

**SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOLS  
STAFF REPORT, PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT & RECOMMENDATION  
CONCERNING THE SANTA ROSA ACCELERATED CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL  
PETITION**

**Date Posted: May 26, 2026**

The following provides a summary of the Santa Rosa City Schools (“SRCS”) staff report, proposed findings of fact, and recommendation concerning the Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School (“SRACS”) charter renewal petition (“Renewal Petition”).

**Introduction and Procedural Background**

Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School (“SRACS”) has operated as a classroom-based charter school pursuant to the authorization of the Santa Rosa High School District since 2002. The Santa Rosa Elementary School District and the Santa Rosa High School District function as a “common administration district” known as Santa Rosa City Schools (“SRCS”) and operate under one superintendent, governing board, and administration. SRCS and its Board retain overall governance authority over SRACS.

SRACS seeks to continue serving a population of 128 students in fifth and sixth grades and offers an accelerated academic program located on a middle school campus. According to the most recent data available on the California School Dashboard (“Dashboard”), SRACS’ student population consists of 14.8% socioeconomically disadvantaged students, 1.6% English Learners, 0% foster youth, and 3.9% students with disabilities. SRACS’ current charter term expires on June 30, 2026, and it is seeking a seven-year renewal term beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2033.

Although SRACS operates within its authorizing district, the Santa Rosa High School District, its facility is also located within the Rincon Valley Union School District (“Rincon Valley”). Because SRACS serves students in overlapping grade levels with Rincon Valley, it requested approval from Rincon Valley under Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A) to continue operating its site at the current location. On April 22, 2026, Rincon Valley provided SRCS with a letter confirming that its Board of Trustees approved the request, which was based on SRACS operating only grades 5 and 6 with a combined enrollment of 128 students. A copy of the letter is attached to this staff report as Exhibit A.

On or about May 12, 2026, following a series of updates and revisions, SRCS received a final copy of SRACS’ Renewal Petition.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The SRCS Board initially held a public hearing on the Renewal Petition on April 8, 2026. However, because substantive revisions were subsequently made to the document following the hearing, it convened an additional public hearing on May 13, 2026 to determine the level of support for the updated, final version of the Renewal Petition.

On May 13, 2026, SRCS’ Board of Trustees (“Board”) held a public hearing to determine the level of support for the Renewal Petition by teachers, other SRCS employees, and parents/guardians.

On June 10, 2026, SRCS’ Board will hold a public hearing on the Renewal Petition during which the Board will consider the admissions preferences of the charter school and take action to either grant or deny the Renewal Petition.

As discussed in further detail below, SRCS’ staff, in consultation with legal counsel, has conducted an extensive analysis of the Renewal Petition and its accompanying exhibits. SRCS’ review team also carefully evaluated the legal grounds articulated in the Education Code for purposes of determining whether the Renewal Petition meets the minimum standards for approval. SRCS staff has determined that SRACS offers a sound educational program and is likely to continue successfully implementing the charter school. As such, SRCS staff has determined that the Renewal Petition meets the minimum requirements under the Education Code for approval.

Based on its analysis, SRCS staff recommends that the Board **approve** SRACS’ Renewal Petition (along with any conditions that may be specified by the Board) for a renewal term of five to seven years, beginning on July 1, 2026.

**Executive Summary**

Below is an executive summary of SRCS staff’s findings regarding the Renewal Petition:

**Eligibility for Renewal and Level of Review Based on Performance Tier**

Performance Level: Low, Middle, or High Performing <i>(as determined by the District and/or assigned by CDE)</i>		High Performing
a.	Has the charter school failed to make sufficient progress toward meeting standards that provide benefit to the charter school’s students?	No
b.	Is closure of the charter school in the best interests of students?	No
c.	Did the decision provide greater weight to performance on measures of academic performance?	N/A

