

# **MAGNOLIA SCIENCE ACADEMY-6**



CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL PETITION FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM (JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2024)

SUBMITTED TO THE
LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUGUST 28, 2018

by

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Table of Contents	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Affirmations, Assurances, and Declarations	4
ELEMENT 1: THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	6
General Information	10
COMMUNITY NEED FOR CHARTER SCHOOL	11
Magnolia Public Schools	11
MSA-6's Performance During the Current Charter Term Meets	Renewal Criteria 13
Student Population to be served	28
Target Population	28
Enrollment Plan	29
Goals and philosophy	29
Mission and Vision	29
AN EDUCATED PERSON IN THE $21^{ ext{ST}}$ CENTURY	31
HOW LEARNING BEST OCCURS	32
THE REQUIREMENTS OF CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE § 47605	(B)(5)(A)(ii) 33
GOALS FOR ENABLING PUPILS TO BECOME AND REMAIN SELF-M	OTIVATED, COMPETENT, AND
LIFELONG LEARNERS	45
INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN	46
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION	52
Mathematics	52
Science	55
English Language Arts	56
History/Social Science	58
Intervention Courses	59
Language Other Than English	60
Visual & Performing Arts	60
Health and Physical Education	61
Life Skills Program	61
Computers & Technology	62
Innovative Components of the Instructional Program	63
Curricular and Instructional Materials	63
Comprehensive Course List	64
Graduation Requirements – N/A	66
Credit Recovery Opportunities – N/A	66
Ensuring Transfer Students Can Meet Graduation and College I	
Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC")	66
Informing Parents, Including Parents with Limited English, Abo	_
College Entrance Requirements - N/A	66
Transitional Kindergarten – N/A	66
Academic Calendar and Schedules	66
Academic Calendar	66
Sample Daily Schedules	68
Instructional Days and Minutes	69
Early College and Middle College High Schools Attendance Req	
46146.5, as Amended by SB 379 – N/A	70
TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMEN	T 70

Teacher Recruitment	70
Professional Development	70
Department Level Staff Meetings	71
Grade Level Staff Meetings	71
Wrap Up Meetings	72
Summer In-Service Programs	72
Peer Observations	72
Formal Observations/Evaluations	72
Walkthroughs	72
Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Program ("BTSA")	72
Ongoing Professional Development Program for Special Education	73
MEETING THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS	73
English Learners	78
Gifted and Talented Students and Students Achieving Above Grade Level	92
Students Achieving Below Grade Level	93
Socio-Economically Disadvantaged/Low Income Students	93
Students with Disabilities	94
Students in Other Student Groups	94
"A TYPICAL DAY"	95
ELEMENT 2: MEASURABLE PUPIL OUTCOMES & ELEMENT 3: METHOD BY WHICH PUPI	II.
PROGRESS TOWARD OUTCOMES WILL BE MEASURED	97
MEASURABLE GOALS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	97
MEASURING PUPIL OUTCOMES: SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT PERFORMANCE TARGETS	97
MEASURING PUPIL PROGRESS TOWARD OUTCOMES: FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT	98
DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING	99
GRADING, PROGRESS REPORTING, AND PROMOTION/RETENTION	100
ELEMENT 4: GOVERNANCE	102
FEDERAL PROGRAM COMPLIANCE	104
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	105
Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation	105
ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS	105
MPS Organizational Chart	105
Board of Directors	106
Magnolia Public Schools Home Office ("Home Office")	106
GOVERNING BOARD COMPOSITION AND MEMBER SELECTION	111
GOVERNANCE PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS	111
Board Meetings and Duties	112
Board Committees	114
STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT	114
School Site Council ("SSC")	115
ELEMENT 5: EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS	118
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	118
ESEA/ESSA AND CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS	118
EMPLOYEE POSITIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS	118
Principal	118
Assistant Principal	119
Teachers	121

Special Education Teacher IT Coordinator	122 123
Special Education Aide	123
Substitute Teachers and Tutors	125
Office Personnel/Manager	125
ELEMENT 6: HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCEDURES	127
HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN	127
FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)	127
CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CLEARANCES AND FINGERPRINTING	128
IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENTS	128
SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT	128
SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY	128
CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS	129
STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS	129
ELEMENT 7: MEANS TO ACHIEVE RACIAL AND ETHNIC BALANCE	132
COURT-ORDERED INTEGRATION	132
ELEMENT 8: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	134
DOCUMENTATION OF ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES	134
HOMELESS AND FOSTER YOUTH	134
Non-Discrimination	134
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	134
LOTTERY PREFERENCES AND PROCEDURES	135
ELEMENT 9: ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDITS  ANNUAL AUDIT PROCEDURES	<b>138</b> <i>138</i>
ELEMENT 10: SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION PROCEDURES	130 140
ELEMENT 11: EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  CERTIFICATED STAFF MEMBERS	<b>161</b> 161
CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBERS	161
Charter School employees in PERS also qualify for Social Security.	161
OVERSIGHT OF BENEFITS	161
ELEMENT 12: PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES	163
ELEMENT 13: RIGHTS OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES	164
ELEMENT 14: MANDATORY DISPUTE RESOLUTION	165
ELEMENT 15: CHARTER SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES	168
ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS	175

# AFFIRMATIONS, ASSURANCES, AND DECLARATIONS

Magnolia Science Academy - 6 (also referred to herein as "MSA-6" and "Charter School") shall:

- Be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. (California Education Code (hereinafter "Ed. Code") § 47605(d)(1).)
- Not charge tuition. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1).)
- Not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1); Ed. Code § 220.)
- Except as provided in Education Code section 47605(d)(2), admission to a Charter School shall not be
  determined according to the place of residence of the pupil, or of his or her parent or legal guardian,
  within this state, except that an existing public school converting partially or entirely to a Charter
  School under this part shall adopt and maintain a policy giving admission preference to pupils who
  reside within the former attendance area of that school. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1).)
- Admit all pupils who wish to attend Charter School. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(2)(A).)
- Except for existing pupils of Charter School, determine attendance by a public random drawing if the number of pupils who wish to attend Charter School exceeds Charter School's capacity. Preference shall be extended to pupils currently attending Charter School and pupils who reside in the Los Angeles Unified School District (also referred to herein as "LAUSD" and "District"). (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(2)(B).)
- If a pupil is expelled or leaves Charter School without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, Charter School shall notify the superintendent of the school district of the pupil's last known address within 30 days, and shall, upon request, provide that school district with a copy of the cumulative record of the pupil, including a transcript of grades or report card, and health information. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(3).)
- Meet all statewide standards and conduct the pupil assessments required pursuant to Education Code sections 60605 and 60851 and any other statewide standards authorized in statute or pupil assessments applicable to pupils in non-charter public schools. (Ed. Code § 47605(c)(1).)
- Consult, on a regular basis, with Charter School's parents, legal guardians, and teachers regarding the school's educational programs. (Ed. Code § 47605(c)(2).)

Charter School hereby declares that Charter School, operated as or by its nonprofit public benefit corporation, is and shall be the exclusive public school employer of Charter School's employees for the purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act (EERA), Chapter 10.7 (commencing with Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title I of the Government Code. Charter School shall comply with all provisions of the EERA and shall act independently from LAUSD for collective bargaining purposes. In accordance with

the EERA, employees may join and be represented by an organization of their choice for collective bargaining purposes.

NOTE: This Charter contains specific "District Required Language" (DRL), including the *Assurances, Affirmations, and Declarations* section above. The DRL should be highlighted in gray within each Charter element or section. The final section of the Charter provides a consolidated addendum of the DRL. This intentional redundancy facilitates efficient charter petition review while ensuring ready access to the DRL for any given section of the Charter. To the extent that any inconsistency may exist between any provision contained within the body of the Charter and the DRL contained in the addendum, the provisions of the DRL addendum shall control.

# **ELEMENT 1: THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

"The educational program of the Charter School, designed, among other things, to identify those whom the Charter School is attempting to educate, what it means to be an "educated person" in the 21st century, and how learning best occurs. The goals identified in that program shall include the objective of enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(i).)

"The annual goals for the Charter School for all pupils and for each subgroup of pupils identified pursuant to Section 52052, to be achieved in the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served, or the nature of the program operated, by the Charter School, and specific annual actions to achieve those goals. A charter petition may identify additional school priorities, the goals for the school priorities, and the specific annual actions to achieve those goals." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii).)

"If the proposed Charter School will serve high school pupils, a description of the manner in which the Charter School will inform parents about the transferability of courses to other public high schools and the eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements. Courses offered by the Charter School that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may be considered transferable and courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the "A" to "G" admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(iii).)

# LOCAL CONTROL FUNDING FORMULA (LCFF) AND LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP)

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that it must comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to AB 97 (2013) (Local Control Funding Formula), as they may be amended from time to time, which include the requirement that Charter School shall annually submit a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)/annual update to the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and the Charter Schools Division (CSD) on or before July 1. In accordance with Education Code sections 47604.33 and 47606.5, Charter School shall annually update its goals and annual actions to achieve those goals identified in the charter pursuant to Education Code section 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii), using the Local Control and Accountability Plan template adopted by the State Board of Education, as it may be changed from time to time. Charter School shall comply with all requirements of Education Code section 47606.5, including but not limited to the requirement that Charter School "shall consult with teachers, principals, administrators, other school personnel, parents, and pupils in developing the local control and accountability plan and annual update to the local control and accountability plan." (Ed. Code § 47606.5(e).)

### **ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES**

Charter School shall offer, at a minimum, the number of minutes of instruction set forth in Education Code section 47612.5, and the number of school days required by California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 11960.

## **MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of the California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015.

## TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements regarding transitional kindergarten. For purposes of admission to Charter School, transitional kindergarten shall be considered a part of kindergarten, and therefore students enrolled in transitional kindergarten at Charter School shall be considered existing students of Charter School for purposes of Charter School's admissions, enrollment, and lottery.

## HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMINATION

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of Education Code sections 60850 – 60859, including but not limited to the requirements of sections 60851.6 and 60852.3.

#### WASC ACCREDITATION

If Charter School serves students in grades 9-12, before Charter School graduates its first class of students, Charter School shall obtain, and thereafter maintain, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation.

## **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

Charter School shall identify potential English Learners in a timely manner in accordance with all applicable legal requirements. Charter School must provide all English Learners with an effective English language acquisition program that also affords meaningful and equitable access to Charter School's core academic curriculum. Instructional plans for English Learners must be (1) based on sound educational theory; (2) adequately supported with trained teachers and appropriate materials and resources; and (3) periodically evaluated to make sure the program is successful and modified when the program is not successful.

On an annual basis, upon request, Charter School shall submit a certification to the LAUSD Charter Schools Division (CSD) that certifies that Charter School has adopted and is implementing either the LAUSD English Learner Master Plan or Charter School's own English Learner (EL) Master Plan. If Charter School chooses to implement its own EL Master Plan, the plan shall provide a detailed description of Charter School's EL program, and shall address the following:

How Charter School's EL Master Plan provides all of its English Learners, including but not limited to Long Term English Learners (LTELs) with an effective English language acquisition program as well as meaningful and equitable access to Charter School's core academic curriculum

How English Learners' specific needs will be identified

What services will be offered

How, where, and by whom the services will be provided

How Charter School will evaluate its EL program each year, and how the results of this evaluation will be used to improve the program, including the provision of EL services

Each year, Charter School shall provide to the CSD a report on its annual evaluation of the effectiveness of its EL program. Upon request, Charter School shall provide a copy of its current EL Master Plan to the CSD.

Charter School shall administer the CELDT/ELPAC annually in accordance with federal and state requirements.

Charter School shall reclassify English Learners in accordance with federal and state requirements.

Charter School shall provide parent outreach services and meaningfully inform parents with limited English proficiency of important information regarding Charter School matters to the same extent as other parents.

# STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

# **Federal Law Compliance**

Charter School shall adhere to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities including, but not limited to, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

## **Special Education Program**

Charter School shall ensure that no student otherwise eligible to enroll in Charter School shall be denied, directly or indirectly, admission due to a disability or to Charter School's inability to provide necessary services. Charter School acknowledges that policies and procedures are in place to ensure the recruitment, enrollment, service, and retention of students with disabilities at LAUSD-authorized Charter Schools, including Charter School.

Prior to LAUSD Board of Education approval of an initial Charter petition, and if a renewing Charter School intends to operate as a "school of the district" for special education services, Charter School shall execute a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") by and between LAUSD and Charter School regarding the provision and funding of special education services consistent with applicable state law and the LAUSD Special Education Local Plan Area ("SELPA") Local Plan for Special Education and shall be considered a "public school of the District" for purposes of Special Education pursuant to Education Code Section 47641(b). However, Charter School reserves the right to make written verifiable assurances that it may become an independent local educational agency (LEA) and join a SELPA pursuant to Education Code Section 47641 (a) either on its own or with a grouping of Charter School LEAs as a consortium following the requirements of Education Code section 56195.3(b).

## **SELPA Reorganization**

The Los Angeles Unified School District is approved to operate as a single-District SELPA under the provisions of Education Code section 56195.1(a). As a single-District SELPA, the District has created two Charter School sections (District-operated Programs and Charter-operated Programs) under the administration of one single Administrative Unit pursuant to a reorganization plan approved by the Board of Education on January 4, 2011 (149/10-11). Full implementation of the reorganized LAUSD SELPA commenced in the 2013-2014 school year requiring all District-authorized Charter Schools to elect one of the three options available under the LAUSD SELPA. Prior to an option election, all District-authorized Charter Schools were required to participate as a school of the District under the District-Operated Programs Unit. Prior to the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year, all District-authorized Charter

Schools, other than those that had previously executed an Option 3 Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), were required to execute a new MOU setting forth the LAUSD SELPA option election for the remainder of the charter petition term. The Charter-operated Program schools do not have LEA status for the purposes of special education but will function in a similar role in that each Charter School will be responsible for all special education requirements, including but not limited to services, placement, due process, related services, special education classes, and special education supports. Charter Schools that have elected to participate in a District-operated programs option may apply for membership in the Charter-operated Program section of the SELPA. Charter Schools accepted for participation in the Charter-operated Programs section receive support from a Special Education Director for the Charter-operated Programs.

# **Modified Consent Decree Requirements**

All Charter Schools approved by the LAUSD Board of Education are bound by and must adhere to the terms, conditions and requirements of the Chanda Smith Modified Consent Decree ("MCD") and other court orders imposed upon the District pertaining to special education. The MCD is a consent decree entered in a federal court class action lawsuit initially brought on behalf of students with disabilities in LAUSD. It is an agreement of the parties approved by the federal court and monitored by a court-appointed independent monitor. The MCD includes nineteen statistically measureable outcomes and facilities obligations that the District has to achieve to disengage from the MCD and federal court oversight. All Charter Schools are required to use the District's Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual and Welligent, the District-wide web-based software system used for online Individualized Education Programs ("IEPs") and tracking of related services provided to students during the course of their education.

As part of fulfilling the District's obligations under the MCD, student level data requests from District-operated and Charter-operated Charter Schools are made on a regular basis. The requested data must be submitted in the Office of the Independent Monitor's ("OIM") required format in accordance with the OIM's required timelines and as follows:

## End of Year Suspension

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, date of suspension, number of days suspended, and reason for suspension.

# Statewide Assessment Data

The standard file including District ID.

### Norm day

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, location code, school name and local district for all students enrolled on norm day.

- CBEDS
- All Students enrolled as of December 1 of each school year

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, location code, school name and local district for all students enrolled on norm day.

# Dropout

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, grade, last location, school name and local district

- Monthly SESAC and Suspension data
- Graduation roster from all Charter Schools with 12th grade students with disabilities

The MCD requires Charter Schools to implement the District's integrated student information system, which is currently referred to as My Integrated Student Information System (MiSiS). MiSiS is a suite of applications which is designed to capture all District student data. All Charter Schools are required to utilize MiSiS directly or interface with MiSiS via a web based Application Programming Interface (API) in compliance with the requirements of the MCD and applicable timelines. Upon Charter School full utilization of MiSiS either directly or via a web based API, the list of required data above will automatically be captured within MiSiS.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The contact person for Charter School is:	Alfredo Rubalcava, Chief Executive Officer
The contact address for Charter School is:	250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90012
■ The contact phone number for Charter School is:	(310) 842-8555
The proposed address, or target community by Zip Code, of Charter School is:	3754 Dunn Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90034
■ The location is in LAUSD Board District:	1
■ The location is in LAUSD Local District:	Independent Charter
The grade configuration of Charter School is:	6-8
The number of students in the first year will be:	170
The grade level(s) of the students in the first year will be:	6-8
<ul> <li>Charter School's scheduled first day of instruction in 2019-2020 is:</li> </ul>	August 20, 2019
<ul> <li>The enrollment capacity is:         (Enrollment capacity is defined as the total         number of students who are enrolled in Charter         School regardless of student residency.)</li> </ul>	300
The type of instructional calendar will be:	Traditional
■ The bell schedule for Charter School will be:	8:00 am to 2:50 pm
■ The term of this Charter shall be from:	July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024

### **COMMUNITY NEED FOR CHARTER SCHOOL**

Magnolia Science Academy-6 (MSA-6 or Charter School), is a classroom-based Charter School serving students in grades 6–8 with a curriculum emphasis on science, technology, engineering, arts and math ("STEAM"). Originally founded in 2009—and here requesting a third five-year charter term—MSA-6's mission is to provide a college preparatory educational program emphasizing STEAM in a safe environment that cultivates respect for self and others. We offer a comprehensive learning experience designed to serve the needs of our students through effective site-based instruction, rich hands-on learning, and foundation skills presented in ways that are relevant and inspiring for our students. Classroom instruction at MSA-6 is supplemented by tutoring, after-school programs, and school-to-university links.

## **MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MSA-6 is a high-performing Charter School in Los Angeles, operated by Magnolia Educational & Research Foundation ("MERF"), *dba* Magnolia Public Schools ("MPS"), <sup>1</sup> a non-profit public Charter School management organization dedicated to establishing and managing high-quality public Charter Schools in California. The vision of MPS is to help reverse the tide of U.S. students falling behind their peers in other nations in critical subjects like math and science. MPS strives to graduate students who come from historically underserved neighborhoods as scientific thinkers that contribute to the global community as socially responsible and educated members of society. MPS' educational approach is based on the conviction that STEAM education is essential to improving our modern society's knowledge base and adaptability to the fast pace of ever-changing technological advancements. Historically, the number of African American and Latino students pursuing careers in STEAM fields has been very low. Research suggests that a significant cause of these low numbers is that students have inadequate exposure to intensive STEAM curricula.<sup>2</sup> MPS strives to address the shortage by inspiring and preparing students to choose career paths in science and technology.

MPS was first established in August 1997 to organize volunteer science, technology, engineering, and math ("STEM") based tutors for middle and high schools in Los Angeles, and later partnered with Culver City Unified School District to provide tutoring for students all around Los Angeles County. MPS also started a free tutoring program in the Sherman Oaks/Van Nuys Area of the San Fernando Valley. These successful programs led MPS to establish its first Charter School, Magnolia Science Academy-1, and go on to successfully replicate our educational program and philosophy at nine other Charter Schools throughout California. Today we have a total of four Charter Schools authorized by Los Angeles Unified School District, four authorized by Los Angeles County Office of Education ("LACOE"), one authorized by San Diego Unified School District ("SDUSD"), and one state-authorized Charter School in Santa Ana. Combined, MPS Charter Schools now serve more than 4,000 students annually in grades TK-12.

For the past nine years, MSA-6 has had a clear STEM focus. MPS Leadership and its Board of Directors are now committed to expanding on this success and began to make the shift towards a strong STEAM focused organization during the 2016-17 school year, adding arts disciplines. The most developed areas

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information on Magnolia Public Schools visit www.magnoliapublicschools.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Z. Zacharia and A. C. Barton, "Urban Middle-School Students' Attitudes Toward a Defined Science," *Science Education*, vol. 88, no. 2, pp. 197-222, Mar. 2004.

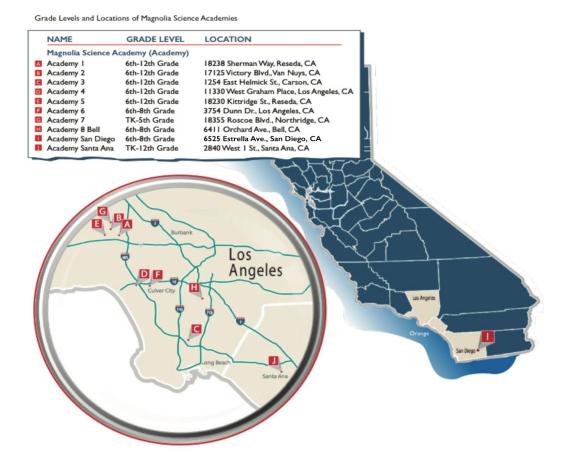
have been Math and Science, with the understanding that Engineering and Technology offered great growth potential. As the arts are more widely embraced, we believe that authentic connections and through lines between multiple disciplines will be made visible, and strategies will emerge to support authentic integration.

The MPS program aims to improve students' performance in reading, writing, and math, reduce dropout rates, achieve high student attendance rates, and increase the number of students who pursue careers in STEAM fields. MSA-6's recent achievements include the following highlights, detailed more extensively below:

- MSA-6's 2017-18 enrollment includes 86.42% Hispanic/Latino, 8.02% African American, 4.32% White, 80.86% Free/Reduced Price Lunch ("FRPL"), 17.28% Special Education, 11.11% English Learner ("EL"), 0.60% Foster Youth and 3.70% Homeless Youth. (CALPADS Fall 1)
- MSA-6 has adopted the Accelerated Reader program and students have shown significant gains in reading comprehension skills.
- MSA-6 has created a Student Council to strengthen our school culture and student involvement.
   This promotes a sense of ownership and pride in the school. Student Council club suggests fundraising activities, fun activities and school spirit week such as college day, jersey day, twin day etc.
- Our students have participated in numerous competitions and won numerous honors:
  - The Magno Tigers, MSA-6 Lego Team, received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the First Lego League Los Angeles Tournament for Robot Design in 2015.
  - Two students won the Marilyn Jorgensen Reece Award from The Professional Engineers in California Government, Brach of CALTRANS for \$1,000.
  - Two students received 1<sup>st</sup> place at the LA County Science Fair
  - Three MSA-6 students participated in the LA County Art Contest and two of them placed
     2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.
- MSA-6 has created and exudes a school wide "College-Going Culture" through our ESLRs,
  rigorous academic curriculum, and field trips to colleges/universities. MSA-6 collaborates with
  local universities such as UCLA and USC. UCLA and USC students have helped with our Science
  department for STEM Expo, science fair and science classes.
- MSA-6's <u>suspension</u> and <u>expulsion</u> rates were 0% the last four years, directly related to our restorative justice approach to student behavior. The goal is to teach our students to be reflective and provide them with alternative options and tools to see things from multiple perspectives. There is also a focus on relationship building which teaches the student how to function in a social setting.
- MSA-6's overall approval rates, as measured by annual stakeholder surveys, have been strong and steady at 97% both of the past two years with our families, and 88-95% with our staff.

# **CURRENT LOCATIONS AND GRADE LEVELS OF MPS SITES**

MPS currently operates 10 Charter Schools in California. The figure below shows the current locations and grade levels of these sites.



### MSA-6'S PERFORMANCE DURING THE CURRENT CHARTER TERM MEETS RENEWAL CRITERIA

Based on its specific record of performance, MSA-6 has and will continue to meet the needs of the community it serves.

# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE DATA AND OTHER ABSOLUTE AND COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(b), MSA-6 must meet at least one criterion of academic success prior to receiving a charter renewal. As detailed below, MSA-6 has fulfilled this requirement by demonstrating that the Charter School's "academic performance is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the Charter School pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the Charter School is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the Charter School." (Education Code Section 47606(b)(4)(A)).

"The determination made pursuant to this paragraph shall be based upon all of the following: (i) Documented and clear and convincing data; (ii) Pupil achievement data from assessments, including, but not limited to, the Standardized Testing and Reporting Program established by Article 4 (commencing with Section 60640) of Chapter 5 of Part 33 for demographically similar pupil populations in the comparison schools; (iii) Information submitted by the Charter School." (Education Code Section 47607(b)(4)(B).)

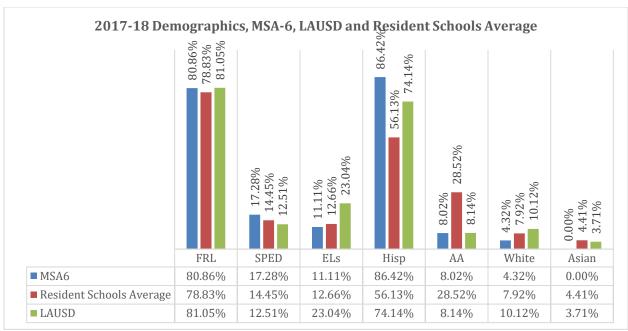
We start with the locations of MSA-6's students. MSA-6 is located at the intersection of the 405 and 10 freeways in West Los Angeles. MSA-6 draws enrollment from across Los Angeles, with our 162 students residing in 26 different zip codes. Not surprisingly, the majority of students reside in close proximity to our campus. Based on an analysis of the students' residence addresses and the 2017-18 Data Set provided by LAUSD's Charter Schools Division (CSD Data Set), the following table lists the top home district schools our students would otherwise be required to attend – six resident middle schools:

School	Grade	# of	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
School	Level	Student	FRL	SPED	EL s	Hisp	AA	White	Asian
Resident schools									
Marina del Rey MS	6-8	602	86	14	9	45	47	4	2
Palms MS	6-8	1,353	64	7	6	46	24	15	11
Audubon MS	6-8	490	94	25	15	39	58	1	1
Daniel Webster MS	6-8	462	91	24	16	68	23	7	2
Johnnie Cochran, Jr., MS	6-8	675	96	16	28	79	19	1	0
Mark Twain MS	6-8	660	75	15	12	69	13	11	4
Weighted Avg - Resident Sch			83	15	14	57	27	5	2
MSA-6	6-8	162	82	17	11	86	8	4	0

(http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

All of these schools include (or are entirely) magnet programs that parents/students must opt-in via a lottery for enrollment: Palms MS has a Gifted/High Ability Magnet with approximately 500 students, and Audobon MS also has a Gifted/High Ability Magnet; Marina Del Rey MS has a Performing Arts magnet with 311 students, Mark Twain MS includes a World Language Magnet with approximately 311 students; and Webster MS includes a STEAM Magnet with 170 students. In analyzing 2017 SBAC scores, the *L.A. Times* noted, "Students in L.A. Unified's magnet schools performed far better on state tests than did students at other district schools or charters." (<a href="http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-standardized-test-snapshot-20160831-snap-story.html">http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-standardized-test-snapshot-20160831-snap-story.html</a>)

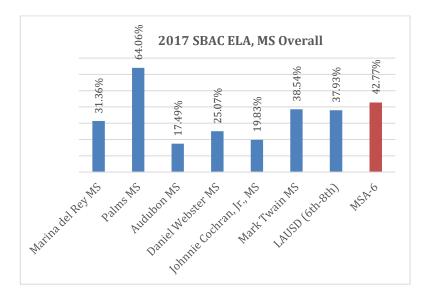
The demographics of the schools MSA-6 students would otherwise attend ("Resident Schools") include fewer Hispanic/Latino students (56.13% average across all Resident Schools versus 86.42% at MSA-6) and more African Americans (28.52% v. 8.02%). As a quick snapshot, here is where MSA-6 compares to the demographics of schools our students would otherwise attend:



(http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

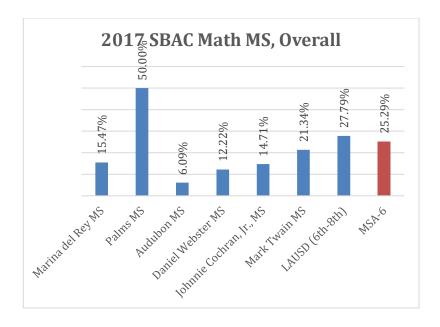
# Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium ("SBAC")/California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress ("CAASPP") Results

On the 2017 SBAC in English Language Arts ("ELA"), MSA-6's middle school grade students outperformed all but one of the Comp schools (Palms MS) with 42.77% Met/Exceeded standards compared to 17.49%-64.06% for the Resident Schools and 37.93% for LAUSD's 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders.



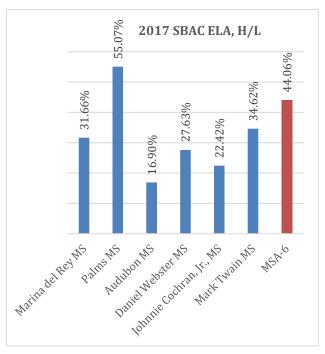
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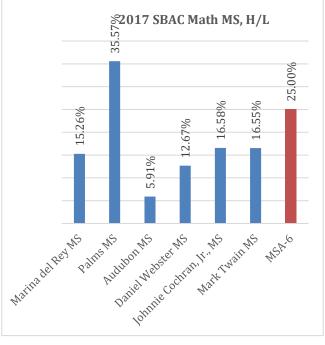
On the 2017 SBAC in Math, MSA-6's middle school grade students outperformed all but one of the Resident Schools (Palms MS) with 25.29% Met/Exceeded standards compared to 6.09-50.00% for the Resident Schools, and just slightly below District-wide average of 27.79% for LAUSD's 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders.

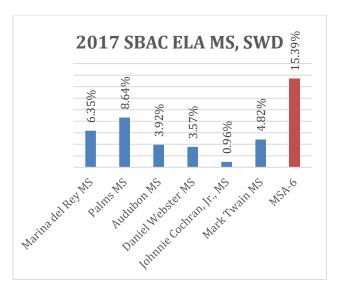


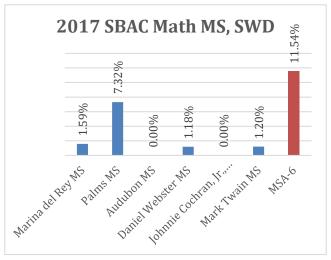
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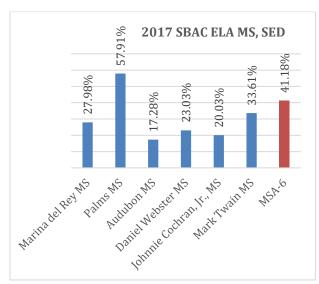
As illustrated in the charts below, Hispanic/Latino (H/L), Students with Disabilities (SWD), Socioeconomically Disadvantaged (SED), and English Learner (EL) student groups' performances for MSA-6 were stronger than all but one of the Resident Schools (Palms MS) in most cases – though MSA-6's SWD and EL student groups outperformed even Palms MS.

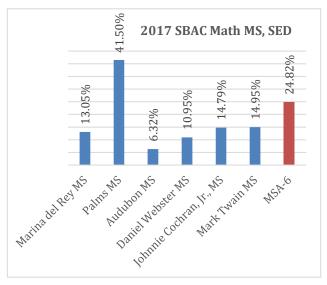


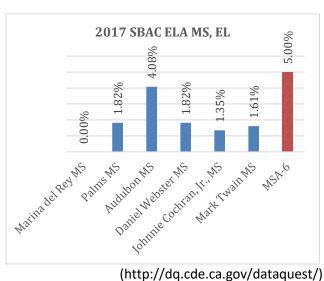


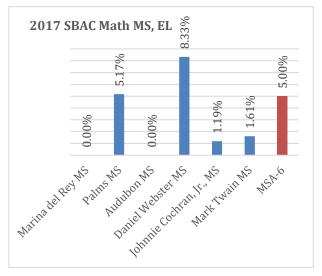






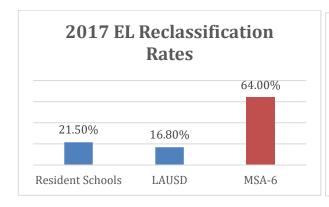


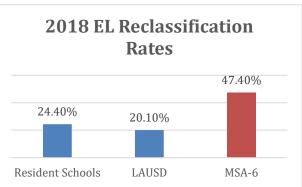




# **English Learner Re-Classification Rates**

While MSA-6 does not have a particularly large EL population (11.11%), the Charter School focuses heavily on re-classification of English Learners, including support for Long Term English Learners ("LTELs") (see below for a detailed discussion of the English Learner program). In 2016-2017, MSA-6 reclassified 64.00% of ELs, well above the Resident Schools, as well as LAUSD's rate of 16.80%. In 2017-18, MSA-6 reclassified 47.40% of our ELs, again, higher than both the Resident Schools and LAUSD averages.





(http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

We attribute this significant increase to a renewed focus on our English Learners both across the consortium and at the school site level. MPS has hired an EL Coordinator that provides coaching and professional development to teachers of English Learners to help support the students' academic achievement. We have also assigned site level EL Coordinators to help monitor the progress of our English Learners, as well as facilitate interventions and action plans for struggling students.

Additionally, we have introduced a new ELD/ELA curriculum (McGraw Hill's StudySync) with designated and integrated components that are aligned with the CA ELD standards and framework. Lastly, for reclassification, we use the four criteria required by law. However, for the basic skills assessment requirement, students have multiple opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency through either their NWEA MAP assessment, or the SBAC assessment. This has enabled more students to demonstrate English proficiency and for the school to reclassify more EL students this past year.

## **Student Attendance Rate and Chronic Absenteeism**

MSA-6's student attendance rates have been consistent and strong over the charter term, with Average Daily Attendance (ADA) from 97.56%-98.74%. (Current Student Information System)

Chronic Absenteeism has been consistently low, ranging from 1.12%-3.78% over the past four years, with a 2017-18 rate of 1.79%. MSA-6 offers incentives and awards for individuals and groups with outstanding attendance. Also, attendance is a topic covered in various courses such as Life Skills and Advisory where students discuss the importance of the positive and negative effects of absences, and how each person is a valuable member of the Magnolia community. Furthermore, if and when a student has a high number of absences, the parents/guardians are contacted by the Main Office, Teachers, and/or Administration through phone calls, letters, and/or Home Visits.

## Suspension/Expulsion Rate

Thanks to our restorative justice program, MSA-6's student suspension and expulsion rates have consistently been quite low, with just three suspensions over the past four years and zero expulsions. MSA-6 has had zero suspensions or expulsions for the last two years.

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18*
Suspension number	2	1	0	0
Suspension rate	1.20%	0.60%	0%	0%
Expulsion number	0	0	0	0
Expulsion rate	0%	0%	0%	0%

(http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

(\*MPS Internal Data)

This is of course lower than LAUSD and State rates (2017-18 data is not yet published).

Rate	Los Angeles Unified				State	
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Suspensions	0.91	0.93	0.80	3.80	3.65	3.60
Expulsions	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.09	0.09	0.09

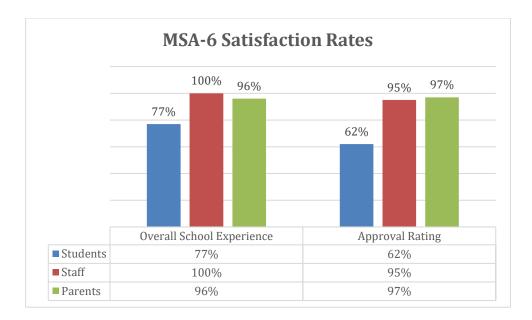
(http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/)

### **Parent Involvement**

MSA-6 has a strong home-school connection. In 2017-18, MSA-6 administrators and teachers conducted 21 home visits (13% of our students) to talk with students and their families about the Charter School, the student's goals and progress, and family concerns. Many of the students visited were new students or students who were struggling. We are striving to increase this program moving forward. Often, home visits reveal new ways or opportunities that school can offer to a student in order for him/her to thrive more.

## **Stakeholder Satisfaction**

MSA-6 now annually surveys students, staff and parents to gauge satisfaction levels and solicit crucial feedback for our operations. In 2017-18, 92% of students, staff, and parents participated in the stakeholder satisfaction survey, using the CORE survey instrument. These results are shared with the entire school community, including the Board. Our staff and parents report an overall satisfaction rate of 100% and 96% respectively, with our middle grades students rating the school 77%.



MSA-6 will continue to work to increase overall student satisfaction. MSA-6 will continue to engage our stakeholders and strive to continue meeting their needs effectively.

# **LAUSD Charter Schools Division Annual Oversight Report**

Finally, our most recent annual Site Visit Report from the Charter Schools Division (CSD), issued April 4, 2018, is strong:

(4)		OF RATINGS (2)=Developing (1)=Unsatisfacto	ory
Governance	Student Achievement and Educational Performance	Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations	Fiscal Operations
3	3	3	3

The report notes several highlights:

- The Governing Board has substantially implemented the organizational structure set forth in approved charter, including any mandated committees/councils, and an adequately developed system for the evaluation of the school leader(s);
- The Governing Board monitors school performance and other internal data to inform decisionmaking
- The majority of the school's numerically significant subgroups demonstrated growth on the CAASPP in ELA [and Math] from 2015/16 to 2016/17;
- The schoolwide percentage of students who Met or Exceeded standards on the SBAC in ELA [and Math] is at a rate higher than the Resident Schools Median;
- The school reclassifies English Learners at a rate higher than District average;

- The school has substantially implemented and monitors the components of the charter's instructional program designed to meet the learning needs of all students, including its subgroups, and generally modifies instruction based on data analysis
  - Per discussion with leadership and responses to guided questions, MSA 6 continues to provide intervention for students during the school day, as well as after school and on Saturdays.
  - New this year: a math coach comes to the site 3 days a week to support teachers as well
    as work with small groups of students. Additionally, there is a school-site mentor
    available to support all new teachers.
  - English Learners received 40 minutes per day of ELD instruction
- The school has implemented a professional development plan for teachers and other staff that supports instructional practices, targets identified needs, and aligns with the education program set forth in the charter
  - Per leadership, a math teacher left midyear last school year which may account for the slight drop in the Math SBAC scores. In an effort to support all students in the area of math, MSA 6 hired two math teachers and provided those teachers with professional development to learn new strategies to implement common core.
- Magnolia Science Academy 6's (MSA 6) fiscal condition is strong and has been upward trending since the 2013-2014 fiscal year. According to the 2016-2017 independent audit report, the school had positive net assets of \$1,258,921 and net income of \$301,656. The 2017-2018 First Interim projects positive net assets of \$1,293,605 and net income of \$34,684.

# 1. The school's fiscal condition is strong.

	2013-2014 (Audited Actuals)	2014-2015 (Audited Actuals)	2015-2016 (Audited Actuals)	2016-2017 (Audited Actuals)	2017-2018 (First Interim)
Net Assets	\$64,462	\$474,557	\$957,265	\$1,258,921	\$1,293,605
Net Income/Los	\$415,923	\$410,095	\$482,708	\$301,656	\$34,684
Transfers In/Out	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Prior Year Adiustment(s	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

## 2. March 2015 Settlement Agreement Status

On or about March 20, 2015, LAUSD and MERF entered into a Settlement Agreement, whereby the parties agreed to resolve a lawsuit filed by MERF when the District rescinded the conditional renewals of Magnolia Science Academy 6, 7, and 8. . . . .

In summary, the CSD recognizes the progress made by MERF towards fulfilling the fiscal oversight requirements set forth in Paragraph 8 of the March 2015 Settlement Agreement (i.e., since the 2016-2017 oversight visit). The CSD will continue to monitor SSC's findings and recommendations for the prescribed four-month period spanning from January 2018 through April 2018. Furthermore,

the CSD will continue to monitor MERF's compliance with fiscal oversight by SSC and MERF's progress in remedying the findings from SSC through oversight.

(LAUSD CSD Annual Oversite Visit Report, February 14, 2018.)

As detailed extensively below, MPS has made significant steps in the past three years to address both LAUSD and state concerns about operations and finances, fully implementing <u>all</u> recommendations made by the State Auditor satisfactorily.

## SUCCESS OF THE INNOVATIVE FEATURES OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

MSA-6 distinguishes itself from other schools by cultivating a fearless pursuit of excellence through a rigorous, high quality STEAM education for all students. We incorporate an extraordinary support program that includes home visits, extended learning time, and parent and community engagement. At MSA-6 we believe that after-school hours are an extension of the day. MSA-6 recognizes that educational success is realized only when the essential underlying triad of student-teacher-parent/guardian is in harmony. We, therefore, work with staff, families, and the community to provide our youth with the support necessary to reach their highest potential, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically. We offer tutoring and clubs designed to support daytime instruction. Additionally, there is targeted intervention such as Power English, Power Math, and tutoring as part of the Response to Intervention (RTI) program during the school day and after-school. Beyond the Monday through Friday programming, starting in 2016-17 we now offer Saturday programs that include academic tutoring, enrichment and parent workshops. We also provide summer school opportunities around enrichment, AP Prep, remediation and recovery.

MSA-6 has partnered with UCLA to provide opportunities to students such as field trips, a sports medicine club where students receive an interactive presentation from UCLA Sports Medicine club about various sports medicine related topics such as career paths in sports medicine, nutrition, injury prevention, etc. Junior Youth Club, students from UCLA go to MSA-6 every week to help and mentor our students during after school.

MSA-6 also partners with Imagine Etiquette & Business Program, an organization that offers empowerment courses for male and female students through counseling and mentoring. This partnership also serves to provide our students with the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of politeness, civility, communication, and leaderships.

# SUCCESS OF THE SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IN MEETING THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF ITS STUDENT POPULATION

As detailed throughout this charter petition, MSA-6 is providing a middle school and college preparatory educational program emphasizing STEAM in a safe environment that cultivates respect for self and others. Strong evidence via test scores, external evaluations, and more demonstrate the success of MSA-6's rigorous program and efforts to create the next generation of STEAM leaders. MSA-6 students are outperforming their peers at almost all of the neighborhood schools they would likely attend, even considering that these schools have selective admission magnets. MSA-6's college going culture ensures students will graduate prepared to thrive in college.

# AREAS OF CHALLENGE THE SCHOOL HAS EXPERIENCED AND HOW THEY HAVE BEEN/WILL BE IMPROVED

# **Financial and Operational Challenges**

In 2014, Magnolia Public Schools encountered some significant challenges, including a dispute with LAUSD over the non-renewal/revocation (later reversed) of two of our schools (Magnolia Science Academies 6 and 7), leading to a Settlement Agreement between LAUSD and MPS ("Settlement Agreement"). As described by the State's Auditor:

In recent years the academies and the Foundation have been the subject of scrutiny by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)—the authorizing entity for eight of the 11 academies. In June 2014 LAUSD rescinded its conditional approval of two academies' charter petitions. We found that LAUSD may have acted prematurely as its decision was based on a summary of draft findings that did not provide key context about the financial situations of those academies and it did not provide sufficient time for the Foundation to respond to its criticisms. To ensure its academies remained open, the Foundation took legal action against LAUSD. In March 2015 a settlement agreement between the two parties resolved this litigation and resulted in the renewal of the academies' charters.

Elaine M. Howle, CPA, California State Auditor, *Magnolia Science Academies, Report 2014-135R,* May 2015 (www.auditor.ca.gov).

The Settlement Agreement imposed specific criteria for MPS to meet over a defined timeline relating to governance and operations matters. **MPS (MERF) has satisfied** <u>all</u> **of these criteria.** Specifically:

- MERF Terminated its contract with ACCORD, effective June 30, 2015; MERF agrees to not enter into any future contracts with ACCORD for the purpose of providing services to any LAUSD authorized Charter School operated by MERF.
- MERF modified the governance structure to include staggered Board terms and the addition of five new Board members (two more than required); the Board now has nine members instead of four;
- Changed the MERF policy and practice of fund transfers between schools and the network office;
- Made significant leadership changes with the addition of:
  - a **new Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent ("CEO"):** Our previous CEO joined MPS in 2014 to help navigate the organizational challenges. She has an extensive history leading school systems, philanthropic, business, governmental and community-based organizations engaged in transformational work. From 1999-2003 she served on the Board of LAUSD. She earned her doctorate in education from UCLA, her M.P.A. from USC and her B.A. from Yale University. During her four years at MPS she strengthened our internal organizational procedures and external relationships. Her leadership also generated our partnerships with the Wallis Performing Arts Center, the Los Angeles County Arts Collective, Mount Wilson Observatory Foundation and The Carnegie Institution for Science: The Observatories. When she decided to step down as CEO and Superintendent of Magnolia Public Schools at the end of the 2017-18 school year, the Board conducted a thorough search for a highly qualified new leader. Effective July 1, 2018, former Magnolia Chief External Officer returned to the organization as the new

- CEO/Superintendent. He was one of Magnolia's founding teachers and has held various positions within the organization such as teacher, Athletic Director, Dean of Students, Principal, Chief External Officer and now Chief Executive Officer.
- a new Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"): Our CFO has more than 30 years of experience in accounting and finance where 20 years is with California public school system and government fund accounting. She has significant experience and familiarity with the California school account structures, coding and system software and programs.
- a new Chief Operating Officer ("COO"): Our COO started his career as a 6-12 Math teacher. He taught math for 11 years. Then he became a dean of students, and the principal of a Charter School in Phoenix, Arizona. He was a startup principal for a brand new school and led that school for three years then moved to Arizona to be the principal of Magnolia #2 for 3.5 years until he moved to the Regional Director Position for Magnolia Schools within LA County. He is now the COO and the Regional Director for LA County Schools. Our COO holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Master's in Educational Leadership.
- Ceased hiring new employees utilizing H1B visas;
- Changed auditing firms to Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Company, a highly respected and experienced firm on the state-approved list of Charter School auditors;
- Per the March 2015 Settlement Agreement, MERF contracted with the "Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team ("FCMAT") or equivalent" to review selected transactions as part of the Settlement's required fiscal oversight. FCMAT reviewed July, August, May and June 2015-16. On March 8, 2017, Diane Branham, Chief Management Analyst for FCMAT, informed MERF that "Based on our other commitments, [completing the review] is not something that fits into our workload at this time." Therefore, with the approval of LAUSD, MERF is completing the final six-months of oversight required by LAUSD (in the February 8, 2017 letter from Devora Navera Reed) through contracting with School Services of California ("SSCAL," an entity equivalent to FCMAT), effective May 2017. The oversight required was extended from January 2018 to June 2018. MERF takes accountability and fiscal oversight seriously.

Additional changes, above and beyond those required by LAUSD include:

- a new Chief Academic Officer ("CAO"): Our CAO is an accomplished and forward-thinking educator with 18+ years of leadership in developing and implementing leading-edge programs and services that align with mission and vision of educational institutions. He has an outstanding record of improving processes by adapting and applying aspects of STEAM Education in school systems, through comprehensive research, strategic evaluation and effective presentations of best practices in curricula, programs, tools and technologies. Our CAO has pioneered establishment of state-of-the-art online learning programs and professional development portals for academic advancement, combined with directing formative assessment and performance-based programs. He has served in top school level administrative positions in Nevada and California for over a decade.
- a new Chief Accountability Officer: MPS elevated our focus on compliance and accountability organization-wide through the creation of a new executive level position. Our Chief Accountability Officer ensures MPS schools have high quality accountability plans, that the MPS schools implement the programs described in their charter petitions and comply with all applicable law and regulations. Our Chief Accountability Officer earned his M.S. in engineering from UCI and M.A. in school leadership from CSUDH. With teaching and administrative experience at MPS, our Chief Accountability Officer strives to ensure MPS implements best practices aligned with our vision, mission, and core values.

In addition to the Settlement Agreement, the State Auditor conducted a comprehensive and detailed review of MPS operations and finances ("State Audit") in 2014. The State Audit resulted in 12 specific conditions for MPS to meet, issued May 2015, largely related to internal controls and management of fiscal operations. As detailed below, MPS has "fully implemented" <u>all</u> of the recommendations of the State Audit as required:

# **Report 2014-135R Recommendations**

When an audit is completed and a report is issued, auditees must provide the State Auditor with information regarding their progress in implementing recommendations from our reports at three intervals from the release of the report: 60 days, six months, and one year. Additionally, Senate Bill 1452 (Chapter 452, Statutes of 2006), requires auditees who have not implemented recommendations after one year, to report to us and to the Legislature why they have not implemented them or to state when they intend to implement them. Below, is a listing of each recommendation the State Auditor made in the report referenced and a link to the most recent response from the auditee addressing their progress in implementing the recommendation and the State Auditor's assessment of auditee's response based on our review of the supporting documentation.

Recommendations in Report 2014-135R: Magnolia Science Academies: Although the Financial Condition of These Charter Schools Has Improved, Their Financial Controls Still Need to Be Strengthened (Release Date: May 2015)

Filter Recommendations to Status:  Fully Implemented  Filter Recommendations
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	Recommendations to Los Angeles Unified School District						
Number	Recommendation	Status					
1	Consistent with their charter petition terms, the Foundation should ensure that each academy maintains the minimum required cash reserve.	Fully Implemented					
<u>2</u>	To ensure the CMO fees it charges to its academies are accurate, the Foundation should develop procedures to ensure that CMO fees are accurately calculated and recorded, including performing regular reconciliations of the CMO fees recorded in the Foundation's and academies' general ledgers.	Fully_ Implemented					
<u>3</u>	To ensure that the academies' spending aligns with their budgets, the Foundation should create and retain standardized reports with a sufficient level of detail to allow its staff and the academy principals to compare the academies' spending to their budgets.	Fully Implemented					
<u>4</u>	To reduce the risk of misappropriation, the Foundation should ensure that it appropriately authorizes all of its expenditures and the academies' expenditures. It should also ensure that it includes sufficient supporting documentation for each expense, including documenting the purpose of each transaction.	Fully_ Implemented					
<u>5</u>	To strengthen its controls over purchases that principals make at the academies, the Foundation should update its accounting manual to require academy principals to obtain written authorization before processing purchases on their debit cards that are higher than established thresholds. The Foundation should also revise its accounting manual to prohibit the use of debit cards for travel except in the case of a documented emergency.	Fully_ Implemented					

	Recommendations to Los Angeles Unified School District					
Number	Recommendation	Status				
<u>6</u>	To ensure that it can locate documentation supporting its expenditures and the academies' expenditures, the Foundation should develop a stronger document filing system that links all supporting documentation for expenditures to its authorization and justification included in the CoolSIS or equivalent system by using a unique identifier such as a purchase order number.	Fully Implemented				
<u>7</u>	To strengthen its contracting process, the Foundation should define who has authority to sign vendor agreements.	Fully Implemented				
<u>8</u>	To increase transparency and reduce the risk of misuse of funds, the Foundation should update its policies and procedures regarding vendor selection to require that it maintain independence in its relationships with vendors.	Fully Implemented				
<u>9</u>	To ensure that it provides proper oversight over its process for hiring employees who are not citizens of the United States and that it meets all legal requirements for the employees it sponsors, the Foundation should enhance its human resources policies and procedures and implement a centralized system to track and maintain sponsored employees' files and publicly available documentation. Moreover, the Foundation should use the centralized system to ensure that proper notification is sent to Homeland Security for any material changes to sponsored employees' employment. The Foundation should also review all of its past and present noncitizen employees' files and notify Homeland Security of any material changes that it has not previously reported.	Fully Implemented				
<u>10</u>	To hold its management accountable for meeting their responsibilities related to the payroll process, the Foundation should continue to implement its new desk procedures of requiring review and documentation of that review at each stage in the payroll process.	Fully Implemented				
<u>11</u>	To safeguard the funds that the academies raise, the Foundation should ensure that academy staff follow the fundraising procedures in its accounting manual, especially with regards to timeliness of bank deposits and sign-offs on cash-count forms. The Foundation should also annually train its staff to ensure compliance with fundraising procedures.	Fully Implemented				
<u>12</u>	To ensure their compliance with state and federal laws, the Foundation should continue to develop procedures for the academies to follow when they report truancy data to Education. The Foundation's procedures should include a process for the academies to document their calculations.	Fully_ Implemented				
<u>13</u>	To improve communication between the inspector general and the division, LAUSD should develop procedures for discussing relevant findings in draft form and for determining how those findings should affect the decisions that the division or the board makes.	Fully Implemented				
<u>14</u>	To improve its process for considering whether to rescind a Charter School's conditionally renewed petition, LAUSD should develop procedures to provide Charter Schools with a reasonable amount of time for an appropriate response or to potentially remedy concerns.	Fully Implemented				

Source: https://www.auditor.ca.gov/reports/recommendations/2014-135R

Since the audit, MPS has also taken steps to strengthen financial controls and implemented  $\underline{all}$  of the State Auditor's recommendations, including:

- The Board-approved budget is closely monitored on a daily basis by MPS Financial Analysts and adheres to all recommendations made by FCMAT.
- MPS has been using a variety of systems to handle financial transactions, all designed to ensure appropriate financial controls and transparency. In July 2015, MPS contracted with EdTec, a preeminent back-office services provider to more than 300 Charter Schools, to provide primary financial support and reporting requirements. They maintained the general ledger through NetSuite software, including budget and actuals and also prepared interim financial reporting and compiles bank reconciliations. Payroll records were submitted to EdTec every pay period and loaded into NetSuite. Cash disbursements, and the related approvals, were maintained in CoolSIS, a third-party software that is independent from both PayCom and NetSuite. Checks were cut by EdTec using downloads from CoolSIS, MPS' previous purchasing software.
- As of July 1, 2018, MPS migrated to a new back office provider, Delta Managed Solutions (DMS). DMS was selected after a rigorous proposal and review process by a committee composed of the CEO, CFO, COO and two Senior Financial Analysts, based on the following criteria: (1) Cost; (2) Accounting/Procurement System Software; (3) Staff Training; (4) Ability to Self-Serve; (5) Check and Balance; (6) Audit Compliance/Zero Audit Findings; and (7) Need for CoolSIS. As a result, DMS proved to be the best back office provider moving forward. Now all of the previous tasks noted in the bullet point above will be handled by our new provider, DMS and new tracking system, Escape.
- NetSuite, Paycom and Escape all have been enhanced and customized for MPS since the implementation date to better serve our specific needs.
- In addition, we are adding AssetWorks as a new automated system to monitor and track all our assets and technology equipment.

