CHOICES CHARTER SCHOOL
An Extraordinary Choice

A FREE Personalized Learning Public Charter School

San Juan Unified SCHOOL DISTRICT

Melissa Bassanelli, Superintendent
Brent Givens, Director

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
3:00 pm Room 4

Meeting summary
The third and final Advisory Council meeting of the year focused on reviewing Choices Charter School's enrollment data, Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) metrics, and overall school performance. The school reported 282 students enrolled as of April 29th, which was 6 more students than the same period the previous year, with the senior class showing the largest growth. Key data points included significant improvements in iReady assessment results showing 25 percentage points improvement in reading and 17 points in math, while CASP test results showed equity in performance between socioeconomically disadvantaged students and all students. The school's graduation rate was discussed, with current data showing 71% for all students, though this was affected by a data submission error in 2024, and the school is working with Sacramento County Office of Education to improve this metric. The meeting also covered updates on the school's charter renewal process, teacher retirements and hiring, and upcoming events including a field day and summer school credit recovery program.

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting –February 4, 2026
No changes to last meetings minutes. Approval of the minutes: Unanimous.
Kori Moore makes a motion to approve the minutes. Russell Brown Moore seconds the motion.

School Enrollment and Budget Review
The meeting focused on reviewing the school's enrollment and budget status. Brent Givens reported that as of April 29th, the school had 282 students, which was slightly lower than the previous year's 288 students, but noted an increase in senior enrollment. The school met its budget goal with an average daily attendance of 261.31 students, exceeding the target of 250 students. Kristin O'Brien discussed the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), which outlines how the school will spend LCFF dollars to support student learning and address achievement gaps for various student subgroups, including socioeconomically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English learners.

Student Achievement Data Review
Brent presented data on student achievement and discussed the three goals of the LCAP (student achievement, student engagement, and school conditions). He shared iReady assessment results showing significant improvements in students achieving at or above grade level in reading and math, with 25% and 17% percentage point improvements respectively. Brent also reviewed CASP and ELPAC data, noting challenges with student turnover affecting data accuracy and the importance of helping students understand the significance of these mandated state tests.

College and Career Dashboard Updates

Brent discussed the College and Career Indicator on the California School Dashboard, noting that most Choices students are not on traditional four-year university paths but still plan to attend college or trade school. He highlighted positive statistics from the senior exit survey, including that 50% of graduates believe they would not have completed high school without Choices and 72% plan to attend college or trade school. Regarding student engagement and course access, Brent reported that chronic absenteeism rates have improved and are now below the state average at 12% overall, compared to the state's 17%. He also addressed challenges with graduation rate data in 2024 due to a submission error, explaining the steps taken to address the issue, including implementing a Tier 3 engagement framework and improving data entry processes.

School Performance and Goals Review
Brent discussed the school's performance and goals, highlighting their focus on independent study and maintaining a smaller student body to provide personalized support. He mentioned a target graduation rate of over 80% for seniors, which is within reach according to the county's data analysis. The school also reported high satisfaction rates from student and parent surveys, with exceptional results in safety, equity, and belonging metrics, and zero suspension and expulsion rates. Brent concluded by reviewing action items from the LCAP plan, noting which initiatives were still pending implementation.

Advisory Council Meeting Updates
Brent led a meeting of the Advisory Council, requesting feedback on a survey about services and asking participants to review the last three pages of a document. He provided updates on the school's activities, including the renewal of their charter, teacher retirements and hires, and the completion of CASP testing. The council was informed about an upcoming Thrive Club field day and barbecue event on May 28th and a planned summer school program for credit recovery. Brent also shared a tentative schedule for next year's Advisory Council meetings and thanked participants for their time.

Next Steps

Brent Givens

- Send email to students (likely tomorrow morning) with instructions for participating in Teacher Appreciation Week activities, including the feedback survey for teachers.

Collaboration

- All Advisory Council members: Review the LCAP action/service list (pages 9-11) and complete the linked feedback survey with input on services to add, discontinue, or improve, by next Monday (before LCAP submission).
- Brent Givens and Kristin O'Brien: Finalize the new charter petition with consultant and law firm review and share with staff before submission to San Juan Unified School District Board in the fall.
- Brent Givens and hiring team: Continue math teacher interviews and hiring process to fill the remaining open math teaching position.
- Brent Givens and staff: Complete CASP testing make-up week to reach 95% student participation and avoid state penalties.
- Brent Givens and staff: Organize and implement the summer school credit recovery program, including scheduling in-person testing sessions.
- All students: Participate in Teacher Appreciation Week by writing thank you notes (in person or via survey) for teachers, as per instructions from Brent Givens.

Next Advisory Meeting – October 28, 2026
Meeting Adjourned 3:59 pm

Meetings are open to the public