

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
State Allocation Board Meeting, March 25, 2009

CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES PROGRAM
EXTENSION OF TIME LIMIT ON PRELIMINARY CHARTER SCHOOL APPORTIONMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request an extension on the time limit for 13 preliminary charter school apportionments to convert to a final apportionment.

BACKGROUND

At the February 23, 2005 State Allocation Board (SAB) meeting, 28 preliminary apportionments under the Charter School Facilities Program (CSFP) were awarded. The governing statutes and School Facility Program (SFP) regulations provide that preliminary apportionments made available with CSFP funding would have four years from the date of the preliminary apportionment to convert to a final apportionment, with the possibility of a one-year extension. Of the 28 charter school projects that received a preliminary apportionment from Proposition 55, seven met the four-year deadline and have been presented to and approved by the SAB for final apportionment, seven were rescinded by the SAB previously, and one is being presented for rescission at today's meeting. The remaining 13 projects have requested the one-year extension in order to convert to final apportionments. A summary of the 13 charter schools requesting an extension and their progress is listed on the Attachment.

AUTHORITY

Education Code Section 17078.52(d)(3) provides that the process for making preliminary apportionments under the CSFP "shall be substantially identical to the process established for critically overcrowded schools pursuant to Section 17078.22 to 17078.30, inclusive."

Education Code Section 17078.25(b) provides that an applicant may request a single one-year extension and that the board shall grant the request "if it determines that the applicant has made substantial progress towards completing the requirements for filing an application for final apportionment."

SFP Regulation Section 1859.166.1 states that the Board may grant a one-year extension if the charter school can demonstrate that it has obtained contingent or final approval of the site from the California Department of Education *and* has submitted its plans to the Division of the State Architect, or based upon other evidence satisfactory to the Board justifying the extension.

STAFF COMMENTS

Staff has been in regular contact with all recipients of CSFP preliminary apportionments to assist with the steps to conversion. While the individual circumstances of each project are different, all recipients have been working in good faith to convert their preliminary apportionments to final apportionments. The limitations put on the preliminary apportionment amounts initially made it very difficult for recipients to be successful. The SAB addressed this issue at its April 2007 meeting; however, it has taken some time for recipients to begin moving forward again after the final apportionment regulations were modified. Staff believes that granting this one-year extension will assist these recipients in converting to a final apportionment. Staff will continue to work closely with the applicants to provide assistance with the application process.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a one-year extension, until February 23, 2010, for conversion to a final apportionment for the charter schools listed on the Attachment.

ATTACHMENT

(Rev. 1)

Charter School Facilities Program Extension of Time Limit on Preliminary Charter School Apportionment
 State Allocation Board Meeting, March 25, 2009

Charter School	District Where Project is Located	Application Number	Preliminary Apportionment Amount	Number of Pupils in the Application	CDE Progress	Plans Submitted to DSA	Land Acquired	Letter of Support from District
Accelerated Charter Elementary School	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-012	\$11,756,256	350 (K-6)	X			n/a (District application)
Animo Downtown Charter High	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-017	\$12,142,552	258 (9-12)	X			X
Animo South Los Angeles Charter High	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-018	\$12,457,476	353 (9-12)	X			X
California Montessori Project-Elk Grove Campus	Elk Grove Unified	54/67314-00-003	\$11,834,282	250 (K-6); 50 (7-8)	X			
California Montessori Project-Shingle Springs	Buckeye Union Elementary	54/61838-00-001	\$5,310,746	300 (K-6); 50 (7-8)	X			
Camino Nuevo Charter Academy	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-011	\$10,964,168	338 (K-6); 112 (7-8)	X			
CHIME Charter Middle	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-025	\$3,264,680	75 (K-6); 162 (7-8)				X
*City Arts and Tech High	San Francisco Unified	54/68478-28-001	\$14,124,484	420 (9-12)				
Crosswalk Charter School	Hesperia Unified	54/75044-00-001	\$6,556,218	120 (K-6); 120 (7-8) 110 (9-12); 30 (Non-Severe); 5 (Severe)	X		X	
Elk Grove Charter	Elk Grove Unified	54/67314-00-002	\$3,547,830	189 (9-12)	X	X	X	n/a (District application)
Los Angeles 6-12 Charter	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-026	\$19,669,826	120 (7-8); 280 (9-12)	X			X
Today's Fresh Start Charter	Inglewood Unified	54/64634-00-003	\$12,605,650	338 (K-6)	X		X	
Vaughn Elementary Language Academy	Los Angeles Unified	54/64733-00-013	\$8,335,663	350 (K-6)	X		X	

*The Charter School experienced difficulties locating a viable site; however, recent developments with the San Francisco Unified School District have shown promise on a joint venture. This solution will require legislative changes, which the charter school is actively pursuing.