MPS will continue to ensure all facets of our operations, governance and programs are both strong and compliant.

## **Increasing Academic Achievement**

We, like every school in the State, are focused on improving outcomes in ELA and Math on the SBAC/CAASPP tests. In order to raise achievement of students across all grades, we have taken several significant steps, including:

- Purchasing Chromebooks for use at MSA-6 and implementing the Illuminate data system
- Implementing three-times per years Northwest Evaluation Association ("NWEA") Measures of Academic Progress ("MAP") benchmark assessments
- Magnolia invested in a new Math Coach to further support our teachers and students
- Professional development focusing on staff and school needs and aligned with school goals
- Saturday School
- After-school tutoring
- Power Math/English

Going forward, we are placing a priority on providing targeted professional development, implementing McGraw Hill's Study Sync curriculum and Integrated Math Program with fidelity and monitoring and supporting the growth of all student groups, with a particular focus on increased outcomes for Special Education and EL students. MPS has partnered with UCLA's Curtis Center to provide our math teachers with best practices for engaging students in sense making, critical thinking and mathematical modeling. Teachers also will receive tools from the Center's work writing performance tasks for Smarter Balanced. Additionally, MPS supports teacher innovation and contribution through our Teacher Symposiums,

which are held twice a year. MSA-6's English, Art and Robotics teachers led and modeled best practices in this forum. We are confident these efforts will increase proficiency levels on state assessments.

## STUDENT POPULATION TO BE SERVED

#### TARGET POPULATION

MSA-6 serves students in grades 6-8, and mainly draws enrollment from Palms and neighboring West Los Angeles communities. The 2010 Census counted 57,964 residents in zip code 90034, with a demographic breakdown of 29.7% Hispanic, 36.8% Caucasian, 18.9% Asian; 10.1% African American, and 4.5% other. The median yearly household income according to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate is \$60,965, and 47.9% of the population speak a language other than English at home. MSA-6's current enrollment thus serves more racial and ethnic minorities than the immediate surrounding community (83% Hispanic/Latino, 11% African American, 79% FRPL, 15% Special Education, and 11% English Learner population).

# Educational Interests, Backgrounds, and Challenges

Current research indicates that English Learners, students with disabilities, and socioeconomically disadvantaged students are the most rapidly growing student groups in California, specifically in Charter Schools, yet are among the lowest in educational attainment (Gandara, 2013). One in five children or adolescents in the U.S. are of Hispanic origin and are intensifying their impact on educational and work settings (Pino, Martinez-Ramos, & Smith, 2012). Minority students from low socioeconomic status ("SES") backgrounds and first-generation American students are the least likely to be prepared for, enroll, and persist past their first year in a university (Garcia, 2010).

While Title I federal legislation and increased monetary support has allowed significant student groups to improve their academic proficiency, ELs, students with disabilities, and low-income students continue to lag behind other major student groups, more specifically Caucasian and Asian Americans (Romo & Salas, 2003).

The disconnect between these student groups' academic achievement, size of population, and disproportionate under-representation in higher education can be attributed to a variety of factors including lack of parental involvement, not understanding the educational system and its requirements, school barriers, and racial perceptions (Conchas, 2001, 2006; Conchas & Goyette, 2001; Fry, 2002; MacDonald, 2004).

The Charter School movement evolved as an effort to counter consistently failing schools; to create a marketplace within the school system where parents could choose where their children could attend school (Knaak& Knaak, 2013). In particular, Charter Schools developed to implement innovative teaching strategies in an environment free of some of the bureaucracy found in larger school districts (National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, n.d.). As lack of access to a quality education and preparedness to college continues to be a pervasive issue, a growing number of educational leaders has begun to develop theme-based Charter Schools and alternative approaches to educating students.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\_facts.xhtml

For fifteen years, Magnolia Public Schools have provided a STEM, and now STEAM, focused education to address the needs of underrepresented communities. At MPS, ALL STUDENTS have access to high quality and effective STEAM-based Common Core State Standards ("CCSS") and Next Generation Science Standards ("NGSS") aligned instruction, along with engaging elective and enrichment programs that support their learning and development.

### **ENROLLMENT PLAN**

The following shows the anticipated enrollment for the next charter term, with an average class size of 30 students per class:

Projected Grade-level Enrollment at MSA-6								
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24			
6	60	60	62	64	64			
7	60	60	62	64	64			
8	50	60	62	64	64			
Total	170	180	186	192	192			

### **GOALS AND PHILOSOPHY**

### MISSION AND VISION

MPS provides a college preparatory educational program emphasizing science, technology, engineering, arts and math in a safe environment that cultivates respect for self and others.

MPS' vision is that graduates of Magnolia Public Schools are scientific thinkers who contribute to the global community as socially responsible and educated members of society.

MPS has identified the following core values, which are reinforced through the Life Skills curriculum, student learning outcomes ("SLOs"), and all school activities:

### Excellence

Academic excellence is the desire to pursue knowledge and excellence and to contribute original and provocative ideas in a learning environment, in diverse settings, and as a catalyst to future academic knowledge. We foster academic excellence through project-based learning using a constructivist approach, student portfolios, assessments of and for learning and academic discourse and argumentative writing. Scholars learn where and how to access the needed information to advance their academic pursuits and societal contributions.

# Innovation

Students will have the freedom to choose how and what they learn. Individualized scheduling, early identification of learning styles, personalities, interest and career plans will support students' high school and college and career readiness. This will include student participation in

their four-year plans, after school enrichment programs, STEAM program choice options, adaptive assessments and blended learning strategies, differentiated instruction and differentiated and adaptive assessments.

## Connection

School communities are integrated partnerships with the school site staff, families, students and all other stakeholders. This sense of connection creates a safe place for all learners and stakeholders to affirm individual strengths, celebrate character, provide academic support through mentorship and internship, promote unity and better decision making through the implementation of restorative justice practices. Additionally, community cultivates identity and gives each member a sense of belonging and pride. MPS utilizes home visits, student surveys, instructional field trips, life skills classes and coaching to support our overall community-based goals. We work with community partners to establish mentoring relationships and other social capital to support our students' development of personal and academic networks for long-term resilience and connection.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The SLOs are measurable schoolwide goals that every student is expected to achieve upon culmination from MSA-6. Our schoolwide SLOs are embedded in our curriculum, including Life Skills, our instructional practice, core values, and daily culture at the Charter School.

# MSA-6 graduates will be:

# SCHOLARS who:

- Think critically.
- Develop academic plans and goals to guide in their pursuit towards a college degree and career choices (planning).
- Apply, analyze, identify, synthesize and evaluate information and experiences.
- Connect the skills and content learned across the curriculum and evaluate multiple points of view.
- Use the Inquiry Process to address a problem, hypothesize, analyze, and draw conclusions as they investigate an issue/problem.
- Utilize problem-solving techniques during conflict resolution and can compromise.

# INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS who:

- Exhibit the ability to integrate technology as an effective tool in their daily lives
- Use technology effectively to access, organize, research and present information.
- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills through the use of academic language at school, with peers and in the community.
- Demonstrate content area and grade level achievement in Reading,
   Writing, Mathematics, History and Science.
- Are self-directed.
- Meaningfully engage in learning activities.
- Make informed decisions on their learning pathways.
- Know their readiness levels, interests, and backgrounds.
- Understand their own learning styles and intelligence preferences.

Page 31

## MSA-6 graduates will be:

- Reflect on their learning.
- Accept and integrate feedback.
- Adapt to change.

# COMMUNITY FOCUSED CITIZENS who:

- Embrace and respect cultural diversity through the understanding of our global world.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of American and world history and the values of different cultures.
- Contribute to the improvement of life in their school and local community through leadership skills and participation in community projects.
- Demonstrate knowledge of proper nutrition, exercise and physical health and its impact on daily life.
- Collaborate, work effectively, and manage interpersonal relationships within diverse groups and settings.
- Develop their ability to affect change in the world.
- Understand and reflect on connections between their community and global connectedness and how it affects the broader world through global awareness.
- Understand that outreach is a responsibility.
- Realize that agitation is a mechanism to activism.

# AN EDUCATED PERSON IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

The world in which we live and learn has a unique set of advantages and challenges. The goal of MSA-6 is to prepare students to adeptly utilize those advantages and confront these challenges with tenacity and courage. We believe that all students have social capital and can re-imagine their futures by utilizing their highest potential. We believe that engaging underrepresented communities through STEAM education will transform our society and prepare our scholars to lead in the 21st century not only as career seekers but also as career creators.

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (2010) describes the importance of middle and high school education in STEM as follows:

The success of the United States in the 21st century – its wealth and welfare – will depend on the ideas and skills of its population. These have always been the Nation's most important assets. As the world becomes increasingly technological, the value of these national assets will be determined in no small measure by the effectiveness of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in the United States. STEM education will determine whether the United States will remain a leader among nations and whether we will be able to solve immense challenges in such areas as energy, health, environmental protection, and national security. It will help produce the capable and flexible workforce needed to compete in a global marketplace. It will ensure our society continues to make fundamental discoveries and to advance our understanding of ourselves, our planet, and the universe. It will generate the scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians who will create the new ideas, new products, and entirely new industries of the 21st century. It will provide the technical skills and quantitative literacy needed for individuals to earn livable wages and make better decisions for

themselves, their families, and their communities. And it will strengthen our democracy by preparing all citizens to make informed choices in an increasingly technological world.

Prepare and Inspire: K-12 Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) for America's Future. Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C., 2010. (PCAST, 2010)

All MSA-6 schools prepare 21st century scholars to adapt to new platforms and technology through personalized learning and exposure to real world task and interactions such as: national academic and STEAM competitions, mentoring, STEAM clubs, college and career instructional field trips. Building upon students' knowledge in math, science, history and literature through real world applications and experiences fosters a love of learning. Supporting life-long learning through collaboration, digital literacy, academic discourse, argumentative writing and individualized scheduling models prepares students for 21st century demands.

MSA-6 graduates also develop the social and emotional skills needed to succeed in rigorous high schools and ultimately compete in a global society. MSA-6 graduates have a growth mind-set, are resilient, reflective, and demonstrate grit, self-respect and good character. These skills are crucial to not only attending and completing high school and college but also for graduates being able to develop and contribute their original ideas in a work place environment.

### **HOW LEARNING BEST OCCURS**

MSA-6 firmly believes that ALL students are brilliant, and are capable of growing academically and emotionally. It is our responsibility as educators to provide scholars with the tools and contexts they need to accomplish their goals. We also recognize that all students bring a unique set of skills and talents to the school community. Our goals for our scholars are to ensure that they are academically achieving, technologically fearless, creatively empowered, and socially and civically engaged.

Research and experience shows us that learning best occurs when students are engaged and actively involved in the learning experience, have multiple opportunities to make interpersonal connections with the world, and relate their experiences to what they are learning in school. At MSA-6, we strive to effectively facilitate student learning. Because individual needs are intrinsically motivating, we begin the process by allowing students to assess their unique learning needs and styles, and teach them how to articulate those needs through effective communication. This helps guide educators in developing their curriculum so that it is personalized and aligned to meet students at their affect level. Furthermore, MPS carefully collects and disaggregates data in order to consistently monitor and measure student growth, as well as provide immediate feedback to improve learning. We use this data to further tailor our program to meet the individual needs of our scholars.

MSA-6's rigorous CCSS-based educational program uses inquiry and project-based activities to help students acquire core academic knowledge, problem-solving skills, and critical thinking skills. We have designed our curriculum to be relevant to our student demographic, while allowing scholars to explore and connect to the world. Additionally, we believe that student output must have depth and value, in order to foster a sense of pride and accomplishment.

The educators on our team are the foundation of authentic and equitable learning. MSA-6 teachers understand that students learn best when they have multiple opportunities to work collaboratively in teams. To develop conceptual understanding in constructivist settings, MSA-6 teachers assume the role

of facilitators of meaningful learning experiences rather than transmitters of knowledge. Students build on their existing knowledge as guided experiences to help them discover and develop the underlying ideas and concepts. This process not only deepens the students' knowledge, it also sparks and stimulates their curiosity and passion for learning.

In addition to our educators as a foundational piece of our model, parents are recognized as integral participants in successful student learning. The involvement of all stakeholders helps to develop a school's culture, and its identity as a family and a community. Students whose parents are involved in their learning tend to experience higher academic achievement, better attendance, higher graduation rates, and a better chance of continuing with their education beyond high school.

The focus on life skills is an important element of the MSA-6 model that enhances our scholars' learning experience. Our life skills courses are supplemental and designed to empower students with critical study and organizational skills, as well as important social skills. These skills support self-motivation, improvement, and growth, with the goal that students will ultimately use these tools to evolve and contribute to their global community.

In order to cultivate responsible members of society, students need to be fully engaged with their community. MSA-6 students are continuously and actively involved in various community outreach endeavors. The MSA-6 model incorporates "real life" projects that are aligned with the curriculum, and provide students with opportunities to work within their home community. This will help students move from adolescence and school to adulthood and society.

In addition to the curricular design, MSA-6 also offers an exciting after-school program that offers academic assistance to students, as well as providing a safe place for academic and social and emotional enrichment beyond the school day. This program will promote a love of learning and accelerate a positive feeling about the school experience, as well as, nurture a sense of family in our scholars.

## THE REQUIREMENTS OF CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE § 47605(B)(5)(A)(II)

MSA-6 will pursue the following school-wide and student group outcome goals, based on the state priorities detailed in California Education Code § 52060(d). Student performance and achievement of school-wide, student group and individual student progress is measured by multiple and varied summative and formative assessments that are aligned to state and federal standards (including the CCSS) and reflect proficiency measures required by the new CAASPP, as well as state priorities detailed in California Education Code § 52060(d).

The following chart details the school's goals as of this petition submission, for all pupils (including statistically significant subgroups) pursuant to California Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii), 52052, for each of the eight (8) state priorities identified in California Education Code § 52060(d), including specific annual actions the school will take to achieve each of the identified annual goals. We note that as required under the California Education Code, MSA-6's stakeholders will engage in a collaborative process each year to update and prepare an annual Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) as a basis for prioritizing allocation of funds. The following is intended to be illustrative of the goals and actions MSA-6 anticipates at this point in time.

LCFF STATE PRIORITIES						
GOAL #1						
All students will pursue academic excellence and be college/career ready.	R€ ⊠ 1 ⊠ 2 □ 3	elated Stat  4  5  6	te Priorities: □ 7 ⊠ 8			
	□: □:	Local Pr	riorities:			
Specific Annual Actions to Achieve Cool			_			

## Specific Annual Actions to Achieve Goal

- Charter School will conduct credential review as part of teacher hiring process and support our teachers' credentialing needs. Charter School will also annually review master schedule/teacher assignments to ensure compliance. We will support our teachers for their credentialing needs.
- Charter School will annually review alignment of instructional materials to standards and keep an inventory of instructional
  materials and corresponding purchase of materials. Charter School will annually review budget and plan to ensure adequate
  budget for instructional materials.
- Charter School will do annual and monthly facility inspections to screen for safety hazards. Daily general cleaning by custodial staff will maintain campus cleanliness.
- Charter School will ensure curricula and assessments are aligned to the standards and that teachers participate in professional development on the implementation of standards (CCSS, NGSS, etc.). Teachers will be provided with instructional guidance and feedback through classroom visits.
- Charter School will provide services to ELs by proficiency level and provide ELD instruction aligned to the CA ELD standards and framework. Charter School will provide our ELs with core and supplemental ELD instructional materials and provide our teachers with PD focused on ELD standards. Our EL coordinator will monitor EL student progress in program implementation according to our EL Master Plan.
- Charter School teachers will provide instruction using integrated ELD instructional strategies as outlined in the CHATS framework (and other research-based strategies such as SDAIE) to all students, including ELs. Charter School will provide culturally and linguistically relevant materials for students. ELs will receive further in-class instructional support which includes one-on-one teacher support and small group instruction. Charter School will strive to provide bilingual instructional assistants to provide primary language support to enable students to access content area instruction while gaining language proficiency. Charter School will ensure that teachers participate in PD on ELD instructional strategies and CHATS framework.
- During the day, Charter School will provide additional supports and interventions to all students, including ELs.
- Charter School will provide additional supports and interventions to all students, including ELs, during after school hours and on Saturday.

Charter School will synthesize CAASPP and MAP student achievement and growth data, as well as course grades, and other state and internal assessment scores, into reports and regularly review progress towards targets.

# **Expected Annual Measurable Outcomes**

Outcome #1: Charter School's teachers will be appropriately assigned and fully credentialed as required by law and the charter.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of teachers who will be appropriately assigned and fully credentialed as required by law and the charter

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #2: Students will have sufficient access to standards-aligned instructional materials.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students who will have sufficient access to standards-aligned instructional materials

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #3: Items on facility inspection checklists will be in compliance/good standing.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of items on facility inspection checklists in compliance/good standing

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%

Outcome #4: Charter School will provide implementation of state standards for all students.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of state standards implementation for all students

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #5: All student groups will meet or exceed their proficiency targets on the CAASPP-ELA/Literacy assessments.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students performing proficient on the CAASPP-ELA/Literacy assessments (Grades 6-8)

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	43%	3 percentage points up from the prior year	3 percentage points up from the prior year	3 percenta ge points up from the prior year	3 percentage points up from the prior year	3 percentage points up from the prior year
English Learners	5%	percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percenta ge point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	41%	percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percenta ge point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

	44%	1	1	1	1	1
Latino Students		percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percenta ge point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year	percentage point up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

Outcome #6: All student groups will show growth on the CAASPP-ELA/Literacy assessments.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Change in Average Distance from Level 3 on CASSPP-ELA/Literacy assessments (Grades 6-8)

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	16.2 points below level 3	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year
English Learners	45 points below level 3	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year	1 point up from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	19.1 points below level 3	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latino Students	16.2 points below level 3	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year	2 points up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

**Outcome** #7: All student groups will meet their growth targets on the Reading section of our internal, common-core aligned Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students meeting their growth targets on the MAP-Reading assessment (Grades 3-5)

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021- 2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	48%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentag e points up from	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year

				the prior year		
English Learners	39%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	46%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latino Students	40%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

Outcome #8: All student groups will meet or exceed their proficiency targets on the CAASPP-Mathematics assessments.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students performing proficient on the CAASPP-Mathematics assessments (Grades 6-8)

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	25%	3 percentage points up from the prior year				
English Learners	5%	percentage point up	1 percentage point up	1 percentage point up	1 percentage point up	1 percentage point up

		from the prior year	from the prior year	from the prior year	from the prior year	from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	25%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latino Students	25%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

**Outcome #9**: All student groups will show growth on the CAASPP-Mathematics assessments.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Average Distance from Level 3 on the CASSPP-Mathematics assessments (Grades 6-8)

	ı	t.		ı		
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	75.3 points below level 3	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year
English Learners	104.8 points below level 3	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	76.4 points below level 3	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latino Students	76.6 points below level 3	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year	3 points up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

**Outcome #10**: All student groups will meet their growth targets on the Mathematics section of our internal, common-core aligned Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students meeting their growth targets on the MAP-Mathematics assessment (Grades 6-8)

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021- 2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	34%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
English Learners	29%	2 percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
Socioecon. Disadv./Low Income Students	34%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
Foster Youth	*	*	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian Students	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latino Students	37%	percentage points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	percentag e points up from the prior year	percentage points up from the prior year	2 percentage points up from the prior year
White Students	*	*	*	*	*	*

Outcome #11: EL students will make annual progress in learning English as measured by the CELDT and/or ELPAC.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of EL students making annual progress in learning English as measured by the CELDT and/or ELPAC

**Local Priorities:** 

□: □:

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021- 2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
English Learners	91%	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain		
Outcome #12: EL students will be reclassified annually.								
Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of	ELs reclassif	ied to Fluent I	English Profic	ient (RFEP)	annually			
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
All Students (Schoolwide)	64%	Meet or exceed District	Meet or exceed District	Meet or exceed District	Meet or exceed District	Meet or exceed District		
		Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates		
Outcome #13: Students will receive a grade of "Core subjects and electives.	or better (o	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates		
	students who	Rates or perform "pro o have received	Rates oficient" on th	Rates e related stat	Rates te standardize	Rates ed tests) in		
core subjects and electives.  Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of	students who	Rates or perform "pro o have received	Rates oficient" on th	Rates e related stat	Rates te standardize	Rates ed tests) in		
core subjects and electives.  Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of the related state standardized tests) in core subject APPLICABLE	students who	Rates or perform "pro o have received es	Rates officient" on the	Rates e related state C" or better (	Rates te standardize or perform "p	Rates ed tests) in roficient" on		
core subjects and electives.  Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of the related state standardized tests) in core subjecting APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	students who ts and elective Baseline 80%	Rates or perform "pro o have received es  2019-2020  1 percentage point up from the	Rates oficient" on the d a grade of "C 2020-2021  1 percentage point up from the	Rates e related state C" or better (c) 2021-2022  1 percentage point up from the	Rates te standardize or perform "p  2022-2023  1 percentage point up from the	Rates ed tests) in roficient" on 2023-2024  1 percentage point up from the		

### Specific Annual Actions to Achieve Goal

- Charter School will provide students with a broad array of courses including core subjects (English, mathematics, social
  sciences, and science) and electives as outlined in its charter petition. Charter School will also provide all other academic
  programs and services outlined in its charter petition, certain programs and services being dependent on student need and
  interest.
- Charter School will design its master schedule to meet the needs of its students to ensure all academic content areas are available to all students, including student groups.
- Charter School will offer Accelerated and/or Advanced Math class and/or Advanced Math club to students in grades 6-8.
- Charter School will offer Computer/Technology classes and/or blended learning experience for our students. Charter School will also keep its technology up to date. Charter School teachers will participate in PD on Blended Learning.
- Charter School will provide opportunities for students during the day and after school to create or demonstrate a STEAM
  focused project, experiment, model or demo. Charter School will also provide information and access to quality out-ofschool STEAM activities and achievements.

### **Expected Annual Measurable Outcomes**

**Outcome #1**: Charter School will provide the programs and services outlined in its charter petition, certain programs and services being dependent on student need and interest.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of the programs and services outlined in the charter petition that will be provided as measured by student interest surveys for elective courses and programs, master school schedule, and class rosters

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #2: Students will have sufficient access to all academic and educational programs provided by the Charter School.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students who will have sufficient access to all academic and educational programs provided by the Charter School as measured by student interest surveys for elective courses and programs, master school schedule, and class rosters

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #3: Students enrolled in the Charter School's grades 6-8 will be taking the "Advanced Math" class or club.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of students enrolled in the Charter School's grades 6-8 who take the Accelerated and/or Advanced Math club

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	5%	≥5%	≥5%	≥5%	≥5%	≥5%

**Outcome #4**: Our graduates will have taken a Computer/Technology class and/or experienced blended learning in their program of study.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of our graduates who will have taken a Computer/Technology class and/or experienced blended learning in their program of study

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Outcome #5: Students will create or demonstrate a STEAM focused project, experiment, model or demo.

**Metric/Method for Measuring**: Percentage of who have created or demonstrate a STEAM focused project, experiment, model or demo

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	80%	≥80%	≥80%	≥80%	≥80%	≥80%

GOAL #3

All students, families, staff, and other stake and connectedness.	holders wi	ll feel a sens	se of commu	nity	•	riorities: ] 7 ] 8		
				□: □:	Local Priori	ties:		
Specif	ic Annual Ac	tions to Achie	eve Goal					
<ul> <li>Charter School will seek parent input in making decisions for the school through quarterly SSC, ELAC, and PTF meetings.</li> <li>Charter School will host parent activities/events, including Student/Parent Orientation, Back to School Night, and parent conferences to promote parental participation in programs.</li> <li>Charter School will provide parents with access to course material, homework assignments, projects, and records of students' grades through SIS, an online web portal. Charter School will communicate further with the parents of students who are performing below grade level.</li> <li>Charter School teachers will visit students at their homes to discuss student progress and enhance student learning and involvement.</li> <li>Charter School will provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging learning environment for all our students and families. Academic and social-emotional support will be provided to address student needs.</li> <li>Charter School will inform parents and students of attendance policies specified in the Student/Parent Handbook and encourage and support student attendance.</li> <li>Charter School will annually assess its suspension/expulsion policies and procedures and document and implement alternatives to suspension/expulsion, including restorative practices.</li> <li>Charter School staff will acknowledge and encourage positive student behavior and improvements. Teachers will establish classroom management procedures, foster positive relationships, and help create an atmosphere of trust, respect, and high expectations.</li> <li>Charter School will annually administer school experience surveys to students, parents, and staff.</li> </ul>								
Ехрес	ted Annual N	Measurable Ou	ıtcomes					
Outcome #1: Charter School will hold quarterly S	SSC meetings	s <b>.</b>						
Metric/Method for Measuring: Number of SS	C meetings p	er year						
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
All Students (Schoolwide)	4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4		
Outcome #2: Charter School will hold quarterly l Metric/Method for Measuring: Number of EL	C	·	Committee (EL	AC) meeting	ţs.			
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
English Learners	4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4		
Outcome #3: Charter School will hold quarterly l Metric/Method for Measuring: Number of PT			eetings.					
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
All Students (Schoolwide)	4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4	≥4		

Outcome #4: Charter School will hold activities/events for parent involvement.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Number of activities/events for parent involvement per year

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	5	≥5	≥5	≥5	≥5	≥5

Outcome #5: Teachers will update SIS records daily/weekly.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Frequency of SIS record updates

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019- 2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	Daily/We	Daily/Wee	Daily/Week	Daily/Wee	Daily/Wee	Daily/Wee
	ekly	kly	ly	kly	kly	kly

Outcome #6: Charter School will send a minimum of 4 progress reports to parents.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Number of progress reports sent to parents per year

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	4	4	4	4	4	4

Outcome #7: Charter School's students will be home-visited by the teachers.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Percentage of students who have been home-visited by the teachers per year

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	20%	≥23%	≥23%	≥23%	≥23%	≥23%

Outcome #8: Charter School will maintain a high ADA.

Metric/Method for Measuring: ADA rate

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	97%	≥97%	≥97%	≥97%	≥97%	≥97%

Outcome #9: Charter School will maintain a low chronic absenteeism rate.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Chronic absenteeism rate

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	10%	≤6%	≤6%	≤6%	≤6%	≤6%

Outcome #10: Charter School will maintain a low middle school dropout rate.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Middle school dropout rate								
APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021- 2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		
All Students (Schoolwide)	ο%	ο%	ο%	ο%	ο%	ο%		

Outcome #11: Charter School will maintain a low student suspension rate.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Student suspension rate

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	0%	ο%	ο%	0%	ο%	0%

Outcome #12: Charter School will maintain a low student expulsion rate.

Metric/Method for Measuring: Student expulsion rate

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	0%	ο%	ο%	0%	ο%	ο%

**Outcome #13**: Charter School will maintain high participation rates in the school experience surveys of students, parents, and staff.

Metric/Method for Measuring: School experience survey participation rates

Applicable Student Groups	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Chridants (Calcaluida)	Students: 99% Parents:	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%	≥90%
All Students (Schoolwide)	84% Staff:	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%
	100%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%

**Outcome #14**: Charter School will maintain a high approval rates in the school experience surveys of students, parents, and staff.

 $\textbf{Metric/Method for Measuring:} \ \textbf{School experience survey average approval rates}$ 

APPLICABLE STUDENT GROUPS	Baseline	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
All Students (Schoolwide)	Students: 62% Parents: 97% Staff:	≥70% ≥90%	≥70% ≥90%	≥70% ≥90%	≥70% ≥90%	≥70% ≥90%
	95%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%	≥85%

<sup>\*</sup>Student group not numerically significant at this time.

## GOALS FOR ENABLING PUPILS TO BECOME AND REMAIN SELF-MOTIVATED, COMPETENT, AND LIFELONG LEARNERS

In addition to the Student Learning Outcomes detailed above, MSA-6 expects that at least 80% of students who have been enrolled at the Charter School for at least one full academic-year will develop at least *four* of the following *six* lifelong learning and interpersonal skills prior to 8<sup>th</sup> grade culmination:

Representative measurable outcomes and assessment tools for lifelong learning and interpersonal skills

# Skills Leadership, Collaboration and Cooperation

### **Learning Objectives**

- Incorporate personal management skills on a daily basis.
- Effective participation in group decision-making processes.
- Work cooperatively with others and be a team player in achieving group goals.
- Be able to assume leadership in group tasks.

### Selfassessment and Reflection

- Describe, analyze and prioritize personal skills and interests that they want to develop.
- Describe and effectively use the personal qualities they possess that make them successful members of their school and community.
- Recognize their intelligence types and personal learning styles and employ those styles in their learning and personal development.

### **Goal Setting**

- Set positive academic and nonacademic goals.
- Apply goal-setting skills to promote academic success.
- Set post-secondary goals with action steps, timeframes, and evaluation criteria.
- Identify the skills and credentials required for a particular profession and prepare accordingly.

### **Assessment Tools**

- End of semester teacher evaluations on student behaviors.
- Teachers' comments entered into the Student Information System, Illuminate or equivalent
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios of student work, reports and/or exhibits including group assignments.
- End of semester teacher evaluations of student behaviors.
- Teachers' comments entered into the Student Information System, Illuminate or equivalent
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios of student work, reports and/or presentations scored by the teacher using rubrics.
- End of semester teacher evaluations on student behaviors.
- Teachers' comments entered into the Student Information System, Illuminate or equivalent
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios of student work, reports and/or presentations scored using rubrics.

SKIIIS
Critical
Thinking and
Problem
Solving

### **Learning Objectives**

- Implement stop, think, and act strategies in solving daily life problems.
- Generate alternative solutions to problems and predict possible outcomes.
- Apply the steps of systematic decisionmaking in school and life.

### Self-discipline

- Implement a plan to meet a need or address a challenge based on personal strengths and available support from others.
- Explore career opportunities based on their identified interests and strengths.
- Show self-esteem based on accurate assessment of self.

### Citizenship

- Personal honesty and integrity.
- Courage to express their views.
- Love, respect and loyalty to the United States of America.
- Understanding and tolerance towards other societies in the world.
- Participate in multicultural and crosscultural activities.

### **Assessment Tools**

- End of semester teacher evaluations on student behaviors.
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios of student work, reports and/or presentations scored using rubrics.
- End of semester teacher evaluations on student behaviors.
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios, presentations and/or exhibits of student work
- End of semester teacher evaluations on student behaviors.
- Teachers' comments entered into the Student Information System, Illuminate or equivalent
- Assignments, tests and activities in Character Education, Life Skills, College Prep and other classes.
- Portfolios, presentations and/or exhibits of student work, peer competitions

### **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN**

CURRICULAR AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM: KEY EDUCATIONAL THEORIES AND RESEARCH

As noted above, instructional design is based on three pillars: **Academic Excellence**, **Innovation**, and **Connection**.



We believe in the analysis of learning needs and the systematic development and personalization of learning experiences. STEAM is the platform by which we enhance instruction, increase intrinsic motivation, and make learning relevant through real life connections. MSA-6 aims to utilize the latest and most innovative tools to maximize personalization and customization for a superior academic program that is tailored for a student's individual needs by which a passion for learning is created that will be sustainable for life.

Academic Excellence (Scientific Thinkers)	Innovation (Intrinsically Driven and Self- Motivated)	Connection (Socially Responsible Global Citizens)
<ul> <li>STEAM Focus</li> <li>Learning Approaches         (Experiential,             Constructivist Social             Learning, Inquiry and             Project-Based Learning)</li> <li>Effectively Integrating             Technology into Teaching             and Learning</li> <li>Public Display of Excellence</li> <li>Life-long Learning</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data-driven Instruction to Ensure High School and College Readiness</li> <li>Periodic Benchmark Tests</li> <li>After-school Tutoring</li> <li>Individualized scheduling</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Community Service and Volunteerism International Visits, Trips, Speakers</li> <li>Home Visits</li> <li>Students achieve self-actualization</li> <li>Business and Industry Partnerships</li> </ul>

### INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN COMPONENTS: EXCELLENCE (SCIENTIFIC THINKERS)

### **STEAM Focus**

A significant step toward helping our students achieve their maximum potential involves providing a rigorous, relevant and college preparatory curriculum with a STEAM emphasis. Science courses immerse students in the scientific method and encourage them to use the applicable technology to plan and organize projects, hypothesize, analyze data, and draw conclusions from experiments they choose and create based on their interests. Science classes employ Technology in laboratory explorations and experimentation. **Technology** is a key component to our instructional delivery model. Each classroom is equipped with laptops (1:1 student to computer ratio) to enable effective blended learning strategies. Computer simulations assist in expanding the number of lab opportunities in all grade levels. A Computer Science Program fuels tech skills development, including programming and sequencing. All courses incorporate Engineering design process at all grades as part of the NGSS emphasis. With CA Science Framework and NGSS integration, MSA-6 all students learn about Engineering Design, technology, and applications of science as part of their core classes. Computer course are offered at all levels and skills are further developed in after school enrichments. Furthermore, Engineering is also embedded in electives offered such as robotics, architecture and design. Arts instruction focuses on developing students' creativity, imagination, discipline and self-expression through drawing and fine arts. Students are assessed for their current knowledge and skill level in Math and placed in the most appropriate class (see below).

### EFFECTIVELY INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY INTO TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Technology Program is a distinguished feature of MSA-6, with highly trained faculty leading engaging instruction. The program enables students to personalize learning practice and integrate all subjects in project-based learning in a fun and meaningful way. This unique program includes:

- Technology courses and curriculum that provides technology tools necessary in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
  and develops critical skills that help students succeed in a rigorous high school, gain acceptance
  to and graduate from a 4-year university with a STEAM major.
- Core class integration projects that require higher order learning and improving critical thinking skills.

### PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF EXCELLENCE IN STEAM

MSA-6 students and faculty organize and participate in numerous STEAM competitions. Through various activities, competition days become a targeted event to arouse student interest and celebrate their peers' success. MSA-6 offers a variety of after school clubs to students to stimulate interest in and extend knowledge of various subjects covered in the classroom including Computer Applications, MathCounts, Robotics, and Science Olympiad clubs. Parents are involved in co-facilitating after-school programs and activities.

### LIFE-LONG LEARNING

Based on Delors' (1996) four 'pillars' of education for the future,<sup>4</sup> we believe lifelong learning may be broadly defined as: learning that is flexible, diverse and available at different times and in different places. Lifelong learning crosses sectors, promoting learning beyond traditional schooling and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Delors, J. (1996) Learning: The treasure within Report to UNESCO of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century, UNESCO

throughout adult life (i.e. post-compulsory education). At MSA-6, we seek to develop diverse learning habits in our students:

**Learning to know** – mastering learning tools rather than acquisition of structured knowledge **Learning to do** – equipping people for the types of work needed now and in the future including innovation and adaptation of learning to future work environments

**Learning to live together, and with others** – peacefully resolving conflict, discovering other people and their cultures, fostering community capability, individual competence and capacity, economic resilience, and social inclusion

**Learning to be** – education contributing to a person's complete development: mind and body, intelligence, sensitivity, aesthetic appreciation, and spirituality

MSA-6 aims to instill creativity, initiative and responsiveness in our students, thereby enabling them to show adaptability in post-industrial society through enhancing skills to manage uncertainty, communicate across and within cultures, sub-cultures, families and communities, and negotiate conflicts.

### INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN COMPONENTS: INNOVATION (INTRINSICALLY DRIVEN AND SELF-MOTIVATED)

### **DATA-DRIVEN INSTRUCTION**

MSA-6 teachers and students use data to make informed decisions. Teachers receive regular professional development and coaching about positive academic intervention, teaching strategies for all learners, and differentiated instruction. Academic, informal and formal information is taken from the following areas: MAP diagnostic data, SBAC Interim formative and summative data, student survey, and Grade Point Averages. Digital, mastery-based core academic content also permits data-driven intervention by local teachers, coaches, and EL and remediation specialists.

The online curriculum and real-time assessments allow continuous and individualized pacing as well as flexibility in the number of courses students are offered. Our system generates reports that show profiles of content and skills that students are learning and tracks their progress. This system is combined with diagnostic MAP assessments provide the data necessary to build personalized, realistic, and productive learning plans on a weekly basis for every Magnolia student. Up-to-date and actionable information is an essential part of the integrated academic and social foundation of the school's culture and is requisite to adequate support for students' learning (Blum, 2004).

Research shows that low-performing students benefit from personalized learning plans that address their specific area(s) of deficiency (Archambault, Diamond, Brown, Cavanaugh, & Coffey, 2010; Black, Harrison, Marshall, & William, 2004; Blum, 2004; Clarke, 2003; Legters, Balfanz, & McPartland, 2002; Watson & Gemin, 2008).

### PERIODIC BENCHMARK TESTS

MSA-6 uses NWEA's computer-adapted tests, called MAP, to evaluate student learning and to differentiate instruction to meet student needs. These campus-wide tests are used to measure individual levels of student performance reflected in CCSS. They also measure various skills, such as analytic ability, critical thinking, and synthesis. While the MAP testing is not used as a basis for student promotion, it does provide a valuable resource to identify students in need of remediation and intervention.

MAP is administered in the fall and spring of every academic year in Reading, Language Usage, Mathematics and Science. With a large norm reference group (more than 2 million), MAP reports provide highly accurate feedback as how students are performing. The assessments adapt to the student's ability, accurately measuring what a child knows and needs to learn. MAP measures academic growth over time, independent of grade level or age. MAP test results are also used to identify the skills and concepts individual students have learned, diagnose instructional needs, monitor academic growth over time, make data-driven decisions, and place new students into appropriate courses.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING**

MSA-6 offers free after-school tutoring to all students. Our tutoring program provides students with a safe, small-group environment in which they can receive personalized attention from their teachers, as well as access the resources needed for successfully completing their assignments. Individual and small group tutoring as well as homework clubs are available. Students identified as low achieving attend intensive obligatory after school programs tailored towards each student's needs. This specialized strategy provides the opportunity for struggling students to master the relevant subject's content standards. Low achieving students' progress is quantitatively measured through NWEA MAPs, Accelerated Reader, and My Math tests with the goal of attaining at least one year's academic progress within the school year.

Students in need of English Language Development	→	ELD tutoring:	Computer-aided grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, listening and speaking
("ELD") support			
Students in need	$\rightarrow$	Tutoring	Mathematics, Science, English-
of core class		program for	Language Arts and History-Social
support		core classes:	Science
All students	$\rightarrow$	After-school	Arts & Crafts, Basketball Club,
		clubs:	LEGO Robotics, Ping Pong Club,
			Student Council, Volleyball Club,
			Yearbook & Newsletter Club, etc.

MSA-6 after school program structure

Students demonstrating adequate improvement can advance to a satisfactory level where they are provided moderate tutoring sessions and various fun opportunities, such as recreational clubs, and community trips. For those under-achieving students who do not positively respond to this teaching method, the homeroom teachers may decide to include them in different recreational activities to promote students' interest in learning.

### COMMUNITY (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE GLOBAL CITIZENS)

MSA-6 believes that all change begins through partnerships between the home and school community. In our attempt to teach our students the values of community engagement, citizenship, and global awareness, we hope to engrain and cultivate a love for community, an understanding of the importance of our societal contributions, and a greater awareness of self, relative to the global community. In doing this, we affect change through our actions and interactions. We are a family and we are committed to

the growth and development our students and the communities in which they live, in order to enrich the global society.

### LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Life Skills is an enrichment program that provides students with valuable skills to support academic excellence and social skill development, and includes topics on social and emotional learning, study skills, environmental issues, conflict resolution, making responsible choices, self-discipline, college and career awareness and character education. Students participate in activities/projects to demonstrate their understanding of the values/lessons. Guest speakers and various forms of technology also engage students in the course content. Life Skills themes are integrated into broader school-wide activities including assemblies, instructional field trips, displays, announcements, and into the general curriculum. Parents are regularly informed about the Life Skills topics to support our effort to inspire positive principles of conduct in future leaders. The program also enables all students, including our most "atrisk" students, to have a vision and be more specific on their goals to be successful at school and during their life.

### INSTRUCTIONAL FIELD TRIPS AND GUEST SPEAKERS FOR MOTIVATION

Instructional field trips are intended to allow students to gain insight, information, or knowledge that cannot be adequately developed through regular classroom instruction. Instructional field trips, therefore, are an integral part of the curriculum and are as essential to the instructional process as textbooks, equipment, and other instructional devices and teaching/learning strategies. Since not all children learn in the same way, instructional field trips allow students the opportunity to expand their intelligence in ways different from those typically available inside the classroom.

Visiting a research laboratory (e.g., Jet Propulsion Lab), a university campus (e.g., UCLA, USC, Caltech, UCI, and CSU-Long Beach), and meeting with scientists during these instructional field trips or through guest speakers on campus motivates our students. Especially when some of these guest speakers or people they meet during instructional field trips share the same culture with students, students find new role models. While most instructional field trips are directly related to specific, academic curricula, they also may address the need for intra- and inter- personal growth in children, and thus may be designed to promote social and emotional development and to provide for the development of the "whole" child.

### **HOME VISITS**

Research has shown that one of the keys to successful teaching and schooling is creating personal connections with students inside and outside of school. Knowing the students' outside interests, families, and home routines, and then using this information to connect in meaningful, individualized ways can have huge rewards in helping to create happier, healthier, and smarter kids. Recognizing these facts, MSA-6 uses home visits as one of the important features of its education program to not only improve student and school performance, but also to identify and intervene early with low-achieving students.

MSA-6 teachers visit students at their homes to enhance student learning and involvement. Family visits offer invaluable insights about students. They can provide new understanding about students' learning styles. Visits might also reveal the emotional and social needs and behaviors of students. It is helpful to know if they react to problems with tears, anger, or withdrawal, and how they socialize with peers. Through family visits, teachers can identify students' latest interests or concerns, such as a new hobby, an upcoming trip, or a change in the family.

### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

All curricula at MSA-6 is based on the California state standards, including but not limited to the Common Core State Standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards. Teachers use the state-published Frameworks for Instructional Design in developing curriculum pacing and lesson plans.

In grades 6 through 8, students are required to take core classes in Mathematics, Science, English-Language Arts and History-Social Science. In addition, our comprehensive education program includes: electives in Math and ELA (for additional support or challenge), Languages Other than English, Visual and Performing Arts, Physical Education, Computers and Technology, Sustained Silent Reading ("SSR"), and other electives. MSA-6 offers all students one period of Life Skills per week.

All students who are English Learners receive both integrated and designated English Language Development through a state approved curriculum and the California English Language Development Standards. The program and curriculum for our school's English Learners is described in detail in the sections below.

### **MATHEMATICS**

The math curriculum at Magnolia is based on the *California Common Core State Standards: Mathematics* and reflects the importance of focus, coherence, and rigor as the guiding principles for mathematics instruction and learning. These standards will be fully implemented and assessed as a commitment to providing a world-class education for all students that supports college and career readiness and the knowledge and skills necessary to fully participate in the twenty-first-century global economy.

The CCSS call for learning mathematical content in the context of real-world situations, using mathematics to solve problems, and developing "habits of mind" that foster mastery of mathematics content as well as mathematical understanding. The CCSS in Math for kindergarten through grade 8 prepare students for higher mathematics. The standards for higher mathematics reflect the knowledge and skills that are necessary to prepare students for college and careers and productive citizenship.

Math instruction at MSA-6 focuses deeply on the concepts that are emphasized in the standards so that students can gain strong foundational conceptual understanding, a high degree of procedural skill and fluency, and the ability to apply the mathematics they know to solve problems inside and outside the mathematics classroom. Coherence is provided through mathematical connections. Some of the connections in the standards knit topics together at a single grade level. Most connections are vertical, as the standards support a progression of increasing knowledge, skill, and sophistication across the grades. Teachers approach conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application with equal intensity, providing instruction with rigor and relevance. In short, the math instruction at MPS meets the challenges of the twenty-first century through innovation.

MSA-6 offers an integrated math pathway of courses, aligned with new CCSS Math standards and "best practices" in math learning and instruction.<sup>5</sup> In determining the mathematics course placement for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Depending on students' math backgrounds and surrounding schools' pathways, MPS may elect to follow the traditional mathematics pathway over the integrated mathematics pathway where Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-calculus courses replace Integrated Math I, II, III, and IV courses.

entering students, the Charter School systematically takes multiple objective academic measures of student performance into consideration, including:

- Statewide mathematics assessments, including interim and summative assessments through the CAASPP;
- Placement tests that are aligned to state-adopted content standards in mathematics;
- Recommendation, if available, of each student's prior year mathematics teacher based on classroom assignment and grades;
- Recommendation, if any, of each student's current grade mathematics teacher based on classroom assignments and grades provided at the beginning of the school year;
- Final grade in mathematics on the student's official, end of the year grade report card;
- Results from all placement checkpoints, including at least one (1) placement checkpoint within the first month of the school year.

In Accelerated Pathway 1, grades 7, 8, and 9 are compacted into grades 7 and 8 (a 3:2 compaction). In Accelerated Pathway 2, grades 6, 7, 8, and 9 are compacted into grades 6 and 7 (a 4:2 compaction). Math 8 is bridged between grades 6 and 7 with the option of a summer math bridge course.

Pathway	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Regular	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8
Pathway			
Accelerated	Math 6	Accelerated	Integrated
Pathway 1		Math 7/8	Math I
Accelerated	Accelerated	Integrated	Integrated
Pathway 2	Math 6/7	Math I	Math II

In some cases, entering sixth graders may be capable of beginning high school Integrated Math I (or Algebra I) and MPS is eager to accommodate these gifted students.

MATHEMATICS	
MATH 6 (Core, College preparatory)	MATH 7 (Core, College preparatory)
In Grade 6, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.	In Grade 7, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.
MATH 8 (Core, College preparatory)	ACCELERATED MATH 6/7 (Core, College preparatory)

In Grade 8, instructional time will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

# **ACCELERATED MATH 7/8** (Core, College preparatory)

This course differs from the non-accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grade course in that it contains content from 8<sup>th</sup> grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the additional content when compared to the non-accelerated course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. Content is organized into four critical areas, or units. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the CCSS, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

This course compacts 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade standards and it contains content from 8<sup>th</sup> grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the additional content when compared to the non-accelerated course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. Content is organized into four critical areas, or units. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

# **INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS I** (Core, College preparatory)

The fundamental purpose of Mathematics I is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle school grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Mathematics I uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. The critical areas, organized into six units are as follows: 1) Relationships Between Quantities; 2) Linear and Exponential Relationships; 3) Reasoning with Equations; 4) Descriptive Statistics; 5) Congruence, Proof, and Constructions; 6) Connecting Algebra and Geometry through Coordinates.

### **INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS II** (Core, College preparatory)

The focus of Mathematics II is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Mathematics I as organized into 6 critical areas, or units. The need for extending the set of rational numbers arises and real and complex numbers are introduced so that all quadratic equations can be solved. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods, including their use in making and evaluating decisions. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. Circles,

with their quadratic algebraic representations, round out the course. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. The critical areas, organized into six units are as follows: 1) Extending the Number System; 2) Quadratic Functions and Modeling; 3) Expressions and Equations; 4) Applications of Probability; 5) Similarity, Right Triangle Trigonometry, and Proof; 6) Circles With and Without Coordinates.

### **SCIENCE**

The Charter School's curriculum is based on the state framework and state standards following Next Generation Science Standards. Students at MSA-6 explore NGSS-aligned Disciplinary Core Ideas ("DCI") in Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, and Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science in the cross-curricular units and programs. Within each domain, the framework describes how a small set of disciplinary core ideas has been developed. Each core idea is then broken into three or four component ideas that provide more organizational development of the core idea.

The science program at MSA-6 use hands-on science curriculum that is formulated using inquiry-based research topics. From the earliest grades, students experience science in a form that engages them in the active construction of ideas and explanations that enhance their opportunities to develop the abilities of doing science. The middle school curriculum will ensure that science is integrated into the lessons and activities.

Inquiry and exploration are the basis of each curriculum unit in science classes. Key questions are given to students and the emphasis is on the process and the questions to be asked, rather than focusing on a finite answer or "drill and kill" activities. Students build on their understanding of science concepts, learn to apply the scientific method, and use technology in laboratory explorations and experimentation. In the process, depth over breadth is emphasized and students become self-reliant, independent problem-solvers. We employ an integrated science curriculum, in accordance with the Next Generation Science Standards. Courses are designed to focus on development of a "scientific mind" through student use of scientific strategies. This process takes place within each unit of study via the students hypothesizing, researching, experimenting, observing and inferring.

