



Approve Resolution No. 3190: Renewal of the Charter for Capitol Collegiate Academy

March 18, 2021

Agenda Item No. 10.2

Presented by: Jesse Ramos, Director of Innovative Schools

Cristin Fiorelli, Principal

Tonight's Presentation

- I. SCUSD Charter Review Team
- II. Overview of the Charter School
- III. Charter Renewal Law and Regulations
- IV. Staff Analysis Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criterion
- V. Questions
- VI. Staff's Recommendation to Approve Renewal Charter Petition & Next Steps

SCUSD Charter Review Team

DEPARTMENT	STAFF MEMBER
Charter Oversight	Jesse Ramos, Director of Innovative Schools
Continuous Improvement and Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ed Eldridge, Director III of Strategy and Continuous Improvement • Steven Ramirez-Fong, Coordinator of LCAP/SPSA and Consolidated Programs
Curriculum and Instruction	Matt Turkie, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
District Legal Services	Raoul Bozio, In-house Counsel
Enrollment and Family Services	Ken McPeters, Director of Enrollment
Facilities Support Services	Amna Javed, Manager of Facilities/GIS
Fiscal Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adrian Vargas, Assistant Superintendent Business Services • Gloria Chung, Budget Analyst • Jesse M. Castillo, Director III Accounting Services
Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Villegas, Director of Human Resources Services • Tami Mora, Credential Auditor
Multilingual Literacy	Azarel Iniguez, Coordinator II Multilingual Literacy
Safe Schools	Ray Lozada, Director of Safe Schools
Special Education	Dr. Sadie Hedegard, Assistant Superintendent Special Education Instruction and Learning
Student Hearing and Placement	Stephan Brown, Director of Student Hearing and Placement
Student Support and Health Services	Victoria Flores, Director of Student Support and Health Services
Legal Counsel	Ed Sklar, Attorney with Lozano Smith

Overview of the Charter School:

Capitol Collegiate Academy

Years of operations:	In its tenth year of operation
Opening date:	August 22, 2011
Census Day Enrollment and Grade Levels in 2019-20:	392, Kindergarten to Seventh grade
Location:	2118 Meadowview Road, Sacramento CA 95832-1212
Independent or Dependent:	Independent
Renewal petition submission date:	December 4, 2020
Public Hearing:	January 14, 2021
Board Action date:	March 18, 2021
Charter expiration date:	June 30, 2021

Renewal Law and Regulations

- Overall Approach – Similar to initial approval, but some important differences because the school has a track record
 - Charter authorizers must consider the charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard indicators when evaluating a petition to renew a charter school. The new renewal process creates essentially three tiers of renewal.
 - **High-Performing Charter Schools**
 - **Middle-Performing Charter Schools**
 - **Low-Performing Charter Schools**
- Approve unless... Default in the law is approval

Renewal Law & Regulations

July 1, 2020 Changes

1. 60 days for public hearing, 90 days for decision (30 day extension)
2. Petition “deemed complete” by petitioners and legal timeline starts the day submitted
3. Posted recommendations and findings 15 days before decision
4. Decision meeting is a public hearing
5. Petitioners are given equal time to present evidence and testimony in response to recommendations and findings (during decision meeting)

Renewal Law & Regulations

No Changes

1. Must include any new laws
2. Look back period of 2 years plus current year
3. Material Changes for expansion (grade levels or facilities)
4. Academic performance given greatest weight
5. Due process rights to school if any major issues / concerns (i.e. Notice of Violation)

Renewal Law & Regulations

Renewal Criteria

1. Any new laws
2. Enrollment data
3. Dashboard
 - Academic Performance of significant student groups compared to state based on VERIFIABLE data
 - Year to year growth
4. New reasons to deny cannot be considered (i.e. fiscal impact #s 7, 8)
5. Sound governance, financials and operations
6. If non-renewal, “closure in the best interest of the students”

Renewal Law & Regulations

The Basics: Core Charter Performance Questions

1. Is the charter school's educational program a success?
2. Is the charter school financially viable?
3. Is the charter school operating and governed effectively?
4. Is the charter school serving public policy purposes?

Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

California Department of Education designated CCA as a middle performing charter school.

