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STAFF ANALYSIS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND RECOMMENDED FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING one.CHARTER CHARTER PETITION RENEWAL

PROCEDURAL STATUS

On or about September 23, 2026, the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) received a renewal charter petition (Petition or Charter), from the **one.**Charter Charter School (**one.**Charter or Charter School). The Charter School is a countywide benefit dependent charter school of the SJCOE, and all employees at the Charter School are employees of the County Superintendent. Because of **one.**Charter's dependent nature and the close operational and governing relationship between it and the SJCOE, including the County Superintendent, the SJCOE's administration, and the San Joaquin County Board of Education (SJCBOE), the renewal Charter does not necessarily require the same level of detail and specificity as the SJCBOE would require of an independent charter school seeking approval and/or renewal. The SJCOE engages in continuous oversight and ongoing monitoring of **one.**Charter as a dependent charter of the SJCOE.

The Charter School is requesting that the SJCBOE approve the renewal Charter for a term of July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2032. Renewals of countywide benefit charters are governed by the standards and criteria set forth in Education Code sections 47605.6, 47607 and 47607.2. The **one.**Charter has Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS), so is not subject to categorization for renewal purposes as a high, middle, or low performance school and the varying renewal standards applicable to those performance categories pursuant to Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2.

The SJCOE and the **one.**Charter have in place a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addressing the general operational relationship between **one.**Charter and the SJCOE, including the means by which **one.**Charter compensates the SJCOE for the myriad services and supports provided by the SJCOE to **one.**Charter as a dependent charter school. The current MOU is attached to the renewal Charter as Appendix III. The renewal Charter includes a specific commitment to enter into an MOU that complies with the terms required by the County Superintendent or designee. The renewal Charter specifies, "*The **one.**Charter and the SJCOE shall at all times have in place a memorandum of understanding ("MOU") between them on terms acceptable to the County Superintendent or designee in their sole discretion addressing **one.**Charter operations that are not included in this charter and outlining the additional support and governance SJCOE provides to **one.**Charter*." Requiring **one.**Charter to enter into and maintain an updated version of the MOU, which addresses all these matters as well as any issues and concerns with the renewal Charter, is consistent with best practices in charter authorization and oversight

and the SJCBOE and the SJCOE's standards and requirements for charter schools under their oversight. It is also necessary in order to address the administrative, fiscal, and operational relationship between the SJCOE and **one.**Charter as a dependent charter school, and, as noted above, is anticipated and committed to in the renewal Charter. The SJCOE staff recommend that compliance with this Charter provision committing to an updated MOU to the extent deemed necessary and appropriate from time to time by the County Superintendent or designee and inclusive of the terms satisfactory to the County Superintendent or designee in their sole discretion be a requirement of the renewal of the Charter.

On October 21, 2026, the SJCBOE held a public hearing on the **one.**Charter renewal Charter, consistent with the requirement to do so within 60 days of receipt of the submission of the renewal Charter. Action on the Charter will be on the SJCBOE's November 18, 2026, agenda.

The complete Charter that the SJCBOE is acting on is available for review at: https://bit.ly/4szGwnH.

CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL OF A CHARTER PETITION

Pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(b), the standards and criteria of Education Code Section 47605.6 govern countywide benefit charter renewals. Charter renewal petitions must include, but are not 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."

Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605.6, a renewal charter petition may be denied based on written factual findings that support 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 an affirmation of each of the conditions required by statute.

4. The petition does not contain a reasonably comprehensive description of all the required elements.

5. The petition does not contain a declaration of whether the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act (EERA).

6. Any other basis that the county board of education finds justifies denial.

As an "additional criterion" for determining whether a charter should be renewed, the chartering authority is required to consider the charter school's performance on the state and local indicators included in the California School Dashboard. For this purpose, charter schools are now divided into high, middle, and low performance categories, plus DASS schools. The pertinent renewal standards are dependent on this categorization. (Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2.) Because the **one.**Charter is a DASS school, in determining whether to renewa its Charter, the SJCBOE is required to consider the **one.**Charter's

Dashboard performance as well as its performance on alternative metrics applicable to **one.**Charter based on its pupil population. Because this standard went into effect during **one.**Charter's current charter term, the alternative metrics on which it is relying for this renewal are metrics set forth in its Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). The SJCBOE may deny the **one.**Charter based on this criterion only upon making written findings, setting forth specific facts to support the findings, that the closure of the charter school is in the best interest of pupils.