SCIENCE	
INTEGRATED SCIENCE 6 (Core, College	INTEGRATED SCIENCE 7 (Core, College preparatory)
preparatory)	
The major units of study for all grade six	The major units of study for all grade seven middle
middle school students are:	school students are:
<ul><li>Unit 1: Exploring Earth</li></ul>	<ul><li>Unit 1: Motion and Energy</li></ul>
<ul><li>Unit 2: Exploring Life</li></ul>	<ul><li>Unit 2: Interactions of Matter</li></ul>
<ul><li>Unit 3: Understanding Matter</li></ul>	<ul><li>Unit 3: Understanding the Universe</li></ul>
<ul><li>Unit 4: Understanding Energy</li></ul>	<ul><li>Unit 4: Earth and Geological Changes</li></ul>
This course integrates curriculum which	<ul><li>Unit 5: Exploring Ecology</li></ul>
encompasses engineering design and	<ul> <li>Unit 6: Heredity and Human Body Systems</li> </ul>
engineering principles in alliance with the	This course integrates curriculum which encompasses
national science framework. This course also	engineering design and engineering principles in
helps students learn about engineering	alliance with the national science framework. This
	course also helps students learn about engineering

design, technology, and applications of	design, technology, and applications of science as part
science as part of the curriculum.	of the curriculum.

### INTEGRATED SCIENCE 8 (Core, Non-college preparatory)

The major units of study for all grade eight middle school students are:

- Unit 1: Biodiversity and Human Impacts
- Unit 2: History of the Earth
- Unit 3: Ecosystems, Molecules to Organisms
- Unit 4: Ecosystems continued, Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

This course integrates curriculum which encompasses engineering design and engineering principles in alliance with the national science framework. This course also helps students learn about engineering design, technology, and applications of science as part of the curriculum.

Students at MSA-6 also have off campus field trip experiences and meet with professionals in STEAM areas during these instructional field trips or through guest speakers on campus. These experiences deepen and enhance classroom study, and enhance students' vision of science.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

English Language Arts curriculum is literature-based and emphasizes skills and knowledge students need as readers, writers, speakers and listeners in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Conventions of writing are emphasized in daily written homework and lab assignments. Students taking advanced world language will also be encouraged to study works written in that language, e.g., Spanish. The curriculum incorporates a period of Sustained Silent Reading as part of the daily curriculum. Accelerated Reader by Renaissance Learning is utilized to personalize reading practice to each student's current level, maximizing its effectiveness.

MSA-6 also is using the online/blended learning Study Sync program, an intentional, connected literacy program that integrates reading, writing, and review into a comprehensive, standards-aligned platform, designed to advance critical thinking, reading, writing, language, speaking and listening skills, and address critical language standards. Study Sync's curriculum ensures rigorous, focused core ELA/ELD instruction and standards-based assessment, which draws students into texts and informational content with dramatic, movie-like previews, award-winning Study Sync® TV episodes modeling appropriate student discussion and collaboration, SkillsTV videos exploring literacy concepts with relatable student narrators, and social media-like current events Blasts discussions. By integrating technology experiences that students crave, students gain knowledge and skills in ways that relate to their world. Learning supports are embedded throughout for all levels of learners, including reluctant and advanced readers, and EL students, with scaffolding based on students' reading abilities with customizable writing prompts, rubrics, and assessments.

The middle school reading curriculum is integrated into all content areas. Students progress through a literature-based and CCSS-based reading and curriculum emphasizing balanced literary practices. The curriculum begins with basic phonics skills, such as phonemic awareness, rhyming, blending and decoding words to sounding out unfamiliar words, discovering words and meaning from context, and recognition of irregularly spelled words for our EL students. The curriculum increases in levels to meet the needs of all students. Fluent reading and strong comprehension skills are the focus of the Charter School's curriculum. Teachers emphasize close reading and informational text.

Writing serves as an important vehicle for learning, and MSA-6 students are given writing assignments frequently to reinforce learning and enhancing understanding. We believe that students must be able to

express themselves clearly through writing in every subject. As the common core writing standards phrase it, "For students, writing is a key means of asserting and defending claims, showing what they know about a subject, and conveying what they have experienced, imagined, thought, and felt." (http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI\_ELA%20Standards.pdf)

The middle school writing curriculum is integrated into all content areas. This includes literature and science-based readings with emphasis on six traits of writing: voice, sentence fluency, organization, ideas, word choice, and conventions. Students practice various forms of writing, including personal narrative, exposition, letters, newspaper reporting, plays, poetry, short stories, biographies, directions, formal scientific reporting, scientific observation, realistic and fantasy stories. The principles and applications of correct grammar are incorporated into writing exercises.

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6 (Core, College preparatory) ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6 (Core, College preparatory)

Students in sixth grade focus on active engagement with text. They are required to analyze, identify, define, explain, integrate, evaluate, compare, contrast, and cite supportive evidence—developing and building upon those skills that were required in fifth grade. Deeper analysis of literature and informational text continues to be the focus of sixth-grade instruction, although reading fluently and accurately remains a CCSS-based goal for all students. Students' understanding of the precise meaning of words, English instruction is critical language conventions, structural features of informational text and materials, and to developing fundamental elements of literature all support greater comprehension of what they read, students' literacy and see, and hear.

# **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7** (Core, College preparatory)

In seventh grade, the English language arts CCSS establish a higher level of communication skills and comprehension strategies. Students demonstrate a growing understanding by connecting ideas and information in two or more texts and analyzing and evaluating textual evidence more carefully. Their writing reflects both a deeper understanding of texts and the interrelationship between reading and writing as they draw evidence to support their claims and convey concepts and ideas. Seventh-grade students build on their communication and collaboration skills from earlier grades. As they engage in collaborative discussions, they are able to acknowledge and analyze new information and, when appropriate, modify their own view based on the new information. Students continue to acquire and use general academic language and domain-specific vocabulary. They also learn to use precise and concise language to express themselves in their speaking and writing.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8** (Core, College preparatory)

In preparation for high school and beyond, students in eighth grade must have a firm grasp of skills to be a literate person in the twenty-first century. They read and respond to significant works of literature and examine how modern works of fiction draw on traditional themes and characters. Given informational text, students read critically the arguments and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the author's evidence is reasoned and sufficient in addressing conflicting evidence and viewpoints. Students, working on their own and with others, produce clear and coherent texts appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience. Students connect their reading to their writing by drawing evidence from literary and informational texts when writing analyses or short research projects. Eighth-grade students build on the communication and collaboration skills from earlier grades. As they engage in collaborative discussions, they probe and reflect on discussion topics and are able to justify their own views in light of evidence presented by others. Students continue to

acquire and accurately use general academic language and domain-specific vocabulary. They recognize when it is important to know the precise meaning of a word in order to comprehend a text and call upon a range of strategies to determine word meanings.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

The course focuses on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students participate in extensive listening and speaking exercises. The course covers basic structures of the English language. Students progress from an elementary understanding of English words and verb tenses to a more comprehensive grasp of various formal and informal styles. The course may include an orientation to the customs/cultures of people in the U.S.

### **Sustained Silent Reading Program**

In grades 6 through 8, all students participate in Sustained Silent Reading for 25 minutes a day, every day.

### SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR) PROGRAM

### SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR) PROGRAM (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

MSA-6 utilizes **myON** reader, a personalized, online literacy program that helps teachers manage and monitor a student's independent reading practice. myON is used as a reading intervention, as it generates book recommendations within each learners' target Lexile ranges. Accommodations such as audio narration to model reading fluency, highlighting text, and the use of embedded dictionaries, allow learners to develop academic vocabulary and reading fluency. Teachers have access to data related to Lexile levels which informs their teaching and supports differentiation. Once completed, the student is administered an online assessment which informs the teachers of the student's progress. If a student continues to struggle while reading at his or her level, additional interventions are implemented. All teachers use assessment results to inform Response to Intervention ("RTI") strategies.

### **HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE**

The History/Social Science curriculum is aligned with the state framework and offers students grounding in local, California, and United States history and an understanding of the development and operation of the three levels of government. The curriculum also introduces world history through literature, culture, arts and current events. The social science curriculum focuses on inquiry-based questions to explore topics using research and critical thinking skills. Students use and evaluate primary sources, historical documents, and the Internet to responsibly and critically access information.

History/Social Science courses at MSA-6 use inquiry-based research topics involving real-world problems, with a focus on local current events, history and culture. In accordance with the National Council for the Social Studies,<sup>6</sup> social studies courses aim to prepare students to identify, understand, and work to solve the challenges facing our diverse nation in an increasingly interdependent world. Education for citizenship should help students acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and responsible citizens throughout their lives. Competent and responsible citizens are informed and thoughtful, participate in their communities, are involved politically, and exhibit moral and civic virtues.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Source: http://www.ncss.or/positions/powerful

# HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE 6 (Core, College preparatory) HISTORY/SO preparatory)

Students in sixth-grade world history and geography classrooms learn about the lives of the earliest humans, the development of tools, the gathering way of life, agriculture, and the emergence of civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River valley, China, and the Mediterranean basin. With the guidance of their teachers, students review the geography of the ancient and contemporary worlds and recognize that these civilizations were not static societies but continually experienced change. In addition to developing basic geography skills, students are introduced to patterns, systems, and processes of physical and human geography. In studying this earliest history of humankind, students will have the opportunity to explore different kinds of source documents, such as the Hebrew Bible, Mesopotamian laws, the Homeric epics, Greek drama, the Bhagavad Gita, the Analects of Confucianism, the New Testament, and a range of visual images.

# **HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE 7** (Core, College preparatory)

The medieval period provides students with opportunities to study the rise and fall of empires, the diffusion of religions and languages, and significant movements of people, ideas, and products. Students trace the development of medieval civilizations and make connections with regional and present day world maps. Students identify several major changes that took place during medieval and early modern times. Students explore change in every inhabited part of the world during this period using source documents and evidence from archaeology. Students can use the knowledge they gain in this course to create a school project that promotes understanding of diverse cultures.

### **HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE 8** (Core, College preparatory)

The eighth-grade course of study begins with an intensive review of the major ideas, issues, and events preceding the founding of the nation. Students concentrate on the critical events of the period—from the framing of the Constitution to the American Industrial Revolution. In their study of this era, students view American history through the lens of a people who were trying—and are still trying—to make the words of the Declaration of Independence true. Students will confront themes of equality and liberty and their changing definition over time. This course also explores the geography of place, movement, and region, starting with the thirteen colonies and then continuing with American westward expansion, and economic development, including the shift to an industrial economy.

### **INTERVENTION COURSES**

Students in need of extra support may be assigned Power English and/or Power Math courses for extra assistance.

INTE	RVENTION
POWER ENGLISH (Non-core, Non-college	POWER MATH (Non-core, Non-college
preparatory)	preparatory)

This ELA course is designed to enhance the student's knowledge of prerequisite skills that are needed to access the grade level ELA course. Power English is an intervention course, which provides an individualized curriculum for each student, to close the identified skill gaps. Once skill gaps are almost closed, these students will receive targeted practice on essential academic content.

This math course is designed to enhance the student's knowledge of prerequisite skills that are needed to access the grade level mathematics course. Power Math is an intervention course, which provides an individualized curriculum for each student, to close the identified skill gaps. Once skill gaps are almost closed, these students will receive targeted practice on essential academic content.

### **LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH**

In grades 6 through 8, students are offered languages other than English as elective courses depending on student needs/demands and availability of teachers and resources.

### LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

### **SPANISH** (Non-core, College preparatory)

This series of courses is designed to teach students about the language and culture of the Spanish and Latin American people. Beginning Spanish (6th grade) emphasizes communication, basic grammar and syntax, and simple vocabulary so that students can read, write, speak, and comprehend on a basic level. Intermediate Spanish (7<sup>th</sup> grade) enables students to expand upon what they have learned, increasing their skills and depth of knowledge. Advanced Spanish (8th grades) enables students to grow their skills and depth of knowledge further. All three levels of Spanish teach students to appreciate the Spanish and Latin American cultures by acquainting students with art, literature, customs, and history of the Spanish-speaking people. The instruction for this series of courses is guided by the National Standards for Learning Languages, which are aligned with the CCSS.

# **WORLD LANGUAGE** (Non-core, College preparatory)

This series of courses is designed to teach students about the world language and culture of the people where the world language is spoken. The World Language courses can include: Korean or Turkish. Beginning World Language (6<sup>th</sup> grade) course emphasizes communication, basic grammar and syntax, and simple vocabulary so that students can read, write, speak, and comprehend on a basic level. Intermediate World Language (7<sup>th</sup> grade) enables students to expand upon what they have learned, increasing their skills and depth of knowledge. Advanced World Language (8th grades) enables students to grow their skills and depth of knowledge further. All three levels of the world language teach students to appreciate the world culture by acquainting students with art, literature, customs, and history of the people who speak the world language. The instruction for this series of courses is guided by the National Standards for Learning Languages, which are aligned with the CCSS.

### **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**

In grades 6 through 8, students are offered Visual & Performing Arts courses as electives.

### **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**

### **FUNDAMENTALS OF ART** (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

This is a basic course in the fundamentals of art expression. The California Visual and Performing Arts Standards guide the instruction for this course. In this course students perceive and respond to works of art, objects in nature, events, and the environment. They also use the vocabulary of the visual arts

to express their observations. Students apply artistic processes and skills, using a variety of media to communicate meaning and intent in original works of art. They analyze the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting human diversity as it relates to the visual arts and artists. Students analyze, assess, and derive meaning from works of art, including their own, according to the elements of art, the principles of design, and aesthetic qualities. Students also apply what they learn in the visual arts across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to the visual arts.

### **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

In grades 6 through 8, students are offered Physical Education courses as electives.

### **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

Courses offered in the Health and Physical Education department are designed to help the students develop psychomotor skills such as fundamental movement patterns, sports skills, and the five components of physical fitness. In addition, students' will develop a positive self-image and the ability to work with other classmates. The curriculum includes sports such as basketball, volleyball, football, soccer, track and field, softball, cooperative/teamwork games, mile run/mile and a half run, anaerobic activities, warm-up (Jogging or J.J.), stretching, push-ups, abdominal exercises, jump-rope, fun trust/games.

The Health and Physical Education program consists of students in grades six through eight. Students will participate in skill building activities, introduction to sports and activities, and physical activities that link to the exploration of culture and history. The goal is to develop a lifelong program of activity to develop and maintain healthy habits and wellness. These courses are based on the Health and Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools.

### LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

In grades 6 through 8, students are offered Life Skills courses for one hour a week.

### LIFE SKILLS

### **LIFE SKILLS** (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

MSA-6 uses the "Second Step" program in middle school grades. Second Step is a classroom-based social skills program developed by the Committee for Children for students in preschool through junior high (ages 4–14 years), with a distinct curriculum for each grade. It is designed to reduce impulsive, high-risk, and aggressive behaviors and increase children's social competence and other protective factors.

This program contains units on Life Skills, Study Skills, Test Taking Skills, Drug Prevention, Environmental Issues, Career Awareness, and Character Development. Each middle school grade students attends Life Skills one period per week. Life Skills themes are integrated into broader school wide activities including assemblies, field trips, displays, announcements, and the general curriculum. Parents are informed about the topic of the week to cultivate their involvement and support at home.

### **COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY**

MSA-6 implements computer literacy and computer science programs. In grades 6 through 8, students are offered Computers & Technology courses as elective.

### **COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY**

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY** (Non-core, Non-college preparatory)

The majority of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students enter with almost no technology skills. As they progress into 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school, they gain autonomy in choosing and advancing in the right tools for their projects. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum briefly introduces the topics that are taught at high school level through entry-level projects. Progression is individualized to address all students needs based on ability.

In conjunction with the Computer Technology instruction, MSA-6 implements a Computer Science curriculum, which complies with Computer Science Teachers Association's ("CSTA") 'Standards for K-12 Computer Science Education.' These standards constitute a framework with three levels:

Recommended Grade Level

6-8 Level 2 - Computer Science and Community

Level 2 (Grades 6–9) Computer Science and Community: Middle school students begin using computational thinking as a problem-solving tool. They begin to appreciate the ubiquity of computing and the ways in which computer science facilitates communication and collaboration. Students begin to experience computational thinking as a means of addressing issues relevant, not just to them, but to the world around them. The learning experiences created from these standards are relevant to the students and should promote their perceptions of themselves as proactive and empowered problem solvers. They are designed with a focus on active learning and exploration and can be taught within explicit computer science courses or embedded in other curricular areas such as social science, language arts, mathematics, and science.

MSA-6 will offer accelerated tracks on Computer Science curriculum. For students who are ready for an accelerated program, MSA will offer the Advanced curriculum in middle school where topics in Level 3 are covered.

The following summarizes the Computer Science curriculum:

- Middle school curriculum aims to provide strong skills in computer literacy and fundamentals
  of computational thinking. Programming and Discrete Math topics are infused into the
  curriculum. Programming topics are more intense in the 6th and 7th grades.
- 8th grade curriculum serves a transition between middle school and high school, topics focus on the conceptual understanding of high school electives.

### Magnolia Science Academy-6's Middle School Courses that Promote Engineering of STEAM

Computer Literacy is an introductory course in computers designed to acquaint the students with techniques for using computers. Students learn key entry skills in order to use simple word processors, mathematical or database applications, and simple graphics programming. When school resources allow, teachers may introduce students to the Internet, where they learn about different search engines, e-mail, and the variety of educational resources on the Internet.

MSA-6 students receive integrated arts education. We currently have a partnership with the Wallis Annenberg Foundation to enhance our current arts program. Additionally, we offer arts in our afterschool program to allow our students to obtain more experience in this field of study.

Lastly, math is an essential component to our academic program. Starting at the beginning of our students' career, we assess students' levels to ensure proper placement and support varying from enrichment course to advanced math placement.

### **INNOVATIVE COMPONENTS OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

As detailed in "Success of the Innovative Features of the Educational Program," above, Magnolia Science Academy-6 distinguishes itself from other schools by incorporating an extraordinary support program that includes home visits, extended learning (before and after-school, weekends and school vacations) and parent and community engagement. Data-driven instruction, differentiation, and targeted interventions support students in achieving success. Our Life Skills classes help students plan for high school and college, stay on track and get equipped with necessary skills they need to succeed.

### **CURRICULAR AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

MSA-6 utilizes California State Board of Education adopted instructional materials aligned with CCSS. The MPS Home Office works with teacher leaders to identify, evaluate, and select appropriate materials and to make modifications to core and additional instructional resources. Current curricula includes:

**Math:** McGraw Hill: My Math – instruction, Enrichment, Intervention; Ironbox: Intervention; ALEKS Online: Intervention, Enrichment, and Instruction

Science: McGraw Hill; Integrated Inspire Science California Inspire for 2018-2019 (6-8); Glencoe Science; English Language Arts/ELD: McGraw Hill; McGraw Hill Study Sync (6-8); Accelerated Reader Program

(myON), Study Sync

Social Science: McGraw Hill

**ELD:** McGraw Hill: Study Sync ELD component **Spanish/World Language:** McGraw Hill - ¡Así se dice!

Fundamentals of Art: Teacher prepared curriculum aligned with Visual and Performing Arts standards

Life Skills: Second Step

Computer Science Technology: Learning.com, code.org

Teachers are invited to utilize a myriad of additional resources online and in print, in consultation with the Principal and leadership team.

Page 64

MSA-6 Middle School Courses				
Name	Grade			
Accelerated Math	6th-8th			
English Language Arts 6	6th			
English Language Arts 7	7th			
English Language Arts 8	8th			
Grade 6 Math - Common Core	6th			
Grade 7 Math - Common Core	7th			
Grade 8 Math - Common Core	8th			
History - Social Science 6	6th			
History - Social Science 7	7th			
History - Social Science 8	8th			
Science 6	6th			
Science 7	7th			
Science 8	8th			
ELD- English Language Development	6th			
ELD- English Language Development	7th			
ELD- English Language Development	8th			
Life Skills	6th			
Life Skills	7th			
Life Skills	8th			
Power English	6th			
Power English	7th			
Power English	8th			
Power Math	6th			
Power Math	7th			
Power Math	8th			
Computer Literacy I	6th			
Computer Literacy II	7th, 8th			
Introduction to Computer Science	8th			
Physical Education	6th			
Physical Education	7th, 8th			
Spanish	6th-8th			
Sustained Silent Reading	6th			
Sustained Silent Reading	7th			
Sustained Silent Reading	8th			
World Languages	6th-8th			
Fundamentals of Art	6th-8th			
Integrated Math	6th-8th			

### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND STRATEGIES**

As detailed in the preceding sections, our instructional methods and strategies are based on success with similar populations of students. All MSA-6 faculty members use the *Understanding By Design* ("UBD") model to backwards plan instruction, including differentiation for students in need of specific supports. As noted in the section on Professional Development, we ask all faculty to read the following

seminal works: The following literature will be on MSA-6 staff's reading list: Alan Blankstein, Failure Is Not an Option: 6 Principles That Advance Student Achievement in Highly Effective Schools; Dr. Robert Marzano's Classroom Management That Works: Research-Based Strategies for Every Teacher; Carol Ann Tomlinson's How To Differentiate Instruction In Mixed-Ability Classrooms, and Doug Lemov's Teach Like A Champion.

We emphasize integration of the curriculum with cross-disciplinary learning on a daily basis. Teachers strive to make learning relevant and engaging for all students by employing a constructivist, project-based approach. Methods include a frequent emphasis on real world, practical applications of learning, and employ inquiry, research, reflection, problem-solving, and critical thinking. As they master content, students learn *how* to learn. Instruction is deeply rooted in thematic integrated instruction, including application-oriented activities such as projects that require students to utilize skills and knowledge from ELA, science, math, history, the arts, computer/technology and more. Often interactive and rooted in collaboration, the approach makes assignments meaningful and engaging and concepts authentic. Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum to ensure students develop the skills needed in college and career.

# HOW THE SCHOOL'S INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGIES AND CURRICULUM WILL ENSURE STUDENT MASTERY OF THE CALIFORNIA CCSS AND OTHER STATE CONTENT STANDARDS

All courses have been designed in alignment with the California state standards (www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss) including the Common Core State Standards (www.corestandards.org) and Next Generation Science Standards. Our faculty receives training and support in ensuring our students receive individualized support and instructional strategies as they work to master the content standards, including new CCSS standards, CA English Language Development standards, and designing lesson plans that ensure alignment to both.

# HOW THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM WILL SUPPORT STUDENT DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY-RELATED SKILLS AND STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY

At MSA-6, every teacher has access to dedicated computers in their own classrooms to prepare teaching activities such as class documentary movies, presentations, etc. Wireless network access is available at MSA-6. Teachers use various types of technology during classroom instruction, including computer and projector, interactive technology tools, access to educational websites such as Discovery Education, BrainPOP, Renaissance Learning, Khan Academy, just to name a few. Furthermore, the Charter School utilizes computers to support the instructional and managerial needs, such as online grades and attendance information, online homework, and student progress reports for parents using Illuminate or equivalent, the student information system ("SIS").

During intervention, teachers use educational materials that provide review, re-teach and enrichment programs. McGraw Hill Publisher's resources, Curriculum Associates' Ready Common Core program, Kuta software, Khan Academy, Accelerated Reader and ALEKS program allow teachers to monitor the progress of students who are achieving below grade level and provide software generated tests and personalized instructional materials based on common core and California content standards/framework which have not been achieved.

Students at MSA-6 develop their ability to use technology as a tool for learning, research, observation, and communication. The school has a one-to-one ratio and uses a computer-based curriculum. MSA-6

encourages parents' active use of school's technology resources by offering free tutorial sessions on how to track student's performance using Illuminate or equivalent and providing computer access to all parents. MSA-6 is aware of the fact that, given its target population, a high percentage of students may have either limited or no access to any computer outside the Charter School. MSA-6's computer science curriculum is designed for students with limited computer experience. Students requiring extra time with a computer have the opportunity to visit the computer lab after school.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - N/A** 

CREDIT RECOVERY OPPORTUNITIES - N/A

ENSURING TRANSFER STUDENTS CAN MEET GRADUATION AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS - N/A

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES ("WASC")

MSA-6 is accredited by WASC through June 2022. Currently, the Charter School contributes members to participate on visiting committees. MSA-6 will follow up and complete all necessary steps for accreditation beyond June 2022.

Informing Parents, Including Parents with Limited English, About Course Transferability and College Entrance Requirements – N/A

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN - N/A

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES** 

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

MSA-6 announces its annual calendar before the beginning of each instructional year. Following is a detailed calendar for 2018-19, followed by a more summary draft instructional calendar for the 2019-20 school year.

### MSA-6 Academic Calendar 2018-19

Magnolia Science Academy-6 3754 Dunn Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90034 Phone: (310) 842-8555; Fax: (310) 842-8558 msa6@magnoliapublicschools.org

	July 2018				
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30	31				

January 2019						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		
	1	2	3	4		
7	**************************************	9	10	11		
14	**5	16	17	18		
21	22	23	24	25		
28	29_	30	31			

MPS Administrative Team Training	Monday, July 30
Teacher In-Service	Aug 1 - Aug 13
School Orientation for All Students & Families (4:30 pm)	Friday, Aug 10
School Orientation for All Students & Families (8:30 am)	Saturday, Aug 11
1st Day of School	Tuesday, Aug 14
Back to School BBQ (3:00-4:30 PM) & Night (4:30-6pm)	Thursday, Aug 23
After school program starts	Monday, Aug 27

August 2018						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		
		1	2	3		
6	7	8	9	10		
13	14_	15	16	17		
20	21	22	23	724		
27	28_	29	30	31		

February 2019						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		
				1		
4	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	6	7	8		
11	- F	13	14	15		
	12	20	21	22		
25	Ž	27	28			

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Minimum Day / Staff PD	Friday, Sept 21
Progress Report-1	Friday, Sept 21
Parent Teacher Conferences (1:30pm - 4:30pm)	Oct 4 - Oct 5
Parent Teacher Conferences (Min Day)	Oct 4- Oct 5
Pupil Free Day /Staff PD- No School	Friday, Oct 19
Minimum Day / Staff PD	Friday, Nov 2
Progress Report-2	Friday, Nov 2

September 2018						
Mon	n Tues Wed Thurs					
3	f	5	6	7		
10	***	12	13	14		
17	18	19	20	72		
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2019					
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
				1	
4	-5			8	
11	13	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

Veteralls Day - 140 School	Miontay, Nov 12
Minimum Day / Staff PD	Friday, Nov 16
Thanksgiving Break - No School	Nov 19 - Nov 23
Final Exams - Minimum Days	Dec 10 - Dec 14
GRADES DUE- 1st Semester Ends	Friday, Dec 14
Report Card #1	Friday, Dec 14
Winter Break - No School	Dec 17 - Jan 4
DiretDorr of 2nd Connector	Monday Ian 7

Monday, Feb 18

Friday, Feb 22

Mar 6-Mar 7

Friday, June 7

October 2018						
Mon	Mon Tues Wed Thurs					
1	- J	3				
8	- 9-	10	11	12		
15	16	17	18	19		
22	28	24	25	26		
29	30	31				

November 2018 Tues Wed Thurs Fri

April 2019						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		
1	7	3	4	5		
8	-9	10	11	12		
15	16	17	18	19		
22	23	24	25	26		
29	30					

Civil Rights Day / MLK Day - No School					
Presidents Day - No School		9	April 2019	ı	
Minimum Day / Staff PD	Fri	Thurs	Wed	Tues	Mon
Progress Report-3	5	4	3	- Tank	1
Parent Teacher Conferences (1:30pm - 4:30pm)	12	11	10	- %	8
Parent Teacher Conferences (Min Day)	19	18	17	16	15
Pupil Free Day /Staff PD- No School	26	25	24	28	22
Cesar Chavez Day - No School				30	29

		May 2019	9			
Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri						
		1	2	3		
6	7	8	9	10		
13	***	15	18			
20	21	22	28			
27	<b>%</b>	29	30	31		

Parent Teacher Conferences (Min Day)	Mar 6-Mar 7
Pupil Free Day /Staff PD- No School	Friday, Mar 8
Cesar Chavez Day - No School	Monday, Apr 1
Minimum Day / Staff PD	Friday, April 12
Progress Report-4	Friday, April 12
Spring Break - No School	Apr 15 - Apr 19
Min Day / State Testing (SBAC)	May 15-16-17
Min Day / State Testing (SBAC)	May 22-23-24
Memorial Day - No School	Monday, May 27
Final Exams - Minimum Days	June 3 - June 7
Staff Wrap Up Meetings	June 3 - June 4
8th Grade Promotion Ceremony	Thursday, Jun-06
GRADES DUE- 2nd Semester Ends	Friday, June 7

5	6	7	8	9
12	***	14	15	18
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
December 2018				
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri

		204			
	June 2019				
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
				_~	

CAASPP Testing		
CAASPP Testing	May-19	

Report Card #2

December 2018				
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
3	f	5	6	7
18		12	18	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

LEGE	ND / DISMISSAL TIMES
ST	UDENTS RETURN
N	SCHOOL DAY
RE	GULAR DAY (DISMISSAL AT 2:50 PM)
SI	IORTENED DAY (DISMISSAL AT 1:50 PM)
M	INIMUM DAY (DISMISSAL AT 12:14 PM)
sc	HOOL STARTS AT 8:00AM

MAP Test Dates		
MA	P Test 1 Aug	27 - Aug 31
MA	P Test 2 Apr	il 8-12

		REGULAR DAY (D	ISMISSAL AT 2:50 PM)		
GO MSA-6		SHORTENED DAY	(DISMISSAL AT 1:50 PM)	Parent Teacher Conference Dates	
		MINIMUM DAY (I	DISMISSAL AT 12:14 PM)	Parent Teacher Conference -1	Oct 4 - Oct 5
GO Tigers!		SCHOOL STARTS A	T 8:00AM	Parent Teacher Conference -2	Mar 6 - Mar 7

### 2019-20 MPS ACADEMIC CALENDAR MSA-6

Holidays & Breaks
Important Dates

Independence Day	4-Jul
First Day of Instruction	14-Aug
Labor Day	3-Sep
Staff P.D. Day (Pupil Free Day)	19-Oct
Veterans Day	12-Nov
Thanksgiving Break	11/19-11/23
Last Day of First Semester	14-Dec
Winter Break	12/17-1/4
First Day of Second Semester	7-Jan
First Day of Second Semester  M. L. King Day	<b>7-Jan</b> 21-Jan
·	
M. L. King Day	21-Jan
M. L. King Day Presidents' Day	21-Jan 18-Feb
M. L. King Day Presidents' Day  Staff P.D. Day (Pupil Free Day)	21-Jan 18-Feb <b>8-Mar</b>
M. L. King Day Presidents' Day  Staff P.D. Day (Pupil Free Day) Cesar Chavez Day	21-Jan 18-Feb <b>8-Mar</b> 1-Apr

# of Instructional Days:	181
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### **SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULES**

Students attend school from 8:00 a.m. – 3:11 p.m. each day, with early release at 1:59 p.m. on Tuesday.

### Sample Schedules

Regular Day (Monday, Wednesday-Friday)

	Grade 6 (32.5 Credits)	Grade 7 (32.5 Credits)	Grade 8 (32.5 Credits)	Instructional Minutes
Period 1 8:00-8:40	ELD/SSR	ELD/SSR	ELD/SSR	40
Period 2 8:44-9:34	Math 6	Math 7	Physical Education	50
Nutrition 9:34-9:50				0
Period 3 9:54-10:44	English Language Arts 6	Physical Education	History-Social Science 8	50
Period 4 10:48-11:38	Elective (Computer)	History-Social Science 7	Integrated Science 8	50

Period 5 11:42-12:32	Integrated Science 6	English Language Arts 7	Flective (Fundamentals of Art)	50
Lunch 12:32-1:02				0
Period 6 1:06-1:56	History-Social Science 6	Elective (Spanish)	English Language Arts 8	50
Period 7 2:00-2:50	Physical Education	Integrated Science 7	Math 8	50
Total Instructional Minutes (with passing periods):		30	64	

### Sample Schedules Early Dismissal Day (Tuesday)

	Grade 6 (32.5 Credits)	Grade 7 (32.5 Credits)	Grade 8 (32.5 Credits)	Instructional Minutes		
Period 1 8:00-8:40	ELD/SSR	ELD/SSR	ELD/SSR	40		
Period 2 8:44-9:24	Math 6	Math 7	Physical Education	40		
Nutrition 9:24-9:40				0		
Period 3 9:44-10:24	English Language Arts 6	Physical Education	History-Social Science 8	40		
Period 4 10:28-11:08	Elective (Computer)	History-Social Science 7	Integrated Science 8	40		
Period 5 11:12-11:52	Integrated Science 6	Fnglish Language Arts 7	Flective (Fundamentals of Art)	40		
Lunch 11:52-12:22				0		
Period 6 12:26-1:06	History-Social Science 6	Elective (Spanish)	English Language Arts 8	40		
Period 7 1:10-1:50			Math 8	40		
Total Instru	nctional Minutes ( periods):	304				

### **INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS AND MINUTES**

Based on the sample school calendar and bell schedules above, the following table shows calculation of the instructional minutes that will be offered at the Charter School for the 2018-19 school year.

						Number of		Number of						Number of
П				Number of		Instr.		Instr.		Number of				Instr.
				Instr.	Number of	Minutes		Minutes		Instr.			Total	Minutes
			Number of	Minutes	Early	Per Early	Number of	Per	Number of	Minutes		Minutes	Number of	Above/
			Regular	Per Regular	Dismissal	Dismissal	Minimum	Minimum	[Other]	Per [Other]	Total Number	Req'd Per	Instr.	Below State
	Grades	Grades Offered	Days	Day	Days	Day	Days	Day	Days	Day	of Instr. Days	State Law	Minutes	Req't.
	6	Yes	121	364	36	304	24	244	0	0	181	54000	60844	6844
	7	Yes	121	364	36	304	24	244	0	0	181	54000	60844	6844
	8	Yes	121	364	36	304	24	244	0	0	181	54000	60844	6844

EARLY COLLEGE AND MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS OF ED. CODE SECTION 46146.5, AS AMENDED BY SB 379 – N/A

### TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### TEACHER RECRUITMENT

The Principal establishes a hiring committee that may consist of the Principal, Assistant Principal, and a teacher of the relevant subject from MSA-6. The Home Office staff joins the school-level hiring committee as needed. If applicable, the interview process includes, but is not limited to, a sample lesson through which prospective teachers' classroom management skills and subject competency are observed. In addition, teachers' technology and computer skills are tested and MSA-6's years-of-success in hiring qualified teachers has proven this process to be very effective. The following schedule is used in the hiring process:

- In order to recruit new teachers, the Principal with the support of Human Resources will start advertising on frequently visited websites such as http://www.edjoin.org and in local newspapers by the beginning of February. Referrals from MSA-6's staff and parents will also be taken into consideration.
- The hiring committee will conduct interviews during the months of February through August to hire the teachers. The hiring committee will consider the Charter School's mission and the target student population in selecting the most qualified teachers for the positions available.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development occurs at the MPS organizational level and within each school. In addition to ongoing professional development activities that support efforts to increase student academic performance, MSA-6 provides all staff with multiple opportunities to grow professionally. MSA-6 assesses staff professional development needs through formal and informal performance observation and surveys. Based on these data and combined with the school improvement plan in our Single Plan for Student Achievement, MSA-6 determines common staff development days, and tailors staff development to individual staff needs.

### PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES ("PLCs")

MSA-6 is organized into Professional Learning Communities by grade level and by department. PLCs seek to transform a school into a community that fosters mutual cooperation, emotional support, personal growth, and a synergy of effort. Combined with the school improvement plans in our Single Plan for student Achievement, the answers to the following questions are studied in PLCs:

- How do we ensure that students learn?
- How do we foster a culture of collaboration?
- How do we ensure results?

### We use PLCs to:

- Clarify intended outcomes
- Develop common assessments
- Jointly analyze student achievement data
- Establish team improvement goals
- Share best practices and materials
- Engage in collective inquiry and action research regarding student learning
- Support system and sense of efficacy
- Promote more engaged, motivated, and successful students with reduced absenteeism
- Focus on students' needs academically and behaviorally

As an implementation of the PLC at MSA-6, all staff read educational literature and make informed recommendations for school and system-wide improvement. The staff produce an annual reading list recommended by the PLCs. The following literature is on MSA-6's staff reading list: Alan Blankstein, Failure Is Not an Option: 6 Principles That Advance Student Achievement in Highly Effective Schools; Dr. Robert Marzano's Classroom Management That Works: Research-Based Strategies for Every Teacher; Carol Ann Tomlinson's How To Differentiate Instruction In Mixed-Ability Classrooms, and Doug Lemov's Teach Like A Champion.

### SCHOOL-WIDE MEETINGS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

### **DEPARTMENT LEVEL STAFF MEETINGS**

All teachers meet departmentally every month to:

- Share Time: Presentation by a member on an effective classroom strategy
- Vertically align curriculum
- Analyze student achievement data (NWEA MAP, CAASSP, ELPAC, grades)
- Improve instructional strategies per data indicators
- Differentiate instruction
- Plan major departmental events
- Discuss other departmental issues and policies

Department Chairs are responsible for minutes and forwarding action items to the appropriate administrative leaders.

### GRADE LEVEL STAFF MEETINGS

Grade level teachers meet once a month and collaborate on the issues below:

- Classroom strategies
- Sharing promising practices
- Curricular and academic issues (grading uniformity, homework load, differentiation, and other academic issues)
- Support for students with academic challenges (IEP, 504, RTI, SSR, Accelerated Reader, My Math, Tutoring)
- Discussion of student academic supports (peer tutoring, mentorships)
- Long-term projects (science fair projects, English & history & math projects)

- Integration/thematic units/horizontal alignment of the curriculum
- Instructional field trips
- Discussions and strategies for students with behavioral problems
- School/grade level wide incentive programs
- Other common grade level and school wide issues

Grade Chairs are responsible for minutes and forwarding action items to the appropriate administrative leaders.

## WRAP UP MEETINGS

MSA-6 staff participates in end-of-the-year meetings to focus on evaluation of student achievement data, effectiveness of the programs such as testing, curriculum, and intervention programs, counseling, after school, and other school matters. These meetings help staff prepare a professional learning plan for themselves and review what worked well during the school year. These plans and feedback are addressed in the summer in–service program.

#### **SUMMER IN-SERVICE PROGRAMS**

MSA-6 holds orientations and trainings for both new and veteran teachers to familiarize them with policies and procedures regarding the Charter School's operations, and the academic and education program goals for the year. A teacher workshop/summer in service program is held in August for about two weeks. The program consists of at least four days of intensive training, after which teachers continue their studies at their school sites and communicate with each other via grade level and subject area email groups.

#### **PEER OBSERVATIONS**

MPS believes that every effective teacher is a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates the effects of his or her choices and actions on others (students, parents, and other professionals in the learning community) and who actively seeks out opportunities to grow professionally. Therefore, each teacher is required to make monthly class visits to other teachers' classrooms to observe effective strategies and reflect on his/her observations by using peer observation beneficiary forms. These forms are used to create a professional development plan for individual growth.

## FORMAL OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATIONS

All teachers are observed in the classroom by department chairs and the administrative team (Principal, Assistant Principal and Chief Academic Officer). A rubric guides observation and allows for the development of constructive feedback. MPS' formal teacher evaluation program is comprehensive and includes an evaluation of academic performance of their students. All teachers are evaluated annually. A pre-conference and post conference are scheduled for each of the evaluation.

## **WALKTHROUGHS**

MPS administration/Department Chairs make regular walkthroughs in each teacher's classroom. This quick and informal visit provides teachers immediate and constructive feedback in specific areas to improve instruction and student learning.

## BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ("BTSA")

MPS provides new teachers with BTSA, a two-year program that provides beginning teachers with collegial support, guidance, professional development, motivation to continue in the profession, and training. It links college level teacher preparation with classroom application.

#### ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

MSA-6 conducts ongoing in-services for special education. During the August in-service training a specialist trains our entire staff about services and programs related to students with learning disabilities. MSA-6's special education teachers train the staff on the IEP documentation and how to implement accommodations and modifications in a general education classroom. Our special education teachers attend workshops and trainings provided by the District/County and attend a resource conference to hear from additional experts in the field of special education. In addition to the August sessions, MSA-6 conducts quarterly training sessions about special education. Special education teachers and paraprofessionals who are authorized to handle crisis situations and physically restrain students will complete specialized training in behavioral interventions, such as Crisis Prevention Institute ("CPI"), prior to placement in the classroom.

#### **MEETING THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS**

With grants from California Scale-Up MTSS Statewide and Multi-Tiered System of Support (CA SUMS MTSS) Initiative, MSA-6 is moving forward with the MTSS as a systemic, continuous improvement framework in which data-based problem-solving and decision making is practiced across all levels of the educational system for supporting students. The framework of MTSS utilizes high quality evidence-based instruction, intervention, and assessment practices to ensure that every student receives the appropriate level of support to be successful. A Multi-Tiered System of Supports align with the academic standards and behavioral expectations, in order to accelerate the performance of every student to meet and/or exceed proficiency.

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition



# Multi-Tiered System of Support

#### Inclusive Academic Instruction

- Identify a comprehensive assessment system
- · Create and utilize teams
- · Provide universal academic supports
- Provide supplemental interventions and supports Provide intensified interventions and supports
- · Develop guideline to implement curriculum with universal design for learning (UDL)
- Inclusive Behavior Instruction
- · Identify a comprehensive assessment system
- · Create and utilize teams
- Provide universal behavior supports
- Provide supplemental interventions and supports Provide intensified interventions and supports
- · Provide comprehensive behavior supports

#### Inclusive Social-Emotional Instruction

- Identify a comprehensive assessment system
- · Create and utilize teams
- · Provide universal social-emotional supports
- · Provide supplemental interventions and supports
- Provide comprehensive social-emotional

## All Means All



#### **Administrative** Leadership

## Strong & Engaged

- Lead development of a vision
- · Attend instructional meetings and classes
- · Create a leadership team
- Create opportunities to contribute
- · Use data to guide decisions

## Strong Educator

- Provide access to
- instructional coaching
- Seek input from teachers · Make learning opportunities

evaluations

- Use data Conduct strengths-based
- Foster collaborative relationships Create a shared vision

Integrated

**Educational** 

Framework

**Organizational Structure** 

Use collaborative instruction

Use paraeducators to support

Use non-categorical language and

Identify who has access

**Fully Integrated** 

practices

among peers

inclusive education

Strong & Positive

School Culture

- Identify ways for all staff to
- contribute Ensure all students have access to extra-curricular activities
- Demonstrate culturally responsive practices



## Family & Community **Engagement**

#### **Trusting Family Partnerships**

- Engage with students and families
- Obtain input and feedback Provide engagement
- opportunities Facilitate home-school
- communication Provide information

#### **Trusting Community Partnerships**

- Engage with the community
- · Identify mutual interests and goals Ensure reciprocity
- Maintain an open door policy
- Invite community members to serve



## **Inclusive Policy Structure & Practice**

#### Strong LEA / School Relationship

- · Develop a district-based team
- Attend school-level meetings
- · Provide district-level professiona
- Identify and remove barriers
- · Regularly communicate outcomes

#### **LEA Policy Framework**

- Link multiple initiatives
- Review data
- Review and revise policy
- Select research-based practices
- Expand practices into other schools and Districts

Adapted with permission from: SWIFT Education Center. (2016). MTSS Placemat. Lawrence, KS. swiftschools.org

To support students academically, social-emotionally and behaviorally, and create a climate of academic success, MSA-6 recognizes that we must address the needs of the entire child. Often, we focus on punitive and remedial practices, therefore, we may unknowingly reinforce unwanted and antisocial behaviors. MSA-6 implements a positive behavior support program. Program expectations require students to be Safe, Responsible and Respectful. The school tracks behaviors using a point system, to reward students for demonstrating positive behavior. The Assistant Principal and grade level chairs lay a foundation to engage students and enhance learning. With the support of this grant initiative, our school community works together to establish agreed upon norms, build relationships, learn pro-social behaviors, improve academics and demonstrate a culture where adults encourage motivation and knowledge is co-constructed through multi-tiered systems of support.

MSA-6 has ability to quickly identifying low-achieving students through frequent benchmark assessment and review of individual student data. Students who are achieving substantially below grade level are recognized through multiple measure assessments including in-class assessments, NWEA MAP assessments and other program data through ALEKS, Khan Academy, myON and StudySync.

MSA-6 utilizes data and progress monitoring to determine best practices to support student achievement. Teachers and student stakeholders are invited to meet with teachers to discuss possible intervention methods, and learn how they can participate in helping with their child's education. Parentteacher meetings at the school are followed by home visits as needed.

The intervention model that is written into the schedule for the MSA-6 program is flexible intervention that can be used with a variety of curriculum and varying schedules. MSA-6's principal approach that a school intentionally builds consistent math and ELA intervention time into the entire school schedule.

Various implementations are used. Implementation strategies may include:

- Intervention block every day or 2-3 times per week (a student may have reading intervention on one day and math on the next)
- Intervention/Enrichment computer tutorials where the teacher can tutor selected students
- Specialist, instructional assistant, and volunteer support during intervention time
- Divide students up by need and send to different teaching team members for support during intervention blocks

During intervention teachers use educational materials that provide review, re-teach and enrichment programs. McGraw Hill's publisher resources, ALEKS, Curriculum Associates' Ready Common Core program, Kuta software, Khan Academy, Accelerated Reader and My Math program, Achieve3000, and Buckle Down allow teachers to monitor the progress of students who are achieving below grade level and provide software generated tests and personalized instructional materials based on CCSS and areas of growth. MSA-6 has Teacher Assistants to support overall achievement.

Tiered intervention implementation is outlined below. Student progress is closely monitored through a well-integrated system of instruction and intervention guided by student assessment data.

## **Intervention Cycle and Process**

As MSA-6 migrates from a Response to Intervention (RTI) to MTSS model, the intervention process will continue to use the following to inform, monitor, and implement support strategies:

- Historical student data
- Data related to SBAC results and Spring NWEA MAP data from previous year
- NWEA Diagnostic data
- Fall NWEA MAP
- Progress monitoring
- Classroom Assessment Data
- SBAC Interim Data
- SBAC Interim Block Assessment
- SBAC Interim Comprehensive Assessment
- Spring MAP
- Winter MAP (optional)

# High- quality instruction, progress monitoring, differentiated learning, group interventions, classroom accommodations

Across MSA-6, support and intervention begins with high quality instruction and universal screening of all children within the general education setting. Through the use of formative assessments such as the MAP test, schools establish a baseline to identify students who need additional support and struggling learners are provided classroom accommodations and differentiated instruction to meet their needs.

Academic supports include technology-rich instruction, progress monitoring, differentiated learning, group interventions and classroom accommodations. Using strategies and tools such as adaptive programs, NWEA MAP universal screening, Integrated and Designated ELD, Explicit Direct Instruction, and Culturally Responsive Teaching. Behavioral and socio-emotional supports are centered around School-Wide PBIS, led by Deans of Student. With clear expectations taught through a Life Skills course and etiquette program students earn rewards for desired behaviors. Assemblies, student surveys and our SSPT process encourage student participation and voice.

As the first stage of intervention/support student may receive the following supports:

- Adaptive programming in McGraw Hill's ALEKS and StudySync
- Khan Academy
- BrainPOP ESL
- Discovery Education
- myON
- National Geographic
- 1:1 devices
- Advisory/SSR

The length of time with these interventions may vary, but generally do not exceed 8 weeks. During that time, the school will continue to evaluate student progress based on interim data such as Smarter Balanced Interim Block Exams, Comprehensive exams, and classroom assessments. At the end of this period, students showing significant progress are exited from interventions, while those needing more intensive supports are provided new, targeted interventions. A student success team is gathered to determine intensive support.

#### **Targeted Interventions**

Targeted interventions are utilized to create a high-quality differentiated environment where students are supported to engage at their optimal levels. The school uses co-teaching strategies, and "Power" classes for mathematics and ELA intervention. Additionally, students with targeted needs receive tutoring, Saturday and Summer school instruction is available universally. When students are identified as needing additional support, restorative practices are utilized such as peer mediation, new-comer and behavior management support groups, community restoration assignments, goal setting and monitoring and Edge Coaching.

Students not making adequate progress are matched with more intensive academic and/or behavioral support based on their needs. These services are provided by general education teachers, math and literacy coaches, and special education teachers. In small groups and within the general classroom setting, students may access:

- Power Classes (Math and English)
- Co-taught classes
- Push-in support
- Before and after school tutoring
- SSR/Advisory (see Course Description above)

Pull out supports are utilized to support students who require additional academic support. The learning lab will be used with the commencement of the 2018-19 school year.

Students receiving targeted interventions may require a longer period of monitoring, however, it does not typically exceed a semester. Students who do not demonstrate progress are moved into a more intensive stage of intervention.

#### **Intensive Interventions and Evaluation**

Our schools have both push-in and pull-out services with specialists to ensure students with the most significant needs are properly supported. Using of our Special Academic Instruction program, instructional aides, learning centers, and Saturday school we are able to help our most struggling learners close the achievement gap. Support for our exceptional learners include search and serve to meet their needs and an accelerated math pathway. Supports for behavior and socio-emotional are centered around restorative practices. Utilizing reflection committees, we determine the proper intervention for individual students. Using trauma-informed practices and socio-emotional wellness, these strategies and programs address the needs of all scholars including the most vulnerable, academically and emotionally unresponsive students.

Students may receive individualized, intensive interventions that target specific skill deficiencies that include:

- All interventions listed above
- Push-in and Pull-out support: Education Specialists, Intervention Teachers, and Literacy Coaches
  provide push- in and pull- out support in core classes. Support providers assist teachers in
  creating accommodations and differentiated learning experiences so that all students may
  access class materials. If it is deemed that students would benefit from further individualized
  support, they are pulled out for more intensive instruction.
- Study Skills classes: Study Skills courses are taught by Education Specialists as an elective course for students in need of additional support in note taking, organization, exam preparation, assignment completion, and time management.
- Teacher aides in the classroom: Instructional Aides support teachers with instruction by working
  individually with students, assisting in stations, clarifying instructions, and reteaching. Teacher
  Aide's also provide behavioral support and reinforce the school's Positive Behavior Interventions
  and Support ("PBIS").
- Saturday School: Students assigned to Saturday School work with teachers on foundational skills related to their coursework.
- Learning Center: The Learning Center or Resource Classroom is designated as a space for both Special Education and General Education students to receive academic support from Education Specialists and Instructional Coaches. Students can complete assignments, test in small settings, use computers, and work with their peers on group assignments.

If the Student Success Team believes further intervention is necessary, then the student may be referred to special education or 504 services.

While students may access a variety of academic supports before and after school including tutoring, Saturday school, and teacher coaching, the majority of interventions are given throughout the school day to ensure that students receive the full benefits of their individualized instruction. Services in the

learning center, push-in and pull-out assistance, instructional aides, and study skills classes are all provided to students during the school day.

#### **Equitable Access to the Curriculum**

MSA-6 utilizes an instructional program that emphasizes equitable access to the curriculum for all learners, including students with disabilities. These include:

Co-Teaching/Push-in/Pull-out Support- MSA-6 supports its exceptional populations by utilizing multiple methods of providing special education services. MSA-6 fosters an inclusive model of education. As such, professional development in the area of co-teaching allows teachers to grow their ability to educate and service students of varying abilities. In order to effectively implement a co-teaching model, special education and general education teachers are given time to co-plan and develop lessons so that students are provided appropriate supports and accommodations. Students who require additional assistance, receive services in a push-in or pull-out model where they receive more individualized attention.

