



# Board Study Session

Santa Rosa French-American Charter School  
Charter Revision - 7th/8th Grade

February 2, 2022



# Overview of Presentation

- History of Santa Rosa French-American Charter School (SRFACS) 7th & 8th Grade
- Interest to reinstate the 7th and 8th grade
- Overview - Proposed Program
  - Proposed Program Enrollment
  - Current Student Demographics & Enrollment
  - Location
  - Courses of Study
- Staffing and Organizational Management
- Fiscal Outlook - Resources & Stability
- Pathway to High School
- Considerations
- Questions



# History of SRFACS 7th/8th Grade

- The Santa Rosa French-American Charter School opened for the 2012-2013 school year serving Kinder Academy through eighth grade as granted in the original charter. The grade configuration of the charter was for a Kinder Academy through eighth grade school through June 30, 2020.
- By 2014-15, demand for enrollment in SRFACS was significant and the school's leadership decided to open a fourth kindergarten. In order to make room for these students as they advanced in grades, the difficult decision was made to remove the seventh and eighth grades to make room for the students in earlier grades.
- In the 2015-16 school year, enrollment was 495 with 119 kindergarten students and 94 first graders. It was clear there were not enough classrooms at the 1350 Sonoma Avenue campus. The school was advised that they could not add classrooms because of the school's location on an earthquake fault. The school leadership hoped to move the seventh and eighth to another SRCS campus, but the district determined there was no facility available at that time.
- In response to interest for a middle school program, the Rincon Valley Union School District added advanced French to their charter middle school. Since fall 2016, almost all of the sixth graders who matriculate from SRFACS have enrolled in the Rincon Valley Charter School (now relocated and named Spring Lake). For example, at the end of the 2019-20 school year, 58 students left SRFACS and less than 5 stayed in SRCS, the rest by and large went to RVCS.
- At the time of renewal in 2020, the SRCS attorney advised that because the seventh and eighth grades were not currently active, they had to be removed from the charter.

# Interest to Reinstate the 7th & 8th Grades

A survey of current sixth grade families demonstrated continued interest in a middle school with a French program. Of those who responded, 23 said they were strongly interested in attending a possible SRFACS seventh grade and 18 said they planned to attend Spring Lake Charter School. Many of the latter families already have students attending Spring Lake so it doesn't make sense to them to move the older sibling. SRFACS often receives calls from families interested in attending an accredited French immersion program for middle school.



# Overview - Proposed Program

- For the 2022/2023 school year, the SRFACS 7th grade program would be reinstated; the SRFACS 8th grade program would be reinstated during the 2023/2024 school year.
- Students would be housed on the Slater Middle School Campus, however, would be considered SRFACS students.
- Students will take three (3) courses in French, and three (3) courses in English.
- Students would be able to participate in extracurricular activities (e.g., sports, clubs) provided by Slater Middle School.

# Proposed Program Enrollment

- Any current SRFACS 6th graders who register would be provided admittance into the 7th grade program.
- Open registration would be offered to students from outside the district through the Lottery Process.
- Enrollment will be limited only by the capacity of the Charter School in any given year.
- Class sizes will adhere to the Collective Bargaining Agreement:
  - Kindergarten: 33
  - Grades 1 through 6: 32
  - Elementary Physical Education and Elementary Music teachers: 32
  - Grades 7 and 8:
    - 165 per teaching day for classes other than physical education, and
    - 185 per teaching day in physical education classes
  - RSP: 28

# Current SRFACS Student Demographics

Ethnicity	Number of Students	Percentage
Hispanic	86	21.66%
Asian	11	2.77%
Filipino	***	1%
Black/African American	17	4.28%
White	236	59.45%
Multi-racial	42	10.58%

Current Enrollment**	
Kinder Academy	22
Kinder	60
1st Grade	69
2nd Grade	60
3rd Grade	55
4th Grade	50
5th Grade	39
6th Grade	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>

*\*As of October 6, 2021 - Official Data Day*

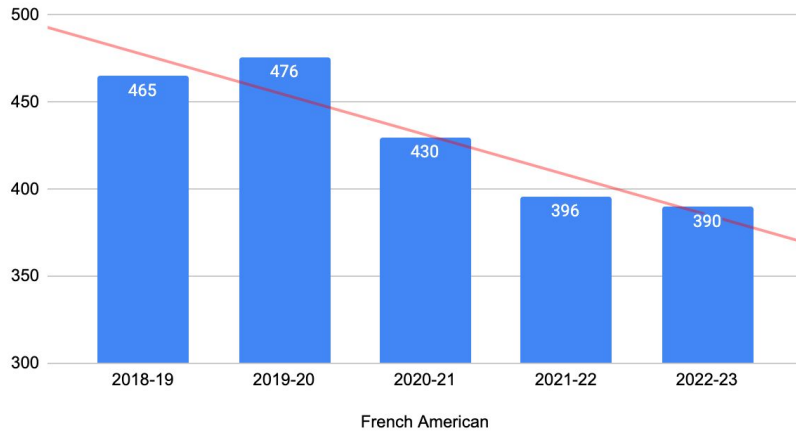
*\*\*\* District does not provide exact number of students or % for demographics with a total number under 10.*

