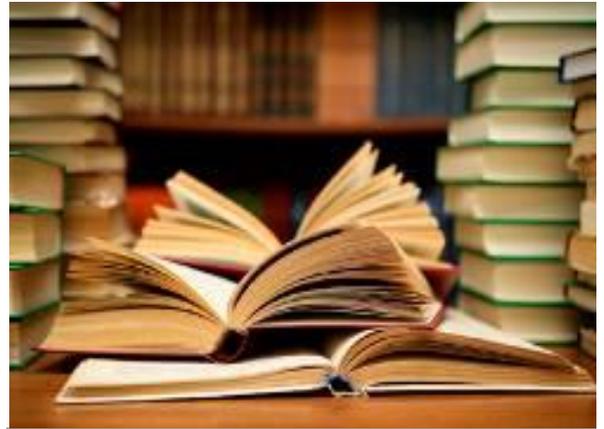
A key component of the Accountability Framework is the Similar Students Measure (SSM), which looks at how schools perform compared to schools serving similar student populations. This intensive assessment of charter school performance allows CCSA to identify schools that are chronically underperforming and high-impact schools that are far exceeding their predicted performance and making a powerful difference for students.

Under California law, charter school petitions are authorized for up to a five-year term, and may be renewed by the authorizer for additional five-year terms. To inform schools, authorizers and the public on school performance, CCSA publishes Academic Accountability Report Cards annually that show the results of each charter school on the Accountability Framework and CCSA's Minimum Criteria for Renewal. CCSA encourages authorizers to use this data in making their decision about whether to renew a school's charter.

CCSA's 2014-15 Minimum Criteria for Renewal

Charter schools must have operated for a minimum of four years and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Academic Performance Index (API) score that is above the 27th percentile of performance for all schools in California in most recent year (API 2013 score greater than or equal to 749), or
- 3-year cumulative API growth of at least 50 points (2012-13 growth + 2011-12 growth + 2010-11 growth), or
- Within range of or exceeding predicted performance based on similar student populations statewide, in either of the last two years, based on CCSA's metric, the Similar Students Measure.
- Second Look: For schools below the first three criteria, CCSA offers a "second look" process whereby schools may submit additional evidence of student academic gains that may demonstrate higher levels of growth than what is seen at other schools.



Public Call for Non-Renewal Resources

- Learn more about CCSA's accountability work: www.calcharters.org/accountability
- See a detailed analysis of California charter school performance: www.calcharters.org/portraitofthemovement
- See individual school data or pull a snapshot comparing charter schools by region or district: <http://snapshots.calcharters.org/>
- View the Similar Students Measure (SSM) Map showing all charter and traditional public schools and their results on the Similar Students Measure (SSM), which identifies schools that persistently over- and under-perform a prediction based on student background: http://snapshots.calcharters.org/ssm_snapshot
- Learn more about CCSA's Public Call for Non-Renewal (years 2011-2013): <http://www.calcharters.org/advocacy/pcnr>