Additionally, the digital formatting of our McGraw Hill curriculum allows teachers to collaborate on unit and lesson plans to ensure that all students' accommodations and needs are being addressed. This system is setup such that all students attend every class. The Special Education teacher and various paraprofessionals provide instructional support within the general education setting. This allows for all student groups to be supported while participating in the least restrictive environment throughout the day.

Embedded Supports- In addition to the on-site staff coordinated by the Special Education and/or RTI Coordinator, MSA-6 contracts with an outside service provider to support children's learning needs, such as intervention specialists, speech and language therapists, and occupational therapists who work with teachers to provide the least restrictive and most accessible learning environment. Special education aides work directly in the classroom, providing customized support to students throughout the day, and are valuable members of the team.

Differentiated Instruction- Teachers at MSA-6 deliver a curriculum that is tailored to each student's interests and needs. This support includes accommodations, use of technology, and data-informed decisions, such as utilizing Lexile reading scores and bringing technology into the classroom.

#### **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

MSA-6 endeavors to meet and exceed the needs of all learners, and is committed to closing the achievement gap that may affect those students who are not fully proficient in English. We hope to accomplish this by facilitating the acquisition and mastery of the English language as quickly as possible, while providing English Learners (ELs) with access to the core content through specialized and targeted instruction, a research-based and state-approved curriculum, and carefully differentiated instructional strategies. MSA-6 also promotes an equitable educational experience for our ELs and their families by providing supplemental counseling services, additional tutoring and literacy services, bilingual support, access to technology, and focused workshops where available and as needed.

MSA-6 provides students with a vigorous English Language Development (ELD) program that is based on recent language acquisition research (<10 years), as well as the six key principles for teaching ELs established by the *Understanding Language District Engagement Subcommittee* at Stanford University.

These principles and research are the foundation of our program and guide our professional development. They are outlined as follows:

Source	Year	Summary
The Understanding Language District Engagement Subcommittee at Stanford University	2012	<ol> <li>Instruction focuses on providing ELs with opportunities to engage in discipline-specific practices, which are designed to build conceptual understanding and language competence in tandem.</li> <li>Instruction leverages ELs' home language(s), cultural assets, and prior knowledge.</li> <li>Standards-aligned instruction for ELs is rigorous, grade-level appropriate, and provides deliberate and appropriate scaffolds.</li> <li>Instruction moves ELs forward by taking into account their English proficiency levels and prior schooling experiences.</li> <li>Instruction fosters ELs' autonomy by equipping them with the strategies necessary to comprehend and use language in a variety of academic settings.</li> <li>Diagnostic tools and formative assessment practices are employed to measure students' content knowledge, academic language competence, and participation in disciplinary practices.</li> </ol>
Research to Guide English Language Development Instruction by Saunders & Goldenberg	2010	<ol> <li>Providing ELD instruction is better than not providing it.</li> <li>ELD instruction should include interactive activities, but they must be carefully planned and carried out.</li> <li>A separate block of time should be devoted daily to ELD instruction.</li> <li>ELD instruction should emphasize listening and speaking although it can incorporate reading and writing.</li> <li>ELD instruction should explicitly teach elements of English (for example, vocabulary, syntax, grammar, functions, and conventions).</li> <li>ELD instruction should integrate meaning and communication to support explicit teaching of language.</li> <li>ELD instruction should provide students with corrective feedback and form.</li> </ol>

		<ul> <li>8. Use of English should be maximized during ELD instruction; the primary language should be used strategically.</li> <li>9. Teachers should attend to communication and language learning strategies and incorporate them into ELD instruction.</li> <li>10. ELD instruction should emphasize academic language as well as conversational language.</li> <li>11. ELD instruction should continue until students reach Level 5.</li> </ul>
Reparable Harm: Fulfilling the Unkept Promise of Educational Opportunity for California's Long Term English Learners	2010	Basic design principles for providing LTELs with equitable access to the core curriculum and improving proficiency outcomes:  • An LTEL program must emphasize urgency, acceleration, and focus.  • School must address the distinct needs of LTELs.  • LTELs need both language development and literacy development.  • Language development and academic gaps must be addressed across the curriculum.  • An LTEL program should support home language development.  • LTELs need a rigorous curriculum.  • LTELs need invitation, support, and insistence that they become active participants in their own education.  • An LTEL program should recognize the importance of positive relationships between the students and school staff.  • An LTEL program should encourage full integration with other students and with the school.

MSA-6 follows all federal and state laws in providing equal educational opportunities for ELs. MSA-6 implements the MPS-wide English Learner Master Plan that outlines the following components of a strong program:

- A. Identification of English Learners
- B. Assessment of English Learners
- C. Parent Notification
- D. Placement of English Learners
- E. Newcomers and Long Term English Learners
- F. Monitoring English Learner Progress
- G. Reclassification of English Learners
- H. Staff Qualifications and Professional Development
- I. Evaluating Program Effectiveness

## A. Identification of English Learners

When a student enrolls at MSA-6, the school will request information regarding the primary language spoken at home through a Home Language Survey (HLS), as mandated by state and federal law. The purpose of the HLS is to determine if a language other than English is used in the student's home. Before completing this survey, parents will receive an explanation of its purpose, and be informed of the possibility that their child may be given an assessment to measure their English Language Proficiency (ELP). The student's cumulative file and CALPADS records will also be checked by office staff to determine the student's ELP status.

The HLS is made up of the following four questions:

- 1. What language did your child learn when he or she first began to talk?
- 2. What language does your child most frequently use at home?
- 3. What language do you (parent/guardian) most frequently use when speaking with your child?
- 4. Which language is most often spoken by the adults in the home?

The State Board of Education's approved guidelines for the HLS responses are as follows:

- If the answer to all four questions is "English" then the child is classified as "English Only" (EO) and will not be assessed for language proficiency.
- If the answer to any of the first three questions is a language other than English, then the student will be given an English language proficiency exam.
- If the answer to the fourth question is a language other than English, the student may be tested for ELP at the school's discretion.

Parent rights regarding the HLS are as follows:

• The parent may amend the HLS anytime. If the amendment is made before the student has taken the initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), the student's classification will be adjusted to reflect the amendment. However, if the student has already taken the ELPAC, then the amendment will not affect the student's classification subsequently determined by the results of the ELPAC. An initial student who takes the ELPAC for ELP is classified as "To Be Determined" (TBD) until the official results are received.

The first HLS on file for a student supersedes all HLS forms completed at a later time. The answers on this initial HLS must be documented in the Student Information System (SIS). If the school has a reasonable doubt of a student's ELP, then that student may be tested to establish and provide evidence of proficiency. In these cases, a certificated staff member must document the reasons for ELPAC administration on the HLS. This annotation must be signed and dated by the school principal. Parents will then be informed by a certificated staff member of the student's assessment results and program placement.

## **B.** Assessment of English Learners

**Assessment of Initial Students**: Students whose ELP is "To Be Determined" according to their HLS (and with no other documentation of their English language designation available) will be tested in Fall 2018 using the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC).

The ELPAC Initial Assessment is used to identify students as either an English Learner, or as fluent in English. The Initial Assessment is administered only once during a student's time in the California public

school system based upon the results of the home language survey. The locally scored IA will be the official score. The IA is given to students in grades K–12 whose primary language is not English to determine their English proficiency status.

Based on the initial student's performance on the ELPAC, he/she may be classified as an English Learner (EL) or an Initial Fluent English Proficient (IFEP) student. If a student is classified as an IFEP student, he/she will not be eligible to receive EL services, and will receive instruction in a program designed for fluent English speakers. If a student is classified as an EL, he/she will receive both integrated and designated English Language Development. An EL student must also be assessed annually (with the ELPAC) until he/she meets the reclassification criteria established by MSA-6 according to state law.

**Assessment of Annual Students:** Students who are classified as ELs will be tested annually using the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). This ELP test will be administered during the Spring test administration window. At this time, MSA-6 is waiting for a recommendation from the CDE regarding reclassification threshold scores. In the interim, these scores are locally determined and outlined in Section G.

**Assessment of Students with an IEP/504 Plan:** EL students on an active individualized education plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan will be assessed using the accommodations, modifications, or alternative assessments for the current ELP exam as specified in their plan.

## C. Parent Notification

Parents of students who are administered the initial and annual ELPAC will receive notification of the following, within 30 calendar days of test administration:

- A description of initial or annual ELP levels, and how they are determined
- Current language classification
- Program placement
- Instructional Program Options
- Reclassification Criteria
- For ELs with an IEP: A description of how the program placement will contribute to meeting the objectives of the IEP
- Graduation Rate for ELs

All parent notification letters are certified by office staff and school leaders. This includes a list of notification recipients attached to each certification. Copies of notification letters are filed in each student's cumulative folder and the certification is filed in the Title III/EL Compliance folder maintained by the MSA-6 EL Coordinator.

Prior to English proficiency testing, parents will also be informed of when their child will be tested, and how the test will be used to determine placement and reclassification.

Parents of ELs are always given the option to meet with a school administrator if they have questions regarding their child's assessment results, placement, or classification.

## D. Placement of English Learners - Structured English Immersion Program

All MSA-6 EL students participate in a Structured English Immersion (SEI) program. The U.S. Department of Education describes the goal of this program as "acquisition of English language skills so that the EL

student can succeed in an English-only mainstream classroom. All instruction in an immersion strategy program is in English." Within this SEI program, ELs are provided with daily designated and integrated English Language Development. Integrated ELD is provided to all ELs across all disciplines utilizing the frameworks and strategies outlined below. Designated ELD is also provided to all ELs, however instructional placement and support vary according to the students' ELD level. All curriculum used within the SEI program has ELD components/resources that facilitate language acquisition. Additionally, Newcomers and Long Term English Learners receive supplemental services in the program as outlined below.

**Designated English Language Development:** Designated ELD is defined by the California ELD Framework as "a protected time during the regular school day when teachers use the CA ELD Standards as the focal standards in ways that build into and from content instruction in order to develop critical English language skills, knowledge, and abilities needed for content learning in English." The following tables outline how designated ELD is delivered to EL students depending on their grade and ELD level.

**Secondary Designated ELD:** Depending on the EL student's ELD level, he/she will be placed in either a designated ELD class, or will receive designated ELD in his/her core classes. The following program description is the minimum we provide at MSA-6. Depending on the student's ELD level we provide additional support to our English Learners, as long as it does not interfere with the student's overall academic enrichment, or require additional work and/or time (for example, a recommended tutoring session outside of regular school hours).

Middle School - Grades 6-8					
Eligible Students Progra	Program Description				
ELD Levels 1-2 ELs with "minimally" or "somewhat developed" proficiency in English	EL students who are ELD Levels 1-2 receive one period of designated ELD.  Depending on the school's EL population and resources, this period of designated ELD may be a full class period or it may take place during the school's shorter SSR/Study Skills period. This designated ELD class period will be offered throughout the year. Schools that elect to provide this additional designated time may use the full class period to provide intensive language instruction and core academic support to ELs.  This setting is designed to ensure that ELs receive appropriate supports to build their proficiency and also meet grade level standards across all content areas.  Teacher differentiates language instruction based on ELD levels and proficiency descriptors.				

	<ul> <li>Primary curriculum used is the designated component of McGraw Hill's ELA and Math curriculum, used in conjunction used in conjunction with its supplemental EL resources</li> </ul>
ELD Levels 3-4 ELs with "moderately" or "well developed" proficiency in English	<ul> <li>EL students who are ELD Levels 3-4 receive designated ELD in their core classes, designed to focus on specific domains. The amount of time provided will vary depending on the curriculum and unit being taught.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>This setting is designed to ensure that ELs continue to progress towards proficiency, continue to meet grade level content standards, and reclassify in a timely manner.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Teacher differentiates language instruction based on ELD levels and proficiency descriptors.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Core teachers work with the site-level EL coordinator and Assistant Principal to determine which domains each student should focus on in order to reclassify.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Primary curriculum used is the designated component of McGraw Hill's ELA and Math curriculum, used in conjunction with its supplemental EL resources</li> </ul>

#### Integrated English Language Development:

Integrated ELD is defined by the California ELD Framework as "ELD instruction provided throughout the day and across the disciplines. Teachers with English Learners use the ELD standards in addition to their focal English language arts/literacy and other content standards to support the linguistic and academic progress of English Learners."

At MSA-6, teachers use SDAIE strategies (Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English), and the CHATS framework (see explanation of acronym below), to support integrated ELD across all content areas. Teachers are provided with professional development on how to provide integrated ELD to their students, how to apply the CA ELD standards, and how to use SDAIE strategies and the CHATS framework. This training is ongoing and provided by both MPS staff and third-party vendors. Additionally, MSA-6 EL Coordinator provides regular training to teachers of ELs, which includes showcasing specific strategies for differentiating and integrating ELD into the content area classroom.

**About the CHATS Framework:** Teachers will receive training on a research-based, field-tested framework for supporting EL growth in content and language. This framework was developed by Dr. Persida Himmele and Dr. William Himmele, two educators who have extensive and successful experience with ELs. Their framework is carefully broken down in the book *The Language Rich Classroom* and is "meant to empower teachers who haven't been formally trained in ESL with planning tools that make content comprehensible to their English language learners," while "providing ELs with opportunities to build up their academic language" in the content classroom. All MSA-6 teachers will

have access to this book, and will be consistently trained to use CHATS strategies. Although CHATS was developed for ELs, it is beneficial to all learners. The framework is made up of components that are broken up into five areas around the acronym:

- C Content Reading Strategies
- H Higher Order Thinking Skills
- A Assessment
- T Total Participation Techniques
- S Scaffolding Strategies

This framework is designed to work in mixed, multilingual classrooms and the book provides resources and examples of how teachers can use each component in their planning.

## E. Newcomers and Long Term English Learners

**Newcomers:** A newcomer is defined as a child or youth (ages 3-21) who was not born in any state and has not attended school in any state for more than three full academic years. At MSA-6, newcomers are identified upon enrollment in our Student Information System, and are carefully monitored by school leaders, coordinators, and teachers. Depending on the student's English language proficiency, he/she may be placed in a designated ELD class, where he/she will have an opportunity to build on foundational English language skills, as well as practice vocabulary and key concepts learned in his/her core classes. In addition to using the designated component of the McGraw Hill curriculum, a newcomer student will have access to language learning programs such as DuoLingo, BrainPop ESL and NewsELA. When possible, MSA-6 will strive to obtain tutors that speak the student's native language to help build on prior knowledge, and provide additional clarification and support. Newcomers at MSA-6 will have access to additional academic support through optional morning and after-school tutoring, Saturday school, and summer school.

Newcomers are expected to make progress in their ELP of one level per year at MSA-6. Newcomers are carefully monitored for growth by the MSA-6 EL Coordinator. Newcomers are assessed at the beginning of the school year for ELP and also for proficiency in their native language via a writing sample and through interview questions. If it is determined that additional academic or instructional support is needed, the site-level EL Coordinator will work with school leaders and the MPS Coordinator to determine which programs, curriculum, or supports may be needed.

Newcomer students also receive targeted social-emotional support at MSA-6. Newcomer students and their parents are provided with a more personalized orientation (in their native language if possible) regarding school routines, school attendance, school schedule, the role of school personnel, uniform policy, using the library, emergency drills, and other topics determined by MSA-6 staff. Some other social-emotional supports that are provided to newcomers at MSA-6 are: class cohorts and being paired up with a peer that speaks their language (when possible) for in-class support and clarification, a safe space for the student to recess and eat lunch (for example, a classroom, the office, etc. if the student feels overwhelmed or stressed), frequent check-ins from teachers and school leaders to ensure that the student is adjusting and feels comfortable in his/her new environment, immediate response by school staff to bullying or discrimination, informal support activities that provide newcomer students with opportunities to speak informally in his/her native language, and encouraging newcomer students to participate in after-school clubs and sports. Newcomer families will also be invited to attend our Parent College Program, and will be provided with resources for helping their child improve literacy at home in their native language.

**Long Term English Learners:** A Long Term English Learner (LTEL) is defined as a student who has been enrolled in a U.S. school for more than six years. MSA-6 is committed to providing these students with the support that they need to reclassify by thoroughly assessing their academic data and providing structured and targeted ELD instruction based on their needs and areas of growth.

All LTELs at MSA-6 are placed in rigorous courses designed to meet their college readiness requirements. They receive grade-level instruction that is taught using differentiated strategies, and are placed with English proficient students in core and elective courses.

At the beginning of the school year, MSA-6 school leaders and EL coordinator will determine who their LTEL students are, and mark them in the student information system. They will review redesignation data, and determine what has prevented the student from reclassifying (MAP score, ELP exam score, ELA grade, etc.). Domains of growth will be noted in their ELD portfolios. This information is then shared with teachers and a plan of action is created to facilitate each student's growth and proficiency. If the student has an IEP, language goals and objectives will be carefully reviewed and incorporated into the plan.

LTELs (who are Levels 3 and 4; Levels 1 and 2 are enrolled in a separate designated ELD class) enrolled in middle school will be placed in a specialized "Power English" course for one semester (may be provided in a pull-out model). This class does not replace designated or integrated ELD. This class will provide an additional focus on oral and academic language development and English literacy. It will also provide students with an opportunity to practice skills in preparation for the ELPAC. At the end of the semester, each student's progress will be assessed (ELA grades, summative assessments, MAP scores, and writing samples) to see if adjustments or additional supports are needed.

In addition to the above-mentioned supports, MSA-6 will focus on the following universal strategies for improving academic outcomes for LTEL students:

- Ensure that students understand the reclassification process and are provided with counseling about their individual data.
- Provide additional tutoring to help students understand their assignments, clarify notes, review concepts taught in class, and prepare for tests.
- Emphasize a school-wide focus on study skills and academic vocabulary (for example, universal note-taking strategies, Word of the Week, etc.).
- Provide frequent "check-ins" with students to ensure that they do not have questions or concerns
- Incorporate relevant texts that affirm and allow students to make connections to their diverse cultures.
- Encourage participation in school clubs, sports, and events.
- Ensure that students have a safe space to relax, study, and speak with caring adults.

Pathways for Newcomers and LTELs will be evaluated by the MSA-6 EL Coordinator every semester to determine whether or not adjustments need to be made and to ensure that both groups are making adequate progress.

## F. Monitoring English Learner Progress

English Learners at MSA-6 are monitored through ELD portfolios, which are maintained by the EL Coordinator. ELD portfolios will contain the following documents:

- Copy of the most recent ELP exam scores
- Copy of the most recent MAP & SBAC scores
- Record of the most recent semester grade in ELA, and any notes/observations from the teacher
- Interim assessment scores
- Progress Monitoring Chart
- Writing work samples (for example, copies of reports, essays, journals, etc.)
- "My Road to Reclassification" document (allows students to independently track their progress)
- Action plans and goals

Supplemental templates and monitoring documents are available to all site-level coordinators in a shared secure, password protected, online folder. Additional monitoring forms and evidence may be added as needed to improve monitoring and outcomes.

Schedule for progress monitoring:

Weekly/Bi-weekly	Monthly	Annually
<ul> <li>Core teachers         review current class         grades and notify         parents of ELs if         their child is failing.</li> <li>School staff reviews         and discusses         relevant student         data (during staff         meetings,         department         meetings, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Portfolio maintenance: Relevant scores, assessments, and work samples are collected and updated in each EL student's ELD portfolio.</li> <li>Teachers and EL coordinator notify parents of EL students who are not making adequate progress towards proficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>January/February: Data for reclassified students is reviewed and updated in a spreadsheet maintained by the Assistant Principal and EL coordinator.</li> </ul>

## G. Reclassification of English Learners

MSA-6 uses the four criteria in state law as guidelines in determining whether or not an English Learner should be reclassified as fluent English proficient: English language proficiency assessment, comparison of performance in basic skills, teacher evaluation, and input from parents. All reclassification criteria must be met and maintained within the current academic year. The established criteria for reclassification are as follows:

	Grades 6-8
English Language Proficiency Assessment	**Official threshold scores are forthcoming from the CDE. The MPS EL Master Plan will reflect the new recommendations as soon as they are available.
Basic Skills Assessment	NWEA Map: Performance level of Basic on the MAP reading test with a minimum Fall, Winter, or Spring score of:

		Fall	Winter	Spring		
	Gr. 6	200	204	206		
	Gr. 7	205	208	210		
	Gr. 8	208	211	212		
			SBAC:	ELA/Lit		
Teacher Evaluation	Applic	Student achieves a grade of C (70%) or above in English Language Arts (ELA).  Applicable ELA grades considered are the Semester 1 final grade and current semester grade at the time of reclassification.				
Parent Consultation	Parent/Guardian agrees with the recommendation to reclassify. Each school will send home a notification informing parents of their child's eligibility to reclassify. If a parent contests reclassification, they will have 14 days to respond to the school using a form provided by the school site.					
			f this le CALPA			

Reclassified students are monitored for a period of four years by our EL Coordinator. This is done to ensure that they have not been redesignated too early, and that they are successfully participating in the academic program without incurring deficits. Assistant Principal and the EL coordinator monitor reclassified students' academic progress annually by reviewing benchmark scores, MAP and SBAC scores, and ELA grades. Follow-up services for students who do not demonstrate satisfactory progress include, but are not limited to: additional tutoring, counseling, and enrichment classes. The MPS EL Coordinator will follow up with MSA-6 to ensure that monitoring is taking place, and will assist the school with action planning for those students who are not making adequate progress.

## H. Staff Qualifications and Professional Development Plan

The teachers and staff at MSA-6 understand that all stakeholders need to work collaboratively to help improve learning outcomes and academic achievement for ELs. They also understand that ELs need access to challenging academic content through appropriately differentiated and scaffolded instruction. In order to facilitate rigorous ELD instruction, the following staff qualifications and plans for professional development are in place at MSA-6:

**Staff Qualifications:** All MSA-6 teachers providing academic instruction to EL students will hold a CLAD/BCLAD credential or other approvable CCTC certification authorizing them to teach English Language Learners. Outlined below are the duties of teachers, MSA-6 EL Coordinator, and the MPS EL Coordinator.

#### MSA-6 teachers will:

- Consistently implement with fidelity the ELD program and curriculum as outlined in the English Learner Master Plan.
- Provide daily integrated ELD instruction during core classes, aligned with the state ELD standards
  and using research-based strategies to ensure students are able to access grade level instruction
  and do not incur academic deficits.
- Provide daily designated ELD instruction during a protected block of time during the school day, aligned with the state ELD standards and using research-based strategies to ensure students are able to access grade level instruction and do not incur academic deficits.
- Attend all professional development and professional learning community sessions.
- Consistently monitor student progress on a weekly basis to ensure that EL students are making adequate progress towards proficiency and follow appropriate protocol if a student is falling behind.
- Maintain contact with the students' families and keep them updated on their child's progress.
- Work collaboratively with other staff members to encourage ELs and ensure that they have the tools and resources needed to be successful.

## MSA-6 ELD Teachers will do all of the above and:

- Consistently implement with fidelity the ELD program and curriculum as outlined in the English Learner Master Plan.
- Provide a safe, enriching learning environment for ELs, with ample opportunities to practice language acquisition.
- Use the prescribed, standards-based, state-approved curriculum to instruct ELs.
- Differentiate instruction based on ELD level and grade level.
- Provide opportunities for ELs to practice all four domains in each class period.
- Utilize supplemental resources to provide additional support.
- Create structured and predictable classroom routines.
- Create weekly lesson plans aligned to the ELD standards.

#### MSA-6 EL Coordinator will:

- Conduct classroom observations on a weekly basis to ensure integrated and designated ELD is occurring in all classrooms with ELs.
- Present an ELD strategy to teachers during weekly staff meetings.
- Create and maintain an ELD portfolio for each EL student to monitor and showcase progress.
- Regularly communicate with staff regarding the progress of ELs.
- Communicate on a regular basis with the MPS EL Coordinator and implement all updates and compliance requests in a timely manner.
- Participate in monthly meetings with school leadership regarding the needs of ELs (for example, plan strategies for professional development, provide insight from classroom observations, discuss data, and recommend resources).
- Attend professional development relevant to ELs and share strategies and resources with teachers.

#### The MPS EL Coordinator will:

 Maintain, evaluate, and improve the EL Master Plan and EL Program based on the observations, data, and feedback from each member school.

- Provide coaching, and professional development to all teachers of English learners (for example, provide integrated and designated ELD support, teacher training, coaching on effective ELD strategies, and model push-in support).
- Conduct lesson demonstrations and classroom observations/walk-throughs in order to help improve instruction delivered to ELs.
- Help teachers monitor the progress of ELs and reclassified students, and create appropriate interventions and action plans as needed.
- Assist site-level coordinators and staff with the development of action plans and appropriate supports for Long Term English Learners and Newcomers.
- Lead and train EL Coordinators at each school site, including facilitate team meetings as well as coordinate the EL program strategic planning process.
- Oversee the adoption and implementation of the ELD curriculum.
- Oversee the Title III improvement plan, and any other Title III requirements.
- Attend EL-related professional development and share resources with teachers and school leaders.

Although the EL Coordinator's primary duty will be to provide the supplemental services outlined above, the EL Coordinator will also work with the Chief Academic Officer, on-site EL Coordinators, and Office Managers to support schools with accountability. Some examples of how the MPS consortium will hold MSA-6 accountable are:

- Create Title III folders for MSA-6 with a calendar of notifications, procedures for notifying
  parents of ELs, certifications for notices mailed, attendance sheets for PD and parent
  meetings/workshops, etc. The MPS EL Coordinator will work with MSA-6 school leadership and
  the EL Coordinator to ensure that folders are maintained and updated.
- The MPS executive office manager will ensure and certify the timely submission of all CALPADS data pertaining to ELs.
- MSA-6 school leadership will certify the timely submission of all Title III notifications mailed to parents of ELs.
- MPS EL Coordinator will conduct regular classroom walk-throughs to ensure program fidelity.
- MPS EL Coordinator will support teachers with progress monitoring of ELs and provide a framework for progress monitoring.

**Professional Development Plan:** Professional development for teachers of English Learners will be extensive and ongoing at MSA-6. Professional development specific to ELs will endeavor to improve ELD instruction, facilitate the ability of teachers and school leaders to successfully implement the EL program, and help improve English language proficiency and subject matter knowledge of ELs. Effective professional development will include:

- ELD workshops for teachers at the MPS Summer In-Service.
- Overview of the EL Master Plan, including program placement, progress monitoring, and reclassification, presented to all MPS schools.
- Sessions dedicated to English Language Development (ELD) training for teachers at each MPS Teacher Symposium (Winter and Spring).
- ELD training and shared best practices at least once per month at the school-site level staff meetings.
- All core teachers will attend at least one third-party ELD training per year (this may be done off or on site...for example, attend a workshop offered by the county office, or hire a consultant to present to the staff on site).

- The MPS EL Coordinator will regularly attend high-quality professional development workshops and conferences, including a monthly Bilingual Directors' Meeting at the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and share resources and information with teachers and school leaders.
- When possible, site-level EL Coordinators will attend professional development sessions and meetings with the MPS EL Coordinator.
- The MPS EL Coordinator will host two (one per semester) trainings/meetings for the site-level EL Coordinators per year. These meetings will review ELD strategies, best practices, an assessment of EL data at each school site, and evaluate the effectiveness of the EL program.
- Regular updates regarding ELs and ELD will be provided to all MPS principals and deans during monthly meetings at the Home Office.
- The MPS EL Coordinator and MPS Math Coach will provide a workshop to math teachers that will support EL access across the curriculum.
- The MPS EL Coordinator and MPS Student Services director will provide resources to help teachers and school leaders support dually identified students.

## I. Evaluating Program Effectiveness

The School will use ELPAC results, along with scores on Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy tests, MAP tests, teacher evaluations, and parent consultations to evaluate the success and effectiveness of the EL Programs and growth of ELs. School admin team will analyze the data at the school level. The Chief Academic Officer (CAO) at the Magnolia Public Schools Home Office (Home Office) will evaluate the assessment data for all MPS schools. MSA-6 admin team will be required to:

- Supervise classroom instruction for content and pedagogy to ensure the delivery of ELD and Access to the Core through CHATS/SIOP/SDAIE/GLAD and/or primary language instruction or support
- Provide leadership and support to teachers and staff to improve student achievement and accelerate the learning of ELs
- Conduct regular classroom walkthroughs to ensure that ELD and CHATS/SIOP/SDAIE/GLAD
  instruction or support are being delivered in the manner outlined in the master plan
- Identify, design, and implement appropriate interventions for ELs when they do not meet minimum progress benchmark achievement
- Utilize multiple sources of data to monitor EL program implementation
- Review placement of ELs in ELD instruction prior to the beginning of each semester and correct any inconsistencies with the Master Plan
- Ensure that teachers have professional development opportunities to continue to develop their skills and knowledge in ELD and CHATS/SIOP/SDAIE/GLAD and/or primary language instruction or support
- Ensure that interventions are designed and delivered consistent with the English Learners
   Master Plan
- Provide a welcoming environment for parents of EL students and ensure that they are regularly
  apprised of the EL assessment and reclassification process and results, instructional program
  options and placement, EL progress monitoring

Additionally, the MPS EL Coordinator will work with teachers and the leadership team to monitor program effectiveness. The MPS EL Coordinator will support implementation of the MPS EL Master Plan and program, as well as ensure that all appropriate EL services are being delivered at MSA-6, maintain and update this master plan as needed, attend trainings relevant to the transition from NCLB to ESSA, and provide ELD resources to all MSA-6 teachers and staff.

#### GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS AND STUDENTS ACHIEVING ABOVE GRADE LEVEL

MSA-6 is committed to supporting gifted and highly capable students in a safe, caring environment that promotes a college preparatory, STEAM education. Within all classes, teachers differentiate curriculum by making adjustments of content through depth, complexity, and pacing as appropriate to the needs of each learner. Instructional programs for Gifted and Talented students are based on the core principles that all students have the potential to excel and should have the opportunity to develop their individual abilities, interests and potential. The purpose of the MPS GATE program is not to simply identify the highest achieving students, but rather, identify students with exceptional abilities, those that go well beyond their peer group. School site academic administrators monitor student progress through our SIS system.

MSA-6's identification procedures are equitable, comprehensive, and on-going. Assessments and recommendations for the program reflect best practices and are research- based. MPS understands that examinations alone may not reflect the abilities of all students, as well as GATE students of diverse populations. Therefore, MSA-6 includes teacher and/or administrator recommendations as well as work samples in its identification process.

In order to identify a student as gifted, evidence must be gathered relating to his/her ability to perform beyond chronological peers. Data should be broad enough to discover aptitudes across racial, ethnic, and economic groups.

Data may include the following:

- School, class, and individual pupil records
- State and benchmark examinations
- Student portfolios or work products
- Interviews and questionnaires (teacher, parent, and others related school personnel)

Teachers, parents, and school administrators may submit referrals. Additionally, students at the middle school levels may refer themselves.

Students partake in the *Otis- Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT)*. The OLSAT is a multiple-choice test that is comprised of both verbal and nonverbal questions used to measure a child's critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students will need to perform well in the following areas:

- Following directions
- Detect similarities and differences
- Recall of words and numbers
- Classification of items
- Establishing sequences
- Solving arithmetic problems
- Completing analogies

GATE teams, comprised of the GATE coordinator or Special Education Teacher, Assistant Principal, and General Education teacher, review all pieces of data and then make a determination of eligibility. All students will be monitored by our school site academic administrators through our SIS system.

Educational experiences and are designed to meet the needs of advanced learners with an emphasis on innovation, critical thinking, and logical reasoning. Curriculum and instruction are designed to extend and enrich student learning through best practices. Classes are intended to engage and challenge learners to investigate, use problem-based learning, and research.

In addition, enrichment activities supplement learning for our advanced students both within and outside the regular classroom and expose students to STEAM programs early on in their educational careers. Activities may include but are not limited to:

- Math: American Mathematics Competitions, MathCounts
- Science: Science Fairs, Lego® Robot Design, Science Olympiad
- Computer and Technology Related: Lego® Robot Design, VEX Robotics

#### STUDENTS ACHIEVING BELOW GRADE LEVEL

MSA-6 identifies low-achieving students in the first days of the academic year, and implements early intervention where indicated, pursuant to the RTI model of tiered interventions detailed above. As detailed throughout this petition, MSA-6 teachers meet regularly to work in departments and grade levels. The highlight of these meetings is evaluating student data to inform instruction. All available student data (MAP, CAASPP, School/teacher assessments) is disaggregated and subject teachers work on the data. The assessment results are interpreted; students' strengths and weaknesses in specific subjects are identified and analyzed. Student progress is monitored by teachers who utilize the data and make appropriate changes in their curriculum maps, lesson plans and instructional strategies to address the needs of our students. Teachers differentiate instruction per their students' cognitive and social needs.

Targeted English and Math intervention classes are offered during elective periods to students who are not achieving at grade level. On an as-needed basis, an Academic Success Plan (ASP) is prepared with the involvement of the recommending teacher, the Assistant Principal, and the student's parents. Such ASP's include subject-related readings, additional homework, and recommended after-school tutoring.

The subject teachers and the Assistant Principal monitor each student's academic progress. Parents remain informed of their student's academic progress during this process via parent-student-teacher meetings and parent access to student grades and progress reports through the online school information system.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED/LOW INCOME STUDENTS

The instructional design of MSA-6 addresses the needs of low-income and socio-economically disadvantaged students, who make up the overwhelming majority of our enrollment. Socio-economically disadvantaged students are identified through their participation in the Free and Reduced Lunch program. Counseling, intervention/remediation, individual tutoring and free eligibility to after school social, academic and athletic programs are some of the many programs that support our socio-economically disadvantaged students. Home visits, motivational guest speaker programs, parent meetings, university and college visits, and instructional field trips are planned to shape the educational vision of the student and the family. Socio-economically disadvantaged students have role models

around them who will inspire motivation to focus on lessons and self-confidence with the discovery of their potential.

The Charter School administration ensures that these programs are available to all students, including socio-economically disadvantaged students, and works with the teachers and parents to encourage for student participation in these programs. The administration monitors the performance and progress of socio-economically disadvantaged students through the use of MSA-6's data cycle.

#### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

See District Required Language at start of Element 1.

#### STUDENTS IN OTHER STUDENT GROUPS

Students who are homeless, experiencing housing instability, are in foster care or experiencing personal/family crisis or have other special needs are all cared for in our supportive school community. These students are identified through teacher/family/staff referral. Our Student Success Team process ensures these students receive any additional supports or interventions they may need, including referrals to outside agencies that may assist them or their families. We track the progress of these students carefully through the use of MSA-6's data cycle and ensure our school supports them in achieving success and realizing better futures for themselves and their families.

#### **Education for Foster Youth**

MSA-6 recognizes that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs. To enable such students to achieve state and Charter School academic standards, MSA-6 shall provide them with full access to our educational program and implement strategies identified as necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of foster youth in our LCAP.

As detailed in our "Education for Foster Youth Policy," in order to help facilitate the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth to MSA-6, we have designated the CEO/Superintendent as the Foster Youth Liaison. The Foster Youth Liaison, in consultation and agreement with the foster youth and the individual assigned educational rights, shall make educational and placement decisions in the "best interests" of the foster youth.

Best interests mean that consideration is given to, among other factors, the opportunity to be educated in the least restrictive educational program and that the foster youth has equitable access to the academic resources, student services related to counseling and health, supplemental instruction, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all MSA-6 students. MPS will make appropriate referrals to ensure that eligible students in foster care receive necessary special education services and services under Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Additionally, it will collaborate with the county placing agency, social services, probation officers, juvenile court officers, and other appropriate agencies. MPS has developed protocols and procedures for creating awareness for its staff, including but not limited to, the Principal, teachers, attendance clerks, and office staff, of the requirements for proper enrollment, placement, transfer and support of foster youth.

#### **Education for Homeless Youth**

MSA-6 refers to "homeless youth" as individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night-time residence due to economic hardship. It includes children and youth who (42 USC 11434 (a)):

- Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Are living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Are abandoned in hospitals
- Have a primary night-time residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; or
- Migratory children and unaccompanied youth may be considered homeless if they meet the above definition of "homeless"

The Principal of MSA-6 shall serve as the Homeless Liaison for homeless students.

The Principal who serves as the Homeless Liaison shall ensure that:

- Homeless students are identified by Charter School personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies
- Homeless students enroll in, and have full and equal opportunity to succeed at MSA-6
- Homeless students and families receive educational services for which they are eligible
- Parents/guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
- Homeless children and youth shall be provided services comparable to those received by other students in the Charter School, including transportation services, educational programs, services provided under Title 1, programs for students with disabilities, programs for students with Limited English Proficiency ("LEP"), vocational and technical programs, gifted and talented programs, and school nutrition programs.
- The Principal or designee will monitor Homeless students' progress.

## "A TYPICAL DAY"

If prospective sixth grade students spent a day visiting MSA-6, they would notice students on campus before school began, from about 7:30 a.m. to 7:55 a.m., some having breakfast (as part of the federal meals program) and visiting with friends, others having breakfast and working on an assignment, perhaps with the help of an older student or an adult tutor. As it nears time for class to begin (8:00 a.m.), they would see students heading toward their classrooms.

These prospective students would observe enthusiasm in both the teachers and students. Visitors would see students in a math lesson (or any other class) where the teacher is working with half the students while the rest are working online. In the computer lab, students are seen working on a core content course during their technology integration class, focusing on applying technology skills to the current unit of study. In a science class, the teacher leads a class discussion to develop theories based on a specific inquiry for the upcoming lab. In the Advanced Math class, students are tackling math brain

teasers in groups. Another class is conducting an electrolysis experiment and observing the production of hydrogen gas from water. Students are using STEAM and writing skills in hands-on projects that reinforce their learning. They would see sixth graders singing about the life cycle of a frog, and other sixth graders describing the ecosystem of the desert to their peers, some in Spanish. Visitors would see students were having fun and were engaged as they learned.

The prospective sixth graders would be intrigued by how the teachers used fun technology to explain things. One teacher would be seen introducing a poem about a pond through a PowerPoint with pictures of the pond, pond creatures and even a picture of the author when he was a kid and playing in a pond. Then she would use a smart board to show her students information on the web about the author, with the class continuing to research links on the web and read more about the author and his other poems.

What the prospective student visitors might see but not been able to put into words is that teachers were using the inquiry-based method:

- Open-ended question or demonstration (as opposed to beginning a lesson with definitions and explanations)
- Student responses and questions
- Student collaboration designing experiments or methods of inquiry
- Team experiments "data" gathering
- Student presentations of findings (oral presentation, a poster presentation or an evaluative write-up.)

At lunch, they would observe all students practicing proper manners and good dining skills, and conversations taking place at an appropriate volume. A balanced lunch is provided, through the federal meals program, and students are encouraged to drink plenty of water. Visitors might see one of our frequent guest presenters during the lunch hour, such as a local college rhetoric instructor hosting an informal chat on the history of public speaking.

The after-school program is similarly appealing to visitors. The prospective new students would see students staying after school from 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to participate in clubs, service learning projects, preparation for local, national and/or international competitions, and access to free tutoring by teachers, volunteers and advanced students. By the time the visiting students went home teachers were engaged in discussion with parents regarding the progress of their children and discussing cooperative strategies and action plans. And on shortened days, teachers participate in staff development meetings, from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., to discuss school operations, participate in formal professional development and collaborate with their peers. Teachers share experiences and upcoming school wide projects are organized.

# ELEMENT 2: MEASURABLE PUPIL OUTCOMES & ELEMENT 3: METHOD BY WHICH PUPIL PROGRESS TOWARD OUTCOMES WILL BE MEASURED

"The measurable pupil outcomes identified for use by the Charter School. "Pupil outcomes," for purposes of this part, means the extent to which all pupils of the school demonstrate that they have attained the skills, knowledge, and attitudes specified as goals in the school's educational program. Pupil outcomes shall include outcomes that address increases in pupil academic achievement both schoolwide and for all groups of pupils served by the Charter School, as that term is defined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 47607. The pupil outcomes shall align with the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served, or the nature of the program operated, by the Charter School." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(B).)

"The method by which pupil progress in meeting those pupil outcomes is to be measured. To the extent practicable, the method for measuring pupil outcomes for state priorities shall be consistent with the way information is reported on a school accountability report card." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(C).)

## MEASURABLE GOALS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Charter School shall meet all statewide content and performance standards and targets. (Ed. Code §§ 47605(c)(1), 60605.)

Charter School shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to AB 97 (2013) (Local Control Funding Formula) and AB 484 (2013), as they may be amended from time to time, including all requirements pertaining to pupil outcomes.

## STANDARDIZED TESTING

Charter School agrees to comply with state requirements for participation and administration of all statemandated tests, including computer-based assessments. Charter School shall submit and maintain complete, accurate, and up-to-date California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) data in accordance with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 861. Charter School hereby grants authority to the State of California to provide a copy of all test results directly to the District as well as Charter School. Upon request, Charter School shall submit, in the requested format (e.g., CD), a copy of the results of all state-mandated tests to the District.

## MEASURABLE GOALS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Please see Element 1, Section 10, The Requirements of California Education Code Section 47605(B)(5)(A)(ii).

## MEASURING PUPIL OUTCOMES: SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Please see Element 1, Section 10, The Requirements of California Education Code Section 47605(B)(5)(A)(ii).

#### MEASURING PUPIL PROGRESS TOWARD OUTCOMES: FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Measurable outcomes and assessment tools in each of the academic areas of the curriculum are important to tracking performance progress and provide key data about the efficacy of MSA-6's academic program. This data is used to drive decisions about overall program development, as well as informing ongoing curriculum modifications and allocation of resources. The Principal, staff, and teachers of MSA-6 are held accountable by the MPS Board of Directors for meeting student outcome goals.

The measures that are used to assess student progress include all state-mandated standardized tests such as the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments. MSA-6 also uses the Smarter Balanced Interim Benchmark Assessments and Block Assessments approximately five times a year that are designed to support teaching and learning throughout the year; and the Digital Library, designed to support classroom-based formative assessment processes. The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments<sup>7</sup> are specifically designed to provide the following:

- Meaningful information for gauging student progress throughout the year toward mastery of the skills measured by the Summative Assessments
- Assessments of the CCSS, which can be used at strategic points during the school year.

MSA-6 administers both the Interim Comprehensive Assessments ("ICAs") and Interim Assessment Blocks ("IABs") to assess student learning and inform instruction.

Computer adapted NWEA MAP testing is utilized to measure student progress three times a year. As explained above in Element 1, students who are achieving substantially below grade level are identified through multiple measure assessments including MAP Tests, sample Smarter Balanced questions (as provided by the CDE's website), Accelerated Reader & My Math tests, and teacher-designed tests. For students achieving substantially below grade level, we use educational materials that provide review and re-teach programs. McGraw Hill's publisher's resources, Curriculum Associates' Ready Common Core program, and My Math<sup>8</sup> programs allow teachers to monitor the progress of students who are achieving below grade level and provides software generated tests and personalized instructional materials based on CCSS/frameworks which have not been achieved.

Teachers also, with the help of published materials, create standards-aligned formative assignments and tests that are evaluated using rubrics. Individual and team projects are evaluated using rubrics, and students are required to demonstrate research and critical thinking skills.

Assessment	Purpose/Performance	Grade	Timeline
	Expectations		
Internally-Created	Measure standards mastery	6-8	Daily and/or weekly
Tests and Performance	across all courses/subjects.		
Tasks (presentations,			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/sbacinterimassess.asp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The Charter School reserves the right to utilize alternate [resources/curriculum/vendors/providers/etc.] as long as consistent with applicable law and the needs of the Charter School, and as adopted by the Charter School administration and/or MSA Board of Directors, as applicable.

papers, experiments, etc.)			
Publisher-Designed	Assess mastery of	6-8	End of unit/end of semester or year.
Assessments	unit/lesson content.		
CAASPP	State Criterion-Based	6-8	In May
	Assessment in ELA and		
	Math		
California Science Test	State Criterion-Based	8	In May
(CAST)	Assessment in		
NWEA MAPs	National Normed-	6-8	September, December (optional),
	Referenced assessment in		and June
	ELA and Math		
PSAT	Pre-SAT	7-8	October, November, or December
ELPAC	Measure language	6-8	Initial: within 30 days of enrollment
	acquisition		Annual: February to May
SBAC /Interim	To support teaching and	6-8	Throughout the year
Assessment Blocks	learning throughout the		
	year		
SBAC Interim	Designed to provide	6-8	February
Comprehensive	meaningful information for		
Assessment Block	gauging student progress		
Physical Fitness Test	To assist students in	7	February to May
	establishing lifetime habits		
	of regular physical activity		

## **DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING**

As discussed extensively in Element 1, teachers use standards-aligned formative assessments to continually monitor student progress and to make adjustments on the curriculum and instructions when such is necessary and appropriate. MSA-6 utilizes diverse assessments that are aligned with the curriculum and instructional program, compliant with state expectations. Assessments are aligned to the Charter School's mission, exit outcomes and the curriculum. Results of these assessments are used to facilitate continuous improvement of the programs offered at the school site, direction of executive leadership, and short and long-range planning of the Board of Directors.

The Charter School's staff, led by the Assistant Principal and grade level chairs collects, analyzes and reviews the results of school-wide assessments and recommend modifications, if they are needed, to the Charter School's curriculum and other programs at the end of every semester.

Parents are apprised of their students' progress through quarterly report cards. The Charter School records grades, attendance, homework, and student progress reports online and provide regular access to parents. For those parents without access to a computer, MSA-6 has computers on campus available for parent use.

**ILLUMINATE: MSA-6'S SCHOOL INFORMATION SYSTEM** 

MSA-6 uses Illuminate or equivalent for its internal school information system. Aside from providing a very effective online communication tool for teachers, students and parents (for course material, homework assignments, projects, course grade statistics and records of student grades), the system enables MSA-6 administrators to create and print any reports within seconds. The system can produce more than 100 pre-designed reports including CA State Average Daily Attendance and CalPads reports as well as empowering administrators to easily design reports customized to their needs. Illuminate or equivalent is a great asset to MPS such that:

- Illuminate or equivalent empowers Home Office staff to supervise schools easily from anywhere. Home Office staff can take a snapshot of MSA-6 at any time in any aspect, including past data.
- This custom-made system is highly adjustable according to the Charter Schools' needs and is continuously being developed to meet specific demands as they arise.
- Longitudinal studies can be performed using Illuminate, or its equivalent.

**Illuminate Education** is built for educators, by educators. Illuminate's mission is to create tools to promote educator and student success. They focus on student achievement and provide the teacher a tool to do it all. Assessments, report cards, gradebooks, data analysis and parent communication will no longer be in multiple places but be entered in one system. District and site-level educators can analyze trends, instructional leaders can shape curriculum, and teachers can make improvements and provide differentiated instruction.

Illuminate helps free our data. No matter where the data lives you can now see it all in one place. Therefore, we can make real-time, data-informed decisions. We can get a holistic view of the students. From groups to individuals, we can visualize the data based on academics, demographics, attendance, social-emotional, and quantitative ways.

Once we have the students' data, we can analyze it through 23 pre-built assessment reports or custom reports based on what we need. We can start intervention sooner to use it as an early warning system that helps identify at-risk students based on factors you determine. Students can feel empowered to take ownership of their learning by viewing assessment results and teacher feedback to see opportunities for growth.

## GRADING, PROGRESS REPORTING, AND PROMOTION/RETENTION

The primary purpose for grading is to provide feedback to students and parents on the achievement of learning goals. At least two progress reports and two report cards are mailed home per year. Progress reports are not final and indicate a student's performance to-date in the semester. Report cards are issued at the conclusion of each semester. Report cards are mailed home and include final grades that are reflected on a student's transcript.

At MSA-6 course report card grades are to be represented in letter-grade equivalent to the percentage earned in each course. Course report card grades are based on in-class performance tasks (assessments, projects, assignments, and classroom participation), homework, responsibility, and in some instances, additional discretionary components. Each department works with the Department Chair in conjunction with the Charter School's Assistant Principal to develop specific and consistent weights for each component, to be shared with parents and students.

MSA-6 follows a standard scale to assign letter grades for semester work. Grading is based on a 4.0 (unweighted) scale for regular courses. A

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE PROMOTION

In middle school, course grades are semester-based and credit is granted at the end of each semester. Students need to have an end-of-the-semester final grade of at least a "C" (=2.0) to earn credit for the course.

To be promoted to the next grade, a middle school student must have a 2.0 GPA and passing grades in all core courses by the end of the school year or by the end of the summer before the start of the next school year. Core courses are Math, Science, English Language Arts, and History/Social Science.

If the student has a failed core course or has a recalculated GPA less than 2.0 after the summer before the start of the next school year, the student will be recommended for retention in the current grade unless the Charter School administration determines that retention is not the appropriate intervention for the student's academic deficiencies. In that case, promotion is contingent upon a detailed plan to correct deficiencies.

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 102

## **ELEMENT 4: GOVERNANCE**

"The governance structure of the Charter School, including, but not limited to, the process to be followed by the Charter School to ensure parental involvement." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(D).)

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

As an independent Charter School, Charter School, operated as or by its nonprofit public benefit corporation, is a separate legal entity and shall be solely responsible for the debts and obligations of Charter School.

Charter School shall ensure that, at all times throughout the term of the Charter, the bylaws of its governing board and/or nonprofit corporation are and remain consistent with the provisions of this Charter. In the event that the governing board and/or nonprofit corporation operating Charter School amends the bylaws, Charter School shall provide a copy of the amended bylaws to CSD within 30 days of adoption.

Charter School shall send to the CSD copies of all governing board meeting agendas at the same time that they are posted in accordance with the Brown Act. Charter School shall also send to the CSD copies of all board meeting minutes within one week of governing board approval of the minutes. Timely posting of agendas and minutes on Charter School's website will satisfy this requirement.

The District reserves the right to appoint a single representative to the Charter School governing board pursuant to Education Code section 47604(b).

## LEGAL AND POLICY COMPLIANCE

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and District policies as it relates to Charter Schools adopted through Board action.<sup>1</sup>

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal and state reporting requirements, including but not limited to the requirements of CBEDS, CALPADS, the Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999, and Education Code section 47604.33.

Charter School shall comply with the Brown Act and the Public Records Act.

Charter School and all employees and representatives of Charter School, including members of Charter School's governing board, members of Charter School or governing board committees and councils, Charter School administrators, and managers, shall comply with federal and state laws, nonprofit integrity standards, and LAUSD Charter School policy, regarding ethics and conflicts of interest. Charter School shall enter into all transactions and conduct business with all persons and entities at arm's length or, in the case of otherwise permissible related party transactions, in a manner equivalent to arm's length.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The District is in the process of compiling a list of LAUSD policies that apply to its authorized Charter Schools. The list will be finalized by April 1, 2018. Charter Schools Division staff will annually review District policies and make recommendations to the LAUSD Board of Education on continued application to Charter Schools.

Charter School shall notify parents, guardians, and teachers in writing within 72 hours of the issuance of a Notice of Violation, Notice of Intent to Revoke, Final Decision to Revoke, Notice of Non-Renewal, or equivalent notice, by the LAUSD Board of Education.