A chartering authority may deny renewal of a charter school in any of the performance categories if it finds:

a. The charter school is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program due:

   i. Substantial fiscal factors,

   ii. Substantial governance factors, or

b. The charter school is not serving all pupils who wish to attend.

In such cases, the chartering authority must provide the charter school with at least 30 days' notice of the alleged violation(s) and provide the charter school with a reasonable opportunity to cure the violation(s), including a corrective action plan proposed by the charter school. Pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(e), the County Board of Education may then deny renewal on these bases only if it makes either of the following findings:

a. The corrective action proposed by the charter school has been unsuccessful

b. The violations are sufficiently severe and pervasive as to render a corrective action plan unviable

No such notice has been issued to the **one.**Charter, and it is not subject to nonrenewal on these bases. Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605.6:

I. The county board must hold a public hearing on the provisions of the charter at which it considers the level of support for the charter by teachers, parents/guardians, and the school districts where the charter school petitioner proposes to place school facilities. (Education Code Section 47605.6(b).)

II. If a DASS school is not denied on the basis of the findings applicable to the additional performance criterion, as described above, the county board may grant the renewal only if it is satisfied that granting the charter is consistent with sound educational practice. A county board of education may impose any additional requirements beyond those required by Education Code Section 47605.6 that it considers necessary for the sound operation of a countywide charter school. The county board shall deny the charter renewal if it finds one or more of the following, as set forth in Education Code Section 47605.6(b)(1)-(7):

A. The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.

B. The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.

C. The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code Section 47605.6(e).

D. The petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all the required elements.

E. The petition does not contain a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of the EERA.

III. The county board is to require charter petitioner(s) to provide information regarding the proposed operation and potential effects of the proposed school, including but not limited to:

A. The manner in which administrative services of the school are to be provided.

B. Potential civil liability effects, if any, upon the school, upon the county board of education, and upon any school district where the charter school may operate.

C. Financial statements that include a first-year operational budget, including startup costs, and cash flow and financial projections for the first three years of operation.

D. If the school is to be operated by or as a nonprofit public benefit corporation, the names and relevant qualifications of all persons whom the petitioner nominates to serve on the charter school's governing body.

REVIEW OF THE CHARTER PETITION

The SJCOE staff reviewed the renewal Charter using the criteria established in Education Code sections 47605.6 and 47607, as described above. The SJCOE's recommendations and recommended findings are set forth below.

I. Renewal Criteria for DASS Charter School

As noted above, as a DASS school, **one.**Charter's renewal is in part dependent on its Dashboard performance and consideration of alternative metrics applicable to its student population, in this case its LCAP metrics. The SJCBOE may deny the renewal on this basis only if it makes written findings setting forth specific facts to support those findings, that the closure of **one.**Charter is "in the best interest of pupils."

The renewal Charter includes a detailed description and analysis of **one.**Charter's Dashboard and its progress towards meeting its LCAP metrics.

The SJCOE staff find that **one.**Charter is and will continue to serve the needs of its pupil population and that closure of the Charter School is not in the best interest of pupils. As such, the SJCOE staff believe **one.**Charter meets the standard for renewal pursuant to the additional performance criterion set forth in Education Code Section 47607(c)(7).

II. The SJCBOE must hold a public hearing on the provisions of the charter at which it considers the level of support for the charter by teachers, parents/guardians, and the school districts where the charter school petitioner proposes to place school facilities. (Education Code Section 47605.6(b).)

The SJCBOE held a public hearing on the provisions of the **one.**Charter renewal Charter on October 21, 2026. During the public hearing, multiple people spoke in support of the **one.**Charter and there were no speakers in opposition to the **one.**Charter renewal Charter.