**Requirements for Renewal of Charter**

Has a notice to cure an alleged violation been issued regarding: 1. substantial fiscal or governance concerns or 2. the charter not serving all students who wish to attend	No
a. If notice was issued, has a written response been submitted?	N/A

b. Has a corrective action plan been provided?		<b>N/A</b>
i. If submitted, is the corrective action plan sufficient to resolve or remedy the identified fiscal and/or governance concerns?		<b>N/A</b>
Does the charter petition demonstrate any additional legal grounds for denial?		<b>No</b>
1.	Does the charter present a sound educational program?	<b>Generally, yes, but see findings below.</b>
2.	Are petitioners demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition?	<b>No</b>
3.	Does the petition contain an affirmation of each of the required conditions?	<b>Yes</b>
4.	Does the petition contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all required elements described below?	<b>Generally, yes, but see findings below.</b>
5.	Does the petition contain a declaration of whether the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the charter school's employees?	<b>Yes</b>

### Review of the Required Petition Elements

<b>REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF THE PETITION</b>			
<b>No.</b>	<b>Element / Category</b>	<b>Reasonably Comprehensive?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1	Description of Educational Program	<b>Yes</b>	With noted findings below.
2	Measurable Student Outcomes	<b>Yes</b>	With noted findings below.
3	Methods for Measuring Student Progress	<b>Yes</b>	
4	Governance Structure	<b>Yes</b>	
5	Employee Qualifications	<b>Yes</b>	With noted findings below.
6	Health and Safety Procedures	<b>Yes</b>	

7	Balance of Students from Different Student Groups	<b>Yes</b>	With noted findings below.
8	Admissions & Lottery Procedures	<b>Yes</b>	
9	Annual Independent Financial Audits	<b>Yes</b>	
10	Student Discipline Procedures	<b>Yes</b>	
11	Retirement Systems	<b>Yes</b>	
12	Public School Attendance Alternatives	<b>Yes</b>	
13	Post-Employment Rights of Employees	<b>Yes</b>	
14	Dispute Resolution Procedures	<b>Yes</b>	
15	Closure Procedures	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Required Supplemental Information</b>		<b>Reasonably Comprehensive?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Operations and Administrative Plan		<b>Yes</b>	
Civil Liability Effects		<b>Yes</b>	
Facilities		<b>Yes</b>	

**I. Accountability Criteria for Renewal under Education Code Sections 47607 and 47607.2 and Corresponding Findings of Fact**

The consideration of a renewal petition requires SRCS to: (1) determine whether the charter school meets applicable eligibility requirements using the accountability criteria detailed in Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2 and reflected in the Dashboard, and (2) evaluate whether the Renewal Petition meets the standards and criteria set forth in Education Code section 47605. An analysis of these two components of the charter renewal process is addressed in detail below and includes SRCS staff’s corresponding findings of fact.

**Eligibility for Renewal and Level of Review**

Education Code section 47607 provides that a “chartering authority may grant one or more subsequent renewals pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) and Section 47607.2.” These provisions detail a three-tiered system that categorizes a charter school as a high-performing,

middle-performing, or low-performing charter school. The designation of a charter school in a particular tier determines the level of review that the chartering authority must conduct to evaluate whether the charter school is eligible for renewal of its charter.

Charter schools that fall in the high-performing category under either criterion are eligible for presumptive renewal. Charter schools that fall in the low-performing category under either criterion are treated as a presumptive non-renewal.

The California Department of Education provides access on its website to a list of California public charter schools and the respective performance tier to which they have been assigned based on the criteria set forth in Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2. This list is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/performcategory.asp>.

### **Determination of Performance Category.**

A charter school’s performance category (i.e., high, middle, or low) is determined according to the following two criteria:

#### Criterion 1: Performance Color

Criterion 1 is based on the performance colors received for all of the state indicators on the Dashboard for the two previous Dashboard years. The Dashboard state indicators include the following:

- English language arts/literacy (“ELA”)
- Mathematics
- Science
- English Learner Progress Indicator (“ELPI”)
- College/Career Indicator (“CCI”) (*applicable to high school programs only*)
- Chronic Absenteeism Indicator
- Suspension Rate Indicator
- Graduation Rate Indicator (*applicable to high school programs only*)

The following conditions apply for considering a charter school’s eligibility for renewal under Criterion 1:

- The charter school must have at least two academic indicators that are assigned a performance color for each of the two Dashboard years. (The two academic indicators that are assigned a performance color do not need to be the same indicators each year.)
- **High Performing:** The charter school has **Blue** and/or **Green** on all state indicators for two years.