## TITLE IX, SECTION 504, AND UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Charter School shall designate at least one employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), including any investigation of any complaint filed with Charter School alleging its noncompliance with these laws or alleging any actions which would be prohibited by these laws. Charter School shall notify all of its students and employees of the name, office address, and telephone number of the designated employee or employees.

Charter School shall adopt and publish complaint procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX or Section 504.

Charter School shall adopt and implement specific and continuing procedures for notifying applicants for admission and employment, students and parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Charter School, that Charter School does not discriminate on the basis of sex or mental or physical disability in the educational programs or activities which it operates, and that it is required by Title IX and Section 504 not to discriminate on any such basis.

Charter School shall establish and provide a uniform complaint procedure in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited to all applicable requirements of *California Code of Regulations*, title 5, section 4600 et seq.

Charter School shall adhere to all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding pupil fees, including Education Code sections 49010 - 49013, and extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to Education Code section 49013.

Charter School shall extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to the Local Control Funding Formula legislation provisions set forth in Education Code section 52075.

## RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES

Charter School, including its nonprofit corporation shall promptly respond to all reasonable inquiries, including but not limited to inquiries regarding financial records from the District, and shall cooperate with the District regarding any inquiries. Charter School acknowledges that Charter School, including but not limited to its nonprofit corporation, is subject to audit by LAUSD, including, without limitation, audit by the District Office of the Inspector General. Charter School shall provide the District with current, complete, and accurate contact information for Charter School, Charter School administrators, and Board members.

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 104

If an allegation or other evidence of waste, fraud, abuse, or other material violation of law related to Charter School's operations, or breach of the Charter, is received or discovered by the District, Charter School, including but not limited to its nonprofit corporation, employees, and representatives, shall cooperate with any resulting inquiry and/or investigation undertaken by the District and/or the Office of the Inspector General Investigations Unit.

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that persons and entities that directly exercise control over the expenditure of Charter School's public funds shall be subject to all necessary and appropriate District Charter School oversight.

## **NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT**

Charter School shall notify the Charter Schools Division (CSD) in writing of any citations or notices of workplace hazards, investigations by outside governmental regulatory or investigative agencies, lawsuits, changes in corporate or legal status (e.g., loss of IRS 501(c)(3) status), or other formal complaints or notices, within one week of receipt of such notices by Charter School. Unless prohibited by law, Charter School shall notify the CSD in writing of any internal investigations within one week of commencing investigation. Charter School shall notify the CSD within 24 hours of any dire emergency or serious threat to the health and safety of students or staff.

## STUDENT RECORDS

Upon receipt of a student records request from a receiving school/school district, Charter School shall transfer a copy of the student's complete cumulative record within ten (10) school days in accordance with Education Code section 49068. Charter School shall comply with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 3024, regarding the transfer of student special education records. In the event Charter School closes, Charter School shall comply with the student records transfer provisions in Element 15. Charter School shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 49060 et seq., which include provisions regarding rights to access student records and transfer of records for youth in foster care.

## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

Charter School shall not require a parent or legal guardian of a prospective or enrolled student to perform volunteer service hours, or make payment of fees or other monies, goods, or services in lieu of performing volunteer service, as a condition of his/her child's admission, continued enrollment, attendance, or participation in the school's educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against a student in any manner because his/her parent cannot, has not, or will not provide volunteer service to Charter School.

## FEDERAL PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

As a recipient of federal funds, Charter School has agreed to meet all applicable programmatic, fiscal and other regulatory requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, also known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) and other applicable federal programs. Charter School understands that it is a local educational agency (LEA) for purposes of federal compliance and reporting purposes. Charter School agrees that it will keep and make available to the District any documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of ESEA and other applicable federal programs. Charter

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 105

School also acknowledges that, as part of its oversight of Charter School, the District may conduct program review for federal as well as state compliance.

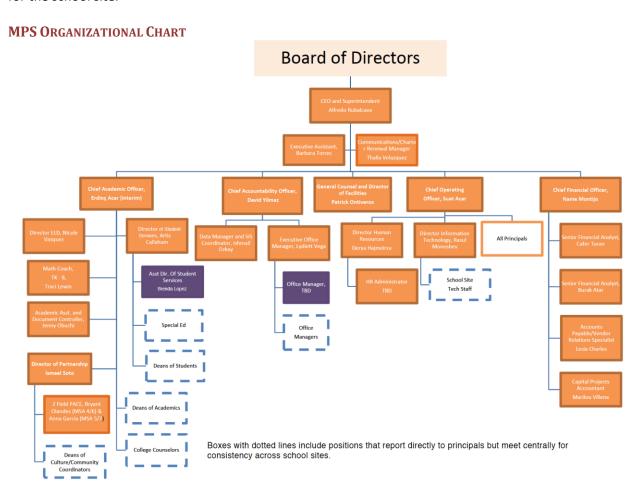
#### **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

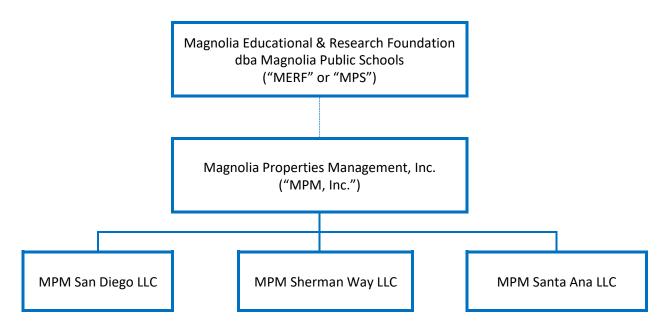
## NONPROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION

Magnolia Science Academy-6 is a direct funded independent Charter School operated by the Magnolia Education and Research Foundation, doing business as Magnolia Public Schools, a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation, pursuant to California law. The MPS Board of Directors is responsible for the oversight of MSA-6. The Board delegates all school management decisions, such as hiring teachers and school staff, day-to-day school management and adherence to Charter School policy, to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent of MPS and lead school site staff.

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS**

The following briefly details the roles of the Home Office lead staff, followed by an Organizational Chart for the school site.





MERF is a California non-profit public benefit corporation, is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and is a public charity under Section 509(a)(3) of the Code.

MPM, Inc. is a California non-profit public benefit corporation, is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code and is a public charity under Section 509(a)(3) of the Code. MPM, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, and to carry out the purposes of MERF.

MPM Sherman Way LLC, MPM Santa Ana LLC and MPM San Diego LLC are each single member California limited liability companies whose sole member and manager is MPM, Inc.

(A school site organizational chart is included below.)

MPS is structured as a single 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which includes both the Home Office and the ten school sites.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The MPS Board of Directors ("Board") is responsible for overseeing Magnolia Science Academy-6's operation and governance. The Board is responsible for hiring and supervising the CEO. (See below for further details about the Board's role and operation.)

## MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOME OFFICE ("HOME OFFICE")

The Magnolia Public Schools Home Office executes the decisions and policies set by the Board. Through the Home Office, MPS establishes its educational mission in all MPS schools. The Home Office provides services to the Charter Schools, supports and holds accountable the Charter Schools for compliance and meeting charter goals, provides best practices in curriculum and professional development, and sets up systems and processes that support academic achievement and growth, operational effectiveness, and financial sustainability. The Home Office manages business operations of schools, which reduces

program and operations-related burdens of the Charter School administration and enables the Charter Schools to receive services at a lower cost. The services of the Home Office include, but are not limited to:

#### Academics

- Academic standards, assessment, compliance and evaluation
- Curriculum
- o Professional development and coaching
- Special Education support
- English Learner support
- Gifted and Talented and special programs support
- Science and blended learning advisory

## Operations

- Governance support
- Finance and accounting
- Purchasing and contract compliance
- Policies and procedures management
- Legal
- Facilities
- Risk management
- Information technology and data management
- Auditing and compliance
- Regional school site operational support

#### Talent

- Human resources operations
- Recruitment and hiring
- Credentials and qualifications oversight
- Leadership development and career path support

#### External Relations

- o Family and community engagement
- o Facilitation of school site governance councils and LCAP management
- Development
- o Communications

## Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent ("CEO")

The CEO embodies, advocates, and puts into operation the vision, mission, and strategic direction of MPS, and oversees all aspects of the organization, including financial, operational, educational operations, and strategic planning. The CEO is not a member of the Board, but will fulfill the role of the corporation's general manager and will have general supervision, direction, and control over the corporation's business and officers, subject to the control of the Board. The CEO hires, supervises, disciplines, and as needed, dismisses the Charter School's Principal, who, in collaboration with the CEO and the HR department at the MPS Home Office, hires, promotes, disciplines, and as needed, dismisses staff and teachers at the Charter School. The CEO also oversees hiring, supervision, professional development, evaluation and dismissal of all C-level positions at the Home Office. All the C-level positions (those with the word "Chief" in the title) report to the CEO.

The Board ensures that the CEO is evaluated formally at least once annually, and the CEO, in turn, evaluates the Home Office staff.

## Chief Academic Officer ("CAO")

Reporting to the CEO, the CAO is responsible for both sustaining and improving the culture of high academic excellence in all Magnolia Public Schools. The school administrators at each Charter School as well as the curriculum and instructional support staff report directly to the CAO, who has primary authority and accountability for the academic performance of all schools. The CAO provides leadership, vision, and strategic direction for MPS' curriculum, instruction, assessment and school improvement initiatives overseeing professional development for all school leaders and supervising academic management of the Charter Schools.

## Chief Operations Officer ("COO")

The COO leads all internal operations and, working in partnership with the Magnolia's Home Office Executive Team, Board and other leaders, creates the strategic five-year plan and implement new processes and approaches to achieve it. The COO serves as the internal leader of MPS, coordinating the annual operations plan and leading the performance management process that measures and evaluates progress against goals for the MPS. The COO provides for all staff a strong day-to-day leadership presence; bridges all functions and supports an open-door policy among all staff; provides Board support; and leads the organization's Regional Directors and Principals. Additionally, the COO directs and manages the various core business, financial, process, and systems functions of the MPS centralized Human Resources Department. Provides strategic and operational direction to assigned organizational components, and provides leadership to the institution in strategic human resources planning and policy, process, and systems development. Directs organizational structuring and staffing, and oversees the supervision of all managerial, professional, paraprofessional, and support staff in each organizational component. Facilities and Technology Departments report to the COO as well.

## Chief Financial Officer ("CFO")

The CFO is responsible for the financial performance of MPS and each of its schools. The CFO provides effective leadership to ensure sustainability, growth, and expansion and advises the CEO and Board on strategic financial plan, financial analysis and business modeling. The CFO ensures ethical and responsible decision-making, and appropriate financial management and governance practices.

## **Chief Accountability Officer**

The Chief Accountability Officer is responsible for overseeing all non-financial reporting and compliance functions, preparing and implementing the annual surveys, and ensuring that the organization and staff use consistent, rigorous evaluation tools to maintain the efficacy of Magnolia programs.

## **General Counsel and Director of Facilities**

The General Counsel and Director of Facilities is responsible for working with architects, developers and consultants on the acquisition, design and construction of new facilities; planning, budgeting and project managing capital and tenant improvements; negotiating and managing leases; and managing relationships with landlords. The General Counsel and Director of Facilities also reviews vendor contracts.

#### **Director of Student Services**

The Director of Student Services is responsible for the effective coordination, delivery, evaluation and refinement of student services throughout MPS schools, and for ensuring that all programs are aligned with the outcomes for student success. Student services programs include student health services, psychological services, social work services, guidance services, and other student services.

#### **Assistant Director of Student Services**

The Assistant Director of Student Services coordinates the administration, implementation, and evaluation of the MTSS, Positive Behavioral Support Program, Restorative Justice Implementation and support Charter School Deans to create a positive school climate. The Assistant Director of Student Services work collaboratively with all stakeholders to plan and support the implementation of MSA-6's Discipline Policy to create a culture shift that utilizes a restorative framework.

## **Director of Informational Technology**

The Director of Informational Technology develops instructional material, coordinates educational content, and incorporates current technology in specialized fields that provide guidelines to educators.

## **Director of Partnerships**

The Director of Partnerships works under the supervision of CEO, is involved with all aspects of developing and maintaining external program partnerships, corporate partnership and volunteer programs. This position requires an individual who is a strategic thinker, can anticipate and troubleshoot possible issues that may arise in volunteer and external partnership development.

#### **CMO EL Coordinator**

The CMO EL Coordinator reports to the CAO. The Coordinator will provide direct supplemental services to English Learners and teachers of EL at all consortium member schools. The EL Coordinator supports implementation of the LEA's EL Master Plan and Program and ensures that all appropriate EL services are being delivered at each member school.

## **Academic Assistant and Document Controller**

The Academic Assistant and Document Controller will provide assistance to the administrative team. Duties include, but are not limited to: answering phones, producing reports for district and government agencies, and performing diverse managerial responsibilities within the areas and limits of authority as delegated by the school principal.

#### **Data Manager and SIS Coordinator**

The Data Manager and SIS Coordinator will lead the implementation and subsequent operations of both the Student Information System and the Library Automation System within the MPS Site.

#### Senior Financial Analyst ("SFA")

The Senior Financial Analyst will monitor and oversee accounting, budgeting, accounts payable, payroll, cash management, financial reports, audits, and fiscal compliance and reporting. The SFA will ensure that Magnolia has the accounting and compliance systems and procedures in place to support effective school operations and will work closely with the school principals, program and operations leaders, and the accounting staff.

## **Capital Projects and Facilities Manager**

The Capital Projects and Facilities Manager is responsible for managing the design, planning, construction and maintenance of equipment, machinery, buildings and other facilities. The Facilities Manager plans, budgets and schedules facility modifications, including estimates on equipment, labor materials and other related costs.

### **Director of Human Resources**

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 110

The Director of Human Resources is responsible for executing the direction of human resources operations and support across all employee types including faculty and non-faculty employees. This includes interpretation of MPS HR policies, providing consultation and advice on HR issues and concerns, and implementing HR strategies and plans within the MERF.

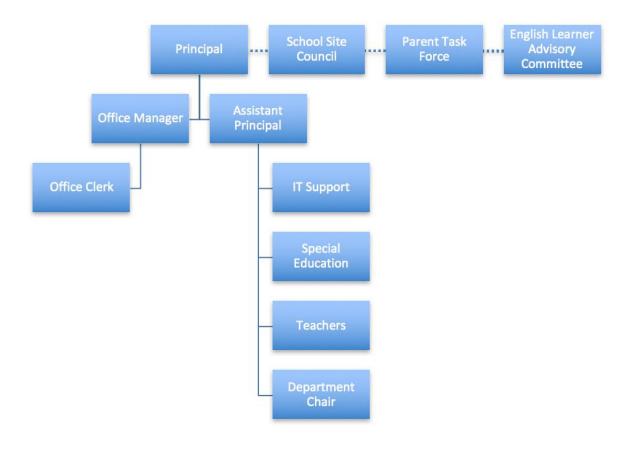
#### **HR Administrator**

This position acts as a liaison between employees and provides administrative support to the HR function as needed (e.g., correspondence generation, record keeping, file maintenance, Human Resource Information System ("HRIS") entry). The HR Administrator also ensures plans are administered in accordance with federal and state regulations and plan provisions are followed.

#### **Math Coach**

The Math Coach is a certified teacher who works with classroom teachers in assisting with the full implementation and monitoring of the District's adopted math program in response to intervention needed for student achievement. The Math Coach conducts demonstration lessons to ensure that all teachers have been trained to an advanced level of delivery and are using the instructional materials as designed.

## **CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF MSA-6**



While full job descriptions are provided as required in Element 5, the following briefly summarizes the leadership team roles at MSA-6:

## **Principal**

The Principal is the senior authority at the Charter School and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Charter School. The Principal is the educational and instructional leader of the Charter School, and collaborates with the Chief Academic Officer on school operations and management. The Principal also reports to the District as required.

## **Assistant Principal**

The Assistant Principal coordinates all academic activities, leads professional development, and oversees curriculum, instruction, and assessment at the Charter School. The Assistant Principal provides for enforcement of school rules, oversees appropriate and reasonable student discipline, and helps students develop positive behavior through a student discipline management system.

### **GOVERNING BOARD COMPOSITION AND MEMBER SELECTION**

The current Board consists of nine dedicated individuals. Each member of the Board has been carefully chosen for his/her passion and commitment to the MPS vision and mission, dedication to education, area of professional expertise, service to the community, and ability to support the vision and mission of MPS. No current employees may serve on the Board of Directors.

Each director shall hold office for five (5) years and until a successor director has been designated and qualified. Board terms are renewable upon mutual consent between the Board and the member. MPS's governance structure provides for staggered terms; this is accomplished through our Bylaws by appointing members of the Board at different times and for staggered terms.

In accordance with the Bylaws, all directors are designated by a vote of the existing Board of Directors. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled in accordance with the Bylaws. Any member of the community may refer a potential candidate to the Board. The Chairman of the Board of Directors will appoint a committee to designate qualified candidates for election to the Board of Directors. This Nominating Committee, comprised of two or more directors, and less than a quorum of the Board, shall make its report and forward it to each board member with a list of all candidates nominated by the committee. The Board shall strive to include directors who have expertise in education, law, finance, non-profit management, community engagement and more. The Board is committed to maintaining community representation on the Board (e.g., persons who live within the communities where our schools reside). Although not required, the Board will strive to create an odd number of Directors for voting purposes. The Board will strive to seat new Directors as promptly as possible upon any vacancy or change in the Board's designated number of directors.

Pursuant to California Education Code § 47604(b), the District reserves the right to appoint a representative to MPS' Board. If the District chooses to do so, MPS may choose to appoint an additional member to ensure that the Board is maintained with an odd number of directors.

## **GOVERNANCE PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS**

### **BOARD MEETINGS AND DUTIES**

All meetings of the Board and its committees shall be called, noticed, and held in compliance with the provisions of the Brown Act. The Board shall meet annually for the purpose of organization, appointment of officers, and the transaction of such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting. This meeting shall be held at a time, date, and place as may be specified and noticed by resolution of the Board.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly at a date and time set by the Board (the second Thursday of the month, unless otherwise stated). Meetings will be held in person in a location within the Board's jurisdiction. The schedule for regular Board meetings will be included in the Charter School's monthly calendar that will be distributed to all parents at the Charter School. Meeting notices and agendas will be made available and posted to the public prior to board meetings (both online posting as well as physical posting at the Charter School site for public viewing on the Charter School's bulletin board, front gate, and/or school entrance). For all regular meetings, an agenda will be posted 72 hours in advance. A book of minutes of all meetings, proceedings, and actions is kept at the MPS Home Office or such other place as the Board may direct according to its Bylaws. All of our approved minutes are accessible online through our Board on Track platform, which is linked on our website giving easy access to parents and stakeholders. In accordance with the Brown Act, special meetings of the Board may be held only after twenty-four (24) hours' notice is given to each director and to the public through the posting of an agenda.

As a multi-jurisdictional entity and per filings with the Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC"), the Brown Act authorizes MPS to hold its meetings in one of several counties across the state. (Cal. Gov. Code §54954(b).) To ensure public participation for Los Angeles County stakeholders, MPS provides video and/or phone conferencing access at one or more of its school sites within LAUSD's boundaries. This allows members of the public to watch and participate in Board meetings via live video and/or phone conferencing capabilities from school sites, homes, or the location of their choice. Information about the participation procedure is included on the agenda and information web pages for the meetings. All participants/speakers have access to language translation services if requested in advance.

A majority of the directors then in office shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of the majority of the directors at the meeting shall be a decision of the Board of Directors. A director may abstain from a vote if he or she believes he or she does not have a sufficient basis for a decision on an item.

Members of the Board may participate in teleconference meetings so long as all of the following requirements in the Brown Act are complied with:

- At a minimum, a quorum consisting of a majority of the members of the Board shall participate
  in the teleconference meeting from locations within the boundaries of a school district in which
  at least one of the Charter Schools operated by the Corporation operates;
- All votes taken during a teleconference meeting shall be by roll call and in compliance with Brown Act Regulations;
- If the Board elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations with each teleconference location being identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting;
- All locations where a member of the Board participates in a meeting via teleconference must be fully accessible to members of the public and shall be listed on the agenda;

- Members of the public must be able to hear what is said during the meeting and shall be provided with an opportunity to address the Board of Directors directly at each teleconference location: and
- The agenda shall indicate that members of the public attending a meeting conducted via teleconference need not give their name when entering the conference call.

MPS has adopted a Conflicts of Interest Policy that complies with the Political Reform Act, Corporations Code, and District policy. The Board of Directors attends an annual in-service for the purposes of training individual Board members on their responsibilities with topics including at minimum, Conflicts of Interest and the Brown Act.

The Board's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Exercises fiduciary role to ensure that the Charter School is properly managed;
- Maintains legal status; ensures the proper paperwork is submitted to governmental agencies;
- Reviews financial and business dealings and exercises proper judgment in avoiding conflicts of interest;
- Approves and monitors the annual budget and budget revisions;
- Reviews and approves periodic financial reports (balance sheet, income statement, changes in financial position);
- Determine the methods of raising revenue and approving all debts;
- Ensures that proper internal controls are in place and maintained;
- Establishes mission and strategic direction for the organization and approves goals and objectives designed to achieve those ends;
- Reviews strategic plan and progress;
- Assesses program evaluation plan;
- Assesses compliance/progress in achieving educational and other outcomes agreed to in the charter petition;
- Develop, adopt and periodically review written policies;
- Hires CEO and evaluates the CEO's performance;
- Assures long-range commitments of resources; establishes a fund development plan and participates in its implementation;
- Establishes and communicates clear expectations of Board membership;
- Assures effective participation of all directors;
- Defines, communicates and assures the role of the Board, committees, and CEO in making decisions;
- Promotes the organization to parents and the general public, including serving as an emissary of the organization to the broader community;
- Promotes cooperative action with other charter and traditional public schools, including activities and occasions when the Charter School should take part in coalitions, shared programs, and joint action;
- Approve awarding of contracts in excess of the delegated authority adopted. Our purchasing software has a control feature that limits approval authority per position as stated in the Fiscal Policy PUR101: up to \$5,000 for Principals, up to \$10,000 for Executive Team, up to \$25,000 for CEO/Superintendent, over \$25,000 for MPS Board of Directors. The Board reserves the right to update its fiscal policies, including approval authorities, from time to time in public meetings.
- Approve charter resolutions as necessary and submit requests for material revisions as necessary to the authorizer for consideration;

 Appoint an administrative panel or act as a hearing body and take action on recommended student expulsions;

- Recruit and appoint new Board members and provide for orientation training;
- Maintain Board operations; and,
- Assess its own performance.

The Board may initiate and carry on any program or activity or may otherwise act in a manner which is not in conflict with or inconsistent with or preempted by any law and which is not in conflict with this charter or the purposes for which MPS and its schools are established.

The Board may execute any powers delegated by law to it and shall discharge any duty imposed by law upon it and may delegate to an employee of MPS any of those duties such as, but not limited to budget approval or revision, contract approval, approval of the fiscal audit and performance reports, and the adoption of Board policies. The Board, however, retains ultimate responsibility over the performance of those powers or duties so delegated. Such delegation will:

- Be in writing;
- Specify the MPS Site designated;
- Describe in specific terms the authority of the Board of Directors being delegated, any conditions on the delegated authority or its exercise and the beginning and ending dates of the delegation; and
- Require an affirmative vote of a majority of Board members.

### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

The Board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the directors then in office, may create one or more committees, each consisting of two or more directors and no one who is not a director, to serve at the pleasure of the Board. Appointments to committees of the Board shall be by majority vote of the authorized number of directors. The Board may appoint one or more directors as alternate members of any such committee, who may replace any absent member at any meeting. Any such committee shall have all the authority of the Board, to the extent provided in the Board's resolution, except that no committee may:

- Take any final action on any matter that, under the Corporation Code, also requires approval of the members or approval of a majority of all members;
- Fill vacancies on the Board or any committee of the Board;
- Amend or repeal bylaws or adopt new bylaws;
- Amend or repeal any resolution of the Board that by its express terms is not so amendable or subject to repeal;
- Create any other committees of the Board or appoint the members of committees of the Board;
- Expend corporate funds to support a nominee for director if more people have been nominated for director than can be elected; or
- Approve any contract or transaction to which the corporation is a party unless delegated such authority by the full board.

Meetings and actions of committees of the Board shall be governed by the Brown Act. Minutes of each meeting shall be kept and shall be filed with the corporate records.

### STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

All stakeholder groups within the school community play a vital role in advancing the vision and mission of MSA-6 and its programs. MPS is committed to ensuring that all stakeholder groups – staff, families, students and community members – have a voice in matters critical to the Charter School's success. MPS strongly encourages parents to participate in and share the responsibility for the educational process and educational results of MSA-6. In addition to parent representatives on the Board of Directors, parents are active participants in developing local school policies and leading efforts to engage the support of the community, making recommendations about issues related to the Charter School, and reviewing parental and community concerns.

In order to promote learning and provide a more positive learning experience for our students, MSA-6 has established a culture of gathering input from parents, students, staff, community members, and other stakeholders through multiple channels including meetings, school events, surveys, home visits, newsletters, and other means of communication. To the extent possible, all stakeholders are invited to be involved in the process of school review and improvement including the development of our annual LCAP and SPSA.

Information/input sessions include Parent Task Force (PTF) meetings, School Site Council (SSC) meetings, English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) meetings, Coffee with the Principal meetings, Board of Directors meetings, Principal meetings, and staff meetings. Parents on our PTF and SSC also serve as our parent advisory committee for LCAP. Along with ELAC, such committees provide for representation of students in need (low income, English learners, foster youth, etc.) Feedback from our parent advisory committee and ELAC provide valuable input for the new LCAP and SPSA. In addition, the Charter School conducts surveys for parents, students, and staff, and the Charter School staff make home visits. These all serve as a way to inform, educate, and gather input & feedback from all critical stakeholders.

The following are the primary mechanisms through which stakeholders as the school site impact decision-making:

### SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL ("SSC")

The School Site Council is a body that works with the Principal to develop, review, and evaluate school programs. The SSC consists of:

- The Principal
- 4 teacher representatives selected by teachers at the Charter School
- 1 other school personnel selected by peers at the Charter School
- 3 parents of students attending the Charter School selected by such parents
- 3 students selected by students attending the Charter School

The SSC meets at least four times a year and makes recommendations and participates in a shared decision-making process regarding matters of interest to families and teachers, including budget priorities, approval of Title I budget, resource allocation, school events/activities and fundraising at the local school level. The SSC also develops and approves Single Plan for Student Achievement, recommends it to the Board for implementation, and evaluates its effectiveness annually.

The Charter School will use their website to update parents and stakeholders with their school calendar, meeting dates, accountability plans, upcoming events, and more.

The Principal is responsible for communicating the SSC's recommendations to the CEO and/or Board (though all parents/teachers are invited to attend any Board meeting per the Brown Act.)

## ENGLISH LEARNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE ("ELAC")

State law mandates each school site with 21 or more students of Limited English Proficiency in attendance, regardless of language, to form a functioning English Learner Advisory Committee. The ELAC will be formed at MSA-6 when the site has 21 or more students of LEP. The ELAC membership will include: Parents of ELs (at least the same percentage of the ELAC membership as ELs constitute of the Charter School's total student population), Charter School staff, and /or community members as long as the minimum percentage requirement for EL parents is maintained. The ELAC will advise the Principal and staff on programs and services for English Learners, and participate in annual goal setting and evaluation of EL achievement and needs (including the LCAP).

## PARENT TASK FORCE ("PTF")

The PTF is the Parent/Guardian Club at MSA-6, with a mission to contribute in building a rich supportive environment for students. The PTF works in partnership with the administration, teachers and parents of MSA-6. All parents or guardians of students currently enrolled in MSA-6 are general members of the PTF, who elect leaders annually including a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The PTF holds monthly members' meetings during the school year.

The PTF facilitates students' success in the 21st century classroom and workforce by promoting and supporting high levels of academic performance, while fostering positive growth in social/emotional behaviors and attitudes. This will include, but is not limited to:

- Supporting the Charter School in its mission;
- Promoting communication and mutual respect among parents, faculty and administration;
- Supporting the educational and social objectives of the Charter School through PTF-sponsored programs;
- Providing direct financial support to the Charter School through organized fundraising events;
- Providing financial assistance to programs that directly impact teachers and students;
- Organizing community-building and civic engagement events.

There are various opportunities for parents to volunteer at MSA-6. For example, they may help in classrooms, lead extra-curricular activities, assist in event planning, tutor, assist with lunch distribution, and attend instructional field trips. All parents are encouraged – but not required – to contribute a minimum of 10 hours per year to the Charter School. Parents are encouraged to volunteer at Back to School Nights, PTF meetings, newsletter and various other opportunities. No child will be excluded from the Charter School or school activities due to the failure of his or her parent or legal guardian to fulfill the encouraged volunteer hours.

#### STUDENT-TEACHER-PARENT PORTAL

As noted above, MSA-6 uses Illuminate, an online web portal, to enable parents, students, and teachers to communicate more efficiently. Teachers have a webpage for every class in which they post course material, homework assignments, projects, course grade statistics and records of students' grades on

quizzes, tests, class participation and homework assignments. Students and parents use confidential passwords to log on.

Families without home computers are encouraged to come to the Charter School and use one of the available computer stations. Classes are held at the Charter School on how to use the portal as well as how to access it via computers, smartphones and free Internet access at public libraries.

The Charter School will use its website to support stakeholder involvement by actively updating the school calendar with meetings and opportunities for parents in both English and Spanish. Feedback from parents is collected through our PTF meetings and our yearly stakeholder surveys.

## **ELEMENT 5: EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS**

"The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the Charter School." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(E).)

## **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that all persons are entitled to equal employment opportunity. Charter School shall not discriminate against applicants or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by California or federal law. Equal employment opportunity shall be extended to all aspects of the employer-employee relationship, including but not limited to recruitment, selection, hiring, upgrading, training, promotion, transfer, discipline, layoff, recall, and dismissal from employment.

## **ESEA/ESSA** AND CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS

Charter School shall adhere to all requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, also known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) that are applicable to teachers and paraprofessional employees. Charter School shall ensure that all teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in accordance with applicable state requirements for certificated employment, including but not limited to the provisions of Education Code section 47605(I). Charter School shall maintain current copies of all teacher credentials and make them readily available for inspection.

### **EMPLOYEE POSITIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

All personnel commit to the MPS mission and vision and abide by the MPS Employee Handbook. All employees' job descriptions and work schedules are reviewed and modified as needed to meet the needs of the Charter School and its students. The job descriptions are based on the job duties for each employee and determined as part of the individual employment agreement.

#### **PRINCIPAL**

The Principal will orchestrate program and service delivery to students through teaching and auxiliary staff. Assistant Principal will assist the Principal in instructional program administration and student activities and services.

Skills and Qualifications for the Principal:

- Bachelor's degree required (preferably in Education, or a STEAM related field)
- Administrative credential or related Master's Degree preferred
- Experience in teaching STEAM related subjects and administrative duties preferred
- Up-to-date computer and technology knowledge
- Knowledge of school law, finance, and curriculum
- Ability to manage personnel
- Ability to interpret policy, procedures, and data
- Proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools

 Demonstrated belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high quality public education

Exceptional organizational, communication, public relations, and interpersonal skills

## Principal's Responsibilities and Duties:

- Monitor instructional and administrative processes to ensure that program activities are related to program outcomes and use findings to take corrective actions
- Report to and consult with the Home Office
- Hire, supervise, and evaluate the faculty and Charter School site staff
- Comply with local, state and federal laws and regulations affecting the Charter School
- Compile, maintain, and file all physical and computerized reports, records, and other documents required by law and MPS policy, including accurate and timely reports of maximum attendance to requisition textbook
- Manage use of school facilities and supervise maintenance of facilities to ensure a clean, orderly and safe campus
- Direct and manage instructional extracurricular and intramural programs
- Work with faculty and students to implement a student discipline management system that encourages positive student behavior and enhances the school climate
- Ensure that school rules are uniformly observed and that student discipline is appropriate and equitable in accordance with the Student/Parent Handbook
- Conduct conferences about student and school issues with parents, students, and teachers
- Demonstrate awareness of school and community needs and initiate activities to meet those needs
- Use appropriate and effective techniques to encourage community and parent involvement
- Communicate with the chartering agency and attend necessary meetings
- Report to the chartering agency when required

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

### Skills and Qualifications for the Assistant Principal:

- Bachelor's degree required (preferably in Education, or a STEAM-related field)
- Administrative and/or teaching credential preferred
- Experience in teaching science and/or technology and administrative duties
- Up-to-date computer and technology knowledge
- Knowledge of school law, finance, and curriculum
- Ability to manage personnel
- Ability to interpret policy, procedures, and data
- Proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools
- Demonstrated belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high quality public education
- Exceptional organizational, communication, public relations, and interpersonal skills

## Assistant Principal's Responsibilities and Duties:

#### Academic Program

- Assist with curriculum developments and improvement
- Supervise textbook review and textbook ordering
- Oversee the development of curriculum, lesson plans and instruction in the classroom
- Update course descriptions and offerings in school manual and school website

- Coordinate teacher and student involvement of after school program
- Responsible for developing and changing of daily class schedule
- Coordinate all academic activities with the department chairs
- Oversee all instructional fieldtrip planning
- Coordinate failing letters and summer school/preparation
- Bring academic and event calendar to weekly administrative meetings

## Student Performance

- Conference with students/parents on academic issues
- Responsible for scheduling and coordination of the tutorial program and instructional after school/Saturday school activities
- Assess grade reports and mid-quarter reports before they go home to families
- Prepare standardized testing schedules, and inventory for standardized testing in a combined effort with the administrative assistant
- Oversee homework, class work, projects, tests, for teachers in Illuminate or equivalent
- Report weekly at administration meeting any teachers who are not using Illuminate or equivalent properly
- Review student progress at the end of each quarter and notify parents of students on academic probation
- Maintain list of high honor/honor students

## School Improvement

- Assist in organization of school improvement plan with staff, parents and community members Personnel Management
  - Hold teacher evaluation conferences based on records of performance evaluation
  - Administration and Fiscal/Facilities Management
  - Oversee school operations in Principal's absence
  - Assist in scheduling student activities by participating in the development of class schedules, teacher assignments and extracurricular activity schedules
  - Oversee student attendance records and assist the office manager on truancy issues
  - Aid in safety drill practices and inspections

### Staff Development

- Hold teacher orientation and in-service training throughout the year
- Regularly prepare items for staff development for weekly faculty meetings and attend weekly administrative meetings
- Conference with teachers on academic issues in the classroom
- Conduct formal and informal teacher observations

## Student Management

- Provide for supervision of students during non-instructional hours
- Help students develop positive behavior through a student discipline management system
- Provide for uniform enforcement of school rules and oversee appropriate and reasonable student discipline
- Hold parent/teacher/student conferences regarding student and school issues
- Demonstrate use of productive and efficient skills to raise community and parent involvement

### Supervision

- Supervise teachers with their before/after school and lunch duties
- Supervise at transition periods, lunch, before and after school

#### Discipline

- Oversee discipline issues for teachers in Illuminate or equivalent
- Coordinate and chair the Charter School's Restorative Justice Committee

## Support Services

- Supervise safety and welfare of students
- Manage support services including transportation, custodial and cafeteria

### **TEACHERS**

The primary role and purpose of a teacher is to provide students with appropriate educational activities and experiences that will enable them to fulfill their potential for intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth. Teachers will help students develop the skills necessary to be productive members of society.

### Skills and Qualifications:

- B.A. or B.S. (as appropriate) degree
- Teaching credential, certificate, permit or other documentation required by laws and regulations as they apply to Charter Schools
- Understanding of subjects assigned
- Knowledge of curriculum and instruction
- Capability of instructing students and managing their behavior
- Proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools
- Demonstrated belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high-quality public education
- Exceptional organizational, communication and interpersonal skills

### Teacher's Responsibilities and Duties:

## **Instructional Strategies**

- Design, write and use lesson plans that conform to the charter's curriculum; ensure written plans are available for review by the Assistant Principal
- Ensure lesson plans show modifications for differences in student learning styles
- Teach instructional subjects according to guidelines established by California Department of Education, charter polices and administrative regulations
- Implement appropriate instructional and learning strategies, activities, materials and equipment to ensure comprehension of learning styles and student needs
- Design instructional activities by using data from student learning style assessments
- Collaborate with special education teachers on student Individualized Education Programs to ensure all modifications are met
- Collaborate with staff to determine charter requirements for the instructional goals, objective and methods
- Produce and oversee teacher aide and volunteer assignments
- Employ technology practices to strengthen the instructional process

### Growth and Development

- Help students assess and enhance their study methods and habits
- Produce formal and informal testing to evaluate student success
- Coordinate and manage extracurricular duties as assigned
- Sponsor outside activities approved by the Principal
- Serve as an example for students, support mission of the charter

## Classroom Management and Organization

 Prepare classroom to enhance learning and to aid in physical, social and emotional development of students

- Control student behavior in agreement with the Student/Parent Handbook
- Ensure necessary and reasonable measures are taken to protect students, equipment, materials and facilities
- Provide input on book, equipment and material selection

### Communication

- Establish communication rapport with parents, students, Principals, deans and teachers through conferences.
- Create and maintain a professional relationship with colleagues, students, parents and community members.
- Present information accurately through clear communication skills

#### Other

- Enrich job skills through professional development activities
- Keep up to date on and abide by state and charter regulations and policies for classroom teachers
- Gather, manage and file all reports, records and other documents required
- Be active in faculty meetings and assist in staff committees as necessary

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER**

The primary role and responsibility of a Special Education Teacher is to provide services to special education students with appropriate learning activities and experiences that will enable them to fulfill their potential for intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth. The Special Education teacher will develop student ability level instructional materials through modified curriculum and prepared lesson plans. The Special Education teacher will conduct work in self-contained, team, departmental or itinerant capacity as necessary. Special education teachers and paraprofessionals who are authorized to handle crisis situations and physically restrain students will complete specialized training in behavioral interventions, such as Crisis Prevention Institute, prior to placement in the classroom.

## Skills and Qualifications:

- B.A. or B.S. degree
- Master's degree preferred
- CA Credential as Education Specialist with mild/moderate or severe designation
- Knowledge of special needs of students in assigned area
- Knowledge of IEP goal setting process and implementation
- Knowledge of curriculum and instruction
- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit or other documentation equivalent to what a special education teacher in other public schools would be required to hold

### Special Education Teacher's Responsibilities and Duties:

- Work in conjunction with students, parents and other members of staff to develop IEPs
- Design, write and use instructional, therapeutic or skill development programs for assigned students and ensure written plan is available for review
- Ensure student needs and learning styles are met through creation and implementation of appropriate instructional and learning strategies, activities, materials and equipment
- Collaborate with classroom teacher on student IEP to ensure all modifications are met and help special education students in regular class when appropriate
- Design instructional activities by using data from student learning style assessments
- Ensure IEP guidelines are met when presenting subject matter

 Use an assortment of media and techniques to meet the needs and capabilities of each student assigned

- Produce and oversee teacher aide and volunteer assignments
- Employ technology practices to strengthen the instructional process
- Produce formal and informal testing to evaluate student success
- Oversee or ensure personal care, medical care and feeding of students as stated in IEP
- Coordinate and manage extracurricular duties as assigned
- Sponsor outside activities approved by the charter principal
- Serve as an example for students, support mission of the charter
- Prepare classroom to enhance learning and to aid in physical, social and emotional development of students
- Control student behavior and implement discipline plan. This includes handling crisis situations and physically restraining students as necessary according to IEPs.
- Collaborate with the classroom teachers regarding student behavior management programs according to IEPs
- Collaborate with Charter School staff and outside resources regarding education, social, medical and personal needs of students
- Ensure necessary and reasonable measures are taken to protect students, equipment, materials and facilities
- Provide input on book, equipment and material selection
- Ensure good communication rapport with parents, students, principals and teachers through conferences
- Create and maintain a professional relationship with colleagues, students, parents and community members
- Present information accurately through clear communication skills
- Enrich job skills through professional development activities
- Keep up to date on and abide by state and charter regulations and policies for classroom teachers
- Gather, manage and file all reports, records and other documents required
- Be active in faculty meetings and assist in staff committees as necessary
- Provide scalable instructional program leadership to all school leaders with specific responsibility for planning, development, implementation, assessment and improvement across all schools.

### **IT COORDINATOR**

The IT Coordinator is responsible for providing assistance to the school site in the area of Information Technology.

## Skills and Qualifications:

- Proven experience as IT coordinator or similar role
- Experience in network management and help desk support is appreciated
- Solid knowledge of IT systems and applications
- Understanding of TCP/IP protocols and LAN/WAN configuration
- Ability to troubleshoot and repair issues
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Great attention to detail

- Excellent organizational and coordination abilities
- BSc/BA in information technology or computer science is preferred
- Certification (CompTIA Network+, CompTIA Security+ etc.) is a plus

## Responsibilities and Duties:

- Institute protocols for the use of IT across departments and projects
- Provide advice on the most suitable IT choices
- Provide technical support or training for systems and networks
- Act as link between end users and higher level support
- Install and configure software and hardware (printers, network cards etc.)
- Monitor system and network performance
- Perform troubleshooting, repairs and data restoration
- Performance maintenance activities (e.g. backups)
- Maintain licenses and upgrade schedules
- Collaborate with other professionals to maintain standards and functionality

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDE**

The primary role and purpose of a Special Education Aide is to provide assistance to the Special Education teacher for the physical and instructional needs of the charter students with disabilities in the special education program. The Special Education Aide will help implement educational programs, including self-help, behavior management and instructional programs for students. The Special Education Aide will work under direct supervision of a certified teacher and indirect supervision of the Principal. Special education aides who are authorized to handle crisis situations and physically restrain students will complete specialized training in behavioral interventions, such as Crisis Prevention Institute, prior to placement in the classroom.

## Skills and Qualifications:

- Capable of working with children with disabilities
- Capable of following verbal and written instructions
- Capable of communicating effectively
- Able to use general office equipment
- Proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools
- Demonstrated belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high quality public education
- High School Diploma

### Special Education Aide's Responsibilities and Duties:

## Instructional Support

- Prepare educational materials and displays for the classroom with the assistance of the classroom teacher
- Assist in keeping class neat and orderly
- Assist teacher in handling administrative records and reports
- Help substitute teachers with classroom layout, or other pertinent classroom management
- Assist with inventory, care and maintenance of equipment

#### Student Management

 Help physically disabled students according to their needs, including but not limited to transferring to and from wheelchairs, lifting, or positioning

- Help students with physical needs and personal care, including but not limited to feeding, bathroom needs, and personal hygiene
- Assist in student behavior management; this includes handling crisis situations and restraining disruptive or dangerous students as needed
- Take responsibility for learning and conforming to each student's special medical, physical, communicative and emotional needs
- Coordinate educational activities assigned by the teacher; help individual students or small groups
- Assist in overseeing students throughout school day, inside and outside classroom; this includes lunchroom, bus and playground duty
- Advise teacher on special needs or problems of individual students

#### Other

- Ensure confidentiality
- Enhance job skills by participating in staff development programs
- Be active in faculty meetings and special events as assigned

#### SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS AND TUTORS

A pool of daily substitute teachers and tutors will be established for tutoring activities during weekdays and weekends under the flexible education program. All tutoring activities at MSA-6 are free of charge for all students.

## **OFFICE PERSONNEL/MANAGER**

Clerical staff will be selected by the Principal on an applicant and interview basis. Selection will be based on experience and the ability to perform the job duties for that position. Skills and Qualifications:

- Capable of working with students
- Capable of following verbal and written instructions
- Capable of communicating effectively
- Knowledge of office management
- Able to use general office equipment
- Up-to-date computer and technology knowledge
- Proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools
- Demonstrated belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high quality public education
- Exceptional organizational, communication, public relations, and interpersonal skills.
- Three years of experience in increasingly responsible role similar to office management
- HS Diploma supplemented by additional training in office
- Bilingual English/Spanish preferred but not required
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Comfort with fast-paces environment

## Responsibilities and Duties:

- Answering phones
- Filing reports
- Enrolling students

- Managing and monitoring office operations in collaboration with the Charter School administration
- Ordering and purchasing supplies and vendor management
- Developing and implementing clerical and administrative procedures for daily school operations
- Preparing correspondence, reports, bulletins, files, forms, memorandums, and performing other duties as assigned
- Bilingual translation and communication with parents

## **PARAPROFESSIONALS**

Charter School shall comply with the Title I paraprofessional requirements<sup>1</sup> as defined by the ESEA: Title I paraprofessionals whose duties include instructional support must have:

- 1. High school diploma or the equivalent, and
- 2. Two years of college (48 units), or
- 3. A. A. degree (or higher), or
- 4. Pass a local assessment of knowledge and skills in assisting in instruction. (This is a locally approved assessment. Local education agencies may develop their own assessment or use an existing assessment so long as it measures the knowledge and skills in assisting in instruction. Many districts, and MPS, use the California Basic Educational Skills Test ["CBEST"] for this purpose).

Individuals who work in food services, cafeteria or playground supervision, personal care services, non-instructional computer assistance, and similar positions do not have to meet these requirements; however, all must demonstrate a proven commitment to the values, mission and vision of Magnolia Public Schools, as well as a belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all students and their families, and their right to a supportive learning environment and high quality public education.

Appropriate records of credentials held by MSA-6 teachers and supporting documentation will be monitored and maintained by the Principal at the Charter School site and Human Resources at the MPS Home Office. Credentials will be monitored annually in compliance with state and federal law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/tq/paraprofessionals.asp

### **ELEMENT 6: HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCEDURES**

"The procedures that the Charter School will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall include the requirement that each employee of the Charter School furnish it with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(F).)

## HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements related to school and student health, safety, and emergency preparedness.

If Charter School occupies and/or operates on a District facility, Charter School shall comply with all District health, safety, and emergency procedures and requirements applicable to District facilities and related operations, and shall be subject to inspection by the District's Facilities Services Division, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, and other District offices in the same manner as other LAUSD campuses.

Charter School shall adopt, implement, and maintain at all times a current, comprehensive, and site-specific Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan ("Plan"), which must include but is not limited to provisions for building and site emergency evacuation, the acquisition and maintenance of adequate onsite emergency supplies. The Plan must include Charter School's requirements and procedures for protecting student health and safety during off-campus school-sponsored activities, including but not limited to field trips and transportation. Charter School shall ensure that all staff members receive annual training on Charter School's health, safety, and emergency procedures, including but not limited to training on bloodborne pathogens, and shall maintain a calendar for, and conduct, emergency response drills for students and staff.

Charter School shall provide all employees, and other persons working on behalf of Charter School who are mandated reporters, with annual training on child abuse detection and reporting, which shall occur within the first six weeks of each school year, or within the first six weeks of a person's employment if employed after the beginning of the school year, in accordance with the requirements of AB 1432 (2014).

Charter School shall stock and maintain the required number and type of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors onsite and provide training to employee volunteers in the storage and use of the epinephrine auto-injector as required by Education Code section 49414 and section 4119.2 of the Business and Professions Code, as they may be amended from time to time.

Charter School shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 49475, with respect to any athletic program (as defined in Education Code § 49475) offered by or on behalf of Charter School.

Charter School shall periodically review, and update and/or modify as necessary, its Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan, and keep it readily available for on-site use. Charter School shall provide a copy of the Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan for review upon CSD request.

# FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Charter School, including its employees, officers, and representatives, shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Education Code section 49060 et seq. at all times.

## CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CLEARANCES AND FINGERPRINTING

Charter School shall comply with all requirements of Education Code sections 44237 and 45125.1. Charter School shall designate and maintain at all times at least one Custodian of Records duly authorized by the California Department of Justice.

Page 128

Charter School shall maintain on file and available for inspection evidence that (1) Charter School has performed criminal background checks and cleared for employment all employees prior to employment; (2) Charter School has obtained certification from each of its contracting entities/independent contractors that the entity/contractor has conducted required criminal background clearances for its employees prior to provision of schoolsite services and/or any contact with students, and has requested subsequent arrest notification service; and (3) Charter School has performed criminal background checks and cleared for service all volunteers not directly supervised by staff and who may have contact with students. Charter School shall also ensure that it requests and receives subsequent arrest notifications from the California Department of Justice for all employees and volunteers not directly supervised by staff. Upon request, Charter School shall provide a copy of Department of Justice confirmation of Custodian of Records status for each Custodian of Records. Charter School, including its administrators and officers, shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 44030.5.

# IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

Charter School shall require all employees, and any volunteer or vendor/contracting entity employee who may have frequent or prolonged contact with students, to undergo a risk assessment and/or be examined and determined to be free of active tuberculosis (TB) within the period of 60 days prior to employment/service, or otherwise meet the requirements of Education Code section 49406. Charter School shall maintain TB clearance records and certificates on file.

Charter School shall comply with all federal and state legal requirements, including but not limited to the requirements of SB 277 (2015), related to student immunization, health examination, and health screening, including but not limited to screening for vision, hearing, and scoliosis, to the same extent as would be required if the students were attending a non-charter public school. Charter School shall maintain student immunization, health examination, and health screening records on file.

## SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Safe Place to Learn Act, Education Code section 234 et seq.

## SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY

If Charter School serves students in grades 7-12, Charter School shall comply with the requirements of AB 2246 (2016), codified in Education Code section 215, including but not limited to the requirement that the school's pupil suicide prevention policy shall be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals, and suicide prevention experts.

Charter School shall provide the CSD with a copy of its pupil suicide prevention policy for review upon request.

### **CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS**

The Human Resources Director and Human Resources Administrator serve as the Custodians of Records for MSA-6.

### STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

MSA-6 strives to ensure the health and wellness of all students at our school, as a critical component of each student's academic and life success. A nutritious hot lunch program, along with breakfast and snacks, are provided for all students via Better 4 You meals through the National School Lunch Program. Students have ample opportunities for physical activity and development of healthy lifestyles through P.E. classes, as well as after-school activities including competitive sports clubs for basketball, volleyball, soccer and flag football.

MSA-6 will promote healthy food and beverage choices for all students throughout the school campus, as well as encourage participation in school meal programs. This promotion will occur through implementing evidence-based healthy food promotion techniques through the school meal programs using Smarter Lunchroom techniques<sup>11</sup>. MSA-6 will teach, model, encourage and support healthy eating by all students. Charter School will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health. MSA-6 will include in its health education curriculum essential topics on healthy eating such as relationship between healthy eating and personal health and disease prevention as well as topics on physical activity including the physical, psychological, or social benefits of physical activity. Charter School has a school wellness policy that meets the minimum Federal Standards under the final rule of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

During weekly middle school students' Life Skills classes, students engage in health education, including nutrition and the importance of physical activity, drug and alcohol abuse awareness, healthy relationships, sexual health and more. The Charter School conducts regular health, vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings. Counseling services are provided for all students in need of additional social and emotional health support.

### **Suicide Prevention Support**

The MPS Board of Directors recognizes that suicide is a major cause of death among youth and should be taken seriously. To attempt to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Board of Directors has developed prevention strategies and intervention procedures.

In compliance with Education Code section 215, the MPS Suicide Prevention Policy has been developed in consultation with MPS and community stakeholders, MPS school-employed mental health professionals (e.g., school counselors, psychologists, social workers, nurses), administrators, other

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://www.smarterlunchrooms.org/scorecard-tools/smarter-lunchrooms-strategies

school staff members, parents/guardians/caregivers, students, local health agencies and professionals, law enforcement, and community organizations in planning, implementing, and evaluating MPS' strategies for suicide prevention and intervention. MPS must work in conjunction with local government agencies, community-based organizations, and other community supports to identify additional resources.