*\*\*As of January 31, 2022*

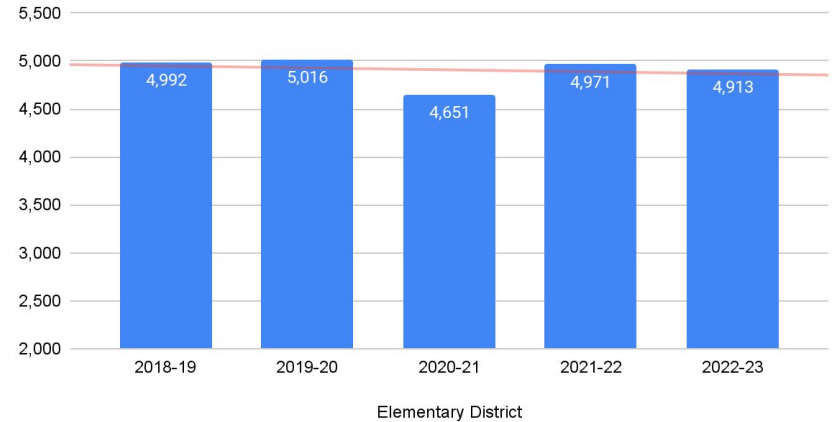
(Many current sixth grade families have turned in their forms indicating where they plan to attend middle school. All but two respondents indicate they will go to Spring Lake, but they also indicated they are interested in attending an SRFACS seventh grade. The general feeling in the school community is that once the program is up and running, families will choose to continue with the SRFACS program because of the connection to the French National Education system and the established SRFACS community.)

# SRFACS Enrollment Over Years

Santa Rosa French American Charter



Elementary District including Charters



# Current Slater Middle School Student Demographics

Ethnicity	Number of Students*	Percentage
Hispanic	403	57.49%
Asian	23	3.28%
Filipino	***	1%
Black/African American	27	3.85%
White	174	24.82%
Multi-racial	44	6.28%

\*As of October 6, 2021 - Official Data Day

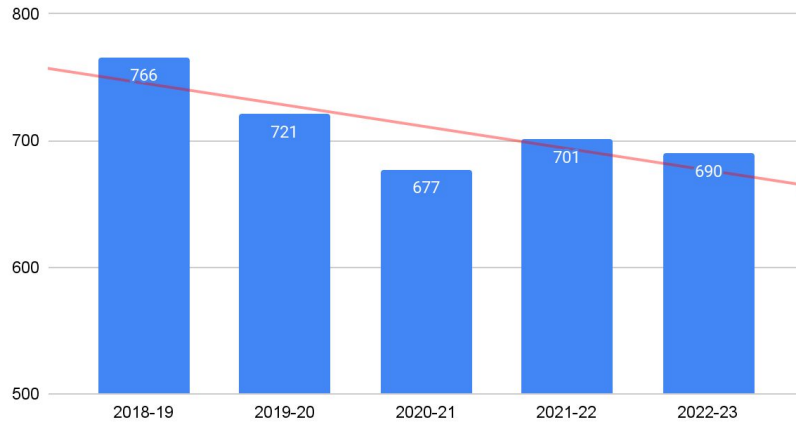
\*\*\* District does not provide exact number of students or % for demographics with a total number under 10.