- **Low Performing:** The charter school has **Red** and/or **Orange** on all state indicators for two years.

Charter schools that do not meet Criterion 1 requirements for presumptive renewal or non-renewal are subject analysis under Criterion 2.

### Criterion 2: Status

Criterion 2 looks at the "Status" (also known as current year data) for all academic indicators with a performance color for the two previous Dashboard years. Per Education Code section 47607(c)(3), the applicable academic indicators subject to review include the following:

- ELA
- Mathematics
- Science
- ELPI
- CCI

Performance determinations under Criterion 2 are based on the **overall Status** for the charter school **and** its student groups, and how they compare with the statewide averages for the two previous Dashboard years. The state's Status is used as the "statewide average" for the academic indicators.

A charter school falls within the High Performing category (and is, therefore, eligible for a presumptive renewal) based on the following:

The charter school's academic indicators with a performance color must reflect an overall Status that is the **same or higher** than the overall Status for the State of California. After removing the student groups that performed **higher** than or at the **same** level as the statewide average, all remaining student groups with a color that scored higher than their respective student group statewide average (i.e., received a higher Status score on the indicator) must be identified. To be placed in the High Performing tier, the charter school must have at least two remaining student groups that receive a color across the prior two Dashboard years, and each group must have at least two academic indicators with colors in *each* of the two Dashboard years. In addition, a majority of the charter school's student groups with performance colors must have scored **higher** than the statewide average for their respective student groups.

Alternatively, a charter school falls within the Low Performing category (and is, therefore, considered for a presumptive non-renewal) based on the following:

The charter school's academic indicators with a performance color must reflect an overall Status that is the **same or lower** than the overall Status for the State of California. After removing the student groups that performed **higher** than or at the **same** level as the statewide average, all remaining student groups with a color that scored lower than their

respective student group statewide average (i.e., received a lower Status score on the indicator) must be identified. To be placed in the Low Performing tier, the charter school must have at least two remaining student groups that receive a color across the prior two Dashboard years, and each group must have at least two academic indicators with colors in *each* of the two Dashboard years. In addition, a majority of the charter school's student groups with performance colors must have scored **lower** than the statewide average for their respective student group.

A charter school that does not fall within the High Performing or Low Performing tiers is assigned to the Middle Performing tier. Charter schools that are designated as Middle Performing are eligible for a presumptive renewal of their respective charters for a five-year term.

### **Additional Grounds for Denial Notwithstanding Eligibility for Renewal Based on Academic Performance Tier**

SRCS' Board may also deny the renewal of a charter school, notwithstanding the standards set forth in Education Code sections 47607(c) and 47607.2, upon a finding that the charter school is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program due to substantial fiscal or governance factors, or the charter school is not serving all students who wish to attend, as documented under Education Code section 47607(d). (Educ. Code § 47607(e).) If the Board determines that denial is warranted, it must provide specific written findings detailing the reasons for the decision and that closure is in the best interest of the students.

Prior to denial under Education Code section 47607(e), the authorizing district must provide the charter school with at least 30 days' notice and a reasonable opportunity to remedy the violation(s). The district must then make a finding that either the corrective action proposed by the charter school has been unsuccessful, or the violation(s) are sufficiently severe and pervasive that a corrective action is not viable.

Here, SRCS did not identify substantial fiscal or governance factors pertaining to SRACS or otherwise determine that SRACS is not serving all students who wish to attend. Therefore, no proposed findings were made pursuant to Education Code section 47607(e).

### **Summary of Academic Performance Renewal Analysis**

SRACS falls within the High Performing Tier because it meets the requirements for this tier under Criterion 1. SRACS has demonstrated strong academic performance over the past two years, receiving performance colors of Green or Blue on all state indicators, with the exception of the English Learner Progress Index ("ELPI"), for which it received no performance color or displayed data due to the low number of EL students assessed.

The following include SRCS staff's findings of fact concerning SRACS' designation as a high-performing charter school.