To ensure the policies regarding suicide prevention are properly adopted, implemented, and updated, MPS shall appoint an individual (or team) to serve as the suicide prevention point of contact for MPS. This policy shall be reviewed and revised at least annually in conjunction with the previously mentioned community stakeholders.

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

The Charter School shall adhere to an Emergency Preparedness Handbook containing procedures for safety, drafted specifically to the needs of the Charter School facility. This handbook includes, but not be limited to, the following responses: fire, flood, earthquake, terrorist threats, and hostage situations. All staff members receive detailed training on emergency procedures. The handbook shall be kept on file for review.

Staff shall receive training in emergency response, including appropriate "first responder" training or its equivalent.

### DRUG FREE/ALCOHOL FREE/SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

The Charter School shall function as a drug, alcohol and smoke-free environment.

## **FACILITY SAFETY**

The Charter School shall comply with Education Code Section 47610 by utilizing facilities that are either compliant with the Field Act or facilities that are compliant with the California Building Standards Code. The Charter School agrees to test sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, and fire alarms annually at its facilities to ensure that they are maintained in an operable condition at all times. The Charter School shall conduct fire drills as required under Education Code Section 32001.

### **COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The Charter School is committed to providing a school that is free from discrimination and sexual harassment, as well as any harassment based upon the actual or perceived characteristics of race, religion, creed, color, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, national origin, ancestry, ethnic group identification, genetic information, age, medical condition, marital status, sexual orientation, sex and pregnancy, physical or mental disability, childbirth or related medical conditions, military and veteran status, denial of family and medical care leave, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. MSA-6 shall develop a comprehensive policy to prevent and immediately remediate any concerns about discrimination or harassment at the Charter School (including employee to employee, employee to student, and student to employee misconduct). Misconduct of this nature is very serious and will be promptly addressed in accordance with MSA-6's policies.

## **FERPA**

MPS, its employees and officers, will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") at all times.

#### **STUDENT RECORDS**

The Charter School will continue to adhere to procedures related to confidentially and privacy of student records. Charter School will keep student records in a locked file cabinet to which only designated staff will have keys, in accordance with MPS policies. Student special education files will be kept in separate locked cabinets to which only staff designated to have access shall have keys. Electronic student information systems will use password protected accounts to ensure the same limits on access to student files. In the event that a student enters the Charter School upon transfer from an existing district school, the student's records will be requested from the respective district.

Page 131

#### **ELEMENT 7: MEANS TO ACHIEVE RACIAL AND ETHNIC BALANCE**

"The means by which the school will achieve a racial and ethnic balance among its pupils that is reflective of the general population residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the school district to which the charter petition is submitted." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(G).)

## **COURT-ORDERED INTEGRATION**

Charter School shall comply with all requirements of the *Crawford v. Board of Education, City of Los Angeles* court order and the LAUSD Integration Policy adopted and maintained pursuant to the Crawford court order by the District's Student Integration Services (collectively the "Court-ordered Integration Program"). The Court-ordered Integration Program applies to all schools within or chartered through LAUSD.

Charter School has set forth below its <u>initial</u> plan for achieving and maintaining the LAUSD's Racial and Ethnic Balance goal of a 70:30 or 60:40 ratio. (*Ratio represents the percentage of Predominantly Hispanic Black Asian Other (PHBAO)* <u>compared</u> to Other White (OW)). The written plan lists specific dates and locations of recruitment activities that Charter School will undertake in order to achieve the District's Racial and Ethnic Balance goal. Charter School shall monitor the implementation and outcomes of the initial plan, and modify it as necessary throughout the term of the Charter to achieve the District's goal. Upon request, Charter School shall provide the District with a copy of its current written plan.

The District receives neither average daily attendance allocations nor Court-ordered Integration Program cost reimbursements for Charter School students. The District may receive the Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant (TIIBG) for its Court-ordered Integration Program. The District retains sole discretion over the allocation of TIIBG funding, where available, and cannot guarantee the availability of this funding.

### **District Demographics**

To be reflective of the general population residing within LAUSD, MSA-6 will pursue outreach throughout the community to maintain and as needed increase the diversity of enrollment to achieve the District's ethnic balance goals.

### **Recruitment Plan**

MSA-6 pursues a wide variety of venues for the distribution of information about the Charter School, such as local events, community centers, parks and recreation activities, social service agencies, shopping centers, apartment complexes and other dwellings. The following recruitment plan lists sample activities that MSA-6 will undertake in order to achieve its Racial and Ethnic Balance goal.

Outreach efforts will use English, Spanish, and any other language needed, based on the needs of the community. The MPS and MSA-6 website includes comprehensive information about our educational program under our Academics tab on the website. While open to all students, MSA-6 focuses outreach efforts within a 10-mile radius of the Charter School's location.

MSA-6 uses a variety of strategies to recruit a diverse population including:

- Direct mailing of 10,000 postcards to the parents/guardians who have a/an child/ren attending grades 6 through 8th grades; (October)
- Distributing flyers at key locations to reach socioeconomically disadvantaged members of the community. Key locations include community meeting points: libraries, religious gathering places, family centers, local grocery stores, playgrounds, recreation centers and/or sports clubs, and coffee establishments; (October-May)
- Holding presentations at community meetings at the key locations listed above; (October-May)
- Hosting Open Houses and providing tours of the Charter School on a regular basis; (October-May)
  - A Spanish-speaking representative will assist non-English speaking parents of prospective students. Should the need arise, other non-English languages will be similarly accommodated.
- Hosting individual/family meetings;
- Doing neighborhood walks in the community (October-May).

As needed, school staff and volunteers may go door-to-door, talk to families, and hand out applications, and use press and advertising campaigns in local Spanish and English media.

MSA-6 uses a variety of strategies to recruit a diverse population outlined in our Recruitment Plan. With our current partnerships in the City of Los Angeles we are able to participate in community events with Councilmember Paul Koretz. In addition to our outreach strategies in the community we also use media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter, and website as well as local ads on magazines/newspapers.

## **Specific Actions**

Date	Event	Location
October	City of Palms Middle School Panel	Los Angeles, CA
October-May	Flyers at Palms-Rancho Park Library, West Los Angeles Regional Library, Westwood Branch Library, Pico Branch Library	Los Angeles, CA
October	Multicultural Festival	MSA-6
October	Mailing Campaign	Surrounding area
October-May	Social Media Campaign	Online
October-May	Run Advertisement in LA Times	Surrounding area
April	School Event	MSA-6
May	Mailing Campaign advertising Summer School	Surrounding area

Following the conclusion of the open enrollment/lottery application period each year (see Element 8), the CEO and Board will review data regarding the efficacy of our outreach efforts and make any necessary changes to ensure an appropriate racial/ethnic balance of students.

## **ELEMENT 8: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

"Admission requirements, if applicable." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(H).)

## **DOCUMENTATION OF ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES**

Charter School shall maintain complete and accurate records of its annual admissions and enrollment processes, including but not limited to documentation of implementation of lottery and waitlist criteria and procedures in accordance with the terms of the Charter. These records shall be made available to the District upon request.

## **HOMELESS AND FOSTER YOUTH**

Charter School shall adhere to the provisions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. Charter School shall provide specific information, in its outreach materials, websites, at community meetings, open forums, and regional center meetings, that notifies parents that Charter School is open to enroll and provide services for all students, and provides a standard District contact number for access to additional information regarding enrollment.

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws regarding homeless and foster youth, including but not limited to the provisions of AB 379 (2015) and Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 48850) of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, as amended from time to time. Charter School shall extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to the applicable provisions of AB 379.

### Non-Discrimination

Charter School shall not require a parent/legal guardian/student to provide information regarding a student's disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, legal or economic status, primary language or English Learner status, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code, or any other information that would violate federal or state law, prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment. Charter School may request, at the time of, and as part of, conducting its lottery process, the provision of information necessary to apply specific admissions preferences set forth in this Charter.

Charter School shall not request or require submission of a student's IEP, Section 504 Plan, or any other record or related information prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment.

In accordance with AB 699 enacted on October 4, 2017, the school's non-discrimination provision shall include immigration status.

Charter School shall not require a parent/legal guardian/student to provide information regarding a student's disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, legal or economic status, primary language or English Learner status, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, immigration

status, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code, or any other information that would violate federal or state law, prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment. Charter School may request, at the time of, and as part of, conducting its lottery process, the provision of information necessary to apply specific admissions preferences set forth in this Charter.

#### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

A Lottery Application Form is required for each student. No other requirements (test scores, transcripts, behavior records, etc.) are required. If the number of students who wish to attend the school exceeds the openings available, entrance shall be determined by a single random public drawing in accordance with Education Code Section 47605(d)(2) and as set forth below.

#### **LOTTERY PREFERENCES AND PROCEDURES**

An open application period will be publicly announced each year and communicated during outreach/recruiting efforts detailed in Element 7. The Charter School will include specific information in its outreach materials, on the Charter School website, at community meetings and open forums notifying parents of the Charter School's open application period and lottery dates. MSA-6 will ensure that all application materials will reference the application deadline and proposed lottery dates as well as provide complete information regarding application procedures, key dates, and enrollment preferences (in the case of a lottery) and requirements consistent with the approved charter.

In accordance with Education Code Sections 49011 and 47605(d)(2)(B)(iv), admission preferences shall not require mandatory parental volunteer hours as a criterion for admission or continued enrollment.

## **ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE**

Pursuant to Education Code § 47605(d)(2)(B), if the number of pupils who wish to attend the Charter School exceeds the school's capacity, attendance, except for existing pupils of the Charter School, shall be determined by a public random drawing (lottery). In the event of a lottery for any impacted grade level(s), with the <u>exception</u> of existing students who are guaranteed enrollment in the following school year, enrollment preferences will be given. In accordance with Education Code, priority will be given first to students who reside within the attendance boundaries of LAUSD, as determined by their guardian's home address, with additional preferences given in the following order:

- Siblings of students admitted to or attending the Charter School
- Children of Board members or employees of Magnolia Public Schools, not to exceed 10% of students admitted through the lottery process.
- Students matriculating from other Magnolia Public Schools
- Foster youth or homeless students<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Disclosure of foster youth or homeless student status is not required at the time of application. However, families that would like their students to be granted a preference on that basis may apply using the preference, and MSA-6 will verify eligibility at the time of enrollment.

The Charter School and the District agree to adhere to the requirements related to admission preferences as set forth in Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B)(i)-(iv).

We provide preference for siblings of admitted students for the convenience of families. Children of Board members and employees are provided preference in deference to the work and commitment of these individuals to Magnolia and the instructional model. No more than 10% of students admitted through the lottery process annually will be drawn from this category. Finally, we know that Foster and homeless youth need a strong school to attend. As a school, we make sure that they can be accepted at our campus and go ahead of others in the waitlist as part of the lottery.

#### **LOTTERY PROCEDURE**

The public random drawing ("lottery") will take place within 30 days of the closing of the open application period. The Charter School will choose a date and time (preferably on the weekend or on a weekday evening) so that most interested parties will be able to attend. (Typically, the open application period starts on the first day of school and ends by mid-January, and if applicable, a lottery is held at least two weeks after the open application period ends.)

MSA-6's office manager will inform parents of all applicants and all interested parties of the rules to be followed during the lottery process, location, date and time of the lottery through mail, e-mail, Charter School website, phone, and other available outlets prior to the lottery date. The lottery will be held at the Charter School site if the Charter School facility can accommodate all interested parties. Otherwise, the Charter School will secure a meeting room that is large enough to accommodate all parties and to allow them to observe the lottery. Notice will include an explanation that parents/guardians do not need to be present at the lottery, but may attend if they choose to do so.

In the lottery, all names in the first preference group are drawn by the notary public and listed in order for each grade level. Names from the second and third preferences are drawn in the same way according to preference order if space is available. Once the grade level capacity is met, the remaining students' names will continue to be drawn randomly and placed in the order they are drawn on the waiting list. The students who do not apply in the open enrollment period are added to the end of the waiting list in the order they applied.

MSA-6 will invite a LAUSD representative to serve as an official observer of the lottery to verify the lottery procedures are fairly executed. Application forms, the manual record of all lottery participants and their assigned lottery numbers, and other lottery-related documents will be physically filed on campus, and lottery results and waiting lists will be readily available in the Charter School's main office for inspection upon request. Each application form will be kept on file for the academic year with the applicant's assigned lottery number in the Charter School database and on his or her enrollment application.

#### **NOTIFICATIONS OF ADMISSION STATUS**

Notifications of admission status will be mailed to all applicants within two weeks of the lottery. Enrollment packets will be sent to admitted students; students not admitted will be informed by the office manager of their waiting list priority number as determined by the admissions lottery or application order. If the enrollment packets are not returned to the school, in person or by mail, complete within 10 business days from the date of postage, then admission for that student is forfeited,

and an admission notice will be mailed to the next student on the waiting list. The school's office manager and/or office staff will be available to assist families in completing this paperwork if needed.

Vacancies that occur during the school year will be filled according to the wait list order determined during the lottery drawing except that homeless and foster care students will be moved to the top of the waiting list to provide priority placement.

Foster youth and homeless students will be allowed to apply for enrollment in accordance with current MPS enrollment policies even if the parent/guardian is unable to provide the school with the records normally required for enrollment such as birth certificate, proof of residency, or other documentation. Charter School main office shall immediately contact the school last attended by the student to obtain the relevant records. If the student needs to obtain immunizations or does not possess immunization or other medical records, the office shall assist the parent/guardian in obtaining the necessary immunizations or records for the student. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the Charter School main office shall assist in the enrollment process. Unaccompanied youth shall be immediately enrolled if space is available even if unable to provide the school with the records normally required for enrollment, and despite lack of parent or legal guardian's supervision or permissions, or "power of attorney" by supervising adult.

When an offer occurs during the school year that is not filled by a homeless or foster care student, families will be contacted by the school site office manager and/or office staff through a call and email in the order of the wait list and will be given 48 hours to decide whether or not to accept a space at the Charter School. Families can respond via phone, in writing or by accepting the seat through the online enrollment system. In the event that no such wait list is required enrollment will be made available on a first come, first served basis to the next interested family at the appropriate grade level.

The waitlist for the current school year remains active until the end of the school year and does not "roll over"; applicants must reapply for the lottery annually if the Charter School is unable to offer them admission for the current year.

### **ELEMENT 9: ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDITS**

"The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(I).)

Charter School shall provide for an annual audit that shall be conducted in compliance with applicable state and federal laws, including but not limited to the requirements of Education Code sections 47605(b)(5)(I) and 41020 as they may be amended from time to time. Charter School shall ensure compliance with the requirements of section 41020(f)(2), which makes it unlawful, absent an Education Audits Appeal Panel waiver, for a public accounting firm to provide audit services to a local educational agency if the lead audit partner, or coordinating audit partner, having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for that local educational agency in each of the six previous years.

The following reports will be submitted to LAUSD, in the required format and within timelines to be specified by LAUSD, each year:

- a. Provisional Budget Spring prior to operating fiscal year
- Final Budget July of the budget fiscal year
- c. First Interim Projections November of operating fiscal year
- d. Second Interim Projections February of operating fiscal year
- e. Unaudited Actuals July following the end of the fiscal year
- f. Audited Actuals December 15 following the end of the fiscal year
- g. Classification Report monthly according to Charter School's Calendar
- h. Statistical Report monthly according to Charter School's Calendar of Reports In addition:
  - P1, first week of January
  - P2, first week of April
- i. Instructional Calendar annually five weeks prior to first day of instruction
- j. Other reports as requested by the District

### **ANNUAL AUDIT PROCEDURES**

Each fiscal year an independent auditor will conduct an audit of the financial affairs of MSA-6 to verify the accuracy of the Charter School's financial statements, attendance and enrollment accounting practices, and internal controls. The auditor shall be hired by the Board of Directors of the Charter School. The books and records of the Charter School will be kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and as required by applicable law, the audit will employ generally accepted accounting procedures. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions within the California Code of Regulations governing audits of Charter Schools as published in the State Controller's K-12 Audit Guide. MPS's Board of Directors shall select an independent auditor through a request for proposal format. The auditor shall have, at a minimum, a CPA and educational institution audit experience and will be approved by the State Controller on its published list as an educational audit provider. To the extent required under applicable federal law, the audit scope will be expanded to include items and processes specified in applicable Office of Management and Budget Circulars.

### Procedures:

The Board of Directors will appoint an Audit Committee by January 1 of each year.

- The Audit Committee may include persons who are members of the Board, but may not include any
  the staff of the Charter School, including the CEO. In addition, any person with expenditure
  authorization or recording responsibilities within the organization may not serve on the committee.
- The Audit Committee will be responsible for identifying an audit firm from the State Controller's list
  of approved educational audit providers by March 1 of each year, unless the existing contract is a
  multi-year contract. The Board of Directors hires the audit firm after the Audit Committee performs
  a rigid search and interview process.
- The Audit Committee will be responsible for reviewing the results of the annual audit and
  developing a corrective action plan to address all relevant weaknesses noted by the auditor,
  describing how the exceptions and deficiencies have been or will be resolved to the satisfaction of
  the District along with an anticipated timeline for the same. MPS works with the oversight entity to
  establish action items for correction if needed. Implementation recommendations of procedures is
  monitored closely by executive staff.
- The Board of Directors will review and approve the audit no later than December 15.
- The CFO will be responsible for submitting the audit to all reporting agencies including the District, the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, the State Controller, and to the CDE no later than December 15 of each year.
- Audit appeals or requests for summary review shall be submitted to the Education Audit Appeals Panel ("EAAP") in accordance with applicable law.
- The independent financial audit of the Charter School is a public record to be provided to the public upon request.

### **ELEMENT 10: SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION PROCEDURES**

"The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(J).)

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Charter School shall provide due process for all students, including adequate and timely notice to parents/guardians and students of the grounds for all suspension and expulsion recommendations and decisions and their due process rights regarding suspension and expulsion, including rights of appeal.

Charter School shall ensure that its policies and procedures regarding suspension and expulsion will be periodically reviewed, and modified as necessary, in order to conform to changes in state law.

Charter School shall ensure that its staff is knowledgeable about and complies with the District's Discipline Foundation Policy and/or current equivalent policy, as required by the Modified Consent Decree. Charter School shall comply with the terms of the School Discipline Policy and School Climate Bill of Rights resolution adopted by the LAUSD Board of Education on May 6, 2013.

Charter School shall be responsible for the appropriate interim placement of students during and pending the completion of Charter School's student expulsion process and shall facilitate the post-expulsion placement of expelled students.

Charter School shall document and implement the alternatives to suspension and expulsion that Charter School utilizes in response to attendance-related concerns, e.g. truancy or excessive tardiness.

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Charter School shall establish and implement policies and procedures to ensure full compliance with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the discipline of students with disabilities. If a student is recommended for expulsion and the student receives or is eligible for special education, pending the completion of the expulsion process, Charter School shall identify and provide special education programs and services at an appropriate interim educational placement determined in coordination with the LAUSD Division of Special Education.

In the case of a student who has an Individualized Education Program ("IEP"), or a student who has a Section 504 Plan, Charter School shall ensure that it follows correct disciplinary procedures to comply with the mandates of state and federal laws, including IDEA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Plan of 1973. As set forth in the MOU regarding special education between the District and Charter School, an IEP team will meet to conduct a manifestation determination and to discuss alternative placement utilizing the District's Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual. Prior to recommending expulsion for a student with a Section 504 Plan, Charter School's administrator will convene a Link Determination meeting to ask the following two questions:

- A. Was the misconduct caused by, or directly and substantially related to the student's disability?
- B. Was the misconduct a direct result of the Charter School's failure to implement Section 504?

## **NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT**

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 141

Upon expelling <u>any</u> student, Charter School shall notify the Charter Schools Division by submitting an expulsion packet to the CSD immediately or as soon as practicable, which shall contain:

- Completed "Notification of Charter School Expulsion" [form available from the CSD website or office], including attachments as required on the form
- Documentation of the expulsion proceeding, including statement of specific facts supporting the expulsion and documentation that Charter School's policies and procedures were followed
- Copy of parental notice of expulsion hearing
- Copy of expulsion notice provided to parent stating reason for expulsion, term of expulsion, rehabilitation plan, reinstatement notice with eligibility date and instructions for providing proof of student's compliance for reinstatement, appeal process, and options for enrollment
- If the student is eligible for Special Education, documentation related to expulsion in compliance with IDEA and the MCD, including the Expulsion Analysis page of the pre-expulsion IEP
- If the student is eligible for Section 504 accommodations, documentation that Charter School conducted a Link Determination meeting to address two questions:
  - A. Was the misconduct caused by, or directly and substantially related to the student's disability?
  - B. Was the misconduct a direct result of Charter School's failure to implement Section 504 Plan?

Notwithstanding and apart from the documentation sent to the Charter Schools Division as indicated above, if the student is a resident of a school district other than LAUSD, Charter School must notify the superintendent of the student's district of residence within 30 days of the expulsion. Additionally, upon request of the receiving school district, Charter School shall forward student records no later than 10 school days from the date of the request as stated in Education Code section 49068 (a) and (b).

### **OUTCOME DATA**

Charter School shall gather and maintain all data related to placement, tracking, and monitoring of student suspensions, expulsions, and reinstatements, and make such outcome data readily available to the District upon request.

### REHABILITATION PLANS

Pupils who are expelled from Charter School shall be given a rehabilitation plan upon expulsion as developed by Charter School's governing board at the time of the expulsion order, which may include, but is not limited to, periodic review as well as assessment at the time of review for readmission. Terms of expulsion should be reasonable and fair with the weight of the expelling offense taken into consideration when determining the length of expulsion. Therefore, the rehabilitation plan should include a date not later than one (1) year from the date of expulsion when the pupil may apply to Charter School for readmission. Charter School shall inform parents in writing of its processes for reinstatement and applying for expungement of the expulsion record.

## **READMISSION**

Charter School's governing board shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for the filing and processing of requests for readmission and the process for the required review of all expelled pupils for readmission. Upon completion of the readmission process, Charter School's governing board shall readmit the pupil,

unless Charter School's governing board makes a finding that the pupil has not met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or continues to pose a danger to campus safety. A description of the procedure shall be made available to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian at the time the expulsion order is entered and the decision of the governing board, including any related findings, must be provided to the pupil and the pupil's parent/guardian within a reasonable time.

## REINSTATEMENT

Charter School's governing board shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for processing reinstatements, including the review of documents regarding the rehabilitation plan. Charter School is responsible for reinstating the student upon the conclusion of the expulsion period in a timely manner.

## **GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT**

Charter School shall comply with the federal Gun-Free Schools Act.

## In accordance with E.C. 47605(J)

- J) The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled from the Charter School for disciplinary reasons or otherwise involuntarily removed from the Charter School for any reason. These procedures, at a minimum, shall include an explanation of how the Charter School will comply with federal and state constitutional procedural and substantive due process requirements that is consistent with all of the following:
- (i) For suspensions of fewer than 10 days, provide oral or written notice of the charges against the pupil and, if the pupil denies the charges, an explanation of the evidence that supports the charges and an opportunity for the pupil to present his or her side of the story.
- (ii) For suspensions of 10 days or more and all other expulsions for disciplinary reasons, both of the following:
- (I) Provide timely, written notice of the charges against the pupil and an explanation of the pupil's basic rights.
- (II) Provide a hearing adjudicated by a neutral officer within a reasonable number of days at which the pupil has a fair opportunity to present testimony, evidence, and witnesses and confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and at which the pupil has the right to bring legal counsel or an advocate.
- (iii) Contain a clear statement that no pupil shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the pupil has been provided written notice of intent to remove the pupil no less than five schooldays before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian or, if the pupil is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the pupil's educational rights holder, and shall inform him or her of the right to initiate the procedures specified in clause (ii) before the effective date of the action. If the pupil's parent, guardian, or educational rights holder initiates the procedures specified in clause (ii), the pupil shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. For purposes of this clause, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include suspensions specified in clauses (i) and (ii).

#### **DISCIPLINE FOUNDATION POLICY**

The following Student Suspension and Expulsion Policy (Policy) has been established in order to promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of all students at MSA-6. Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. In creating the Student Suspension and Expulsion Policy, the Charter School has reviewed Education Code Section 48900 et seq. which describes the non-Charter Schools' list of offenses and procedures to establish its list of offenses and procedures for suspensions and expulsions. The language that follows closely mirrors the language of Education Code Section 48900 et seq. The Charter School is committed to annual review of policies and procedures surrounding suspensions and expulsions and, as necessary, modification of the lists of offenses for which students are subject to suspension or expulsion.

Page 143

When the Policy is violated, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction. This Policy shall serve as MSA-6's policy and procedures for student suspension and expulsion, and it may be amended from time to time without the need to amend the charter so long as the amendments comport with legal requirements and are not material revisions. Suspended or expelled students shall be excluded from all school and school-related activities unless otherwise agreed during the period of suspension or expulsion.

This Policy and its Procedures will clearly describe discipline expectations, and it will be printed, distributed and discussed with students and families as part of the Student/Parent Handbook which is sent to each student at the beginning of the school year and signed by their guardian.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of the Policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property.

Discipline includes but is not limited to advising and counseling students, conferring with parents/guardians, detention during and after school hours, use of alternative educational environments, suspension and expulsion.

## POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

MSA-6 staff has committed itself to encouraging and supporting the attainment of academic skills as well as social skills, such as listening, friendship-making, problem solving, and alternatives to aggression. To inspire and encourage students to develop their potential in all of these areas, the following reinforcements will be used for positive behavior:

- Individual awards/recognition
- Classroom awards/recognition
- Certificates
- Displays
- Positive/Encouraging contact with parent/guardian (certificate, post card, phone message)
- Special activities (instructional field trips, movie nights, picnics, etc.)
- Publications
- Assemblies
- Positive points

Positive student behavior and improvements will be acknowledged and encouraged by the MSA-6 staff. Teachers will not only report discipline issues on the school information system, Illuminate or equivalent, but also positive behaviors and accomplishments. Parents will also be informed of positive behavior and improvements via phone, email, and home visits. Students will receive certificates and/or rewards for outstanding performance and behaviors.

## **ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION**

To intervene in student behavior, MPS has a progressive discipline plan in place at MSA-6. This plan is published at the beginning of each school year in the Student/Parent handbook. The Student/Parent Handbook also includes a school-parent-student compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the Charter School and parents will develop a partnership to help students achieve high academic and behavioral standards. The discipline plan includes information about student expectations and progression of disciplinary procedures from day-to-day discipline to suspension and expulsion. MSA-6 provides its staff with Professional Development in the area of restorative practices alternatives to suspension, and positive behavior supports.

As part of its Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework and Response to Intervention (RTI) Programs, MSA-6 implements Positive Behavior and Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to address student discipline issues including suspension. This tiered approach lists intervention strategies and programs based on the level of fractions.



MSA-6 implements prevention strategies for each tier as presented below:

Tier	Prevention Description
l.	Preventing the development of new cases (incidence) of problem
Primary	behaviors by implementing high quality learning environments for
(Universal)	all students and staff and across all settings (i.e., school-wide,
	classroom, and non- classroom).
II.	Reducing the number of existing cases (prevalence) of problem
Secondary	behaviors that are presenting high risk behaviors and/or not
(Targeted)	responsive to primary intervention practices by providing more
	focused, intensive, and frequent small group-oriented responses in
	situations where problem behavior is likely.
III.	Reducing the intensity and/or complexity of existing cases
Tertiary	(prevalence) of problem behavior that are resistant to and/or
(Intensive)	unlikely to be addressed by primary and secondary prevention
	efforts by providing most individualized responses to situations
	where problem behavior is likely.

MSA-6 believes that alternatives to suspension align with our schoolwide positive behavior support plan. Following is a list of alternatives to be considered before suspending a student: warning, phone call

home, parent conference, teacher/administrative detention, written assignment/research/presentation, loss of privileges, behavior contract, parent shadowing, mentorship (peer/teacher), referral (counseling, SST, Principal/Assistant Principal), assigning volunteer work/community service, Saturday school, and inschool suspension.

### **GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION**

#### **JURISDICTION**

A student may be suspended for prohibited misconduct as identified below under the heading, "Enumerated Offenses," if the act is (1) related to school activity; (2) school attendance occurring at MSA-6; or (3) a MSA-6 sponsored event. A student may be suspended for acts that are enumerated below and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, and of the following:

- a) while on school grounds;
- b) while going to or coming from school;
- c) during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus; or
- d) during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

#### **ENUMERATED OFFENSES**

### **DISCRETIONARY SUSPENSION OFFENSES**

Students may be suspended for any of the following acts when it is determined the student:

- 1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person resulting in minor harm.
- 2. Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense resulting in minor injury.
- 3. Unlawfully possessed, used, or otherwise furnished nominal amounts of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058.
- 4. Unlawfully was under the influence of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058.
- 5. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.
- 6. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.

- 7. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property resulting in negligible loss.
- 8. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- 9. Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including but not limited to cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This section does not prohibit the use of his or her own prescription products by a pupil.
- 10. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- 11. Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5.
- 12. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- 13. Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- 14. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- 15. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- 16. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in hazing. For the purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this section, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- 17. Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property. For purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.
- 18. Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a

reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently offensive as to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.

- 19. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- 20. Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- 21. Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
  - "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
    - i. Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
    - ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
    - iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience interference with his or her academic performance.
    - iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
  - 2) "Electronic Act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
    - i. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
    - ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:
      - (a) Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
      - (b) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above.

- "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
- (c) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
- iii. An act of cyber sexual bullying.
  - (a) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (i) to (iv), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
  - (b) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- 3) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
- 22. A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section.
- 23. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee's concurrence.

#### MANDATORY SUSPENSION OFFENSES

Students shall be suspended when the following occur on school campus or at a school activity off campus, for any of the following reasons:

- 1. Possessing, selling, or furnishing a firearm, as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
- 2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
- 3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
- 4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committing a sexual battery, as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4.
- 5. Possession of an explosive, as defined in Education Code Section 48915(h).

#### SUSPENSION PROCEDURES

Suspensions shall be initiated according to the following procedures:

#### **CONFERENCE**

Suspension shall be preceded, if possible, by a conference conducted by the Principal or the Principal's designee with the student and his or her parent and, whenever practical, the teacher, supervisor or Charter School employee who referred the student to the Principal. The conference may be omitted if the Principal or designee determines that an emergency situation exists. An "emergency situation" involves a clear and present danger to the lives, safety or health of students or Charter School personnel. If a student is suspended, by Principal or Designee, without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference.

At the conference, the student shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense. This conference shall be held within two (2) school days, unless the student waives this right or is physically unable to attend for any reason including, but not limited to, incarceration or hospitalization. No penalties may be imposed on a student for failure of the student's parent or guardian to attend a conference with Charter School Principal or Designee. Reinstatement of the suspended student shall not be contingent upon attendance by the student's parent or guardian at the conference.

MSA-6 assures that the process for investigating incidents and collecting evidence will be fair and thorough.

As an alternative to out of school suspension, MSA-6 utilizes in-school suspension as a way to redirect student choices and provide an opportunity to reflect in a space that ensures students will also be responsible for completing assigned academic work. The in-school suspension for students will be in a designated working area in the main office with access to a supervising administrator who holds a teaching credential. During in-school suspension, access to instructional materials will be coordinated by the Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal will reach out to the students' teachers prior to the inschool suspension and the teachers will share the materials and assignments students will be working on while they are serving their in-school suspension. Since students have access to online platforms, students will be provided with a one to one device just like their peers to complete assignments. If the in-school suspension is related to a technology infraction, a hard copy will be provided as an alternative for having access to work and submitting assignments. Office staff will work alongside administrators to determine any accommodations students may need during their in-school suspension. For example, scheduled breaks, as well as providing breakfast and lunch for the student. A restorative justice team consisting of teachers and the Assistant Principal will meet to develop a positive behavioral plan to support the student during and after the in-school suspension. This plan is shared with parent/guardian when informing them of the in-school suspension and parent/guardian feedback is also welcomes regarding follow up support for their child. In addition to the meeting, a form will be provided to families regarding the in-school suspension and the parent can sign giving their acknowledgment of the

in-school suspension guidelines. A student may be suspended in-school for a maximum of five school days per incident and a maximum of 20 school days per academic year.

During the in-school suspension, the Assistant Principal will work directly with the student and together they will create a plan for how to re-enter the school environment following an incident. There will also be additional support added during this reflection time which may include speaking to a counselor. Every incident is unique and should there be an opportunity to restore the relationship and redirect the student's actions during the in-school suspension, this connection and established trust will be leveraged. In an effort to ensure the safety of all stakeholders, the following offenses may result in inschool suspension:

- Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence,
- Engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation against a pupil or group of pupils or school district personnel,
- Made terrorist threats against school officials or school property, or both.

The above-mentioned offenses are addressed in a serious manner and depending on the details may not be able to be rectified with an in-school suspension. The school administrator will report the incident to the appropriate authorities under the direction of the local authorities who will assess the level of risk and will act in accordance with the recommendations. The authorities will determine whether or not the situation should be handled "administratively" or by the police. The administrative team will then move forward with the appropriate support. In order to comply with Ed Code Section 48900, the school administrator will notify all stakeholders by the end of the school day.

## NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

At the time of the suspension, the Principal or designee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall be notified in writing, by the Principal or Designee, of the suspension and the date of return following suspension. This notice shall state the specific offense committed by the student. In addition, the notice will also state the date and time when the student may return to school and will provide information about the appeal right and process. If Charter School administrators wish to ask the parent/guardian to confer regarding matters pertinent to the suspension, the notice will request that the parent/guardian respond to such requests without delay.

## **SUSPENSION TIME LIMITS**

Suspensions, when not including a recommendation for expulsion, shall not exceed five (5) consecutive school days per suspension. A student may be suspended from school for not more than 20 school days in any school year unless, for purposes of adjustment, the student enrolls in or is transferred another regular school, an opportunity school, or continuation school or class, in which case suspension shall not exceed 30 days in any school year. However, this restriction on the number of days of suspension does not apply when the suspension is extended pending an expulsion. (Education Code Sections 48903, 48911, and 48912) The expulsion process shall not take longer than 30 days from the first day of the initial suspension. Disciplining students with Disabilities is outlined in the section below.

#### **SUSPENSION APPEALS**

Students and parent/guardian may appeal a suspension within five (5) school days of the suspension. This appeal will be made, verbally or in writing, to the Principal and heard by a Reflection Committee. The Reflection Committee is an advisory committee to the Principal, trained quarterly in restorative practices and PBIS, and will be comprised of at least one school administrator, and at least two teachers, and may also include a non-certificated employee. Current teachers of the student are not eligible to participate as a member of the Reflection Committee. All Reflection Committee hearings on suspensions will be held within two (2) school days of the appeal being made. The decision of the Reflection Committee is final. Based on the information submitted or requested, the Reflection Committee may make one of the following decisions regarding the suspension:

- Uphold the suspension
- Determine that the suspension was not within school guidelines, overturn the suspension, and order that all records and documents regarding the disciplinary proceeding be destroyed. No information regarding the suspension will be placed in the student's permanent record, or shared with anyone not directly involved in the proceedings. The Charter School administrators shall make arrangements to provide the student with classroom materials and assignments for the duration of student's absence. Student will be provided the opportunity to make academic progress, make up assignments, and earn credit missed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Charter School will maintain student records in accordance with Education Code Sections 35253 and 49076 and 5 CCR 16024.

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR PLACEMENT/EXPULSION

Upon a recommendation of Placement/Expulsion by the Principal, the student and the student's parent/guardian or representative will be invited to a conference with school site administrators to determine if the suspension for the student should be extended pending an expulsion hearing. In such instances when the Principal or Designee has determined a suspension period shall be extended, such extension shall be made only after a conference is held with the student or the student's parent/guardian or representative, unless the student and the student's parent/guardian or representative fail to attend the conference, at which time the school shall proceed with the extension.

This determination will be made by the Principal or designee upon either of the following findings: (1) the student's presence will be disruptive to the education process; or (2) the student poses a threat or danger to others. Upon either determination, the student's suspension will be extended pending the results of an expulsion hearing.

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION

For suspensions that are not pending an expulsion hearing, the Charter School shall make arrangements to provide the student with classroom material and current assignments to be completed at home during the length of the suspension. For suspensions pending an expulsion hearing, the Charter School shall be responsible for the appropriate interim placement of students. Please see "Interim Placement" below for details.

## **GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION**

#### **JURISDICTION**

A student may be expelled for prohibited misconduct, that are described below under the heading, "Discretionary Expellable Offences and Mandatory Expulsion Offenses," if the act is (1) related to school activity; (2) school attendance occurring at MSA-6 or at any other school; or (3) a MSA-6 sponsored event. A student may be expelled for offenses that are described below and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, and of the following:

- a) while on school grounds;
- b) while going to or coming from school;
- c) during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus; or
- d) during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

The length of an expulsion is addressed above, under "Rehabilitation Plans."

### **DISCRETIONARY EXPELLABLE OFFENSES**

Students may be recommended for expulsion for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

- 1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person resulting in serious bodily harm.
- 2. Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense resulting in serious bodily injury.
- Unlawfully possessed, used, or otherwise furnished significant amounts of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058.
- 4. Unlawfully under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- 5. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.
- 6. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion in excess of \$1,000.
- 7. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property in excess of \$1,000.
- 8. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property in excess of \$1,000.
- 9. Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.

- 10. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- 11. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- 12. Engaged in, or attempted to engage in hazing. For the purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this section, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- 13. Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property. For purposes of this section, "terroristic threat" shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family's safety, or for the protection of school property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.
- 14. Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- 15. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- 16. Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- 17. Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
  - i. "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or

intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
- ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
- iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
- iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
- ii. "Electronic Act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
  - i. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
  - ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:
    - Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an Internet
      Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the
      effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
    - ii. Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
    - iii. Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
- iii. An act of cyber sexual bullying.
  - i. For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (i) to (iv), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual

- recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
- ii. For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
- 2. Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
- 18. A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section.
- 19. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Executive Director or designee's concurrence.

## **MANDATORY EXPULSION OFFENSES**

- 1. Possessing, selling, or furnishing a firearm, as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
- 2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
- 3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
- 4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committing a sexual battery, as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4.
- 5. Possession of an explosive, as defined in Education Code 48915(h).

## **EXPULSION PROCEDURES**

### AUTHORITY TO EXPEL

If determined necessary upon the referral by the discipline committee; a student may be expelled by an Administrative Panel following a hearing before it. The Administrative Panel will include three or more certificated persons, none of whom have been members of the Board or on the staff of the Charter School in which the student is enrolled. It is important for the Administrative Panel members to have experience in education law and student discipline. Typical Administrative Panel members include teachers, school administrators and Home Office Chiefs/Directors. The Home Office will coordinate all administrators and teachers who serve on the Reflection Committee at their school sites to be "on call" for a particular month should their presence be needed at an Administrative Panel hearing. A member who served on the Reflection Committee may not serve on the Administrative Panel for the same student. The Administrative Panel may expel any student found to have committed an expellable offense.

A decision to expel a pupil for an expellable offense shall be based on a finding of one or both of the following:

- (1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
- (2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

The process for investigating incidents and collecting evidence will be fair and thorough.

## **EXPULSION HEARING**

Students recommended for expulsion are entitled to a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. Unless postponed for good cause, the hearing shall be held within thirty (30) school days after the Principal determines that the Student has committed an expellable offense.

After an Administrative Panel hears the case, it will make a determination whether to expel. The hearing shall be held in closed session (complying with all pupil confidentiality rules under FERPA) unless the pupil makes a written request for a public hearing in open session three (3) days prior to the date of the scheduled hearing.

Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian by the Principal or Designee, at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of the hearing. Upon mailing the notice, it shall be deemed served upon the student. The notice shall include:

- The date and place of the expulsion hearing;
- A statement of specific facts, charges and offenses upon which the proposed expulsion is based;
- 3. A copy of MSA-6's disciplinary rules which relate to the alleged violation;
- 4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to provide information about the student's status at the Charter School to any other school district or school to which the student seeks enrollment:
- 5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or to employ and be represented by counsel or a non-attorney advisor;
- 6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing;
- 7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing;
- 8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf including witnesses.

### SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR EXPULSION HEARINGS INVOLVING SEXUAL ASSAULT OR BATTERY OFFENSES

MSA-6 may, upon finding a good cause, determine that the disclosure of either the identity of the witness or the testimony of that witness at the hearing, or both, would subject the complaining witness to an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Upon this determination, the testimony of the witness may be presented at the hearing in the form of sworn declarations which shall be examined

only by the Administrative Panel. Copies of these sworn declarations, edited to delete the name and identity of the complaining witness, shall be made available to the Panel.

- 1. The complaining witness in any sexual assault or battery case must be provided with a copy of the applicable disciplinary rules and advised of his/her right to (a) receive five (5) days notice of his/her scheduled testimony, (b) have up to two (2) adult support persons of his/her choosing present in the hearing at the time he/she testifies, which may include a parent, guardian, or legal counsel, and (c) elect to have the hearing closed while testifying.
- 2. MSA-6 administrators must also provide the victim a room separate from the hearing room for the complaining witness' use prior to and during breaks in testimony.
- 3. At the discretion of the Administrative Panel conducting the hearing, the complaining witness shall be allowed periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which he or she may leave the hearing room.
- 4. The Administrative Panel conducting the expulsion hearing may also arrange the seating within the hearing room to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness.
- 5. The Administrative Panel conducting the expulsion hearing may also limit time for taking the testimony of the complaining witness to the hours he/she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours.
- 6. Prior to a complaining witness testifying, the support persons must be admonished that the hearing is confidential. Nothing in the law precludes the entity presiding over the hearing from removing a support person whom the presiding Administrative Panel finds is disrupting the hearing. The Administrative Panel conducting the hearing may permit any one of the support persons for the complaining witness to accompany him or her to the witness stand.
- 7. If one or both of the support persons is also a witness, MSA-6 administrators must present evidence that the witness' presence is both desired by the witness and will be helpful to MSA-6. The Administrative Panel presiding over the hearing shall permit the witness to stay unless it is established that there is a substantial risk that the testimony of the complaining witness would be influenced by the support person, in which case the Administrative Panel shall admonish the support person or persons not to prompt, sway, or influence the witness in any way. Nothing shall preclude the presiding entity from exercising his or her discretion to remove a person from the hearing whom he or she believes is prompting, swaying, or influencing the witness.
- 8. The testimony of the support person shall be presented before the testimony of the complaining witness and the complaining witness shall be excluded from the hearing during that testimony.
- 9. Especially for charges involving sexual assault or battery, if the hearing is to be conducted in the public at the request of the student under investigation, the complaining witness shall have the right to have his/her testimony heard in a closed session when testifying at a public meeting would threaten serious psychological harm to the complaining witness and there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm. The alternative procedures may include videotaped depositions or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing by means of closed-circuit television.

10. Evidence of specific instances of a complaining witness' prior sexual conduct is presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard absent a determination by the Administrative Panel conducting the hearing that extraordinary circumstances exist requiring the evidence be heard. Before such a determination regarding extraordinary circumstances can be made, the witness shall be provided notice and an opportunity to present opposition to the introduction of the evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of the evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of the complaining witness is not admissible for any purpose.

#### RECORD OF EXPULSION HEARING

A record of the hearing shall be made and may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, as long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made.

#### PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

While technical rules of evidence do not apply to expulsion hearings, evidence may be admitted and used as proof only if it is the kind of evidence on which reasonable persons can rely in the conduct of serious affairs. A determination by the Administrative Panel to expel must be supported by substantial evidence that the student committed an expellable offense. Findings of fact shall be based solely on the evidence at the hearing. While hearsay evidence is admissible, no decision to expel shall be based solely on hearsay. Sworn declarations may be admitted as testimony from witnesses of whom the Panel determines that disclosure of their identity or testimony at the hearing may subject them to an unreasonable risk of physical or psychological harm.

If, due to a written request by the accused student, the hearing is held at a public meeting, and the charge is committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery as defined in Education Code Section 48900, a complaining witness shall have the right to have his or her testimony heard in a session closed to the public.

The decision of the Administrative Panel shall be in the form of written findings of fact.

If the Administrative Panel decides not to expel, the student shall immediately be returned to his/her educational program.

### WRITTEN NOTICE TO EXPEL

The Principal or designee following a decision of the Administrative Panel to expel shall send written notice within 30 days of the decision to expel, including the Administrative Panel's adopted findings of fact, to the student or parent/guardian. This notice shall also include the following:

- 1. Notice of the specific offense(s) committed by the student
- 2. Notice of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to inform any new district in which the student seeks to enroll of the student's status with MSA-6
- The reinstatement eligibility review date; a copy of the rehabilitation plan; the type of educational placement during the period of expulsion, and notice of appeal rights/procedures

4. Information regarding rights to, how, timelines, and to whom a student/parent may appeal an expulsion decision

The Principal or designee shall send a copy of the written notice of the decision to expel to the student's district of residence. This notice shall include the following:

- 1. The student's name
- 2. The specific expellable offense committed by the student

## DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

MSA-6 shall maintain records of all student suspensions and expulsions at MSA-6. Such records shall be made available to the District upon request.

#### **EXPULSION APPEALS**

In order to appeal an expulsion, the student/parent/guardian must submit a written appeal to the CEO of MPS outlining the reason for the appeal, attaching any supporting documentation, within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the written notice of the expulsion.

In response to the written request for an appeal, the CEO of MPS shall call a meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board shall convene a hearing on the appeal within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of a timely written request for an appeal.

At the hearing on the appeal, the student or his/her representative shall have the right to present evidence. The Board will consider the evidence and/or testimony presented to the Administrative Panel as appropriate and will render a contemporaneous written decision, which shall be immediately communicated to the appellant at the conclusion of the hearing, in the best interest of the student and the Charter School. That decision shall be final.

#### INTERIM PLACEMENT

The Charter School shall be responsible for the appropriate interim placement of students during and pending the completion of the Charter School's student expulsion process and shall facilitate the post-expulsion placement of expelled students, including, but not limited to, programs within the County or their school district of residence.

The Charter School shall work with the District for an interim placement at a community day school or other alternative program. Should the Charter School determine after the referral that the student will remain at the Charter School pending the expulsion hearing based on the best interest of the student, or if the Charter School secures another alternative interim placement at another Charter School or school within its CMO, if appropriate and aligned with applicable charter petitions, the Charter School will notify the District of such determination.

## Readmission/Reinstatement

The decision to readmit a pupil previously expelled from MSA-6 shall be at the discretion of the Governing Board following a meeting with the Principal or designee, the pupil and parent/guardian or

representative to determine whether the pupil has successfully completed the rehabilitation plan and to determine whether the pupil continues to pose a threat to others or will be disruptive to the school environment. The Principal or Designee will make a recommendation to the Board following the meeting regarding his/her recommendation. The Board shall then make a final decision regarding reinstatement during closed session of a public meeting, reporting out any actions taken during closed session as required of the Brown Act. The pupil's readmission is also contingent upon MSA-6's capacity at the time the student seeks readmission. These procedures will be made available to the pupil and his/her parent or guardian at the time the expulsion order is issued.

#### Rehabilitation Plans

Pupils who are expelled from MSA-6 shall be given a rehabilitation plan upon expulsion as developed by the Administrative Panel at the time of the expulsion order. The rehabilitation plan includes improved behavior, attendance, and academic performance and shall include a date no later than one (1) year from the date of expulsion when the pupil may apply to MSA-6 for readmission.

MSA-6 shall mail written notification to parent/guardian within thirty (30) days prior to the end of the expulsion term. This notice will request the parent or guardian to submit written documentation to the school showing that the student has met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan. The board shall review these documents and make a final decision regarding reinstatement. If the student does not meet the requirements of the rehabilitation plan as determined by the board, the board will revisit at a later date not to exceed one (1) year.

### **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

#### **BULLYING**

Bullying is listed as an offense for which a student may be suspended or expelled. The Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Safe Place to Learn Act, Education Code Section 234 et seq. MPS' policy on bullying prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics, as specified in the definition of hate crimes. MPS' process for receiving and investigating complaints includes complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics, as specified, and a requirement that Charter School personnel who witness such acts take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so, a timeline to investigate and resolve complaints, and an appeal process.

#### **ELEMENT 11: EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

"The manner by which staff members of the Charter Schools will be covered by the State Teachers' Retirement System, the Public Employees' Retirement System, or federal social security." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(K).)

Charter School shall comply in a timely manner with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, as they may change from time to time, including but not limited to Internal Revenue Code section 414(d) and related regulations, governing Charter School's participation in, and/or coverage of its staff members by, the State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS), the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), and/or federal social security.

If Charter School participates in, or otherwise covers its staff members by enrolling or continuing their enrollment in, a "government plan" governed by section 414(d) (e.g., CalPERS), upon dissolution or final liquidation of Charter School, and/or its nonprofit public benefit corporation, notwithstanding any provision in Element 15 to the contrary, Charter School shall distribute its net assets in accordance with section 414(d), related regulations, and the government plan's requirements.

If Charter School participates in CalSTRS and/or CalPERS, Charter School shall continue such participation for the duration of Charter School's existence under the same CDS code, if mandated by applicable legal and retirement plan requirements.

#### **CERTIFICATED STAFF MEMBERS**

All certificated staff members who are eligible, including, but not limited to, administrators, counselors, school psychologists, special education program administrators, and teaching employees will participate in, the State Teachers' Retirement System ("STRS"). MERF acknowledges that the Charter School must continue such participation for the duration of the Charter School's existence under the same County-District-School code.

### **CLASSIFIED STAFF MEMBERS**

All full-time classified staff members, including, but not limited to, office staff and instructional aides are eligible to participate in the Public Employees Retirement System ("PERS"). MERF acknowledges that the school must continue such participation for the duration of the Charter School's existence under the same CDS code.

Charter School employees in PERS also qualify for Social Security.

The Charter School LEA employees participate either in PERS or STRS according to their eligibility. Staff members who leave the LEA to work for the Foundation Home Office have the option of retaining their PERS or STRS status, if eligible.

### **OVERSIGHT OF BENEFITS**

The Human Resources and Finance Departments at the MPS Home Office are responsible for monitoring the appropriate administration of benefits and ensuring appropriate arrangements for retirement

coverage are made for all employees. The Charter School will make any contribution that is legally required of the employer, including STRS, PERS, social security, workers compensation, and other payroll obligations. All withholdings from employees and the Charter School will be forwarded to the STRS and PERS funds as required. Employees will accumulate service credit years in the same manner as all other members of STRS and PERS. The Charter School will submit all retirement data and will comply with all policies and procedures for payroll reporting. The Charter School assures that it will provide retirement information in a format required by the District.

#### **ELEMENT 12: PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES**

"The public school attendance alternatives for pupils residing within the school district who choose not to attend Charter Schools." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(L).)

Pupils of Charter School do not have or gain any right to admission in a particular school of any school district, or program of any school district, as a consequence of applying to or enrolling in Charter School, except to the extent that such a right is extended by the school district.