Current Enrollment**	
7th Grade	372
8th Grade	341
<b>Total</b>	<b>713</b>

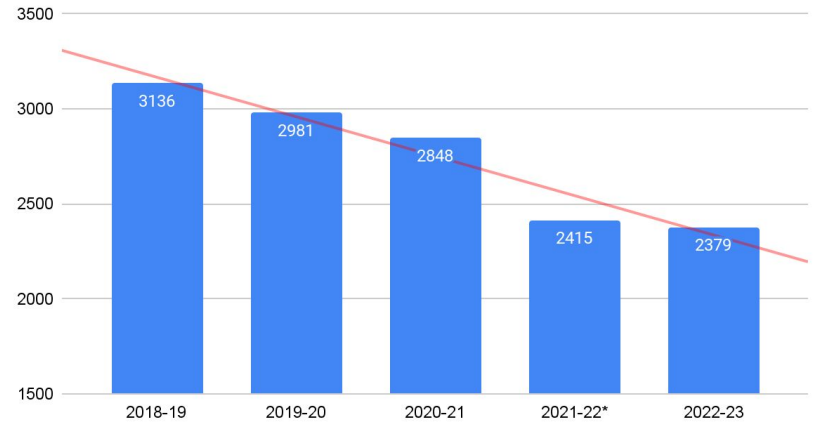
\*\*As of January 31, 2022

# Slater Enrollment Over Years

Herber Slater Middle Enrollment



SRCS Middle Schools



*\*Cook MS now CCLA students removed from Middle School Count*

# Location

- The Slater Middle School location is practical in that it is on the same street and less than a mile and a half from the elementary SRFACS campus.
- SRFACS is a feeder school for Slater.
- Slater Middle School currently has three classrooms to house the growth of the SRFACS 7th and 8th grade program.

# Courses of Study

## Example Master Schedule and Offerings

Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15-9:05	Science	Science	Science	Science	Science
9:10-9:57	French Literature*	French Literature	French Literature	French Literature	French Literature
9:57-10:12	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:17-11:04	History & Geography	History & Geography	History & Geography	History & Geography	History & Geography
11:09-11:56	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE
11:56-12:26	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:31-1:18	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE
1:23-2:10	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE	Math, English or PE

(SRFACS) French Immersion - Science, French Literature\*, History & Geography  
(Slater) English Only - Math, English, PE

\*Due to the required French Immersion courses, students will not have access to other electives. The French Literature course will serve as the elective course.

# Staffing & Organizational Management

- Science, French Literature, and History & Geography taught by one (1) teacher provided through SRFACS.
  - The staff member holding the multiple subject credential for these classes requires that the roster of students be identical for all three classes. This is called coring.
- Math, English, and PE taught by three (3) separate teachers provided through Slater Middle School.
  - The staff members teaching these classes will have the appropriate single subject credential or supplemental authorization required for the specific class taught.
- SRFACs Administration would serve as the administrator for the Satellite campus responsible for all programming, curriculum, teacher credentialing, hiring, evaluating, parent communication, parent committees/meetings, work with French ministry, etc.
- Slater Administration would provide on site supervision and would work collaboratively with SRFACS administrator regarding scheduling of students into the non-French courses.

# Fiscal Outlook - Resources & Stability

- As a charter school, SRFACS receives funding based on the LCFF calculator. With current projections, Base Grant funding per seventh grader in the 2022-23 SY will be \$8,909 per pupil.
- The French Ministry of Education has expressed support for resuming the SRFACS middle school program to be an accredited French immersion program, with potential financial assistance.
- Fiscal Stability requires:
  - .6 FTE (French Immersion - 3 sections) = \$60,000
  - .6 FTE (English only - 3 sections) for Math, English, PE = \$60,000
  - Additional cost considerations
    - Cost Sharing of Site Counselor
    - Curriculum/Materials/Supplies
    - Additional FTE and sections in year 2023/2024
  - Minimum enrollment of 20 students for 7th grade to move forward for the 2022/2023 school year
  - Maximum enrollment of 60 students per grade level (60 - 7th graders in 22/23; 120 - 7th & 8th graders in 23/24)

# Pathway to High School

- The ultimate vision is to provide a continuum of French immersion education from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Many have expressed interest in an educational pathway that is French immersion along with the International Baccalaureate program.
- With Slater as a feeder school to Montgomery High School, a natural progression is presented with SRFACS students attending the SRFACS Satellite at Slater and matriculating to the IB program at Montgomery.
- This pathway would be strengthened with higher level French classes at Montgomery. French high school programs prepare students for the French Baccalaureate exam. The French Bac diploma enables students to pursue higher education in France, the United States, in Canada, and in many other countries.
- A combination of French immersion and the International Baccalaureate program would provide an international, rigorous education that is highly attractive to families and would provide an exceptional preparation for students wishing to pursue an international career.

# Considerations

- Does this opportunity create greater diversity of student and family demographics?
- Does this opportunity add additional fiscal burden to SRFACS? To Slater?
- Does this opportunity improve students staying at their neighborhood schools?
- Does this opportunity improve the educational experience for SRFACS students? For Slater students?
- Does this opportunity create a more “inclusive” experience for students and families?
- Does this opportunity create a more equitable use of district resources?

Thank you! Merci!

Questions?