School	District	County	School_Type	Performance_Level
Capitol Collegiate Academy	SCUSD	Sacramento	Elementary Schools (Public)	Middle Performing

Renewal Law & Regulations

Middle Tier Denial

May deny only upon making written findings of the following:

- School failed to meet or make sufficient progress toward meeting standards; AND
- Closure is in the best interest of students; AND
- Its decision placed greater weight on performance on academic measures

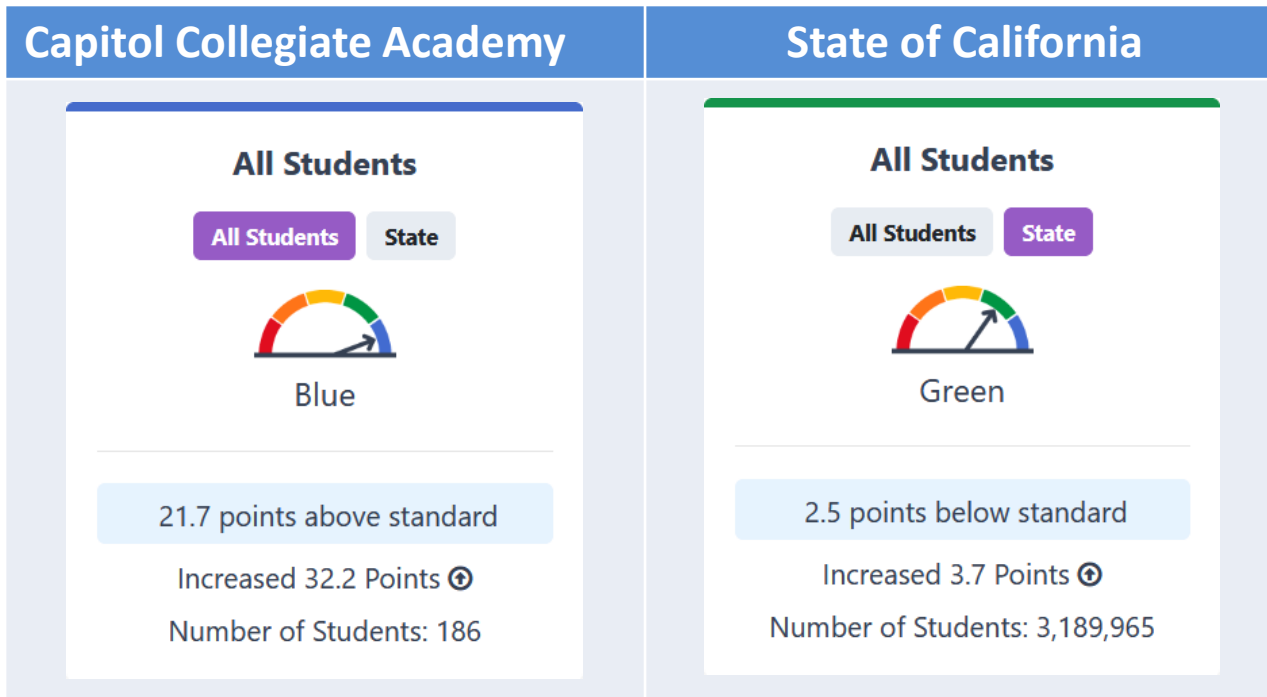


Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Did the school fail to meet or make sufficient progress toward meeting standards?