III. If **one.**Charter is not denied renewal based on the findings for denial of a DASS school based on the performance criterion, the SJCBOE may grant the **one.**Charter renewal only if it is satisfied that granting the Charter is consistent with sound educational practice. The SJCBOE may impose any additional requirements beyond those required by Education Code Section 47605.6 that it considers necessary for the sound operation of **one.**Charter as a countywide charter school. The SJCBOE shall deny the Charter renewal if it makes one or more of the findings set forth in Education Code Section 47605.6(b)(1)-(7):

A. one.Charter does not present an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the school.

The Charter School is demonstrating positive progress in serving its students, including its student subgroups. Students enrolled in **one.**Charter programs complete coursework through the Edmentum curriculum. As specified in the Charter, "*End-of-course exam scores (LCAP Metric 8) provide a direct measure of learning in the courses students need to graduate. From 2024-25 to 2025-26, average scores rose in most courses . . . . On state assessments, the share of grade 11 students meeting or exceeding standard in mathematics rose from 1.85% to 21.74% over two years, well ahead of the LCAP target of 10% for 2026-27*." Other metrics that are particularly pertinent to the student population served by **one.**Charter have also improved, including, but not limited to:

- An almost 15 percent increase in the graduation rate over two years;
- A decrease in the five-year dropout rate;
- A decline in chronic absenteeism;
- The largest gains in English Language Arts (ELA) and math results in the Charter School's Dashboard history;
- The suspension rate is at .09 percent; and

- The Charter School has met the standard on every local indicator in each of the previous three years.

The Charter School is continuing to prioritize and work on areas of need, including English learner progress, college and career preparation, and outcomes for homeless and foster youth.

Students with Special Needs:

one. Charter operates as a public school of the SJCOE for purposes of compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and participates in the San Joaquin County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) through the SJCOE. This section of the Charter includes a clear and legally compliant description of how **one.**Charter serves students with special needs pursuant to the IDEA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The means by which the costs of compliance with the IDEA will be covered, including **one.**Charter's share of encroachment costs, will need to be addressed through the MOU.

The Charter presents a sound educational program in combination with the terms of the updated MOU it will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

B. The Petitioners are not demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the Petition.

The Petitioners are not demonstrably unlikely to continue successfully implementing the program set forth in the renewal Petition in combination with the terms of the updated MOU it will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

C. The Petition contains an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code Section 47605.6(e).

The Charter includes the required affirmations.

D. The Petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all the required elements.

In order for the description of each element to be considered "reasonably comprehensive," it is not enough that the Charter includes a description, but, rather, the description should set forth plans or proposals that are acceptable to the SJCOE and be consistent with and not contrary to the law and the SJCOE's standards and expectations for charter schools under its oversight. The following discussion addresses some highlights of the renewal Charter. The SJCOE's indication that the description of an element is "reasonably comprehensive" should not be interpreted to mean the SJCOE does not believe additional or different terms relating to an element would need to be addressed in an MOU.

The SJCOE staff recommend the SJCBOE, as a requirement of renewal of this countywide benefit charter school, require **one.**Charter to enter into an updated MOU as deemed necessary from time to time by the County Superintendent or designee to address, to the SJCOE's satisfaction, any issues and concerns with the renewal Charter as well as addressing the general operational relationship between **one.**Charter and the SJCOE, including the means by which **one.**Charter compensates the SJCOE for the myriad services and supports provided by the SJCOE to **one.**Charter as a dependent charter school. This requirement is consistent with the **one.**Charter's commitment in the renewal Charter at all times to maintain such an MOU with the SJCOE on the terms required by the County Superintendent or designee in their sole discretion, and is an exercise of the SJCBOE's authority to impose any additional requirements it considers necessary for the sound operation of **one.**Charter as a countywide charter school.

1. **Element One: Description of the Educational Program/Plan for Student Academic Achievement**

   The discussion regarding the educational program set forth above is hereby incorporated herein by this reference.

   The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

2. **Element Two: Measurable Pupil Outcome**

   The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

3. **Element Three: Method by Which Pupil Progress in Meeting Outcomes will be Measured**

   The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

4. **Element Four: Location of Facilities**

   The Charter specifies the addresses at which **one.**Charter operates.