**Finding of Fact No. 1: SRCS has determined that SRACS falls within the High Performing tier under Criterion 1 based on its performance as reflected on the Dashboard.**

According to SRCS staff’s analysis and the California Department of Education performance tier data, SRACS qualifies as a High Performing charter school.

On the most recent 2025 Dashboard, data shows that SRACS received the following performance levels on a schoolwide basis:

- English-Language Arts (“ELA”): **Blue** (87.1 points above standard, with an increase of 5.5 points)
- Mathematics: **Blue** (84.5 points above standard, with an increase of 8 points)
- Science<sup>2</sup>: **Green** (75.4 science points, declined 4 points)
- English Learner Progress<sup>3</sup>: No Performance Color
- Chronic Absenteeism: **Green** (3.9% chronically absent, declined 2.2%)
- Suspension Rate: **Blue** (0% suspended at least one day, maintained 0%)

The following table depicts the 2024 and 2025 performance colors that SRACS received on all state indicators:

<b>State Indicator</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
English Language Arts	Blue	Blue
Mathematics	Blue	Blue
Science	Grey	Green
English Learner Progress	Grey	Grey
Chronic Absenteeism Rate	Green	Green
Suspension Rate	Blue	Blue

As depicted above, SRACS received all Blue and Green performance colors across all indicators for both 2024 and 2025, with the exception of English Learner Progress, which received no performance color due to the low number of students in this category. As a result, SRACS meets the High Performing criteria under Criterion 1.

<sup>2</sup> The Science Indicator was listed on the 2025 Dashboard for informational purposes due to an adjustment in the measurement and reporting of the Science data.

<sup>3</sup>As stated above, no data was displayed or performance color provided due to there being fewer than 11 students identified by the Dashboard.

Accordingly, SRCS did not need to consider SRACS' overall schoolwide performance, or the performance of its student groups, in comparison to the state on the ELA, Math, and ELPI indicators, as would be required under Criterion 2.

In January 2026, the CDE released the performance tier placement data for California charter schools, which specifies the placement tier and the qualifying Criterion, if any.<sup>4</sup> According to the CDE, SRACS meets the High Performing tier criteria under Criterion 1. Therefore, CDE designated SRACS in the High Performing Tier.

### **Conclusion**

Because SRACS qualifies as a High Performing charter school, a renewal shall be granted for a period of five to seven years to a charter school that is not eligible for technical assistance pursuant to Education Code 47607.3 and that, for two consecutive years immediately preceding the renewal, or for two of the most recent years for which state data is available preceding the renewal achieved either of the following:

- Received the two highest performance levels schoolwide on all the state indicators included in the Dashboard for which the charter school receives performance levels, provided the charter school has schoolwide performance levels on at least two measurements of academic performance per year in each of the two years.
- For all measurements of academic performance, received performance levels schoolwide that are the same or higher than the state average and, for a majority of numerically significant student subgroups performing statewide below the state average in each respective year, received performance levels that are higher than the state average, provided that the charter school has performance levels on at least two measurements of academic performance for at least two subgroups.

(Education Code 47607.)

Placement in this tier requires SRCS to evaluate updates to the renewal petition which shall include a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed and, as necessary, to reflect the current program offered by the charter school. By satisfying these criteria, the SRCS' Board must grant a renewal term of five to seven years, except as specified below.

SRCS' Board may deny the renewal of a charter school in the high-performing tier only upon making specific written findings that the charter school has demonstrated substantial fiscal or governance concerns and/or that the charter school is not serving all students who wish to attend. Such findings, however, must be preceded with written notice from the authorizer

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<sup>4</sup> This data was updated on April 2, 2026.

and at least a 30-day opportunity for the charter school to cure the deficiencies or develop a corrective action plan that addresses how the charter school will remedy the violations.

As stated above, SRCS did not identify substantial fiscal or governance factors pertaining to SRACS or otherwise determine that SRACS is not serving all students who wish to attend.

Therefore, SRACS is entitled to a presumptive renewal of a term of five to seven years, pending any significant findings regarding the reasonable comprehensiveness of the Renewal Petition's description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed and, as necessary, to reflect the current program offered by the charter school.

