

Survey For Charter School 2019/2020

Statement of Purpose

Lucerne Valley Unified School District In compliance with the intent of the California Legislative, provides Charter School oversight. The purpose of this handbook is to outline, provide guidance and support material related to the oversight process. The handbook is intended to be utilized by existing LVUSD approved Charter Schools as well as entities interested in LVUSD's Charter School oversight process.

Legislative Context

California Education Code Section 47600, also known as the Charter Schools Act of 1992, was enacted to allow teachers, parents, students and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from existing

K- 12 school districts and to do the following:

1. Improve pupil learning.
 1. Increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low achieving.
 2. Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
1. Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning
 1. Provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public-school system.
 2. Hold the schools established under this part accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes and provide

the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.

Provide vigorous competition within the public-school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools.

Charter schools

Charter schools are part of the public-school system but differ from traditional public schools because they are exempt from many state laws relating to specific educational programs. Specific goals and operating procedures are detailed in agreements (e.g., charter petitions and memoranda of understanding) between the authorizing agency and the Charter School organizers

The Charter School's authorizing agency

The Charter School's authorizing agency is responsible for adequate and appropriate oversight, including determining if a charter school is following prudent business practices and generally accepted accounting principles when accounting for revenues and expenditures and preparing financial reports. An authorizing agency may revoke a Charter School's charter for material violations, including gross financial mismanagement that jeopardizes the Charter School's financial stability; illegal or substantially improper use of Charter School funds for the personal benefit of any officer, director or fiduciary of the Charter School; substantial and sustained departure from measurably successful academic practices that would deny the educational development of the school's pupils; or any violation of any provision of the law. Education Code Section 47604 states that an agency approving a petition for a charter school that is to be operated by a nonprofit public benefit corporation shall not be liable for the debts or obligations of the Charter School, or for claims arising from the performance of acts, errors or omissions by the Charter School, if the agency has complied with all oversight responsibilities required by law.

Addendum

In compliance with the annual oversight process please provide the following information, complete the subsequent self-study survey and return to the district not later than May 1.

Charter School Information

Charter School Name:			
Charter School: Location- School Address:			
Charter School Contact: Name			
Home Address			
Email Address:		Phone Number:	
School Phone Number:		Fax Number:	

Legend

LEGEND

- ✓ Indicates an essential element of the self-review to be completed by the Charter School
- Δ Indicates an element of the self-review suggested to be completed by the Charter School
- Σ Indicates an element for an in-depth review by the Charter School and follow up by the LVUSD Oversight Team

The ratings Strong, Sufficient, Insufficient may be converted to rubric scores, Strong = 2, Sufficient = 1 and Insufficient = 0. They represent the degree of evidence that is available to support fulfillment of the board approved charter school's petition goals and objectives, compliance with contingent MOU as well as applicable Ed Code requirements.

1. 1. Educational Program	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
a. Targeted School Populations					
✓ Targeted School Populations are reflective of student population to be served as outlined in board approved charter petition	✓	-	-	-	
✓ Age, grade levels and number of students	✓	-	-	-	
✓ Type of desired student populations	✓	-	-	-	
b. Attendance					
✓ The school is using an approved student attendance accounting system	✓	-	-	-	
✓ School year and school day are published and approved by the Charter School	✓	-	-	-	