   The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will

enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

5. Element Five: Governance Structure

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

6. Element Six: Employee Qualifications

All employees of the Charter School are employees of the County Superintendent who meet the County Superintendent's employment qualifications and are processed through the SJCOE's Human Resources department.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

7. Element Seven: Health and Safety Procedures

The Charter School adheres to the the SJCOE's health and safety policies and procedures unless a **one.**Charter-specific separate policy has been adopted, in limited circumstances. The Charter School has also adopted a site-specific school safety plan and commits to updating it annually by March 1.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

8. Element Eight: Racial, Ethnic, English Learner, and Special Education Balance

The Charter specifies that the Charter School is actively working to expand outreach and support to increase enrollment among English learners and students with disabilities to align more closely with the neighboring districts and the county. In the Charter's overall discussion of its demographics, the Charter specifies that the Charter school implements a comprehensive outreach and recruitment plan to work towards this balance. This plan includes multilingual marketing and strategic partnerships. The Charter School should include in the MOU a specific commitment to review the results of its outreach and recruitment plan at least annually after the open enrollment process and update and refine the plan as needed.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

9. Element Nine: Student Suspension/Expulsion Procedures

The **one.**Charter is a county community school, and, as such, it may enroll students who have been expelled from another school for any of the offenses listed in subdivision (a) or (c) of Education Code Section 48915. This provision requires clarification to ensure the renewal Charter accurately reflects the applicable requirements regarding enrollment of students who have been expelled for such reasons. The MOU should be updated to address this clarification and ensure consistency between the Charter and the applicable requirements. The Charter specifies that **one.**Charter follows the same suspension and expulsion procedures that apply to California non-charter public schools and has adopted SJCOE's suspension/expulsion procedures. As such, these shall at all times be the policies and procedures that apply at **one.**Charter and may not be materially revised by **one.**Charter separately from an update to the law governing suspension/expulsion from a non-charter California public school or an update to the SJCOE policies and procedures. The suspension, expulsion, and involuntary removal policies should be readily available on the **one.**Charter website and upon request from the Charter School as a stand-alone document (not required to be located either within a student handbook or through the SJCOE's website), and a requirement to post the policies and procedures should be included in the MOU. The Charter School's version of the policies and procedures must include any updates to the positions/titles responsible for the procedural steps as necessary to correspond to the administrative positions/titles at **one.**Charter that may differ from those identified in the SJCOE policy and/or Education Code provisions, as well as to more specifically address involuntary removal from the Charter School.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

10. Element Ten: Employee Retirement Systems

All employees of the Charter School are employees of the County Superintendent and participate in STRS, PERS, and/or social security in the same manner as all County Superintendent employees.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

11. Element Eleven: Dispute Resolution

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

12. Element Twelve: Admission Policy and Procedures

In the event there are more applicants than spaces at a particular grade level, the Charter specifies **one.**Charter will determine admission using a public random drawing. The renewal Charter's description of that drawing process has been updated and clarified and comports with the requirements of the Charter Schools Act.

Pursuant to law, current Charter School students are entitled to remain enrolled and are exempt from the drawing process. In the event a public random drawing is required, **one.**Charter specifies its intent to implement the following preferences in the following order:

a. Any student that is currently enrolled in a County Operated School and Program.

b. Residents of San Joaquin County.

c. Children of current **one.**Charter and/or the SJCOE employees.

d. Siblings of students currently enrolled in **one.**Charter or any of the SJCOE programs.

e. All other applicants.

Other than the preferences for residents of San Joaquin County, whether to permit the proposed preferences is within the SJCBOE's discretion. The SJCOE staff recommend approval of the specified preferences.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

13. Element Thirteen: Public School Attendance Alternatives

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will

enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

14. Element Fourteen: Description of the Rights of An Employee of the County Superintendent of Schools, Upon Leaving the Employment of the County Superintendent of Schools to be Employed by the Charter School

All employees of the Charter School are employees of the County Superintendent and, therefore, do not leave the County Superintendent's employment to work at the Charter School.