## **II. Charter Petition Renewal Criteria Under Education Code Section 47605 and Corresponding Findings of Fact**

### **Summary**

SRCS' review team performed a comprehensive review of the Renewal Petition, which included an analysis of the proposed educational program, measurable student outcomes, methods for measuring student progress, fiscal and governance structures, student admissions, and legal issues. Overall, the Renewal Petition, as written, generally demonstrates a sound instructional program, with some deficiencies and omissions noted by SRCS. Additionally, SRCS has some concerns regarding the balance of student groups in SRACS' population.

Below, SRCS staff presents its findings of fact addressing the general categories of review for the Petition.

**Finding of Fact No. 2: The Renewal Petition, as written, generally presents a sound educational program for the students enrolled in SRCS, except for the noted concerns below.**

The Renewal Petition demonstrates that its proposed program, as written, is generally consistent with sound educational practice and includes a fairly comprehensive description of the educational program and offerings for students enrolled in the charter school.

SRACS offers a classroom-based program that serves students in fifth and sixth grades in the Santa Rosa area and provides an accelerated middle-school preparatory education to students seeking academic challenge. To serve these students, SRACS has developed a program that collaborates with the middle school where it is located to allow for access to electives, activities, and resources which are not typically found in a traditional elementary school setting. Additionally, students at SRACS are able to acculturate to the middle school setting, allowing for a smoother transition for these students upon reaching seventh grade.

Staff notes that some aspects of SRACS’ program are not described in a reasonably comprehensive manner. Specifically, the description for how SRACS will identify, meet, and address the needs of its low-achieving and SED students is minimal to non-existent. (See Renewal Petition, p. 24, 30-31.) For example, while the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is described as a method of supporting low-achieving students, other than the Academic Workshop, no other support services or interventions are described in any detail, leaving SRCS staff uncertain as to what the individualized supports are, how the different tiers are determined, and how the individualized supports are determined and applied. No specific description of support for SED students is included in the Renewal Petition, which is concerning given the not-insignificant percentage of SED students attending SRACS.

Similarly, the Renewal Petition does not describe its English Language Development (“ELD”) program or other supports for its English Learners (“ELs”) in a reasonably comprehensive manner. (See Renewal Petition, p. 29-30.) While the Renewal Petition includes a section addressing ELs, it does not meaningfully describe what the ELD program looks like or how students’ needs are met. Additionally, although the Renewal Petition states that reclassified EL students will be monitored for four years to ensure continued academic success, the Renewal Petition does not elaborate regarding what this monitoring process looks like at SRACS. While SRCS recognizes that SRACS has a very small EL population, staff expect that the ELD program, services, and supports for EL students be more clearly articulated.

Although the Renewal Petition includes many outcomes which are measurable, some outcomes do not include matching baselines, making it difficult to identify whether the outcome is reasonable or sufficiently rigorous/ambitious. For example, outcomes focused on academic growth for significant student groups do not include baselines disaggregated by significant student groups. Similarly, outcomes that focused on disproportionality among student groups in the areas of chronic absenteeism and suspension rates do not identify what disproportionality, if any, exists at present among the student groups.

SRCS staff also calls attention to the Renewal Petition’s minimal description of the means and methods by which SRACS will seek to achieve a balance of student groups that is reflective of the general population residing within the boundaries of SRCS. (See Renewal Petition, p. 73.) The following chart depicts the differences between SRACS’ student population and that of SRCS:

Significant Student Subgroup	SRACS	SRCS	Racial/Ethnic Composition	SRACS	SRCS
English Learner	1.6%	21.7%	African American		1.8%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	14.8%	61.7%	Asian	14.8%	4.2%
Students with Disabilities	3.9%	19.7%	Filipino	2.3%	1%
			Hispanic	6.3%	60.9%

Two or More Races	9.4%	5.2%
White	67.2%	25.2%

Given the stark differences illustrated in the chart above, SRCS encourages SRACS to be more intentional in identifying and implementing focus measures to achieve a more balanced and diverse student population. SRCS staff does note that the Renewal Petition includes modifications to its admissions procedure to address this concern to encourage more diversity in SRACS’ applicant pool.