√ Attendance requirements are published and approved by the Charter School	√	-	-	-
How learning best occurs as described in approved charter petition, is in evidence at the charter school for the following:				
√ The learning setting (e.g. traditional, home-based, distance learning is in evidence as described in the board approved charter petition)	√	-	-	-
√ Subject areas scope and sequence is aligned with skills to be taught	√	-	-	-
√ Clear rationale supporting teaching methodologies for intended population	√	-	-	-
√ Instructional design and/or strategies are based on successful practice or research	√	-	-	-
√ Program is strongly aligned to school's mission	√	-	-	-
Evidence exists that the School address the needs of all students, as described in the approved Charter Proposal as follows:				
√ A plan or strategy to support students not meeting pupil outcomes	√	-	-	-
√ Programs for English Language Learner	√	-	-	-
√ Programs for Gifted Students/ Proficient Students	√	-	-	-
√ Programs for below grade level and other at-risk students	√	-	-	-
√ Programs for Special Education Students	√	-	-	-
√ Monitoring student groups' progress informs the implementation of the school's instructional program	√	-	-	-
d. Transferability of Courses (H.S.) evidence exists for the following:				
√ A Clear description of transferability of courses to other high schools and eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements is available and provided to parents of charter high school students	√	-	-	-
e. What It Means to be an Educated Person in the 21st Century				
√ Evidence that the charter school is enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, life-long learners	√	-	-	-

√ A clear list of academic skills and qualities important for an educated person is provided for each student and parent of the charter school	√	-	-	-
√ A clear list of non-academic skills and qualities important for an educated person is provided for each student and parent of the charter school	√	-	-	-
√ The charter school provides assurance that, to the extent Independent Study is provided, the school will comply with state laws relating to independent study as set forth in Education Code 47612.5	√	-	-	-

Summary:

2. Measurable Student Outcomes - Exit Outcomes/GraduationStandards	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ Verify that pupil outcomes are measurable, i.e. specific assessments listed for exit outcomes	√	-	-	-	
Δ Demonstrate that pupil outcomes address state content performance standards in core areas	√	-	-	-	
Δ Assure outcomes include acquisition of academic and non-academic skills	√	-	-	-	
Δ Listing of exit outcomes, encompassing specific skills, are available	√	-	-	-	
Δ Affirm that "benchmark" skills and specific classroom-level skills are being developed	√	-	-	-	
Δ Demonstrate that exit outcomes align to the charter school's mission, curriculum and assessments	√	-	-	-	
Δ Evidence that college-bound students wishing to attend California colleges or universities have the opportunity to take courses that meet the "A-G" requirements	√	-	-	-	
Δ Publish school-wide student performance goals regarding expected student outcomes over time regarding attendance, dropout, and graduation rates	√	-	-	-	
Δ Continuous review and updating of exit outcomes and performance goals based on real student data, including summative and formative assessments over time	√	-	-	-	
Δ Are high school graduation requirements defined and known by students and parents?	√	-	-	-	
√ If the charter school is a high school, are WASC accreditation standards, and requirements being addressed?	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

3. The Method by Which Pupil Progress Will Be Measured	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ At least one assessment method or tool listed for each of the exit outcomes is evident	-	√	-	-	
Δ Assessments include multiple, valid and reliable measures using traditional and/or alternative tools	√	-	-	-	
√ It is evident all state assessments are implemented as required	√	-	-	-	
Δ Utilization of an array of assessments, both formative and summative, designed to measure student progress towards meeting state performance standards and acquiring relevant skills leading to success in the 21st Century, they seek to measure are evident	√	-	-	-	
Δ Evidence of how assessments align to mission, exit outcomes and curriculum is apparent	√	-	-	-	
Δ Minimal required performance levels necessary to attain each standard are evident	√	-	-	-	
√ It is apparent plans are outlined and implemented for collecting, analyzing and reporting student/school performance data	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

4. Governance Structure of School	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
The key features of governing structure (usually a board of directors) are defined and include characteristics such as:					
√ Size/ Composition of board	√	-	-	-	
√ Board committees or advisory councils	√	-	-	-	
√ Board's scope of authority/responsibility	√	-	-	-	
√ Method for selecting initial board members	√	-	-	-	
√ Board election/appointment	√	-	-	-	
√ Bylaws, policies, guidelines or similar documents are approved and adopted by the governance team.	√	-	-	-	
√ Legal agreements including but not limited to a Memorandum of Understanding, or operational relationship between school and granting agency exists	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