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

15. Element Fifteen: Closure Protocol

The SJCOE staff believe this element includes a reasonably comprehensive description in combination with the terms of the updated MOU **one.**Charter will enter into with the SJCOE pursuant to the terms of its Charter and as a requirement of its renewal.

E. A declaration of whether or not one.Charter shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of one.Charter for purposes of the EERA.

The Charter includes the required statement that the San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools will be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of **one.**Charter for purposes of the EERA.

IV. Additional Required Information:

The petitioners are required to provide information regarding the proposed operation and potential effects of the Charter School including but not limited to:

A. The manner in which administrative services of one.Charter are to be operated.

Administrative services of the **one.**Charter, including personnel, payroll, business and accounting services, maintenance support, and technology services, are provided by SJCOE pursuant to the terms of the MOU between **one.**Charter and the SJCOE, which will be updated as necessary pursuant to the terms of the Charter and as a requirement of the renewal.

B. Potential civil liability effects, if any, upon one.Charter, upon the SJCBOE/SJCOE, and upon the school districts in which one.Charter operates.

As an SJCOE dependent charter, **one.**Charter is part of the SJCOE Joint Powers Authority Agreement and as such it purchases coverage through Keenan and Associates. The Charter School commits to instituting appropriate risk management procedures, which will be undertaken in compliance with the SJCOE's regular monitoring of the Charter School.

C. Financial statements.

State law requires every charter school petition to include financial statements that present a proposed first-year operating budget, along with cash-flow and financial projections for the first three years. The SJCOE reviews this information to ensure it aligns with the commitments made in the petition and to determine whether the proposed school is financially viable. For these purposes, a charter school is financially viable when it can cover planned expenditures with available revenue, maintain a reserve of at least two percent of total expenditures, and hold sufficient cash to meet its financial obligations. If a school cannot meet these standards, the SJCOE may conclude the petitioner is demonstrably unlikely to implement the program described in the petition successfully.

The **one.**Charter is a dependent charter school of the SJCOE. This means the Charter School is effectively operated under the administrative oversight of the SJCOE staff, all Charter School staff are employees of the County Superintendent, and the Charter School's finances are managed with the SJCOE's. As such, unlike an independent charter school, **one.**Charter is subject to the the SJCOE's policies and system of internal controls. For example, the Charter School cannot hire personnel, authorize a new position, enter into contracts, or pay a bill without going through the SJCOE's authorization process. Further, like departments within the SJCOE, the Charter School's budget is part of the SJCOE's budget. Therefore, all the assumptions, estimates, and projections are completed under the control of the SJCOE Business Department. It is also important to recognize that, given the dependent nature of **one.**Charter, the SJCOE's healthy financial condition overall, including reserves and cash position, is relevant to assessing the Charter School's financial health.

Given these factors, the SJCOE staff have a high level of confidence in the accuracy of the budget and projections and do not have concerns that the Charter School will be unable to successfully implement the education program on the basis of finances.

V. Miscellaneous

The annual financial audit is no longer a required charter element; charter schools are subject to the annual audit requirements specified in Education Code sections 41020 and 47605.6(m). The renewal Charter does still include a discussion of **one.**Charter's commitment to comply with the applicable audit requirements under the SJCOE Business Department's guidance.

CONCLUSION

The SJCOE staff reviewed the **one.**Charter renewal Charter utilizing the criteria for consideration and action on a countywide benefit DASS charter school renewal, as set forth in Education Code sections 47605.6 and 47607. The SJCOE staff recommend that the **one.**Charter's Petition be renewed with the

requirement that **one.**Charter enter into and maintain an updated MOU to the extent deemed necessary and appropriate from time to time by the County Superintendent or designee and inclusive of the terms satisfactory to the County Superintendent or designee in their sole discretion, as committed to in the renewal Charter, and that the SJCBOE adopt proposed Board Resolution #26-27-09 Approving the Renewal of the **one.**Charter Petition with Requirements.

PROPOSED MOTION

Motion to approve the **one.**Charter renewal Charter and adopt Resolution #26-27-09 Approving the Renewal of the **one.**Charter Petition with Requirements.