Overall, the instructional program at SRACS, if implemented with fidelity and in alignment with the Renewal Petition, generally appears to be consistent with sound education practice and designed in a manner to be effective in addressing the needs of students enrolled in SRACS. Therefore, based on the information included in the Renewal Petition, SRCS staff finds that the Petition generally presents a sound educational model designed to meet the needs of fifth and sixth grade students.

**Finding of Fact No. 3: The Petitioner are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program.**

SRACS has been operating as a charter school under the governance of SRCS since 2002. SRACS’ leadership team and the SRCS Board and administration have the background and experience in key areas needed for successful charter school operations, including curriculum, instruction, independent study, accounting, administration, and finance.

SRCS also conducted a review of various financial documents provided with the Renewal Petition. Below is an analysis of those documents and other information gleaned as part of SRCS’ fiscal oversight of SRACS.

**Enrollment**

SRACS’ current enrollment is 128 students. The Renewal Petition identifies that it anticipates this enrollment number remaining stable for the foreseeable future. (See Renewal Petition, p. 100). SRACS consistently receives more applications than it has spaces, with long waitlists. Therefore, the projected enrollment of no more than 128 students is reasonable and appropriate given SRACS’ program.

**Financial Position and Projections**

According to the Renewal Petition, the Local Control Funding Formula (“LCFF”) projections are estimated to increase from \$1.41 million in year one to \$1.61 million in year five, driven primarily by statutory cost of living adjustments (“COLA”). Additionally, SRACS anticipates other state and local income contributing approximately \$136,955 by the final year. Total revenues are expected to grow from \$1.53 million to \$1.75 million over a five-year term.

SRACS anticipates that total expenditures are projected to increase from \$1.51 million in the 2026-2027 school year to \$1.72 million by 2030-2021. SRACS anticipates maintaining a positive balance at the end of each year of approximately half a million dollars, ranging from 32% to 35%.

SRACS anticipates that personnel costs will remain the largest portion of the budget, with calculated increases across the term in certificated and classified salaries, as well as employee benefits such as STRS/PERS pension contributions and Health & Welfare benefits; employee benefits alone are expected to account for approximately 19% of total expenditures.

Overall, based on a detailed review of SRACS' historical performance, projected budgets, and other financial documents, SRACS demonstrates that it is fiscally solvent. SRACS maintains adequate reserves, consistent operating surpluses, and a structurally balanced multi-year budget. In addition, liquidity levels remain high, and both short- and long-term financial obligations are met without deficit spending.

Therefore, for the above-stated reasons, SRCS has determined that SRACS is demonstrably likely to successfully implement the charter program for a renewal term of five to seven years.

**Finding of Fact No. 4: The Renewal Petition contains an affirmation of each of the required conditions.**

The Renewal Petition includes the required affirmations and assurances.

**Finding of Fact No. 5: The Petition provides reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the required elements set forth in Education Code section 47605.**

Based on SRCS review team's analysis, the Renewal Petition generally provides reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the required elements set forth in Education Code section 47605 to qualify for approval. SRCS notes there are a few items that are not included, lacking in detail, or in need of modification. For reference purposes, the SRCS has identified the deficient items below:

- a. **Educational Program.** The summary of findings detailed in Finding of Fact No. 2 is hereby incorporated herein by reference. In addition, SRCS notes the following areas of deficiency, omission, and/or concern:
  - i. **Addressing the Needs of English Learners.** As discussed above, SRCS staff would like a more detailed description of the manner in which SRACS addresses the needs of its EL students.
  - ii. **Addressing the Needs of Low-Achieving and Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Students.** As explained above, the Renewal Petition does not provide a meaningful description of the programmatic

supports/resources, interventions, or strategies that will be utilized to address the unique needs of its low-achieving and SED students.