English Language Arts

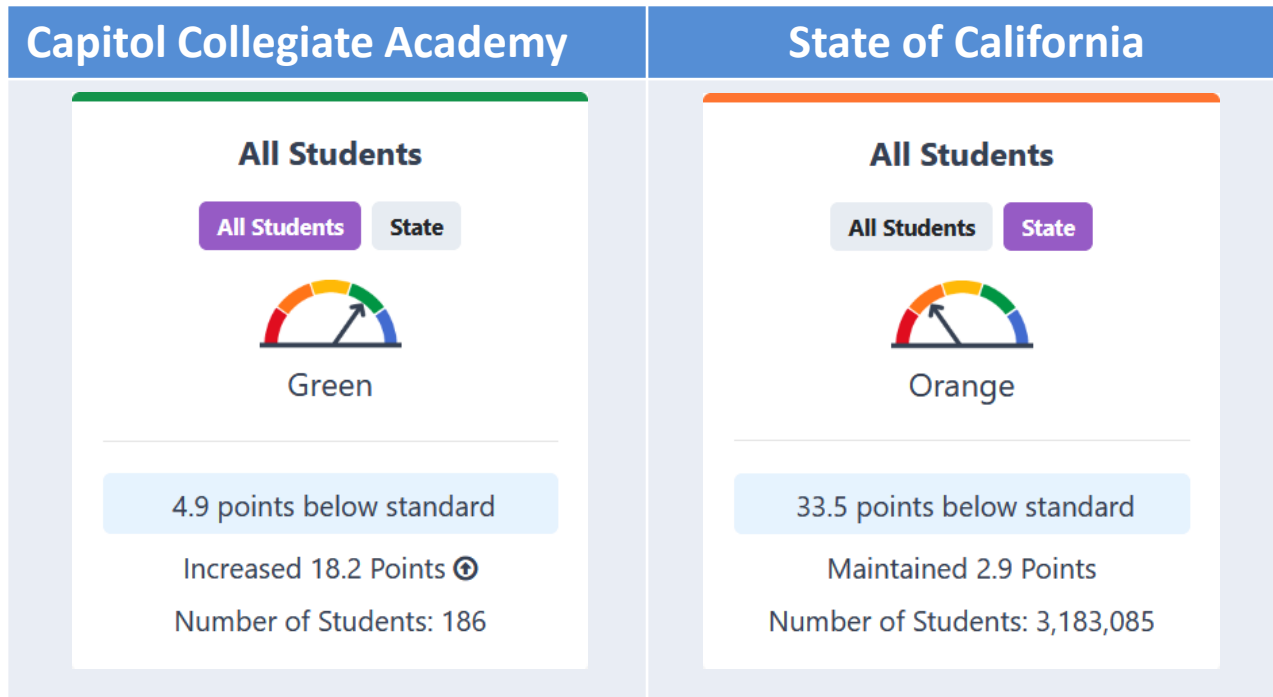


Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Did the school fail to meet or make sufficient progress toward meeting standards?

Mathematics



Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Did the school fail to meet or make sufficient progress toward meeting standards?

A comparison of CCA's performance with the state's performance on the color earned for the state indicators in the Dashboard in the school-wide category and its significant subgroups shows that CCA's students' performance was superior school-wide as well as with all significant student groups.

Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Circumstances that Impacted Analysis of Student Performance:

- California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) was not administered in 2019-2020.
- Verified Data List was not posted in time to be used for evaluation.







Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Is the closure of the charter in the best interest of students? No, because its students perform better in English Language Arts than the state, SCUSD, and than the home school of many of its students.

English Language Arts





Capitol Collegiate Academy	State of California	Sacramento City Unified	John H. Still
<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Blue</p> <p>21.7 points above standard</p> <p>Increased 32.2 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 186</p>	<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Green</p> <p>2.5 points below standard</p> <p>Increased 3.7 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 3,189,965</p>	<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Yellow</p> <p>21.5 points below standard</p> <p>Increased 5.2 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 20,935</p>	<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Yellow</p> <p>69.8 points below standard</p> <p>Increased 14.7 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 615</p>

Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Is the closure of the charter in the best interest of students? No, because its students perform better in mathematics than the state, SCUSD, and than the home school of many of its students.

Mathematics

Capitol Collegiate Academy	State of California	Sacramento City Unified	John H. Still
<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Green</p> <p>4.9 points below standard</p> <p>Increased 18.2 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 186</p>	<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Orange</p> <p>33.5 points below standard</p> <p>Maintained 2.9 Points</p> <p>Number of Students: 3,183,085</p>	<p>All Students</p> <p>All Students State</p>  <p>Orange</p> <p>48.8 points below standard</p> <p>Maintained 1.8 Points</p> <p>Number of Students: 20,890</p>	<p>English Learners</p> <p>Student Group State</p>  <p>Orange</p> <p>72.7 points below standard</p> <p>Increased 5.9 Points Ⓢ</p> <p>Number of Students: 247</p>

Staff Analysis

Using Middle Tier Evaluation Criteria

Middle Tier Evaluation Criterion, the Basics	Staff Evaluation	Comments
Is the charter school's educational program a success?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because the CAASPP was not administered in 2019-20, data was not available for 2 years back plus current year. • CCA's performance compared with the state's performance on the color earned on the Dashboard in the school wide category and its significant subgroups shows that CCA's students' performance was superior school wide as well as with all significant student groups.
Is the charter school financially viable?	Yes	CCA exhibits a strong financial position with a 42% average fund balance and reasonable assumptions used for multi-year projections of revenues and expenditures
Is the charter school operating and governed effectively?	Yes	The renewal petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 elements required as set forth in the Charter Schools Act.
Is the charter school serving public policy purposes?	Yes	It is in the best interest of students.

Q & A

Staff's Recommendation & Next Steps

- Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board take due consideration to the content of the Executive Summary and requests that the Board conference and take action to approve the petition to renew Capitol Collegiate Academy for a term of five years ending June 30, 2026.

- Next Steps

If the Board approves the petition to renew the charter, SCUSD, as the charter authorizer, will provide continued oversight by conducting annual visits and programmatic audits to review the charter school's academic achievement, as well as records of past performance and plans regarding academics, finances, and operations. Additionally, the District and CCA will collaborate on the timely submission of a signed Operational Memorandum of Understanding.