A pupil who chooses not to attend Charter School may attend a public school within the pupil's school district of residence in accordance with applicable law and that school district's policies and procedures. The pupil alternatively may seek to enroll in another Charter School in accordance with applicable law and the terms of the school's charter. If LAUSD is the pupil's school district of residence, an eligible pupil may pursue an inter-district transfer, if available, in accordance with the admission, enrollment, and transfer policies and procedures of the District, as they may change from time to time.

MSA-6 is a school of choice and no students shall be required to attend.

Parents and guardians of each student enrolled in the Charter School will be informed on Lottery Forms that the students have no right to admission in a particular school of a local education agency as a consequence of enrollment in MSA-6, except to the extent that such a right is extended by the local education agency.

#### **ELEMENT 13: RIGHTS OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES**

"The rights of an employee of the school district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work in a Charter School, and of any rights of return to the school district after employment at a Charter School." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(M).)

Employees of the District who choose to leave the employment of the District to work at Charter School shall have no automatic rights of return to the District after employment at Charter School unless specifically granted by the District through a leave of absence or other agreement or policy of the District as aligned with the collective bargaining agreements of the District. Leave and return rights for District union-represented employees and former employees who accept employment with Charter School will be administered in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements and any applicable judicial rulings.

#### **ELEMENT 14: MANDATORY DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

"The procedures to be followed by the Charter School and the entity granting the charter to resolve disputes relating to provisions of the charter." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(N).)

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Any claim, controversy or dispute between the District and Charter School arising out of or relating to this Charter, except for any claim, controversy or dispute related to the authorization (non-renewal, revision and/or revocation) of this Charter, ("Dispute") shall be resolved pursuant to the terms of this Element 14.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each party shall bear and be solely responsible for all of its own attorneys' fees, costs and expenses associated with any Dispute, including, but not limited to, any written/oral communication, meeting, Issues Conference, mediation, arbitration, administrative and/or civil action (including all levels of appeal), and no party shall be ordered to pay, or be awarded, any other party's attorneys' fees, costs or expenses in connection therewith, regardless of who may be deemed the prevailing party. Any fees, costs and expenses charged by a mediator or arbitrator (including all associated administration fees, costs and expenses) shall be shared equally by the parties regardless of the outcome or award. To that effect, any order or award of attorneys' fees, costs and/or expenses, or mediator's or arbitrator's fees, costs or expenses (including any associated administration fees, costs and expenses), issued by a mediator, arbitrator, judicial officer (including all levels of appeal) or jury in any Dispute shall be deemed invalid as a matter of law and unenforceable by one party against the other party.

# **PROPOSITION 39 DISPUTES**

Any Dispute related to or arising out of Education Code §47614 and/or its implementing regulations set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 11969 et seq. ("Proposition 39"), shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth below:

1) Any Dispute shall be communicated in writing ("Written Notification"). The Written Notification must identify the nature of the Dispute and all supporting facts. The Written Notification shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Notification shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such notice if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.

Unless directed otherwise, all Written Notifications to the District and Charter School shall be addressed respectively as follows:

Director
Charter Schools Division
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017

Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO

Magnolia Public Schools 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012

- 2) A written response ("Written Response") shall be tendered to the other party within fifteen (15) business days from the date of receipt of the Written Notification or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. The Written Response shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Response shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such communication if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.
- 3) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement from the Written Response, the parties agree to schedule a conference to discuss the Dispute identified in the Written Notice ("Issue Conference"). The Issue Conference shall take place within fifteen (15) business days from the date on which the Written Response is received by the other party or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 4) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement at the Issue Conference, either party may then request that the Dispute be resolved by mediation. Within fifteen (15) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, the parties shall mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator shall be selected from a list of mediators prepared and provided by the American Arbitration Association. Mediation proceedings shall commence within thirty (30) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, and conclude within forty (40) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, mediation proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association.
- 5) If the mediation is not successful, either party may then initiate a civil action. Venue for any civil action between the parties shall be the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

## **Non-Proposition 39 Disputes**

Any Dispute not related to or arising out of Proposition 39 shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth below:

1) Any Dispute shall be communicated in writing ("Written Notification"). The Written Notification must identify the nature of the Dispute and any supporting facts. The Written Notification shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile, or by certified mail. The Written Notification shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such notice if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.

Unless directed otherwise all Written Notifications to the District and Charter School shall be addressed respectively as follows:

Director
Charter Schools Division
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017

Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO Magnolia Public Schools 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012

- 2) A written response ("Written Response") shall be tendered to the other party within twenty (20) business days from the date of receipt of the Written Notification or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. The Written Response shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Response shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such communication if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.
- 3) If the Dispute has not been otherwise resolved by mutual agreement, the parties agree to schedule a conference to discuss the Dispute identified in the Written Notice ("Issue Conference"). The Issue Conference shall take place within fifteen (15) business days from the date from the date on which the Written Response is received by the other party or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 4) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement at the Issue Conference, either party may then request that the Dispute be resolved by mediation. Within fifteen (15) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, the parties shall mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator, the mediator shall be selected from a list of mediators prepared and provided by the American Arbitration Association. Mediation proceedings shall commence within thirty (30) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, mediation proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association.
- 5) If the mediation is not successful, then the parties agree to resolve the Dispute by binding arbitration conducted by a single arbitrator. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, arbitration proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator must be an active member of the State Bar of California or a retired judge of the state or federal judiciary of California.

## **ELEMENT 15: CHARTER SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES**

"The procedures to be used if the Charter School closes. The procedures shall ensure a final audit of the Charter School to determine the disposition of all assets and liabilities of the Charter School, including plans for disposing of any net assets and for the maintenance and transfer of pupil records." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(0).)

## **REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER**

The District may revoke the Charter pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Charter Schools Act of 1992, as they may be amended from time to time. The District may revoke the Charter of Charter School if the District finds, through a showing of substantial evidence, that Charter School did any of the following:

- Charter School committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in the Charter.
- Charter School failed to meet or pursue any of the pupil outcomes identified in the Charter.
- Charter School failed to meet generally accepted accounting principles, or engaged in fiscal mismanagement.
- Charter School violated any provision of law.

Prior to revocation, and in accordance with Education Code section 47607(d) and state regulations, the LAUSD Board of Education will notify Charter School in writing of the specific violation, and give Charter School a reasonable opportunity to cure the violation, unless the LAUSD Board of Education determines, in writing, that the violation constitutes a severe and imminent threat to the health or safety of the pupils. Revocation proceedings are not subject to the dispute resolution provisions set forth in this Charter.

Pursuant to AB 97, Charter Schools may be identified for assistance based on state evaluation rubrics and be subject to revocation pursuant to Education Code section 47607.3.

## **CLOSURE ACTION**

The decision to close Charter School, by the governing board of Charter School must be documented in a "Closure Action". A Closure Action shall be deemed to have been automatically taken when any of the following occur: the Charter is revoked (subject to the provisions of Education Code section 47607(i)) or non-renewed by the LAUSD Board of Education and Charter School has exhausted its revocation or non-renewal administrative appeal rights pursuant to Education Code sections 47605(j)(1) and 47607(f), or its administrative appeal rights have lapsed, or the Charter School voluntarily closes at any stage of the administrative appeal process;; the governing board of Charter School votes to close Charter School; or the Charter lapses.

## **CLOSURE PROCEDURES**

The procedures for Charter School closure set forth below are guided by *Education Code* sections 47604.32, 47605, and 47607 as well as *California Code of Regulations*, title 5, sections 11962 and 11962.1, and are based on "Charter School Closure Requirements and Recommendations (Revised 08/2009)" posted on the

California Department of Education website. All references to "Charter School" apply to Charter School, including its nonprofit corporation and governing board.

## Designation of Responsible Person(s) and Funding of Closure

Prior to or at the time of the taking of a Closure Action by either the governing board of Charter School or the LAUSD Board of Education, the governing board of Charter School shall designate a person or persons responsible for conducting and overseeing all closure-related procedures and activities, and allocate sufficient funding for, or otherwise determine how Charter School will fund, these activities.

#### **Notification of Closure Action**

Upon the taking of a Closure Action, Charter School shall send written notice of its closure to:

- 1. The LAUSD Charter Schools Division (CSD). Charter School shall provide the CSD with written notice of (1) the person(s) designated to be responsible for conducting and overseeing all closure activities, and (2) the source, location, and management of the funding for such activities. If the Closure Action is an act of Charter School, Charter School shall provide the CSD with a copy of the governing board resolution or minutes that documents its Closure Action.
- Parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, currently enrolled in Charter School within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of the written parent notification to the CSD.
- Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to LACOE by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 4. The Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) in which Charter School participates. Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to the SELPA in which Charter School participates by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 5. The retirement systems in which Charter School's employees participate. Within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Closure Action, Charter School shall notify, as applicable, the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), the Social Security Administration, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education of the Closure Action, and follow their respective procedures for dissolving contracts and reporting. Charter School shall provide a copy of these notifications and correspondence to the CSD.
- The California Department of Education (CDE). Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to the CDE by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 7. Any school district that may be responsible for providing education services to the former students of Charter School. Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action within 72 hours of the Closure Action. This notice must include a list of potentially returning students and their home schools based on student residence. Charter School shall provide a copy of these notifications, if any, to the CSD.

8. All Charter School employees and vendors within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of the written employee and vendor notification, with any attachments, to the CSD.

Notification of all the parties above, with the exception of employees and vendors, must include but is not limited to the following information:

- 1. The effective date of the closure of Charter School
- 2. The name(s) and contact information for the person(s) handling inquiries regarding the closure
- 3. The students' school districts of residence
- 4. How parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, may obtain copies of student records and transcripts, including specific information on completed courses and credits that meet graduation requirements

In addition to the four required items above, notification of the CDE shall also include:

- 1. A description of the circumstances of the closure
- 2. The location of student and personnel records

In addition to the four required items above, notification of parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, shall also include:

- 1. Information on how to enroll or transfer the student to an appropriate school
- A <u>certified</u> packet of student information that includes closure notice, a copy of the student's cumulative record and other records, including but not limited to grade reports, discipline records, immunization records, completed coursework, credits that meet graduation requirements, a transcript, and state testing results
- 3. Information on student completion of college entrance requirements, for all high school students affected by the closure

Notification of employees and vendors shall include:

- 1. The effective date of the closure of Charter School
- 2. The name(s) and contact information for the person(s) handling inquiries regarding the closure
- The date and manner, which shall be no later than 30 days from the effective date of the closure of Charter School, by which Charter School shall provide employees with written verification of employment

Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of closure, Charter School shall provide all employees with written verification of employment. Charter School shall send copies of all such employee verification letters to the CSD.

## **Records Retention and Transfer**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable laws as well as District policies and procedures, as they may change from time to time, regarding the transfer and maintenance of Charter School records, including student records. These requirements include:

- Charter School shall provide the District with all original student cumulative files and behavior records, pursuant to District policy and applicable District handbook(s) regarding cumulative records for secondary and elementary schools, for all students, both active and inactive, of Charter School. Transfer of the complete and organized original student records to the District, in accordance with District procedures applicable at the time of closure, shall occur within seven (7) calendar days of the effective date of closure.
- Charter School's process for transferring copies of student records to receiving schools shall be in accordance with applicable law and LAUSD procedures for students moving from one school to another.
- 3. Charter School shall prepare and provide an electronic master list of all students to the Charter Schools Division in accordance with the District procedures applicable at the time of closure. This list shall include the student's identification number, Statewide Student Identifier (SSID), birthdate, grade, full name, address, home school/school district, enrollment date, exit code, exit date, parent/guardian name(s), and phone number(s). If the Charter School closure occurs before the end of the school year, the list also shall indicate the name of the school to which each student is transferring, if known. This electronic master list shall be delivered to the CSD in the form of a CD or otherwise in accordance with District procedures.
- 4. Charter School must organize the original cumulative files for delivery to the District in two categories: active students and inactive students. Charter School will coordinate with the CSD for the delivery and/or pickup of student records.
- 5. Charter School must update all student records in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) prior to closing.
- 6. Charter School must provide to the CSD a copy of student attendance records, teacher gradebooks, and Title I records (if applicable).
- 7. Charter School must provide to the CSD the name, title, and contact information of the person designated to maintain all Charter School personnel records after the closure. Personnel records to be transferred to and maintained by the designee must include any and all employee records, including but not limited to, records related to performance and grievance. Charter School must provide to the CSD and the designee a list of all active and inactive employees and their periods of service. Both Charter School and the designee, individually and separately, shall inform the CSD immediately upon the transfer of Charter School's employee records to the designee.
- 8. Charter School shall ensure that all records are boxed and clearly labeled by classification of documents and the required duration of storage in accordance with District procedures.

9. Charter School shall provide to the responsible person(s) designated by the governing board of Charter School to conduct all closure-related activities a list of students in each grade level and, for each student, a list of classes completed and the student's district of residence.

#### i. Financial Close-Out

After receiving notification of closure, the California Department of Education (CDE) will notify Charter School and the authorizing entity of any liabilities Charter School owes the state, which may include overpayment of apportionments, unpaid revolving fund loans or grants, and/or similar liabilities. The CDE may ask the county office of education to conduct an audit of the Charter School if it has reason to believe that the school received state funding for which it was not eligible.

Charter School shall ensure completion of an independent final audit within six months after the closure of Charter School that includes:

- 1. An accounting of all financial assets. These may include cash and accounts receivable and an inventory of property, equipment, and other items of material value.
- 2. An accounting of all liabilities. These may include accounts payable or reduction in apportionments due to loans, unpaid staff compensation, audit findings, or other investigations.
- 3. An assessment of the disposition of any restricted funds received by or due to Charter School.

This audit may serve as Charter School's annual audit if it meets all of the requirements of the annual audit.

Charter School shall pay for the financial closeout audit of Charter School. This audit will be conducted by a neutral, independent licensed CPA who will employ generally accepted accounting principles. Any liability or debt incurred by Charter School will be the responsibility of Charter School and not LAUSD. Charter School understands and acknowledges that Charter School will cover the outstanding debts or liabilities of Charter School. Any unused monies at the time of the audit will be returned to the appropriate funding source. Charter School understands and acknowledges that only unrestricted funds will be used to pay creditors. Any unused AB 602 funds will be returned to the District SELPA or the SELPA in which Charter School participates, and other categorical funds will be returned to the source of funds.

Charter School shall ensure the completion and filing of any annual reports required. These reports include but are not necessarily limited to:

- 1. Preliminary budgets
- 2. Interim financial reports
- 3. Second interim financial reports
- 4. Final unaudited reports

These reports must be submitted to the CDE and the authorizing entity in the form required. These reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the Closure Action, but no later than the required deadline for reporting for the fiscal year.

For apportionment of categorical programs, the CDE will count the prior year average daily attendance (ADA) or enrollment data of the closed Charter School with the data of the authorizing entity. This practice

will occur in the first year after the closure and will continue until CDE data collection processes reflect ADA or enrollment adjustments for all affected LEAs due to the charter closure.

## *ii.* Disposition of Liabilities and Assets

The closeout audit must identify the disposition of all liabilities of Charter School. Charter School closure procedures must also ensure appropriate disposal, in accordance with the District Required Language provisions in Element 11 of this Charter, Charter School's governing board bylaws, fiscal procedures, and any other applicable laws and regulations, of any net assets remaining after all liabilities of Charter School have been paid or otherwise addressed. Such disposal includes, but is not limited to:

- Charter School, at its cost and expense, shall return to the District any and all property, furniture, equipment, supplies, and other assets provided to Charter School by or on behalf of the District. The District discloses that the California Education Code sets forth the requirements for the disposition of the District's personal property and Charter School shall bear responsibility and liability for any disposition in violation of statutory requirements.
- 2. The return of any donated materials and property in accordance with any terms and conditions set when the donations were accepted.
- 3. The return of any grant and restricted categorical funds to their sources according to the terms of the grant or state and federal law.
- 4. The submission of final expenditure reports for any entitlement grants and the filing of Final Expenditure Reports and Final Performance Reports, as appropriate.

If Charter School is operated as or by a nonprofit corporation, and if the corporation does not have any functions other than operation of Charter School, the corporation shall be dissolved according to its bylaws.

Charter School shall retain sufficient staff, as deemed appropriate by the Charter School governing board to complete all necessary tasks and procedures required to close the school and transfer records in accordance with these closure procedures.

Charter School's governing board shall adopt a plan for wind-up of Charter School and, if necessary, the corporation, in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Code.

Charter School shall provide LAUSD within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Closure Action with written notice of any outstanding payments due to staff and the time frame and method by which Charter School will make the payments.

Prior to final close-out, Charter School shall complete all actions required by applicable law, including but not limited to the following:

- a. File all final federal, state, and local employer payroll tax returns and issue final W-2s and Form 1099s by the statutory deadlines.
- b. Make final federal tax payments (employee taxes, etc.)

c. Complete and submit all required federal and state filings and notices to the State of California, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of the Treasury, including but not limited to final tax returns and forms (e.g., Form 990 and related Schedules).

This Element 15 shall survive the revocation, expiration, termination, cancellation of this Charter, or any other act or event that would end Charter School's authorization to operate as a Charter School or cause Charter School to cease operation. Charter School agrees that, due to the nature of the property and activities that are the subject of this Charter, the District and public shall suffer irreparable harm should Charter School breach any obligation under this Element 15. The District therefore reserves the right to seek equitable relief to enforce any right arising under this Element 15 or any provision of this Element 15 or to prevent or cure any breach of any obligation undertaken, without in any way prejudicing any other legal remedy available to the District. Such legal relief shall include, without limitation, the seeking of a temporary or permanent injunction, restraining order, or order for specific performance, and may be sought in any appropriate court.

In the event that the Charter School closes, the CEO will serve as the Charter School's closure agent.

### ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

# **FACILITIES**

Charter School shall comply with all geographic and site limitations and related requirements set forth in Education Code sections 47605.1, 47602(a), and 47605(a).

## **District-Owned Facilities**

If Charter School is using District facilities as of the date of the submission of this charter petition or takes occupancy of District facilities prior to the approval of this charter petition, Charter School shall execute an agreement provided by the District for the use of the District facilities <u>as a condition of the approval of the charter petition</u>. If at any time after the approval of this charter petition Charter School will occupy and use any District facilities, Charter School shall execute an agreement provided by the District for the use of the District facilities <u>prior to occupancy and commencing use</u>. Charter School shall implement and otherwise comply with the terms of any and all applicable facilities use agreements between Charter School and the District.

The circumstances of Charter School's occupancy of District facilities may change over time such as, but not limited to, enrollment, programs, and the conditions of facilities, and the District has a vested interest in having an agreement that is appropriate for the situation.

For a Sole Occupant Agreement or any other use agreement that is not a Proposition 39 Single Year Colocation Use Agreement or a lease issued through the Notice of Intent and bid process, the term may be co-terminous with the approved Charter, as permitted by law. Charter School and the District shall negotiate any modifications of the agreement with the goal of such amendment or new agreement being considered by the LAUSD Board of Education with the renewal of the charter petition. If Charter School and the District cannot execute an agreement in time for such to be considered by the Board of Education with the renewal of the charter petition shall be conditioned upon Charter School and the District executing an amendment to the existing use agreement or a new agreement no later than May 1st or within nine (9) months of the date of the Board of Education's approval of the renewal of the charter petition. During such time period Charter School shall be permitted to remain in occupancy of the District facilities under the terms and conditions of the immediately preceding, executed use agreement; provided, that if Charter School and the District cannot agree upon and execute an amendment or new use agreement by said deadline, Charter School shall vacate the District facilities on or before June 30th of said school year.

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that occupancy and use of District facilities shall be in compliance with applicable laws and District policies for the operation and maintenance of District facilities and furnishings and equipment. Charter School shall comply with all District health, safety, and emergency procedures and requirements and shall be subject to inspection by the District's Facilities Services Division, OEHS, and other District offices in the same manner as other LAUSD campuses. All District facilities (i.e., schools) will remain subject to those laws applicable to public schools.

In the event of an emergency, all District facilities (i.e., schools) are available for use by the American Red Cross and public agencies as emergency locations, which may disrupt or prevent Charter School from conducting its educational programs. If Charter School will share the use of District facilities with other District user groups, Charter School agrees that it will participate in and observe all District safety policies (e.g., emergency chain of information and participation in safety drills).

The use agreements provided by the District for District facilities shall contain terms and conditions addressing issues such as, but not limited to, the following:

- <u>Use</u>: Charter School will be restricted to using the District facilities for the operation of a public school providing educational instruction to public school students consistent with the terms of the Charter and incidental related uses. Separate and apart from its right as authorizer to observe and inspect any part of the Charter School at any time pursuant to Education Code 47607(a)(1), the District shall have and reserves the right to inspect District facilities upon reasonable notice to Charter School.
- <u>Furnishings and Equipment</u>: The District shall retain ownership of any furnishings and equipment, including technology, ("F&E") that it provides to Charter School for use. Charter School, at its sole cost and expense, shall provide maintenance and other services for the good and safe operation of the F&E.
- <u>Leasing</u>: Licensing: Use of the District facilities by any person or entity other than Charter School shall be administered by the District. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement in the use agreement.
- Programs, Services, and Activities Outside Instructional Program; Third Party Vendors
  - (i) Any program, service, or activity provided outside the instructional program shall be subject to the terms and provisions of the use agreement, and, additionally, may require a license, permit, or additional agreement issued by the District. The term "instructional program" is defined, per Education Code section 47612 and 5 CCR section 11960, as those required educational activities that generate funding based on "average daily attendance" and includes those extracurricular programs, services, and/or activities that students are required to participate in and do not require the payment of any consideration or fee.
  - (ii) Any program, service, or activity requiring the payment of any consideration or fee or provided by a third party vendor (defined as any person or entity other than Charter School), whether paid or volunteer and regardless of whether such may be within the instructional program, shall be subject to the terms and provisions of the use agreement and such third party vendor shall be required to obtain a license, permit, or additional agreement from the District.
- Minimum Payments or Charges to be Paid to District Arising From the Facilities:
  - (i) <u>Pro Rata Share</u>: The District shall collect and Charter School shall pay a Pro Rata Share for facilities costs as provided in the Charter Schools Act of 1992 and its regulations. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding facilities costs in the use agreement; and
  - (ii) <u>Taxes</u>; <u>Assessments</u>: Generally, Charter School shall pay any assessment or fee imposed upon or levied on the LAUSD facilities that it is occupying or Charter School's legal or equitable interest created by the use agreement.
- Maintenance & Operations Services: In the event the District agrees to allow Charter School to
  perform any of the operation and maintenance services, the District shall have the right to inspect the
  District facilities, and the costs incurred in such inspection shall be paid by Charter School.

(i) <u>Co-Location</u>: If Charter School is co-locating or sharing the District facilities with another user, the District shall provide the operations and maintenance services for the District facilities and Charter School shall pay the Pro Rata Share. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding performance of the operations and maintenance services and payment for such in the use agreement.

- (ii) <u>Sole Occupant</u>: If Charter School is a sole occupant of District facilities, the District shall allow Charter School, at its sole cost and expense, to provide some operations and maintenance services for the District facilities in accordance with applicable laws and LAUSD's policies on operations and maintenance services for facilities and F&E. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, the District shall provide all services for regulatory inspections which as the owner of the real property it is required to submit, and deferred maintenance, and Charter School shall pay LAUSD for the cost and expense of providing those services. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding performance of the operations and maintenance services and payment for such services in the use agreement.
- Real Property Insurance: Prior to occupancy, Charter School shall satisfy requirements to participate
  in LAUSD's property insurance or, if Charter School is the sole occupant of LAUSD facilities, obtain and
  maintain separate property insurance for the LAUSD facilities. Charter School shall <u>not</u> have the option
  of obtaining and maintaining separate property insurance for the LAUSD facility IF Charter School is
  co-locating or sharing the LAUSD facility with another user.

## **Non-District-Owned Facilities**

Occupancy and Use of the Site: Prior to occupancy or use of any school site or facility, Charter School shall provide the CSD with a current Certificate of Occupancy or equivalent document issued by the applicable permitting agency that allows Charter School to use and occupy the site as a Charter School. Charter School shall not exceed the operating capacity of the site and shall operate within any limitations or requirements provided by the Certificate of Occupancy and any applicable permit. Charter School may not open or operate without providing a copy of an appropriate Certificate of Occupancy to the CSD. If Charter School intends to move or expand to another facility during the term of this Charter, Charter School shall adhere to any and all District policies and procedures regarding charter material revision and non-material amendment. Prior to occupancy or use of any such additional or changed school site, Charter School shall provide an appropriate Certificate of Occupancy to the CSD for such facility. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary in this Charter, the interpretation, application, and enforcement of this provision are not subject to the Dispute Resolution Process outlined in Element 14.

Facility Compliance: Prior to occupancy or use of any non-District-owned school site and/or facility, Charter School shall ensure that the site and/or facility complies with all applicable building codes, standards and regulations adopted by the city and/or county agencies responsible for building and safety standards for the city in which Charter School is to be located, federal and state accessibility requirements (including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504), and all other applicable fire, health, and structural safety and access requirements. This requirement shall also apply to the construction, reconstruction, alteration of or addition to the facility. Charter School shall resolve in a timely manner any and all corrective actions, orders to comply, and notices issued by any authorized building and safety agency. Charter School cannot exempt itself from applicable building and zoning codes, ordinances, and

ADA/Section 504 requirements. Charter School shall maintain on file readily accessible records that document facilities compliance and shall promptly provide such documentation to the CSD upon request.

**Pest Management:** Charter School shall comply with the Healthy Schools Act, Education Code section 17608, which details pest management requirements for schools.

**Asbestos Management:** Charter School shall comply with the asbestos requirement as cited in the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 40 C.F.R. part 763. AHERA requires that any building leased or acquired that is to be used as a school or administrative building shall maintain an asbestos management plan.

## **INSURANCE**

## **Insurance Requirements**

No coverage shall be provided to Charter School by the District under any of the District's self-insured programs or commercial insurance policies. Charter School shall secure and maintain, at a minimum, insurance as set forth below with insurance companies acceptable to the District [A.M. Best A-, VII or better] or the equivalent provided through a California Joint Powers Authority self-insurance program to protect Charter School from claims which may arise from its operations. Each Charter School location shall meet the below insurance requirements individually.

It shall be Charter School's responsibility, not the District's, to monitor its vendors, contractors, partners, and/or sponsors for compliance with the insurance requirements.

The following insurance policies are required:

- 1. Commercial General Liability, including Fire Legal Liability, coverage of \$5,000,000 per Occurrence and in the Aggregate. The policy shall be endorsed to name the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles as named additional insureds and shall provide specifically that any insurance carried by the District which may be applicable to any claims or loss shall be deemed excess and Charter School's insurance shall be primary despite any conflicting provisions in Charter School's policy. Coverage shall be maintained with no Self-Insured Retention above \$15,000 without the prior written approval of the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services for the LAUSD.
- Workers' Compensation Insurance in accordance with provisions of the California Labor Code adequate to protect Charter School from claims that may arise from its operations pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act (Statutory Coverage). The Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage must also include Employers Liability coverage with limits of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000.
- 3. Commercial Auto Liability, including Owned, Leased, Hired, and Non-owned, coverage with limits of \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence if Charter School does not operate a student transportation service. If Charter School provides student transportation services, the required coverage limit is \$5,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence.

4. Crime Insurance or Fidelity Bond coverage shall be maintained by Charter School to cover all Charter School employees who handle, process or otherwise have responsibility for Charter School funds, supplies, equipment, or other assets. Minimum amount of coverage shall be \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$1,000,000 aggregate, with deductible that is acceptable to the Los Angeles Unified School District.

- 5. Cyber Liability insurance coverage with minimum limits of \$500,000 per occurrence and \$500,000 general aggregate.
- 6. Professional Educators Errors and Omissions liability coverage with minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate.
- 7. Sexual Molestation and Abuse coverage with minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate. Coverage may be held as a separate policy or included by endorsement in the Commercial General Liability or the Errors and Omissions Policy.
- 8. Employment Practices Legal Liability coverage with limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate.
- Excess/Umbrella Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$10,000,000 is required of all high schools and any other school that participates in competitive interscholastic or intramural sports programs.

Coverages and limits of insurance may be accomplished through individual primary policies or through a combination of primary and excess policies and alternative methods of coverage as approved by the District. The policy shall be endorsed to name the Los Angeles Unified School District and Its Board of Education as named additional insureds and shall provide specifically that any insurance carried by the District which may be applicable to any claims or loss shall be deemed excess and Charter School's insurance shall be primary despite any conflicting provisions in Charter School's policy.

#### **Evidence of Insurance**

Charter School shall furnish to the District's Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services located at 333 S. Beaudry Ave, 28<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles CA 90017 within 30 calendar days of all new policies, inceptions, renewals or changes, certificates, or such insurance signed by authorized representatives of the insurance carrier. Certificates shall be endorsed as follows:

"Charter School shall be required to provide LAUSD with 30 days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, if the insurance afforded by this policy shall be suspended, cancelled, reduced in coverage limits or non-renewed."

Facsimile or reproduced signatures may be acceptable upon review by the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services. However, the District reserves the right to require certified copies of any required insurance policies.

Should Charter School deem it prudent and/or desirable to have insurance coverage for damage or theft to Charter School, employee or student property, for student accident, or any other type of insurance coverage not listed above, such insurance shall not be provided by the District and its purchase shall be the responsibility of Charter School.

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 180

# **Hold Harmless/Indemnification Provision**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Charter School does hereby agree, at its own expense, to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses including but not limited to attorneys' fees, brought by any person or entity whatsoever, arising out of, or relating to, this Charter agreement. Charter School further agrees to the fullest extent permitted by law, at its own expense, to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses including but not limited to attorneys' fees, brought by any person or entity whatsoever for claims, damages, losses and expenses arising from or relating to acts or omission of acts committed by Charter School and/or its officers, directors, employees or volunteers. Moreover, Charter School agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless "the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers, for any contractual liability resulting from third party contracts with Charter School's vendors, contractors, partners or sponsors.

# FISCAL MATTERS

### **District Oversight Costs**

The District may charge for the actual costs of oversight of Charter School not to exceed 1% of Charter School's revenue, or the District may charge for the actual costs of oversight of Charter School not to exceed 3% if Charter School is able to obtain substantially rent free facilities from the District. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District may charge the maximum oversight fee allowed under the law as it may change from time to time. The oversight fee provided herein is separate and distinct from the charges arising under Charter School facilities use agreements.

#### Cash Reserves

Charter School acknowledges that the recommended cash reserve is 5% of expenditures, as provided in section 15450, title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

#### **Third Party Contracts**

Charter School shall ensure that all third party contracts, whether oral or written, for supplies, equipment, goods and/or services, for the direct or indirect benefit of, or otherwise related to the operation of, Charter School, require compliance with and otherwise conform to all applicable local, state, and federal policies, regulations, laws, and guidelines, including but not limited to licensing and permit requirements as well as requirements related to protection of health and safety.

## Special Education Revenue Adjustment/Payment for Services

In the event that Charter School owes funds to the District for the provision of agreed upon or fee for service or special education services or as a result of the State's adjustment to allocation of special education revenues from Charter School, Charter School authorizes the District to deduct any and all of the in lieu property taxes that Charter School otherwise would be eligible to receive under section 47635 of the Education Code to cover such owed amounts. Charter School further understands and agrees that the District shall make appropriate deductions from the in lieu property tax amounts otherwise owed to Charter School. Should this revenue stream be insufficient in any fiscal year to cover any such costs, Charter School agrees that it will reimburse the District for the additional costs within forty-five (45) business days of being notified of the amounts owed.

#### Student Body Funds

Charter School shall supervise and manage any and all student body funds in a manner consistent with the provisions of Education Code sections 48930-48938. Charter School shall include and address student body funds in its financial reports, and ensure that such funds are included and addressed in Charter School's annual audit as a stand-alone item.

# **Audit and Inspection of Records**

Charter School agrees to observe and abide by the following terms and conditions as a requirement for receiving and maintaining its charter authorization:

- Charter School is subject to District oversight.
- The District's statutory oversight responsibility continues throughout the life of the Charter and requires that the District, among other things, monitors the fiscal condition of Charter School.
- The District is authorized to revoke this Charter for, among other reasons, the failure of Charter School to meet generally accepted accounting principles or if Charter School engages in fiscal mismanagement.

Accordingly, the District hereby reserves the right, pursuant to its oversight responsibility, to audit Charter School books, records, data, processes and procedures through the District Office of the Inspector General or other means. The audit may include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Compliance with terms and conditions prescribed in the Charter agreement,
- Internal controls, both financial and operational in nature,
- The accuracy, recording and/or reporting of Charter School's financial information,
- Charter School's debt structure,
- Governance policies, procedures and history,
- The recording and reporting of attendance data,
- Charter School's enrollment process,

- Compliance with safety plans and procedures, and
- Compliance with applicable grant requirements.

Charter School shall cooperate fully with such audits and shall make available any and all records necessary for the performance of the audit upon 30 days notice to Charter School. When 30 days notice may defeat the purpose of the audit, the District may conduct the audit upon 24-hours notice.

#### **Fiscal Policies and Procedures**

Charter School shall establish, maintain, and implement sound fiscal policies and procedures, including but not limited to internal controls governing all financial and business-related activities.

### Apportionment Eligibility for Students Over 19 Years of Age

Charter School acknowledges that, in order for a pupil over nineteen (19) years of age to remain eligible for generating Charter School apportionment, the pupil shall be continuously enrolled in public school and make satisfactory progress toward award of a high school diploma. (Ed. Code § 47612(b).)

# **Local Control and Accountability Plan**

In accordance with California Education Code sections 47604.33 and 47606.5, Charter School shall include in its annual update a "listing and description of the expenditures for the fiscal year implementing the specific actions included in the charter as a result of the reviews and assessment required by paragraph (1)" of section 47606.5(a). These expenditures shall be "classified using the California School Accounting Manual pursuant to Section 41010." (Ed. Code § 47606.5(b).)

# **ADDENDUM**

#### ASSURANCES, AFFIRMATIONS, AND DECLARATIONS

Magnolia Science Academy - 6 (also referred to herein as "MSA-6" and "Charter School") shall:

- Be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. (California Education Code (hereinafter "Ed. Code") § 47605(d)(1).)
- Not charge tuition. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1).)
- Not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1); Ed. Code § 220.)
- Except as provided in Education Code section 47605(d)(2), admission to a charter school shall not be determined according to the place of residence of the pupil, or of his or her parent or legal guardian, within this state, except that an existing public school converting partially or entirely to a charter school under this part shall adopt and maintain a policy giving admission preference to pupils who reside within the former attendance area of that school. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(1).)
- Admit all pupils who wish to attend Charter School. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(2)(A).)
- Except for existing pupils of Charter School, determine attendance by a public random drawing if
  the number of pupils who wish to attend Charter School exceeds Charter School's capacity.
  Preference shall be extended to pupils currently attending Charter School and pupils who reside
  in the Los Angeles Unified School District (also referred to herein as "LAUSD" and "District"). (Ed.
  Code § 47605(d)(2)(B).)
- If a pupil is expelled or leaves Charter School without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, Charter School shall notify the superintendent of the school district of the pupil's last known address within 30 days, and shall, upon request, provide that school district with a copy of the cumulative record of the pupil, including a transcript of grades or report card, and health information. (Ed. Code § 47605(d)(3).)
- Meet all statewide standards and conduct the pupil assessments required pursuant to Education Code sections 60605 and 60851 and any other statewide standards authorized in statute or pupil assessments applicable to pupils in non-charter public schools. (Ed. Code § 47605(c)(1).)
- Consult, on a regular basis, with Charter School's parents, legal guardians, and teachers regarding the school's educational programs. (Ed. Code § 47605(c)(2).)

Charter School hereby declares that Charter School, operated as or by its nonprofit public benefit corporation, is and shall be the exclusive public school employer of Charter School's employees for

the purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act (EERA), Chapter 10.7 (commencing with Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title I of the Government Code. Charter School shall comply with all provisions of the EERA and shall act independently from LAUSD for collective bargaining purposes. In accordance with the EERA, employees may join and be represented by an organization of their choice for collective bargaining purposes.

NOTE: This Charter contains specific "District Required Language" (DRL), including the *Assurances, Affirmations, and Declarations* section above. The DRL should be highlighted in gray within each Charter element or section. The final section of the Charter provides a consolidated addendum of the DRL. This intentional redundancy facilitates efficient charter petition review while ensuring ready access to the DRL for any given section of the Charter. To the extent that any inconsistency may exist between any provision contained within the body of the Charter and the DRL contained in the addendum, the provisions of the DRL addendum shall control.

#### **ELEMENT 1 - THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

"The educational program of the charter school, designed, among other things, to identify those whom the charter school is attempting to educate, what it means to be an "educated person" in the 21st century, and how learning best occurs. The goals identified in that program shall include the objective of enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(i).)

"The annual goals for the charter school for all pupils and for each subgroup of pupils identified pursuant to Section 52052, to be achieved in the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served, or the nature of the program operated, by the charter school, and specific annual actions to achieve those goals. A charter petition may identify additional school priorities, the goals for the school priorities, and the specific annual actions to achieve those goals." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii).)

"If the proposed charter school will serve high school pupils, a description of the manner in which the charter school will inform parents about the transferability of courses to other public high schools and the eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements. Courses offered by the charter school that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may be considered transferable and courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the "A" to "G" admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(A)(iii).)

# LOCAL CONTROL FUNDING FORMULA (LCFF) AND LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP)

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that it must comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to AB 97 (2013) (Local Control Funding Formula), as they may be amended from time to time, which include the requirement that Charter School shall annually submit a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)/annual update to the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and the Charter Schools Division (CSD) on or before July 1. In accordance with Education Code sections 47604.33 and 47606.5, Charter School shall annually update its goals and annual actions to achieve those goals identified in the charter pursuant to Education Code section 47605(b)(5)(A)(ii), using the Local Control and Accountability Plan template adopted by the State Board of Education, as it may be changed from time to time. Charter School shall comply with all requirements of Education Code section 47606.5, including but not limited to the requirement that Charter School "shall consult with teachers, principals, administrators,

other school personnel, parents, and pupils in developing the local control and accountability plan and annual update to the local control and accountability plan." (Ed. Code § 47606.5(e).)

# **ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES**

Charter School shall offer, at a minimum, the number of minutes of instruction set forth in Education Code section 47612.5, and the number of school days required by *California Code of Regulations*, title 5, section 11960.

# **MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of the California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015.

# TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements regarding transitional kindergarten. For purposes of admission to Charter School, transitional kindergarten shall be considered a part of kindergarten, and therefore students enrolled in transitional kindergarten at Charter School shall be considered existing students of Charter School for purposes of Charter School's admissions, enrollment, and lottery.

# **HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMINATION**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of Education Code sections 60850 – 60859, including but not limited to the requirements of sections 60851.6 and 60852.3.

# **WASC ACCREDITATION**

If Charter School serves students in grades 9-12, before Charter School graduates its first class of students, Charter School shall obtain, and thereafter maintain, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation.

# **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

Charter School shall identify potential English Learners in a timely manner in accordance with all applicable legal requirements. Charter School must provide all English Learners with an effective English language acquisition program that also affords meaningful and equitable access to Charter School's core academic curriculum. Instructional plans for English Learners must be (1) based on sound educational theory; (2) adequately supported with trained teachers and appropriate materials and resources; and (3) periodically evaluated to make sure the program is successful and modified when the program is not successful.

On an annual basis, upon request, Charter School shall submit a certification to the LAUSD Charter Schools Division (CSD) that certifies that Charter School has adopted and is implementing either the LAUSD English Learner Master Plan or Charter School's own English Learner (EL) Master Plan. If Charter School chooses to implement its own EL Master Plan, the plan shall provide a detailed description of Charter School's EL program, and shall address the following:

- How Charter School's EL Master Plan provides all of its English Learners, including but not limited to Long Term English Learners (LTELs) with an effective English language acquisition program as well as meaningful and equitable access to Charter School's core academic curriculum
- How English Learners' specific needs will be identified
- What services will be offered
- How, where, and by whom the services will be provided
- How Charter School will evaluate its EL program each year, and how the results of this evaluation will be used to improve the program, including the provision of EL services

Each year, Charter School shall provide to the CSD a report on its annual evaluation of the effectiveness of its EL program. Upon request, Charter School shall provide a copy of its current EL Master Plan to the CSD.

Charter School shall administer the CELDT/ELPAC annually in accordance with federal and state requirements.

Charter School shall reclassify English Learners in accordance with federal and state requirements.

Charter School shall provide parent outreach services and meaningfully inform parents with limited English proficiency of important information regarding Charter School matters to the same extent as other parents.

# **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

# **Federal Law Compliance**

Charter School shall adhere to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities including, but not limited to, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

# **Special Education Program**

Charter School shall ensure that no student otherwise eligible to enroll in Charter School shall be denied, directly or indirectly, admission due to a disability or to Charter School's inability to provide necessary services. Charter School acknowledges that policies and procedures are in place to ensure the recruitment, enrollment, service, and retention of students with disabilities at LAUSD-authorized charter schools, including Charter School.

Prior to LAUSD Board of Education approval of an initial Charter petition, and if a renewing Charter School intends to operate as a "school of the district" for special education services, Charter School shall execute a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") by and between LAUSD and Charter School regarding the provision and funding of special education services consistent with applicable state law and the LAUSD Special Education Local Plan Area ("SELPA") Local Plan for Special Education and shall be considered a

"public school of the District" for purposes of Special Education pursuant to Education Code Section 47641(b). However, Charter School reserves the right to make written verifiable assurances that it may become an independent local educational agency (LEA) and join a SELPA pursuant to Education Code Section 47641 (a) either on its own or with a grouping of charter school LEAs as a consortium following the requirements of Education Code section 56195.3(b).

## **SELPA Reorganization**

The Los Angeles Unified School District is approved to operate as a single-District SELPA under the provisions of Education Code section 56195.1(a). As a single-District SELPA, the District has created two charter school sections (District-operated Programs and Charter-operated Programs) under the administration of one single Administrative Unit pursuant to a reorganization plan approved by the Board of Education on January 4, 2011 (149/10-11). Full implementation of the reorganized LAUSD SELPA commenced in the 2013-2014 school year requiring all District-authorized charter schools to elect one of the three options available under the LAUSD SELPA. Prior to an option election, all District-authorized charter schools were required to participate as a school of the District under the District-Operated Programs Unit. Prior to the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year, all District-authorized charter schools, other than those that had previously executed an Option 3 Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), were required to execute a new MOU setting forth the LAUSD SELPA option election for the remainder of the charter petition term. The Charter-operated Program schools do not have LEA status for the purposes of special education but will function in a similar role in that each charter school will be responsible for all special education requirements, including but not limited to services, placement, due process, related services, special education classes, and special education supports. Charter schools that have elected to participate in a District-operated programs option may apply for membership in the Charter-operated Program section of the SELPA. Charter schools accepted for participation in the Charter-operated Programs section receive support from a Special Education Director for the Charter-operated Programs.-

# **Modified Consent Decree Requirements**

All charter schools approved by the LAUSD Board of Education are bound by and must adhere to the terms, conditions and requirements of the *Chanda Smith* Modified Consent Decree ("MCD") and other court orders imposed upon the District pertaining to special education. The MCD is a consent decree entered in a federal court class action lawsuit initially brought on behalf of students with disabilities in LAUSD. It is an agreement of the parties approved by the federal court and monitored by a court-appointed independent monitor. The MCD includes nineteen statistically measureable outcomes and facilities obligations that the District has to achieve to disengage from the MCD and federal court oversight. All charter schools are required to use the District's Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual and Welligent, the Districtwide web-based software system used for online Individualized Education Programs ("IEPs") and tracking of related services provided to students during the course of their education.

As part of fulfilling the District's obligations under the MCD, student level data requests from District-operated and Charter-operated charter schools are made on a regular basis. The requested data must be submitted in the Office

of the Independent Monitor's ("OIM") required format in accordance with the OIM's required timelines and as follows:

# • End of Year Suspension

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, date of suspension, number of days suspended, and reason for suspension.

#### Statewide Assessment Data

The standard file including District ID.

# Norm day

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, location code, school name and local district for all students enrolled on norm day.

#### CBEDS

• All Students enrolled as of December 1 of each school year

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, date of birth, gender, grade, location code, school name and local district for all students enrolled on norm day.

#### Dropout

District ID, SSIS ID, last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, grade, last location, school name and local district

- Monthly SESAC and Suspension data
- Graduation roster from all charter schools with 12th grade students with disabilities

The MCD requires charter schools to implement the District's integrated student information system, which is currently referred to as My Integrated Student Information System (MiSiS). MiSiS is a suite of applications which is designed to capture all District student data. All charter schools are required to utilize MiSiS directly or interface with MiSiS via a web based Application Programming Interface (API) in compliance with the requirements of the MCD and applicable timelines. Upon charter school full utilization of MiSiS either directly or via a web based API, the list of required data above will automatically be captured within MiSiS.

# ELEMENT 2 – MEASURABLE PUPIL OUTCOMES AND METHOD BY WHICH PUPIL PROGRESS TOWARD OUTCOMES WILL BE MEASURED

**ELEMENT 3 -**

"The measurable pupil outcomes identified for use by the charter school. "Pupil outcomes," for purposes of this part, means the extent to which all pupils of the school demonstrate that they have attained the skills, knowledge, and attitudes specified as goals in the school's educational program. Pupil outcomes shall include outcomes that address increases in pupil academic achievement both schoolwide and for all groups of pupils served by the charter school, as that term is defined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 47607. The pupil outcomes shall align with the state priorities, as described in subdivision (d) of Section 52060, that apply for the grade levels served, or the nature of the program operated, by the charter school." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(B).)

"The method by which pupil progress in meeting those pupil outcomes is to be measured. To the extent practicable, the method for measuring pupil outcomes for state priorities shall be consistent with the way information is reported on a school accountability report card." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(C).)

# MEASURABLE GOALS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Charter School shall meet all statewide content and performance standards and targets. (Ed. Code §§ 47605(c)(1), 60605.)

Charter School shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to AB 97 (2013) (Local Control Funding Formula) and AB 484 (2013), as they may be amended from time to time, including all requirements pertaining to pupil outcomes.

# STANDARDIZED TESTING

Charter School agrees to comply with state requirements for participation and administration of all statemandated tests, including computer-based assessments. Charter School shall submit and maintain complete, accurate, and up-to-date California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) data in accordance with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 861. Charter School hereby grants authority to the State of California to provide a copy of all test results directly to the District as well as Charter School. Upon request, Charter School shall submit, in the requested format (e.g., CD), a copy of the results of all state-mandated tests to the District.

#### **ELEMENT 4 - GOVERNANCE**

"The governance structure of the charter school, including, but not limited to, the process to be followed by the charter school to ensure parental involvement." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(D).)

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

As an independent charter school, Charter School, operated as or by its nonprofit public benefit corporation, is a separate legal entity and shall be solely responsible for the debts and obligations of Charter School.

Charter School shall ensure that, at all times throughout the term of the Charter, the bylaws of its governing board and/or nonprofit corporation are and remain consistent with the provisions of this Charter. In the event that the governing board and/or nonprofit corporation operating Charter School amends the bylaws, Charter School shall provide a copy of the amended bylaws to CSD within 30 days of adoption.

Charter School shall send to the CSD copies of all governing board meeting agendas at the same time that they are posted in accordance with the Brown Act. Charter School shall also send to the CSD copies of all board meeting minutes within one week of governing board approval of the minutes. Timely posting of agendas and minutes on Charter School's website will satisfy this requirement.

The District reserves the right to appoint a single representative to the Charter School governing board pursuant to Education Code section 47604(b).

# **LEGAL AND POLICY COMPLIANCE**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and District policies as it relates to charter schools adopted through Board action.<sup>1</sup>

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal and state reporting requirements, including but not limited to the requirements of CBEDS, CALPADS, the Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999, and Education Code section 47604.33.

Charter School shall comply with the Brown Act and the Public Records Act.

Charter School and all employees and representatives of Charter School, including members of Charter School's governing board, members of Charter School or governing board committees and councils, Charter School administrators, and managers, shall comply with federal and state laws, nonprofit integrity standards, and LAUSD charter school policy, regarding ethics and conflicts of interest. Charter School shall enter into all transactions and conduct business with all persons and entities at arm's length or, in the case of otherwise permissible related party transactions, in a manner equivalent to arm's length.

Charter School shall notify parents, guardians, and teachers in writing within 72 hours of the issuance of a Notice of Violation, Notice of Intent to Revoke, Final Decision to Revoke, Notice of Non-Renewal, or equivalent notice, by the LAUSD Board of Education.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The District is in the process of compiling a list of LAUSD policies that apply to its authorized charter schools. The list will be finalized by April 1, 2018. Charter Schools Division staff will annually review District policies and make recommendations to the LAUSD Board of Education on continued application to charter schools.

# TITLE IX, SECTION 504, AND UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Charter School shall designate at least one employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), including any investigation of any complaint filed with Charter School alleging its noncompliance with these laws or alleging any actions which would be prohibited by these laws. Charter School shall notify all of its students and employees of the name, office address, and telephone number of the designated employee or employees.

Charter School shall adopt and publish complaint procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX or Section 504.

Charter School shall adopt and implement specific and continuing procedures for notifying applicants for admission and employment, students and parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Charter School, that Charter School does not discriminate on the basis of sex or mental or physical disability in the educational programs or activities which it operates, and that it is required by Title IX and Section 504 not to discriminate on any such basis.

Charter School shall establish and provide a uniform complaint procedure in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited to all applicable requirements of *California Code of Regulations*, title 5, section 4600 et seq.

Charter School shall adhere to all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding pupil fees, including Education Code sections 49010 - 49013, and extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to Education Code section 49013.

Charter School shall extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to the Local Control Funding Formula legislation provisions set forth in Education Code section 52075.

# **RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES**

Charter School, including its nonprofit corporation shall promptly respond to all reasonable inquiries, including but not limited to inquiries regarding financial records from the District, and shall cooperate with the District regarding any inquiries. Charter School acknowledges that Charter School, including but not limited to its nonprofit corporation, is subject to audit by LAUSD, including, without limitation, audit by the District Office of the Inspector General. Charter School shall provide the District with current, complete, and accurate contact information for Charter School, Charter School administrators, and Board members.

If an allegation or other evidence of waste, fraud, abuse, or other material violation of law related to Charter School's operations, or breach of the Charter, is received or discovered by the District, Charter School, including but not limited to its nonprofit corporation, employees, and representatives, shall cooperate with any resulting inquiry and/or investigation undertaken by the District and/or the Office of the Inspector General Investigations Unit.

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that persons and entities that directly exercise control over the expenditure of Charter School's public funds shall be subject to all necessary and appropriate District charter school oversight.

# **NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT**

Charter School shall notify the Charter Schools Division (CSD) in writing of any citations or notices of workplace hazards, investigations by outside governmental regulatory or investigative agencies, lawsuits, changes in corporate or legal status (e.g., loss of IRS 501(c)(3) status), or other formal complaints or notices, within one week of receipt of such notices by Charter School. Unless prohibited by law, Charter School shall notify the CSD in writing of any internal investigations within one week of commencing investigation. Charter School shall notify the CSD within 24 hours of any dire emergency or serious threat to the health and safety of students or staff.