5. Qualifications to be met by Individuals to be employed by the School	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ Key staff positions with the school have been identified	√	-	-	-	
√ All "core, college predatory teachers" hold appropriate credentials (Commission on Teaching Credentialing Certificate/Permit) & all teachers are on a path to comply with AB 1505	√	-	-	-	
Δ Qualifications (knowledge, experience, education, certification, etc.) are identified for key positions	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

6. Health and Safety Procedures	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ Affirms that each employee will furnish the school with a "background check" criminal record summary	√	-	-	-	
√ Provide the charter school address and description of facilities	√	-	-	-	
Δ The school's facilities comply with state building codes, ADA access requirements, and maintain records documenting said compliance	√	-	-	-	
The school maintains copies of facilities inspections Outlines specific health and safety practices addressing such key areas as:					
Δ Seismic safety (structural integrity and earthquake preparedness)	√	-	-	-	
Δ Student safety procedures clearly stated	√	-	-	-	
Δ Natural disasters and emergencies	√	-	-	-	
Δ Immunizations, health screenings administration of medications	√	-	-	-	
Δ Tolerance for using drugs and/or tobacco.	√	-	-	-	
Δ Staff training on emergency and first aid response	√	-	-	-	
Δ References/ accompanied by more detailed set of health and safety related policies and procedures	√	-	-	-	
Δ Safety and disaster plans appropriate to the site	√	-	-	-	
Δ Support services such as nursing, student health screening and nutrition programs are provided	√	-	-	-	

Δ Background checks and initial and ongoing tuberculosis screenings of employee candidates are conducted	√	-	-	-
Δ Support services such as nursing, student health screening and nutrition programs are provided	√	-	-	-

Summary:

7. Means to Achieve a Reflective Racial and Ethnic Balance	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ Lists several specific practices/policies likely to lead to diverse student applicant pool/ enrollment practices and policies appear to be selected to target relevant racial and ethnic groups	√	-	-	-	
Δ Number of local community presentations	√	-	-	-	
Δ The community-based organizations the charter will partner with in order to engage in recruitment efforts	√	-	-	-	
Δ Evidence and copies of the print and non-print media used by the school to advertise, as well as the frequency with which advertisements occur is available	√	-	-	-	
Δ Copies of informational materials created by the school in languages other than English are in evidence	√	-	-	-	
Δ The school maintains an accurate accounting of the ethnic and racial balance of students enroll in the school	√	-	-	-	
Δ The school has ongoing recruitment efforts and outreach programs to encourage applications from potential students reflecting efforts to achieve a racial and ethnic balance	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

8. Admissions Requirements	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
√ It is evident that the school provides "mandatory assurances" regarding non- discriminatory admission procedures	√	-	-	-	
√ It is evident that there are no contradictions regarding admissions requirements. re: conversion schools and public random drawings. Policies and practices are clearly stated in writing	√	-	-	-	
Δ Admissions requirements are clearly described, including preferences	√	-	-	-	
Δ Written admissions and enrollment process and timelines are clearly stated	√	-	-	-	

Δ Statement that the charter school will admit all pupils, as called for in Education. Code 47605. is in evidence

√

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Δ Evidence exists that the school engages in activities to provide enrollment and access by academically low achieving and economically disadvantaged students

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Δ Evidence exists that in the event that the charter school is at capacity, enrollment will be determined by a random public drawing lottery

√

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Summary:

9. Financial Audit

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

Δ The school has a acceptable procedure for selecting and retaining an independent auditor

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Δ independent auditor has required credentials-authorizations

√

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√ The mandatory annual audit employs generally accepted accounting procedures

√

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Δ The specific scope of audit is well defined

√

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Δ The timing of audit and whom it will be sent to is clearly defined

√

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√ The process for resolving audit exceptions to satisfaction of granting agency is in evidence

√

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Summary:

10. Pupil Suspension and Expulsion

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

√ Assurances that school is adhering to suspension and expulsion policy included in approved charter petition

√

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Δ Written comprehensive student disciplinary policies and practices are in evidence