- iii. **Technology.** Although it is clear from the Renewal Petition that technology is integrated and embedded throughout SRACS' program, the Renewal Petition does not meaningfully describe what particular technological tools might be utilized or how students will be trained on particular tools or use of technology in general. Nor does the Renewal Petition address staff training on technology use.
- b. **Measurable Student Outcomes.** As explained above, although the Renewal Petition includes several outcomes which are measurable, some outcomes do not include disaggregated baseline data for significant student groups, making it difficult to identify whether the outcomes are reasonable or sufficiently ambitious.
- c. **Employee Qualifications.** The Renewal Petition does not identify its key positions, nor does it describe the additional qualifications for those positions. However, SRCS staff acknowledges that the qualifications for those positions align with SRCS position descriptions.
- d. **Student Population Balance.** As described above, the Renewal Petition's description of the means by which SRACS will seek to increase diversity in its student population is not sufficiently detailed. This is of particular concern to SRCS staff given that SRACS' student population does not appear to sufficiently reflect the diversity of the student population of SRCS.

**Finding of Fact No. 6: The Renewal Petition includes a declaration of whether or not the Charter School shall be deemed the exclusive public-school employer of the employees of the Charter School.**

The Renewal Petition confirms that SRCS shall serve as the exclusive public school employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act.

**Finding of Fact No. 7: The Renewal Petition satisfies other key areas related to the operations, facilities, and other potential effects of the charter school.**

The Renewal Petition adequately describes other key areas concerning the operations, facilities, civil liability, administrative services, and other potential effects/impacts of SRACS. As noted in the Renewal Petition, SRACS' facility is located within the boundaries of both the Santa Rosa High School District and the Rincon Valley Union School District. Rincon Valley's Board of Trustees approved SRACS' request to continue operating within its boundaries, subject to SRACS serving only grades five and six with a combined enrollment of 128 students. Again, a copy of the letter is attached to this staff report as Exhibit A.

**Finding of Fact No. 8: SRCS staff recommends an amendment to the Renewal Petition’s Admission Requirements, specifically its preferences, based on suggestions by the SRACS Advisory Committee.** In recent communications, the SRACS’ Advisory Committee requested changes to the Admissions Requirements reflected in the Renewal Petition. Based on the Advisory Committee’s feedback, SRCS staff recommends an amendment to the Admissions Requirements’ Step 4(b) as follows:

b. **Preferences:** SRACS shall apply the following preferences for enrollment during the lottery in the following order:

1. Siblings of students enrolled at and attending SRACS at the time of the lottery.
2. Applicants who are eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Lunch.
3. Residents of SRCS.
4. Children of SRCS employees who are voluntarily assigned to SRACS as of the date of the lottery.
5. Children of SRCS employees, generally.

Should the SRCS’ Board approve the Renewal Petition, staff recommends that this amendment to the Admissions Requirements be incorporated into the charter and replace in its entirety the listing of admissions preferences included therein.

### **Conclusion/Recommendation**

Based on the SRCS review team’s analysis of the above-described criteria for approval of a charter and the corresponding Findings of Fact Nos. 1-8, including the concerns and deficiencies noted therein, SRCS staff recommends that SRCS’ Board of Education take action to approve the Renewal Petition for the Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School for a charter term of five to seven years, beginning on July 1, 2026.

SRCS further encourages SRACS to thoughtfully consider and address the concerns and items in the Renewal Petition identified herein that are in need of correction, clarification, or further detail. If the Renewal Petition is approved, these items will be the subject of ongoing monitoring by SRCS as part of its oversight role. In addition, SRCS’ Board may impose additional conditions for SRCS’ full satisfaction if its Renewal Petition is approved.

**Exhibit A**

**Location Approval Letter from Rincon Valley Union School District Dated April 22, 2026**

648-6/9370364.1



Dear Lisa August Hulme,

Thank you for your letter regarding the requested use of the Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School operating in the Rincon Valley Union School District boundary. To confirm, this approval is based on Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School serving only grade levels 5 and 6 with a combined enrollment of 128, as stated in your request.

I am writing to formally confirm that the Rincon Valley Union School District Board of Trustees approved this request at its April Board meeting through an official action item. The Board's action reflects its support for the use of the identified location as outlined in your request.

Please feel free to reach out if any additional documentation or information is needed moving forward.

Mike Herfurth,

Superintendent  
Rincon Valley Union School District