

Yuba County Office of Education Staff Report Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School Request for Renewal

Executive Summary

On March 3, 2025, the Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School ('YCCPCS') submitted a petition to renew the existing charter to the Yuba County Office of Education. If approved, the request would continue the charter from November 15, 2025, to June 30, 2030.

Background

YCCPCS began serving a diverse population of students from the tri-county region in 1995. The school strives to meet the needs of students who are unsuccessful in other local school programs. As a countywide benefit charter school offering an independent study program with Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS), YCCPCS provides personalized learning options to at-promise students. The school aligns instruction with an individual's needs and interests using a combination of independent study, classroom instruction, career preparation and onsite support.

The current five-year petition term was set to expire on November 14, 2023; however, AB 130 added a mandatory two-year extension to all petitions, thus extending the expiration date of this charter to November 14, 2025. Ending a charter term on June 30 is a best practice to avoid unnecessary hardship for students and families if there were ever a mid-year closure. Therefore, the next YCCPCS term has been adjusted accordingly.

Public Hearings

In compliance with Education Code 47605.6(b), the Yuba County Board of Education held a Public Hearing to consider the level of educational partner and community support for the charter. Education Code 47605.6(b) requires that the Yuba County Board of Education conduct a second public hearing and decide on the request for renewal within 90 days of receipt unless both parties agree to a 30-day extension. Any findings of fact must be shared with the Charter at least fifteen (15) days before the determination hearing and decision to approve or deny.

Renewal

Countywide benefit renewals are governed by the standards of EC 47607 and 47605.6. They shall include, but not be limited to, a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed.”

EC 47607.2(a) and (b) further clarify that the academic requirements for a traditional charter shall not apply to a charter school that is eligible for alternate methods for calculating the state and local indicators pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 52064.5. In determining whether to grant a renewal to a DASS charter school, the chartering authority shall consider, in addition to the charter school’s performance on the state and local indicators included in the evaluation rubrics adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 52064.5, the charter school’s performance on alternative metrics applicable to the charter school based on the pupil population served.

Reasons for Denial

The authorizing board shall deny a renewal petition of a charter school if it finds one or more of the following:

1. The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.
2. The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
3. The petition does not contain the number of signatures required by subdivision (a). **Only applicable to new petitions**
4. The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in subdivision (e).
5. The petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all required elements.
6. There is not a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act.
7. Additionally, the charter school may be denied on any other basis that the county board of education finds justifies the denial of the petition.

A county board of education that approves a petition for the operation of a countywide charter may, as a condition of charter approval, enter into an agreement with a third party, at the expense of the charter school, to oversee, monitor, and report to the county board of education on the charter school's operations without relinquishing the rights or responsibilities of prescribing the oversight process. EC 47605.6(b) and (c).

At a Glance

	Meets Requirements		Mostly Meets Requirements		Does Not Meet Requirements
GUIDING QUESTIONS BASED ON REASONS FOR DENIAL					

1	Does this charter present an <u>unsound</u> educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school?	No
2	Are the petitioners demonstrably <u>unlikely</u> to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition?	No
3	Does the petition contain the number of signatures required?	NA
4	Does the petition contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in subdivision (e) of EC 47605.6?	Yes
5	Does the petition contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the 16 elements set forth in section 47605.6, subdivision (c)(5)?	Yes

Elements		Topic	Comprehensive Description	Summary of Deficiency
A	Element 1	Educational Program	Yes	None
B	Element 2	Measurable Pupil Outcomes	Yes	None
C	Element 3	Student Progress Measurement	Yes	None
D	Element 4	Location of Facilities	Yes	None
E	Element 5	Governance Structure	Yes	None
F	Element 6	Employee Qualifications	Yes	None
G	Element 7	Health and Safety	Yes	None
H	Element 8	Racial and Ethnic Balance	Yes	None
I	Element 9	Independent Audits	Yes	None
J	Element 10	Suspension / Expulsion	Yes	None
K	Element 11	STRS/PERS/SS	Yes	None
L	Element 12	Dispute Resolution	Yes	None
M	Element 13	Admission Policy and Procedures	Yes	None

N	Element 14	Attendance Alternatives	Yes	None
O	Element 15	Employee Rights	Yes	None
P	Element 16	Closure	Yes	None
Required Supplemental Information			Comprehensive Description	Summary of Deficiency
1. Financial/ Administrative Plan			Yes	None
2. Facilities			Yes	None
3. Impact Statement			Yes	None
4. Special Education			Yes	None
5. Independent Study			Yes	None

GUIDING QUESTIONS BASED ON REASONS FOR DENIAL		
6	Does the petition contain a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school?	Yes
7	Is there any other finding that justifies the denial of the petition?	No

STAFF REPORT FINDINGS OF FACT: YUBA COUNTY CAREER PREPARATORY CHARTER REQUEST FOR RENEWAL

Denial Reason 1

Does the petitioner present an unsound educational program?

The petitioner does not present an unsound educational program.

The Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School (YCCPCS) delivers an innovative independent study program designed for at-promise students, offering personalized learning through small classes, individualized teacher support, and hands-on career technical education. Catering to diverse learners, including low-income students and those with unique needs, the program fosters a safe, trauma-informed environment, promoting resilience and engagement through targeted social-emotional supports. YCCPCS empowers students with flexible schedules, robust vocational training, and tailored academic plans, enabling them to pursue

college courses and career pathways. Strong teacher professional development and multifaceted family support system further enhance the program's success, ensuring students thrive in a supportive, student-centered setting.

YCCPCS provides at-promise youth in Yuba and surrounding counties with an innovative and supportive independent study program.

Denial Reason 2

Are the petitioners demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition?