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Δ Evidence exists that the school staff has a good understanding of relevant laws protecting constitution rights of students, generally, and of disabled and other protected classes of students

√

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Δ Evidence indicates policies balance students' rights to due process with responsibility to maintain a safe learning environment

√

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Summary:

11. Staff Retirement System

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

√ There is clear evidence that the Charter school staff does or does not participate in STRS, PERS, or Social Security . (if STRS, then all teachers must do so)

√

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Summary:

12. Attendance Alternatives

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

√ Clear evidence indicates that the Charter School parents and students understand that they have alternative school attendance options, they may attend other district schools, or pursue an inter-district transfer in accordance with existing enrollment and transfer policies of their district, or county . of residence

√

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Summary:

13. Description of Employee Rights

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

√ The Charter School policy clearly describes the collective bargaining agreement which will be controlling (Charter School or Approving District)

√

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Δ The Charter School policy clearly describes whether or not and how staff may be or resume employment within the district

√

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Δ The Charter School policy clearly describes the disposition (whether or not sick/vacation leave) is able to carry over to and from charter school

√

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Δ The Charter School has clear policy as to whether or not staff will continue to earn service credit (tenure) in district while serving at the charter school

√

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Summary:

14. Dispute Resolution Process

Strong

Sufficient

Insufficient

N/A

Comments

Δ Outlines a simple process for charter and granting agency to settle disputes

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Δ Process indicates whether it is binding on school or granting agency and is fair to both

√

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Δ Process indicates step by step process for identifying/framing dispute points

√

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Δ Process indicates whether internal chapter disputes may be brought to granting agency

√

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Δ Process indicates identifies specific parties to be involved at each step

√

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Δ Process indicates basic rules at each step

√

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Δ Process indicates which results are binding	√	-	-	-
Δ Process indicates the timelines for dispute resolution	√	-	-	-
Δ Process indicates the means by which the costs of resolving disputes are to be shared between the district and the charter school.	√	-	-	-

Summary:

15. Labor Relations	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Δ Describes which entity will be employer for EERA purposes, the district or the charter school	√	-	-	-	
Δ In the event that the local district is the employer, the charter's roles in the collective bargaining process are clearly defined	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

16. Closure Procedures and Transfer of Records	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Δ The charter school has a clear policy and description of procedures to be used if the charter school closes to which include final audit disposition of assets and liabilities, and transfer of records	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

17. Financial Plan	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Σ Number of students, enrollment projections are reasonable and based on actual enrolled students and students on waiting list	√	-	-	-	
Σ Numbers of staff is in a reasonable ration to number of students	√	-	-	-	
Σ There is a process to review and revise the budget for changes in student enrollment and operations	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

18. Planning Assumptions	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Δ Facilities needs are reviews annually	√	-	-	-	
Δ Costs of all major items are identified and within reasonable market ranges	√	-	-	-	
Σ Revenue assumptions are in line with state and federal funding guidelines	√	-	-	-	

Σ Revenue from "soft" sources less than 10% of on-going operational costs	√	-	-	-
Δ Timeline allows window for grant applications to be submitted and funded	√	-	-	-

Summary:

19. Annual Operating Budget	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Σ The budget has been approved by the governing board and includes sufficient expenditures to implement the LCAP	√	-	-	-	
Σ There is a process to review and revise the budget for changes in student enrollment and operations	√	-	-	-	
Σ Annual revenues and expenditures clearly identified by Source	√	-	-	-	
Σ Revenue assumptions closely related to applicable state and federal funding formula	√	-	-	-	
Σ Expenditure assumptions reflect school design plan	√	-	-	-	
Σ Expenditure assumptions reflect market costs	√	-	-	-	
Σ "Soft" revenues not critical to solvency	√	-	-	-	
Σ Strong reserve or projected ending balance (the largest of 2-3% of expenditure or \$25,000)	√	-	-	-	
Σ Capital is sufficient to cover deficits and multi-year budget is projected to balance	√	-	-	-	
Σ Expenditure for insurance are budgeted and sufficient, hold harmless agreements are in place	√	-	-	-	
Σ Expenditure are budgeted and are sufficient for reasonably expected legal services	√	-	-	-	
Σ Expenditure for special education excess costs are consistent with current experience in county	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