# **STUDENT RECORDS**

Upon receipt of a student records request from a receiving school/school district, Charter School shall transfer a copy of the student's complete cumulative record within ten (10) school days in accordance with Education Code section 49068. Charter School shall comply with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 3024, regarding the transfer of student special education records. In the event Charter School closes, Charter School shall comply with the student records transfer provisions in Element 15. Charter School shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 49060 et seq., which include provisions regarding rights to access student records and transfer of records for youth in foster care.

# PARENT ENGAGEMENT

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Charter School shall not require a parent or legal guardian of a prospective or enrolled student to perform volunteer service hours, or make payment of fees or other monies, goods, or services in lieu of performing volunteer service, as a condition of his/her child's admission, continued enrollment, attendance, or participation in the school's educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against a student in any manner because his/her parent cannot, has not, or will not provide volunteer service to Charter School.

# FEDERAL PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

As a recipient of federal funds, Charter School has agreed to meet all applicable programmatic, fiscal and other regulatory requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, also known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) and other applicable federal programs. Charter School understands that it is a local educational agency (LEA) for purposes of federal compliance and reporting purposes. Charter School agrees that it will keep and make available to the District any documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of ESEA and other applicable federal programs. Charter School also acknowledges that, as part of its oversight of Charter School, the District may conduct program review for federal as well as state compliance.

## **ELEMENT 5 - EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS**

"The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the charter school." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(E).)

# **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that all persons are entitled to equal employment opportunity. Charter School shall not discriminate against applicants or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by California or federal law. Equal employment opportunity shall be extended to all aspects of the employer-employee relationship, including but not limited to recruitment, selection, hiring, upgrading, training, promotion, transfer, discipline, layoff, recall, and dismissal from employment.

# **ESEA/ESSA** AND CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS

Charter School shall adhere to all requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, also known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) that are applicable to teachers and paraprofessional employees. Charter School shall ensure that all teachers are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in accordance with applicable state requirements for certificated employment, including but not limited to the provisions of Education Code section 47605(I). Charter School shall maintain current copies of all teacher credentials and make them readily available for inspection.

#### **ELEMENT 6 - HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCEDURES**

"The procedures that the charter school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall include the requirement that each employee of the charter school furnish it with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(F).)

# HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements related to school and student health, safety, and emergency preparedness.

If Charter School occupies and/or operates on a District facility, Charter School shall comply with all District health, safety, and emergency procedures and requirements applicable to District facilities and related operations, and shall be subject to inspection by the District's Facilities Services Division, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, and other District offices in the same manner as other LAUSD campuses.

Charter School shall adopt, implement, and maintain at all times a current, comprehensive, and site-specific Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan ("Plan"), which must include but is not limited to provisions for building and site emergency evacuation, the acquisition and maintenance of adequate onsite emergency supplies. The Plan must include Charter School's requirements and procedures for protecting student health and safety during off-campus school-sponsored activities, including but not limited to field trips and transportation. Charter School shall ensure that all staff members receive annual training on Charter School's health, safety, and emergency procedures, including but not limited to training on bloodborne pathogens, and shall maintain a calendar for, and conduct, emergency response drills for students and staff.

Charter School shall provide all employees, and other persons working on behalf of Charter School who are mandated reporters, with annual training on child abuse detection and reporting, which shall occur within the first six weeks of each school year, or within the first six weeks of a person's employment if employed after the beginning of the school year, in accordance with the requirements of AB 1432 (2014).

Charter School shall stock and maintain the required number and type of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors onsite and provide training to employee volunteers in the storage and use of the epinephrine auto-injector as required by Education Code section 49414 and section 4119.2 of the Business and Professions Code, as they may be amended from time to time.

Charter School shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 49475, with respect to any athletic program (as defined in Education Code § 49475) offered by or on behalf of Charter School.

Charter School shall periodically review, and update and/or modify as necessary, its Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan, and keep it readily available for on-site use. Charter School shall provide a copy of the Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness Plan for review upon CSD request.

# FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Charter School, including its employees, officers, and representatives, shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Education Code section 49060 et seq. at all times.

# **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CLEARANCES AND FINGERPRINTING**

Charter School shall comply with all requirements of Education Code sections 44237 and 45125.1. Charter School shall designate and maintain at all times at least one Custodian of Records duly authorized by the California Department of Justice.

Charter School shall maintain on file and available for inspection evidence that (1) Charter School has performed criminal background checks and cleared for employment all employees prior to employment; (2) Charter School has obtained certification from each of its contracting entities/independent contractors that the entity/contractor has conducted required criminal background clearances for its employees prior to provision of schoolsite services and/or any contact with students, and has requested subsequent arrest notification service; and (3) Charter School has performed criminal background checks and cleared for service all volunteers not directly supervised by staff and who may have contact with students. Charter School shall also ensure that it requests and receives subsequent arrest notifications from the California Department of Justice for all employees and volunteers not directly supervised by staff. Upon request,

Charter School shall provide a copy of Department of Justice confirmation of Custodian of Records status for each Custodian of Records. Charter School, including its administrators and officers, shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 44030.5.

# **IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH SCREENING REQUIREMENTS**

Charter School shall require all employees, and any volunteer or vendor/contracting entity employee who may have frequent or prolonged contact with students, to undergo a risk assessment and/or be examined and determined to be free of active tuberculosis (TB) within the period of 60 days prior to employment/service, or otherwise meet the requirements of Education Code section 49406. Charter School shall maintain TB clearance records and certificates on file.

Charter School shall comply with all federal and state legal requirements, including but not limited to the requirements of SB 277 (2015), related to student immunization, health examination, and health screening, including but not limited to screening for vision, hearing, and scoliosis, to the same extent as would be required if the students were attending a non-charter public school. Charter School shall maintain student immunization, health examination, and health screening records on file.

# SAFE PLACE TO LEARN ACT

Charter School shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Safe Place to Learn Act, Education Code section 234 et seq.

# **SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY**

If Charter School serves students in grades 7-12, Charter School shall comply with the requirements of AB 2246 (2016), codified in Education Code section 215, including but not limited to the requirement that the school's pupil suicide prevention policy shall be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals, and suicide prevention experts. Charter School shall provide the CSD with a copy of its pupil suicide prevention policy for review upon request.

# **ELEMENT 7 - MEANS TO ACHIEVE RACIAL AND ETHNIC BALANCE**

"The means by which the school will achieve a racial and ethnic balance among its pupils that is reflective of the general population residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the school district to which the charter petition is submitted." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(G).)

# **COURT-ORDERED INTEGRATION**

Charter School shall comply with all requirements of the *Crawford v. Board of Education, City of Los Angeles* court order and the LAUSD Integration Policy adopted and maintained pursuant to the Crawford court order by the District's Student Integration Services (collectively the "Court-ordered Integration Program"). The Court-ordered Integration Program applies to all schools within or chartered through LAUSD.

Charter School has set forth below its <u>initial</u> plan for achieving and maintaining the LAUSD's Racial and Ethnic Balance goal of a 70:30 or 60:40 ratio. (*Ratio represents the percentage of Predominantly Hispanic Black Asian Other (PHBAO)* <u>compared</u> to Other White (OW)). The written plan lists specific dates and locations of recruitment activities that Charter School will undertake in order to achieve the District's Racial and Ethnic Balance goal. Charter School shall monitor the implementation and outcomes of the initial plan, and modify it as necessary throughout the term of the Charter to achieve the District's goal. Upon request, Charter School shall provide the District with a copy of its current written plan.

Page 196

The District receives neither average daily attendance allocations nor Court-ordered Integration Program cost reimbursements for charter school students. The District may receive the Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant (TIIBG) for its Court-ordered Integration Program. The District retains sole discretion over the allocation of TIIBG funding, where available, and cannot guarantee the availability of this funding.

#### **ELEMENT 8 - ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

"Admission requirements, if applicable." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(H).)

# **DOCUMENTATION OF ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT PROCESSES**

Charter School shall maintain complete and accurate records of its annual admissions and enrollment processes, including but not limited to documentation of implementation of lottery and waitlist criteria and procedures in accordance with the terms of the Charter. These records shall be made available to the District upon request.

# **HOMELESS AND FOSTER YOUTH**

Charter School shall adhere to the provisions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. Charter School shall provide specific information, in its outreach materials, websites, at community meetings, open forums, and regional center meetings, that notifies parents that Charter School is open to enroll and provide services for all students, and provides a standard District contact number for access to additional information regarding enrollment.

Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws regarding homeless and foster youth, including but not limited to the provisions of AB 379 (2015) and Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 48850) of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, as amended from time to time. Charter School shall extend its uniform complaint procedure to complaints filed pursuant to the applicable provisions of AB 379.

# Non-Discrimination

Charter School shall not require a parent/legal guardian/student to provide information regarding a student's disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, legal or economic status,

primary language or English Learner status, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code, or any other information that would violate federal or state law, prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment. Charter School may request, at the time of, and as part of, conducting its lottery process, the provision of information necessary to apply specific admissions preferences set forth in this Charter.

Charter School shall not request or require submission of a student's IEP, Section 504 Plan, or any other record or related information prior to admission, participation in any admissions or attendance lottery, or pre-enrollment event or process, or as a condition of admission or enrollment.

#### **ELEMENT 9 - ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDITS**

"The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(I).)

Charter School shall provide for an annual audit that shall be conducted in compliance with applicable state and federal laws, including but not limited to the requirements of Education Code sections 47605(b)(5)(I) and 41020 as they may be amended from time to time. Charter School shall ensure compliance with the requirements of section 41020(f)(2), which makes it unlawful, absent an Education Audits Appeal Panel waiver, for a public accounting firm to provide audit services to a local educational agency if the lead audit partner, or coordinating audit partner, having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for that local educational agency in each of the six previous years.

The following reports will be submitted to LAUSD, in the required format and within timelines to be specified by LAUSD, each year:

- k. Provisional Budget Spring prior to operating fiscal year
- I. Final Budget July of the budget fiscal year
- m. First Interim Projections November of operating fiscal year
- n. Second Interim Projections February of operating fiscal year
- o. Unaudited Actuals July following the end of the fiscal year
- p. Audited Actuals December 15 following the end of the fiscal year
- q. Classification Report monthly according to Charter School's Calendar
- r. Statistical Report monthly according to Charter School's Calendar of Reports In addition:
  - P1, first week of January
  - P2, first week of April
- s. Instructional Calendar annually five weeks prior to first day of instruction
- t. Other reports as requested by the District

#### ELEMENT 10 – SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION PROCEDURES

"The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(J).)

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Charter School shall provide due process for all students, including adequate and timely notice to parents/guardians and students of the grounds for all suspension and expulsion recommendations and decisions and their due process rights regarding suspension and expulsion, including rights of appeal.

Charter School shall ensure that its policies and procedures regarding suspension and expulsion will be periodically reviewed, and modified as necessary, in order to conform to changes in state law.

Charter School shall ensure that its staff is knowledgeable about and complies with the District's Discipline Foundation Policy and/or current equivalent policy, as required by the Modified Consent Decree. Charter School shall comply with the terms of the School Discipline Policy and School Climate Bill of Rights resolution adopted by the LAUSD Board of Education on May 6, 2013.

Charter School shall be responsible for the appropriate interim placement of students during and pending the completion of Charter School's student expulsion process and shall facilitate the post-expulsion placement of expelled students.

Charter School shall document and implement the alternatives to suspension and expulsion that Charter School utilizes in response to attendance-related concerns, e.g. truancy or excessive tardiness.

# **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Charter School shall establish and implement policies and procedures to ensure full compliance with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the discipline of students with disabilities. If a student is recommended for expulsion and the student receives or is eligible for special education, pending the completion of the expulsion process, Charter School shall identify and provide special education programs and services at an appropriate interim educational placement determined in coordination with the LAUSD Division of Special Education.

In the case of a student who has an Individualized Education Program ("IEP"), or a student who has a Section 504 Plan, Charter School shall ensure that it follows correct disciplinary procedures to comply with the mandates of state and federal laws, including IDEA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Plan of 1973. As set forth in the MOU regarding special education between the District and Charter School, an IEP team will meet to conduct a manifestation determination and to discuss alternative placement utilizing the District's Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual. Prior to recommending expulsion for a student with a Section 504 Plan, Charter School's administrator will convene a Link Determination meeting to ask the following two questions:

- C. Was the misconduct caused by, or directly and substantially related to the student's disability?
- D. Was the misconduct a direct result of the Charter School's failure to implement Section 504?

# NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT

Upon expelling <u>any</u> student, Charter School shall notify the Charter Schools Division by submitting an expulsion packet to the CSD immediately or as soon as practicable, which shall contain:

- Completed "Notification of Charter School Expulsion" [form available from the CSD website or office], including attachments as required on the form
- Documentation of the expulsion proceeding, including statement of specific facts supporting the expulsion and documentation that Charter School's policies and procedures were followed
- Copy of parental notice of expulsion hearing
- Copy of expulsion notice provided to parent stating reason for expulsion, term of expulsion, rehabilitation plan, reinstatement notice with eligibility date and instructions for providing proof of student's compliance for reinstatement, appeal process, and options for enrollment
- If the student is eligible for Special Education, documentation related to expulsion in compliance with IDEA and the MCD, including the Expulsion Analysis page of the pre-expulsion IEP
- If the student is eligible for Section 504 accommodations, documentation that Charter School conducted a Link Determination meeting to address two questions:
  - C. Was the misconduct caused by, or directly and substantially related to the student's disability?
  - D. Was the misconduct a direct result of Charter School's failure to implement Section 504 Plan?

Notwithstanding and apart from the documentation sent to the Charter Schools Division as indicated above, if the student is a resident of a school district other than LAUSD, Charter School must notify the superintendent of the student's district of residence within 30 days of the expulsion. Additionally, upon request of the receiving school district, Charter School shall forward student records no later than 10 school days from the date of the request as stated in Education Code section 49068 (a) and (b).

# **OUTCOME DATA**

Charter School shall gather and maintain all data related to placement, tracking, and monitoring of student suspensions, expulsions, and reinstatements, and make such outcome data readily available to the District upon request.

# **REHABILITATION PLANS**

Pupils who are expelled from Charter School shall be given a rehabilitation plan upon expulsion as developed by Charter School's governing board at the time of the expulsion order, which may include, but is not limited to, periodic review as well as assessment at the time of review for readmission. Terms of expulsion should be reasonable and fair with the weight of the expelling offense taken into consideration when determining the length of expulsion. Therefore, the rehabilitation plan should include a date not

later than one (1) year from the date of expulsion when the pupil may apply to Charter School for readmission. Charter School shall inform parents in writing of its processes for reinstatement and applying for expungement of the expulsion record.

# READMISSION

Charter School's governing board shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for the filing and processing of requests for readmission and the process for the required review of all expelled pupils for readmission. Upon completion of the readmission process, Charter School's governing board shall readmit the pupil, unless Charter School's governing board makes a finding that the pupil has not met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or continues to pose a danger to campus safety. A description of the procedure shall be made available to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian at the time the expulsion order is entered and the decision of the governing board, including any related findings, must be provided to the pupil and the pupil's parent/guardian within a reasonable time.

# REINSTATEMENT

Charter School's governing board shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for processing reinstatements, including the review of documents regarding the rehabilitation plan. Charter School is responsible for reinstating the student upon the conclusion of the expulsion period in a timely manner.

# **GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT**

Charter School shall comply with the federal Gun-Free Schools Act.

### **ELEMENT 11 - EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

"The manner by which staff members of the charter schools will be covered by the State Teachers' Retirement System, the Public Employees' Retirement System, or federal social security." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(K).)

Charter School shall comply in a timely manner with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, as they may change from time to time, including but not limited to Internal Revenue Code section 414(d) and related regulations, governing Charter School's participation in, and/or coverage of its staff members by, the State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS), the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), and/or federal social security.

If Charter School participates in, or otherwise covers its staff members by enrolling or continuing their enrollment in, a "government plan" governed by section 414(d) (e.g., CalPERS), upon dissolution or final liquidation of Charter School, and/or its nonprofit public benefit corporation, notwithstanding any provision in Element 15 to the contrary, Charter School shall distribute its net assets in accordance with section 414(d), related regulations, and the government plan's requirements.

If Charter School participates in CalSTRS and/or CalPERS, Charter School shall continue such participation for the duration of Charter School's existence under the same CDS code, if mandated by applicable legal and retirement plan requirements.

#### **ELEMENT 12 - PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ALTERNATIVES**

"The public school attendance alternatives for pupils residing within the school district who choose not to attend charter schools." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(L).)

Pupils of Charter School do not have or gain any right to admission in a particular school of any school district, or program of any school district, as a consequence of applying to or enrolling in Charter School, except to the extent that such a right is extended by the school district.

A pupil who chooses not to attend Charter School may attend a public school within the pupil's school district of residence in accordance with applicable law and that school district's policies and procedures. The pupil alternatively may seek to enroll in another charter school in accordance with applicable law and the terms of the school's charter. If LAUSD is the pupil's school district of residence, an eligible pupil may pursue an inter-district transfer, if available, in accordance with the admission, enrollment, and transfer policies and procedures of the District, as they may change from time to time.

#### **ELEMENT 13 - RIGHTS OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES**

"The rights of an employee of the school district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work in a charter school, and of any rights of return to the school district after employment at a charter school." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(M).)

Employees of the District who choose to leave the employment of the District to work at Charter School shall have no automatic rights of return to the District after employment at Charter School unless specifically granted by the District through a leave of absence or other agreement or policy of the District as aligned with the collective bargaining agreements of the District. Leave and return rights for District union-represented employees and former employees who accept employment with Charter School will be administered in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements and any applicable judicial rulings.

#### **ELEMENT 14 - MANDATORY DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

"The procedures to be followed by the charter school and the entity granting the charter to resolve disputes relating to provisions of the charter." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(N).)

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

Any claim, controversy or dispute between the District and Charter School arising out of or relating to this Charter, except for any claim, controversy or dispute related to the authorization (non-renewal, revision and/or revocation) of this Charter, ("Dispute") shall be resolved pursuant to the terms of this Element 14.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each party shall bear and be solely responsible for all of its own attorneys' fees, costs and expenses associated with any Dispute, including, but not limited to, any written/oral communication, meeting, Issues Conference, mediation, arbitration, administrative and/or civil action (including all levels of appeal), and no party shall be ordered to pay, or be awarded, any other

party's attorneys' fees, costs or expenses in connection therewith, regardless of who may be deemed the prevailing party. Any fees, costs and expenses charged by a mediator or arbitrator (including all associated administration fees, costs and expenses) shall be shared equally by the parties regardless of the outcome or award. To that effect, any order or award of attorneys' fees, costs and/or expenses, or mediator's or arbitrator's fees, costs or expenses (including any associated administration fees, costs and expenses), issued by a mediator, arbitrator, judicial officer (including all levels of appeal) or jury in any Dispute shall be deemed invalid as a matter of law and unenforceable by one party against the other party.

# **PROPOSITION 39 DISPUTES**

Any Dispute related to or arising out of Education Code §47614 and/or its implementing regulations set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 11969 *et seq*. ("Proposition 39"), shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth below:

6) Any Dispute shall be communicated in writing ("Written Notification"). The Written Notification must identify the nature of the Dispute and all supporting facts. The Written Notification shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Notification shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such notice if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.

Unless directed otherwise, all Written Notifications to the District and Charter School shall be addressed respectively as follows:

Director
Charter Schools Division
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017

Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO Magnolia Public Schools 250 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012

- 7) A written response ("Written Response") shall be tendered to the other party within fifteen (15) business days from the date of receipt of the Written Notification or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. The Written Response shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Response shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such communication if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.
- 8) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement from the Written Response, the parties agree to schedule a conference to discuss the Dispute identified in the Written Notice ("Issue Conference"). The Issue Conference shall take place within fifteen (15) business days from the date

on which the Written Response is received by the other party or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties.

- 9) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement at the Issue Conference, either party may then request that the Dispute be resolved by mediation. Within fifteen (15) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, the parties shall mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator, the mediator shall be selected from a list of mediators prepared and provided by the American Arbitration Association. Mediation proceedings shall commence within thirty (30) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, and conclude within forty (40) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, mediation proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association.
- 10) If the mediation is not successful, either party may then initiate a civil action. Venue for any civil action between the parties shall be the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

# **Non-Proposition 39 Disputes**

Any Dispute not related to or arising out of Proposition 39 shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth below:

6) Any Dispute shall be communicated in writing ("Written Notification"). The Written Notification must identify the nature of the Dispute and any supporting facts. The Written Notification shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile, or by certified mail. The Written Notification shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such notice if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.

Unless directed otherwise all Written Notifications to the District and Charter School shall be addressed respectively as follows:

Director
Charter Schools Division
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017

Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO Magnolia Public Schools 250 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012

- 7) A written response ("Written Response") shall be tendered to the other party within twenty (20) business days from the date of receipt of the Written Notification or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. The Written Response shall be tendered to the other party by personal delivery, by facsimile or e-mail, or by certified mail. The Written Response shall be deemed received (a) if personally delivered, upon date of delivery to the address of the person to receive such communication if delivered by 5:00 p.m., or otherwise on the business day following personal delivery; (b) if by facsimile or e-mail, upon electronic confirmation of receipt; or (c) if by certified mail, two (2) business days after deposit in the U.S. Mail.
- 8) If the Dispute has not been otherwise resolved by mutual agreement, the parties agree to schedule a conference to discuss the Dispute identified in the Written Notice ("Issue Conference"). The Issue Conference shall take place within fifteen (15) business days from the date from the date on which the Written Response is received by the other party or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 9) If the Dispute has not been resolved by mutual agreement at the Issue Conference, either party may then request that the Dispute be resolved by mediation. Within fifteen (15) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties, the parties shall mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator. If the parties are unable to mutually agree upon the selection of a mediator, the mediator shall be selected from a list of mediators prepared and provided by the American Arbitration Association. Mediation proceedings shall commence within thirty (30) business days of the date of the request for mediation or other date as determined by mutual agreement of the parties. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, mediation proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association.
- 10) If the mediation is not successful, then the parties agree to resolve the Dispute by binding arbitration conducted by a single arbitrator. Unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, arbitration proceedings shall be administered in accordance with the commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator must be an active member of the State Bar of California or a retired judge of the state or federal judiciary of California.

## **ELEMENT 15 - CHARTER SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES**

"The procedures to be used if the charter school closes. The procedures shall ensure a final audit of the charter school to determine the disposition of all assets and liabilities of the charter school, including plans for disposing of any net assets and for the maintenance and transfer of pupil records." (Ed. Code § 47605(b)(5)(O).)

### **REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER**

The District may revoke the Charter pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Charter Schools Act of 1992, as they may be amended from time to time. The District may revoke the Charter of Charter School if the District finds, through a showing of substantial evidence, that Charter School did any of the following:

 Charter School committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in the Charter.

- Charter School failed to meet or pursue any of the pupil outcomes identified in the Charter.
- Charter School failed to meet generally accepted accounting principles, or engaged in fiscal mismanagement.
- Charter School violated any provision of law.

Prior to revocation, and in accordance with Education Code section 47607(d) and state regulations, the LAUSD Board of Education will notify Charter School in writing of the specific violation, and give Charter School a reasonable opportunity to cure the violation, unless the LAUSD Board of Education determines, in writing, that the violation constitutes a severe and imminent threat to the health or safety of the pupils. Revocation proceedings are not subject to the dispute resolution provisions set forth in this Charter.

Pursuant to AB 97, charter schools may be identified for assistance based on state evaluation rubrics and be subject to revocation pursuant to Education Code section 47607.3.

# **CLOSURE ACTION**

The decision to close Charter School, by the governing board of Charter School must be documented in a "Closure Action". A Closure Action shall be deemed to have been automatically taken when any of the following occur: the Charter is revoked (subject to the provisions of Education Code section 47607(i)) or non-renewed by the LAUSD Board of Education and Charter School has exhausted its revocation or non-renewal administrative appeal rights pursuant to Education Code sections 47605(j)(1) and 47607(f), or its administrative appeal rights have lapsed, or the charter school voluntarily closes at any stage of the administrative appeal process;; the governing board of Charter School votes to close Charter School; or the Charter lapses.

# **CLOSURE PROCEDURES**

The procedures for charter school closure set forth below are guided by *Education Code* sections 47604.32, 47605, and 47607 as well as *California Code of Regulations*, title 5, sections 11962 and 11962.1, and are based on "Charter School Closure Requirements and Recommendations (Revised 08/2009)" posted on the California Department of Education website. All references to "Charter School" apply to Charter School, including its nonprofit corporation and governing board.

# Designation of Responsible Person(s) and Funding of Closure

Prior to or at the time of the taking of a Closure Action by either the governing board of Charter School or the LAUSD Board of Education, the governing board of Charter School shall designate a person or persons responsible for conducting and overseeing all closure-related procedures and activities, and allocate sufficient funding for, or otherwise determine how Charter School will fund, these activities.

#### **Notification of Closure Action**

Upon the taking of a Closure Action, Charter School shall send written notice of its closure to:

9. The LAUSD Charter Schools Division (CSD). Charter School shall provide the CSD with written notice of (1) the person(s) designated to be responsible for conducting and overseeing all closure activities, and (2) the source, location, and management of the funding for such activities. If the

Closure Action is an act of Charter School, Charter School shall provide the CSD with a copy of the governing board resolution or minutes that documents its Closure Action.

- 10. Parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, currently enrolled in Charter School within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of the written parent notification to the CSD.
- 11. Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to LACOE by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 12. The Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) in which Charter School participates. Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to the SELPA in which Charter School participates by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 13. The retirement systems in which Charter School's employees participate. Within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Closure Action, Charter School shall notify, as applicable, the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), the Social Security Administration, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education of the Closure Action, and follow their respective procedures for dissolving contracts and reporting. Charter School shall provide a copy of these notifications and correspondence to the CSD.
- 14. The California Department of Education (CDE). Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action to the CDE by registered mail within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall provide a copy of this notification to the CSD.
- 15. Any school district that may be responsible for providing education services to the former students of Charter School. Charter School shall send written notification of the Closure Action within 72 hours of the Closure Action. This notice must include a list of potentially returning students and their home schools based on student residence. Charter School shall provide a copy of these notifications, if any, to the CSD.
- 16. All Charter School employees and vendors within 72 hours of the Closure Action. Charter School shall simultaneously provide a copy of the written employee and vendor notification, with any attachments, to the CSD.

Notification of all the parties above, with the exception of employees and vendors, must include but is not limited to the following information:

- 5. The effective date of the closure of Charter School
- The name(s) and contact information for the person(s) handling inquiries regarding the closure
- 7. The students' school districts of residence
- 8. How parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, may obtain copies of student records and transcripts, including specific information on completed courses and credits that meet graduation requirements

In addition to the four required items above, notification of the CDE shall also include:

- 3. A description of the circumstances of the closure
- 4. The location of student and personnel records

In addition to the four required items above, notification of parents/guardians of all students, and all majority age and emancipated minor students, shall also include:

- 4. Information on how to enroll or transfer the student to an appropriate school
- 5. A <u>certified</u> packet of student information that includes closure notice, a copy of the student's cumulative record and other records, including but not limited to grade reports, discipline records, immunization records, completed coursework, credits that meet graduation requirements, a transcript, and state testing results
- 6. Information on student completion of college entrance requirements, for all high school students affected by the closure

Notification of employees and vendors shall include:

- 4. The effective date of the closure of Charter School
- 5. The name(s) and contact information for the person(s) handling inquiries regarding the closure
- 6. The date and manner, which shall be no later than 30 days from the effective date of the closure of Charter School, by which Charter School shall provide employees with written verification of employment

Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of closure, Charter School shall provide all employees with written verification of employment. Charter School shall send copies of all such employee verification letters to the CSD.

#### **Records Retention and Transfer**

Charter School shall comply with all applicable laws as well as District policies and procedures, as they may change from time to time, regarding the transfer and maintenance of Charter School records, including student records. These requirements include:

- 10. Charter School shall provide the District with all original student cumulative files and behavior records, pursuant to District policy and applicable District handbook(s) regarding cumulative records for secondary and elementary schools, for all students, both active and inactive, of Charter School. Transfer of the complete and organized original student records to the District, in accordance with District procedures applicable at the time of closure, shall occur within seven (7) calendar days of the effective date of closure.
- 11. Charter School's process for transferring copies of student records to receiving schools shall be in accordance with applicable law and LAUSD procedures for students moving from one school to another.

- 12. Charter School shall prepare and provide an electronic master list of all students to the Charter Schools Division in accordance with the District procedures applicable at the time of closure. This list shall include the student's identification number, Statewide Student Identifier (SSID), birthdate, grade, full name, address, home school/school district, enrollment date, exit code, exit date, parent/guardian name(s), and phone number(s). If the Charter School closure occurs before the end of the school year, the list also shall indicate the name of the school to which each student is transferring, if known. This electronic master list shall be delivered to the CSD in the form of a CD or otherwise in accordance with District procedures.
- 13. Charter School must organize the original cumulative files for delivery to the District in two categories: active students and inactive students. Charter School will coordinate with the CSD for the delivery and/or pickup of student records.
- 14. Charter School must update all student records in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) prior to closing.
- 15. Charter School must provide to the CSD a copy of student attendance records, teacher gradebooks, and Title I records (if applicable).
- 16. Charter School must provide to the CSD the name, title, and contact information of the person designated to maintain all Charter School personnel records after the closure. Personnel records to be transferred to and maintained by the designee must include any and all employee records, including but not limited to, records related to performance and grievance. Charter School must provide to the CSD and the designee a list of all active and inactive employees and their periods of service. Both Charter School and the designee, individually and separately, shall inform the CSD immediately upon the transfer of Charter School's employee records to the designee.
- 17. Charter School shall ensure that all records are boxed and clearly labeled by classification of documents and the required duration of storage in accordance with District procedures.
- 18. Charter School shall provide to the responsible person(s) designated by the governing board of Charter School to conduct all closure-related activities a list of students in each grade level and, for each student, a list of classes completed and the student's district of residence.

## iii. Financial Close-Out

After receiving notification of closure, the California Department of Education (CDE) will notify Charter School and the authorizing entity of any liabilities Charter School owes the state, which may include overpayment of apportionments, unpaid revolving fund loans or grants, and/or similar liabilities. The CDE may ask the county office of education to conduct an audit of the charter school if it has reason to believe that the school received state funding for which it was not eligible.

Charter School shall ensure completion of an independent final audit within six months after the closure of Charter School that includes:

4. An accounting of all financial assets. These may include cash and accounts receivable and an inventory of property, equipment, and other items of material value.

- 5. An accounting of all liabilities. These may include accounts payable or reduction in apportionments due to loans, unpaid staff compensation, audit findings, or other investigations.
- 6. An assessment of the disposition of any restricted funds received by or due to Charter School.

This audit may serve as Charter School's annual audit if it meets all of the requirements of the annual audit.

Charter School shall pay for the financial closeout audit of Charter School. This audit will be conducted by a neutral, independent licensed CPA who will employ generally accepted accounting principles. Any liability or debt incurred by Charter School will be the responsibility of Charter School and not LAUSD. Charter School understands and acknowledges that Charter School will cover the outstanding debts or liabilities of Charter School. Any unused monies at the time of the audit will be returned to the appropriate funding source. Charter School understands and acknowledges that only unrestricted funds will be used to pay creditors. Any unused AB 602 funds will be returned to the District SELPA or the SELPA in which Charter School participates, and other categorical funds will be returned to the source of funds.

Charter School shall ensure the completion and filing of any annual reports required. These reports include but are not necessarily limited to:

- 5. Preliminary budgets
- 6. Interim financial reports
- 7. Second interim financial reports
- 8. Final unaudited reports

These reports must be submitted to the CDE and the authorizing entity in the form required. These reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the Closure Action, but no later than the required deadline for reporting for the fiscal year.

For apportionment of categorical programs, the CDE will count the prior year average daily attendance (ADA) or enrollment data of the closed Charter School with the data of the authorizing entity. This practice will occur in the first year after the closure and will continue until CDE data collection processes reflect ADA or enrollment adjustments for all affected LEAs due to the charter closure.

# iv. Disposition of Liabilities and Assets

The closeout audit must identify the disposition of all liabilities of Charter School. Charter School closure procedures must also ensure appropriate disposal, in accordance with the District Required Language provisions in Element 11 of this Charter, Charter School's governing board bylaws, fiscal procedures, and any other applicable laws and regulations, of any net assets remaining after all liabilities of Charter School have been paid or otherwise addressed. Such disposal includes, but is not limited to:

Charter School, at its cost and expense, shall return to the District any and all property, furniture, equipment, supplies, and other assets provided to Charter School by or on behalf of the District. The District discloses that the California Education Code sets forth the requirements for the disposition of the District's personal property and Charter School shall bear responsibility and liability for any disposition in violation of statutory requirements.

- 6. The return of any donated materials and property in accordance with any terms and conditions set when the donations were accepted.
- 7. The return of any grant and restricted categorical funds to their sources according to the terms of the grant or state and federal law.
- 8. The submission of final expenditure reports for any entitlement grants and the filing of Final Expenditure Reports and Final Performance Reports, as appropriate.

If Charter School is operated as or by a nonprofit corporation, and if the corporation does not have any functions other than operation of Charter School, the corporation shall be dissolved according to its bylaws.

Charter School shall retain sufficient staff, as deemed appropriate by the Charter School governing board to complete all necessary tasks and procedures required to close the school and transfer records in accordance with these closure procedures.

Charter School's governing board shall adopt a plan for wind-up of Charter School and, if necessary, the corporation, in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Code.

Charter School shall provide LAUSD within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Closure Action with written notice of any outstanding payments due to staff and the time frame and method by which Charter School will make the payments.

Prior to final close-out, Charter School shall complete all actions required by applicable law, including but not limited to the following:

- d. File all final federal, state, and local employer payroll tax returns and issue final W-2s and Form 1099s by the statutory deadlines.
- e. Make final federal tax payments (employee taxes, etc.)
- f. Complete and submit all required federal and state filings and notices to the State of California, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of the Treasury, including but not limited to final tax returns and forms (e.g., Form 990 and related Schedules).

This Element 15 shall survive the revocation, expiration, termination, cancellation of this Charter, or any other act or event that would end Charter School's authorization to operate as a charter school or cause Charter School to cease operation. Charter School agrees that, due to the nature of the property and activities that are the subject of this Charter, the District and public shall suffer irreparable harm should Charter School breach any obligation under this Element 15. The District therefore reserves the right to seek equitable relief to enforce any right arising under this Element 15 or any provision of this Element 15 or to prevent or cure any breach of any obligation undertaken, without in any way prejudicing any other legal remedy available to the District. Such legal relief shall include, without limitation, the seeking of a

temporary or permanent injunction, restraining order, or order for specific performance, and may be sought in any appropriate court.

#### ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

# **FACILITIES**

Charter School shall comply with all geographic and site limitations and related requirements set forth in Education Code sections 47605.1, 47602(a), and 47605(a).

# **District-Owned Facilities**

If Charter School is using District facilities as of the date of the submission of this charter petition or takes occupancy of District facilities prior to the approval of this charter petition, Charter School shall execute an agreement provided by the District for the use of the District facilities <u>as a condition of the approval of the charter petition</u>. If at any time after the approval of this charter petition Charter School will occupy and use any District facilities, Charter School shall execute an agreement provided by the District for the use of the District facilities <u>prior to occupancy and commencing use</u>. Charter School shall implement and otherwise comply with the terms of any and all applicable facilities use agreements between Charter School and the District.

The circumstances of Charter School's occupancy of District facilities may change over time such as, but not limited to, enrollment, programs, and the conditions of facilities, and the District has a vested interest in having an agreement that is appropriate for the situation.

For a Sole Occupant Agreement or any other use agreement that is not a Proposition 39 Single Year Colocation Use Agreement or a lease issued through the Notice of Intent and bid process, the term may be co-terminous with the approved Charter, as permitted by law. Charter School and the District shall negotiate any modifications of the agreement with the goal of such amendment or new agreement being considered by the LAUSD Board of Education with the renewal of the charter petition. If Charter School and the District cannot execute an agreement in time for such to be considered by the Board of Education with the renewal of the charter petition, the approval of the renewal of the charter petition shall be conditioned upon Charter School and the District executing an amendment to the existing use agreement or a new agreement no later than May 1<sup>st</sup> or within nine (9) months of the date of the Board of Education's approval of the renewal of the charter petition. During such time period Charter School shall be permitted to remain in occupancy of the District facilities under the terms and conditions of the immediately preceding, executed use agreement; provided, that if Charter School and the District cannot agree upon and execute an amendment or new use agreement by said deadline, Charter School shall vacate the District facilities on or before June 30<sup>th</sup> of said school year.

Charter School acknowledges and agrees that occupancy and use of District facilities shall be in compliance with applicable laws and District policies for the operation and maintenance of District facilities and furnishings and equipment. Charter School shall comply with all District health, safety, and emergency procedures and requirements and shall be subject to inspection by the District's Facilities Services Division, OEHS, and other District offices in the same manner as other LAUSD campuses. All District facilities (i.e., schools) will remain subject to those laws applicable to public schools.

In the event of an emergency, all District facilities (i.e., schools) are available for use by the American Red Cross and public agencies as emergency locations, which may disrupt or prevent Charter School from conducting its educational programs. If Charter School will share the use of District facilities with other

District user groups, Charter School agrees that it will participate in and observe all District safety policies (e.g., emergency chain of information and participation in safety drills).

The use agreements provided by the District for District facilities shall contain terms and conditions addressing issues such as, but not limited to, the following:

- <u>Use</u>: Charter School will be restricted to using the District facilities for the operation of a public school
  providing educational instruction to public school students consistent with the terms of the Charter
  and incidental related uses. Separate and apart from its right as authorizer to observe and inspect any
  part of the charter school at any time pursuant to Education Code 47607(a)(1), the District shall have
  and reserves the right to inspect District facilities upon reasonable notice to Charter School.
- <u>Furnishings and Equipment</u>: The District shall retain ownership of any furnishings and equipment, including technology, ("F&E") that it provides to Charter School for use. Charter School, at its sole cost and expense, shall provide maintenance and other services for the good and safe operation of the F&E.
- <u>Leasing; Licensing</u>: Use of the District facilities by any person or entity other than Charter School shall be administered by the District. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement in the use agreement.
- Programs, Services, and Activities Outside Instructional Program; Third Party Vendors
  - (i) Any program, service, or activity provided outside the instructional program shall be subject to the terms and provisions of the use agreement, and, additionally, may require a license, permit, or additional agreement issued by the District. The term "instructional program" is defined, per Education Code section 47612 and 5 CCR section 11960, as those required educational activities that generate funding based on "average daily attendance" and includes those extracurricular programs, services, and/or activities that students are required to participate in and do not require the payment of any consideration or fee.
  - (ii) Any program, service, or activity requiring the payment of any consideration or fee or provided by a third party vendor (defined as any person or entity other than Charter School), whether paid or volunteer and regardless of whether such may be within the instructional program, shall be subject to the terms and provisions of the use agreement and such third party vendor shall be required to obtain a license, permit, or additional agreement from the District.
- Minimum Payments or Charges to be Paid to District Arising From the Facilities:
  - (iii) <u>Pro Rata Share</u>: The District shall collect and Charter School shall pay a Pro Rata Share for facilities costs as provided in the Charter Schools Act of 1992 and its regulations. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding facilities costs in the use agreement; and
  - (iv) <u>Taxes</u>; <u>Assessments</u>: Generally, Charter School shall pay any assessment or fee imposed upon or levied on the LAUSD facilities that it is occupying or Charter School's legal or equitable interest created by the use agreement.

- Maintenance & Operations Services: In the event the District agrees to allow Charter School to
  perform any of the operation and maintenance services, the District shall have the right to inspect the
  District facilities, and the costs incurred in such inspection shall be paid by Charter School.
  - (iii) <u>Co-Location</u>: If Charter School is co-locating or sharing the District facilities with another user, the District shall provide the operations and maintenance services for the District facilities and Charter School shall pay the Pro Rata Share. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding performance of the operations and maintenance services and payment for such in the use agreement.
  - (iv) <u>Sole Occupant</u>: If Charter School is a sole occupant of District facilities, the District shall allow Charter School, at its sole cost and expense, to provide some operations and maintenance services for the District facilities in accordance with applicable laws and LAUSD's policies on operations and maintenance services for facilities and F&E. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, the District shall provide all services for regulatory inspections which as the owner of the real property it is required to submit, and deferred maintenance, and Charter School shall pay LAUSD for the cost and expense of providing those services. The parties may agree to an alternative arrangement regarding performance of the operations and maintenance services and payment for such services in the use agreement.
- <u>Real Property Insurance</u>: Prior to occupancy, Charter School shall satisfy requirements to participate
  in LAUSD's property insurance or, if Charter School is the sole occupant of LAUSD facilities, obtain and
  maintain separate property insurance for the LAUSD facilities. Charter School shall <u>not</u> have the option
  of obtaining and maintaining separate property insurance for the LAUSD facility IF Charter School is
  co-locating or sharing the LAUSD facility with another user.

#### **Non-District-Owned Facilities**

Occupancy and Use of the Site: Prior to occupancy or use of any school site or facility, Charter School shall provide the CSD with a current Certificate of Occupancy or equivalent document issued by the applicable permitting agency that allows Charter School to use and occupy the site as a charter school. Charter School shall not exceed the operating capacity of the site and shall operate within any limitations or requirements provided by the Certificate of Occupancy and any applicable permit. Charter School may not open or operate without providing a copy of an appropriate Certificate of Occupancy to the CSD. If Charter School intends to move or expand to another facility during the term of this Charter, Charter School shall adhere to any and all District policies and procedures regarding charter material revision and non-material amendment. Prior to occupancy or use of any such additional or changed school site, Charter School shall provide an appropriate Certificate of Occupancy to the CSD for such facility. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary in this Charter, the interpretation, application, and enforcement of this provision are not subject to the Dispute Resolution Process outlined in Element 14.

Facility Compliance: Prior to occupancy or use of any non-District-owned school site and/or facility, Charter School shall ensure that the site and/or facility complies with all applicable building codes, standards and regulations adopted by the city and/or county agencies responsible for building and safety standards for the city in which Charter School is to be located, federal and state accessibility requirements (including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504), and all other applicable fire, health, and structural safety and access requirements. This requirement shall also apply to the construction, reconstruction, alteration of or addition to the facility. Charter School shall resolve in a timely manner any

and all corrective actions, orders to comply, and notices issued by any authorized building and safety agency. Charter School cannot exempt itself from applicable building and zoning codes, ordinances, and ADA/Section 504 requirements. Charter School shall maintain on file readily accessible records that document facilities compliance and shall promptly provide such documentation to the CSD upon request.

**Pest Management:** Charter School shall comply with the Healthy Schools Act, Education Code section 17608, which details pest management requirements for schools.

**Asbestos Management:** Charter School shall comply with the asbestos requirement as cited in the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 40 C.F.R. part 763. AHERA requires that any building leased or acquired that is to be used as a school or administrative building shall maintain an asbestos management plan.

# **INSURANCE**

#### **Insurance Requirements**

No coverage shall be provided to Charter School by the District under any of the District's self-insured programs or commercial insurance policies. Charter School shall secure and maintain, at a minimum, insurance as set forth below with insurance companies acceptable to the District [A.M. Best A-, VII or better] or the equivalent provided through a California Joint Powers Authority self-insurance program to protect Charter School from claims which may arise from its operations. Each Charter School location shall meet the below insurance requirements individually.

It shall be Charter School's responsibility, not the District's, to monitor its vendors, contractors, partners, and/or sponsors for compliance with the insurance requirements.

The following insurance policies are required:

- 5. Commercial General Liability, including Fire Legal Liability, coverage of \$5,000,000 per Occurrence and in the Aggregate. The policy shall be endorsed to name the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles as named additional insureds and shall provide specifically that any insurance carried by the District which may be applicable to any claims or loss shall be deemed excess and Charter School's insurance shall be primary despite any conflicting provisions in Charter School's policy. Coverage shall be maintained with no Self-Insured Retention above \$15,000 without the prior written approval of the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services for the LAUSD.
- 6. Workers' Compensation Insurance in accordance with provisions of the California Labor Code adequate to protect Charter School from claims that may arise from its operations pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act (Statutory Coverage). The Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage must also include Employers Liability coverage with limits of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000.
- 7. Commercial Auto Liability, including Owned, Leased, Hired, and Non-owned, coverage with limits of \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence if Charter School does not operate a student transportation service. If Charter School provides student transportation services, the required coverage limit is \$5,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence.

- 8. Crime Insurance or Fidelity Bond coverage shall be maintained by Charter School to cover all Charter School employees who handle, process or otherwise have responsibility for Charter School funds, supplies, equipment, or other assets. Minimum amount of coverage shall be \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$1,000,000 aggregate, with deductible that is acceptable to the Los Angeles Unified School District.
- 10. Cyber Liability insurance coverage with minimum limits of \$500,000 per occurrence and \$500,000 general aggregate.
- 11. Professional Educators Errors and Omissions liability coverage with minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate.
- 12. Sexual Molestation and Abuse coverage with minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate. Coverage may be held as a separate policy or included by endorsement in the Commercial General Liability or the Errors and Omissions Policy.
- 13. Employment Practices Legal Liability coverage with limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 general aggregate.
- 14. Excess/Umbrella Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$10,000,000 is required of all high schools and any other school that participates in competitive interscholastic or intramural sports programs.

Coverages and limits of insurance may be accomplished through individual primary policies or through a combination of primary and excess policies and alternative methods of coverage as approved by the District. The policy shall be endorsed to name the Los Angeles Unified School District and Its Board of Education as named additional insureds and shall provide specifically that any insurance carried by the District which may be applicable to any claims or loss shall be deemed excess and Charter School's insurance shall be primary despite any conflicting provisions in Charter School's policy.

# **Evidence of Insurance**

Charter School shall furnish to the District's Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services located at 333 S. Beaudry Ave, 28<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles CA 90017 within 30 calendar days of all new policies, inceptions, renewals or changes, certificates, or such insurance signed by authorized representatives of the insurance carrier. Certificates shall be endorsed as follows:

"Charter school shall be required to provide LAUSD with 30 days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, if the insurance afforded by this policy shall be suspended, cancelled, reduced in coverage limits or non-renewed."

Facsimile or reproduced signatures may be acceptable upon review by the Division of Risk Management and Insurance Services. However, the District reserves the right to require certified copies of any required insurance policies.

Should Charter School deem it prudent and/or desirable to have insurance coverage for damage or theft to Charter School, employee or student property, for student accident, or any other type of insurance

MSA-6 Charter Renewal Petition Page 216

coverage not listed above, such insurance shall not be provided by the District and its purchase shall be the responsibility of Charter School.

### **Hold Harmless/Indemnification Provision**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Charter School does hereby agree, at its own expense, to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses including but not limited to attorneys' fees, brought by any person or entity whatsoever, arising out of, or relating to, this Charter agreement. Charter School further agrees to the fullest extent permitted by law, at its own expense, to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses including but not limited to attorneys' fees, brought by any person or entity whatsoever for claims, damages, losses and expenses arising from or relating to acts or omission of acts committed by Charter School and/or its officers, directors, employees or volunteers. Moreover, Charter School agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless "the LAUSD and the Board of Education and their members, officers, directors, agents, representatives, employees and volunteers, for any contractual liability resulting from third party contracts with Charter School's vendors, contractors, partners or sponsors.

# **FISCAL MATTERS**

# **District Oversight Costs**

The District may charge for the actual costs of oversight of Charter School not to exceed 1% of Charter School's revenue, or the District may charge for the actual costs of oversight of Charter School not to exceed 3% if Charter School is able to obtain substantially rent free facilities from the District. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District may charge the maximum oversight fee allowed under the law as it may change from time to time. The oversight fee provided herein is separate and distinct from the charges arising under charter school facilities use agreements.

# **Cash Reserves**

Charter School acknowledges that the recommended cash reserve is 5% of expenditures, as provided in section 15450, title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

#### **Third Party Contracts**

Charter School shall ensure that all third party contracts, whether oral or written, for supplies, equipment, goods and/or services, for the direct or indirect benefit of, or otherwise related to the operation of, Charter School, require compliance with and otherwise conform to all applicable local, state, and federal policies, regulations, laws, and guidelines, including but not limited to licensing and permit requirements as well as requirements related to protection of health and safety.

# **Special Education Revenue Adjustment/Payment for Services**

In the event that Charter School owes funds to the District for the provision of agreed upon or fee for service or special education services or as a result of the State's adjustment to allocation of special education revenues from Charter School, Charter School authorizes the District to deduct any and all of the in lieu property taxes that Charter School otherwise would be eligible to receive under section 47635 of the Education Code to cover such owed amounts. Charter School further understands and agrees that the District shall make appropriate deductions from the in lieu property tax amounts otherwise owed to Charter School. Should this revenue stream be insufficient in any fiscal year to cover any such costs, Charter School agrees that it will reimburse the District for the additional costs within forty-five (45) business days of being notified of the amounts owed.

# **Student Body Funds**

Charter School shall supervise and manage any and all student body funds in a manner consistent with the provisions of Education Code sections 48930-48938. Charter School shall include and address student body funds in its financial reports, and ensure that such funds are included and addressed in Charter School's annual audit as a stand-alone item.

# **Audit and Inspection of Records**

Charter School agrees to observe and abide by the following terms and conditions as a requirement for receiving and maintaining its charter authorization:

- Charter School is subject to District oversight.
- The District's statutory oversight responsibility continues throughout the life of the Charter and requires that the District, among other things, monitors the fiscal condition of Charter School.
- The District is authorized to revoke this Charter for, among other reasons, the failure of Charter School to meet generally accepted accounting principles or if Charter School engages in fiscal mismanagement.

Accordingly, the District hereby reserves the right, pursuant to its oversight responsibility, to audit Charter School books, records, data, processes and procedures through the District Office of the Inspector General or other means. The audit may include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Compliance with terms and conditions prescribed in the Charter agreement,
- Internal controls, both financial and operational in nature,
- The accuracy, recording and/or reporting of Charter School's financial information,

- Charter School's debt structure,
- Governance policies, procedures and history,
- The recording and reporting of attendance data,
- Charter School's enrollment process,
- Compliance with safety plans and procedures, and
- Compliance with applicable grant requirements.

Charter School shall cooperate fully with such audits and shall make available any and all records necessary for the performance of the audit upon 30 days notice to Charter School. When 30 days notice may defeat the purpose of the audit, the District may conduct the audit upon 24-hours notice.

# **Fiscal Policies and Procedures**

Charter School shall establish, maintain, and implement sound fiscal policies and procedures, including but not limited to internal controls governing all financial and business-related activities.

#### Apportionment Eligibility for Students Over 19 Years of Age

Charter School acknowledges that, in order for a pupil over nineteen (19) years of age to remain eligible for generating charter school apportionment, the pupil shall be continuously enrolled in public school and make satisfactory progress toward award of a high school diploma. (Ed. Code § 47612(b).)

# **Local Control and Accountability Plan**

In accordance with California Education Code sections 47604.33 and 47606.5, Charter School shall include in its annual update a "listing and description of the expenditures for the fiscal year implementing the specific actions included in the charter as a result of the reviews and assessment required by paragraph (1)" of section 47606.5(a). These expenditures shall be "classified using the California School Accounting Manual pursuant to Section 41010." (Ed. Code § 47606.5(b).)