The petitioners are not demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition. The Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School (YCCPCS) is poised for success based on the supportive aspects of the education program previously described. By fostering a safe, trauma-informed environment with robust social-emotional support and minimal disciplinary issues, YCCPCS creates an ideal setting for engagement and growth. The program's emphasis on flexible scheduling, one-on-one teacher interactions, and comprehensive professional development ensures educators are well-equipped to meet individual student needs. The multifaceted family support system will further enhance student resilience and academic progress, positioning YCCPCS to empower students toward successful educational and career outcomes.

YCCPCS creates an ideal setting for engagement and growth.

Denial Reason 3:

Signature collection

Signature collection only applies to new petitions.

Denial Reason 4

Does the petition contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in subdivision (e) of section 47605.6?

The petition contains all required affirmations.

Denial Reason 5

Does the petition contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the 16 elements set forth in section 47605.6, subdivision (c)(5)?

The petition was reviewed against legal requirements in a California Authorizer Petition Review Matrix and contained a reasonably comprehensive description of all of the 16 elements, plus the supplemental materials requirements.

Denial Reason 6

Does the petition contain a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school?

The petition contains the appropriate declaration.

Denial Reason 7

Are there any other findings that might serve as a basis for the county board of education's denial of the petition?

The Yuba County Office of Education did not identify any other findings that might serve as a basis for the County Board of Education's denial of the petition.

47607.2 (a)(b) Evaluating DASS Alternate Metrics

The chartering authority is required by CA Education Code to consider YCCPCS's performance on the state and local indicators and the charter school's performance on alternative metrics applicable to the charter school based on the pupil population served.

YCCPCS developed a series of local metrics in coordination with the Yuba County Office of Education and incorporated the metrics into the WASC, LCAP and Charter.

One-Year Grad Rate

Current data indicates YCCPCS met or exceeded its established outcome for the one year graduation rate overall and for each reported student group.

Student Group	Number of Students in the Graduation Rate	Number of Graduates	Graduation Rate
All Students	50	48	96.0%
English Learners	5	*	*
Long-Term English Learners	5	*	*
Homeless	2	*	*
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	44	43	97.7%
Students with Disabilities	11	11	100.0%
African American	1	*	*
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	*	*
Hispanic	22	22	100.0%
White	18	16	88.9%
Two or More Races	6	*	*

9-12 Graduation Plans

YCCPCS exceeded its anticipated outcome for graduation plan completion. The percentage of students completing 9-12 graduation plans increased from 30% during the 2020-2021 school year to 91% during the 2023-2024 school year.

College Courses

Although the school did not achieve their anticipated outcome of concurrently or dually enrolling more than 30 students during Fall 2023, systems are in place to support continued growth in 2024-2025. YCCPCS reported that 12 students had enrolled in articulated courses, and they continue to implement systems and articulate courses to increase enrollment.

Credit Completion

Credit completion averaged 15.47 credits in the Fall of 2020 and increased to an average of 27.72 in Fall 2024. Fall 2020 data did not include student group disaggregation. Fall 2024 student group averages were comparable to the average of overall students (Low Income 27.57, Disabilities 26.83, Hispanic 28.89, White 26.92) indicating no disparity in credit completion.

Staff Professional Development

YCCPCS established an anticipated outcome of 100% of teachers surveyed to determine their professional learning needs. YCCPCS met this target.

YCCPCS also established an anticipated outcome of 100% of staff being trained on SEL and trauma-informed practices, with 82% of certificated staff and 66% of classified staff indicating they've implemented concepts from trainings.

Due to staff training being offered during protected work time, 100% of staff are expected to attend all professional training conducted during that time.

Local Assessment Growth

YCCPCS established an anticipated outcome of at least 60% of students making one year's growth in reading and at least 40% of students making one year's growth in math with group growth ranging within 5-10%.

The most recent annual reading growth data from 2022-2023 indicates 15% of overall and low-income students made one-year's growth, 0% of students with disabilities, 21% White, and 18% Hispanic made one year's growth.

The most recent annual math growth data from 2022-2023 indicated 2% of overall and low-income students made one-year's growth. 0% Disabilities, 5% White, and 0% Hispanic made one year's growth.

Conclusion

The 2019 implementation of AB 1505 and numerous laws implemented since were among the most extensive set of laws to be imposed upon charter schools since the inception of the Charter

Schools Act. While the Yuba County Office of Education provided the charter school with ample support in preparing for petition submission, it is the petitioner's responsibility to demonstrate an understanding of legal requirements by ensuring that comprehensive descriptions and supporting documents are complete and accurate.

The Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School (YCCPCS) holds immense potential to transform the lives of its at-risk students by offering a personalized, supportive educational experience that addresses students' unique challenges and aspirations. Through small class sizes, one-on-one teacher engagement, and hands-on career technical education, the program empowers students, including those facing socio-economic hardships or emotional distress, to build confidence and achieve academic and vocational success. Its trauma-informed, inclusive environment, bolstered by strong family involvement and social-emotional support, fosters resilience and motivation, enabling students to overcome barriers, pursue college or career pathways, and create brighter, more stable futures.

The following paragraphs contain language to support the Yuba County Board of Education should they choose to approve **or** deny the Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter's request for renewal.

- Should the Yuba County Board of Education **approve the renewal with the condition that the Yuba County Office of Education and the Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School sign a mutually agreed upon MOU by June 30, 2025**, the Board need not make or adopt any written findings of fact.

-or-

- Should the Yuba County Board of Education **deny** the Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School request for renewal, the Board must make written findings specific to support the denial. In this event, it is strongly recommended that the Board adopt the following finding(s):
 - **Denial Reason 7: The Yuba County Board of Education would identify and document 'any other' findings that might serve as a basis for their denial of the petition.**