20. Cash Flow Analysis	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Σ Cash flow projections are prepared and updated regularly to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet the charter school's financial obligations. These projections correlate to financial reports	√	-	-	-	
Σ Monthly revenue projection receipts are in line with state/federal funding disbursements	√	-	-	-	

Σ Expenditures projected by month and correspond with typical/reasonable schedules	√	-	-	-
Σ Cash flow reflects positive fund balance each month and/or identify sources of working capital	√	-	-	-

Summary:

21. Multi-Year Plan	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Σ Revenues and expenditures are projected for at least two additional years	√	-	-	-	
Σ Revenue assumptions are reasonable based on most current data from county-state based federal revenues	√	-	-	-	
Σ Revenue assumptions based on reasonable student growth projections	√	-	-	-	
Σ Revenue assumptions are based upon reasonable. cost-of-living and inflation assumptions	√	-	-	-	
Σ Annual fund balances are positive or likely sources of working Capital are identified	√	-	-	-	

Summary:

22. 22 SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION (Education Code 47605 (g))	Strong	Sufficient	Insufficient	N/A	Comments
Special Education / SELPA					
√ The charter school can provide evidence that it is committed to serving all students, especially the highest needs students: those who require special education services; those who are English learners; those who are eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and those who are gifted and talented	√	-	-	-	
√ The charter school is an independent LEA for special education purposes	√	-	-	-	
√ The charter school is not and independent LEA	√	-	-	-	
√ The charter school is an LEA within SELPA	√	-	-	-	
√ The school confers on a regular basis with the SELPA regarding the special education responsibilities of charter	√	-	-	-	
√ The school consistently complies with SELPA requirements and policies	√	-	-	-	
√ The school consistently complies with SELPA requirements and policies	√	-	-	-	

√ The charter school has adopted policies regarding its Special Education fiscal allocation plan	√	-	-	-
The charter school approved petition and/or MOU defines and. describes the responsibilities of each party (charter and sponsoring district) for service delivery				
√ Referral	√	-	-	-
√ Assessment	√	-	-	-
√ Instruction	√	-	-	-
√ Due Process	√	-	-	-
√ Agreements describing allocation of actual and excess costs	√	-	-	-
√ Charter is fiscally responsible for its' fair share of any encroachment upon the authorizing districts' general fund as a result of the charter school providing special education services	√	-	-	-
The school provides notifications to SELPA Director of intent prior to February 1st of preceding school year				
√ Provides notification that charter school is Located within SELPA geographical boundaries	√	-	-	-
√ Provides current operating budget in accordance with Ed Code 42130 and 42131	√	-	-	-
√ Provides assurances that all will be instructed in safe environment	√	-	-	-
√ Provides copy of original charter petition and any amendments	√	-	-	-
√ Responsible for legal fees relating to application and assurances process	√	-	-	-
√ Meets terms of the "Agreement Regarding the Organization, Implementation Administration and Operation of the SELPA"	√	-	-	-
√ Provides assurances that the charter school meets the terms of chartering agency and SELPA policies and procedures	√	-	-	-
√ Assurances that the Charter is fiscally responsible for its' fair share of any encroachment to the chartering agencies' general funds	√	-	-	-
√ Meets terms of the "Agreement Regarding the Organization, Implementation Administration and Operation of the SELPA"	√	-	-	-

√ Provides assurances that the charter school meets the terms of chartering agency and SELPA policies and procedures	√	-	-	-
√ Assurances that the Charter is fiscally responsible for its' fair share of any encroachment to the chartering agencies' general funds	-	√	-	-

Summary: