



Public School Choice 3.0
Proposal Review - Site Summary

Carson High School

Reviews for: Carson High School

	Reviewer	Recommended?	Comments
Applicant Academy of Medical Arts	Reviewer A	YES	The proposal presents a strong analysis of the student body's strengths and areas requiring support as well as analysis of the surrounding community. School leadership team has a proven record of success. The school's emphasis on a personalized learning environment immerses students in interdisciplinary studies focused around the broad health care career pathway and helps ensure the curriculum is relevant, engaging and challenging. The school plan offers several CTE courses which are presented in a ladder of difficulty sequence. Students receive work-based learning in the form of a CPR certification class, internships, hospital visits, site visits, mentorships, and career panels. Following three years of immersion in health care and medical thematic learning and work-based learning, all students will generate and develop their own individualized senior project to culminating their studies at AMA. The project is student-driven, ensuring a high level of engagement; the project concurrent with the four-year portfolio will provide a measure of how the student has internalized and can utilize the habits of mind/heart along with academic and career knowledge. The portfolio and project will be presented to a panel of peers, teachers, parents, business advisory members, and community members during the spring semester of the senior year. All students will have the opportunity to meet the A-G requirements for entry into the CSU/UC systems and students will be encouraged to take AP or honors classes as they progress through AMA and to dual enroll in college classes through the existing teacher team's established relationship with local community colleges. Students may also obtain state certification following the Certified Nursing Assistant Capstone CTE class. Student teams will participate in HOSA, Model United Nations, Project Citizen, CHAMPS Camp nutrition and physical mentoring of feeder middle and elementary schools, and community health fairs-- further developing their collaborative problem solving and leadership skills in local and national arenas.
	Reviewer B	YES	This is an exemplary proposal by the Design Team that has been a successful SLC on the Carson HS campus. Creating "smaller" out of bigger for a high school has shown to be consistent with the needs of the students. High school can be a lonely place when a student is one of 3000 students. By creating this SLC into a stand alone pilot school the chances for students to be successful is shown in their data analysis.
	Reviewer C	NO	Very vague throughout plan. Sites much research and theory but there is little sense of putting these ideas into concrete action. Do not believe this plan will be enacted.

	Reviewer	Recommended?	Comments
Applicant Academies of Education & Empwrmt	Reviewer A	YES	Several areas of the proposal are in developing stages and require additional detail to be fully realized (and this detail should be provided); however, the school's overall philosophy and strategies have merit: (1) making learning relevant to the lives of the students, (2) building meaningful relationships between teachers, students and parents, (3) encouraging students to access prior knowledge, and (4) asking students to make connections between real-world situations and to

			make interdisciplinary connections across the curriculum. In addition, several proposed initiatives such as the Freshman Success Academy, Freshman Orientation, 7th Period Schedule, Math and English Essentials, Connections Lab, and the school’s two career-focused Academies (Accelerated Teaching Career Academy and Social Justice Academy) have the potential to strongly engage students in their education.
	Reviewer B	YES	This is an exemplary proposal by the Design Team that has been a successful SLC on the Carson HS campus. Creating “smaller” out of bigger for a high school has shown to be consistent with the needs of the students. High school can be a lonely place when a student is one of 3000 students. By creating this SLC into a stand-alone pilot school the chances for students to be successful is shown in their data analysis.
	Reviewer C	YES (with reservations)	Has a relatively well developed curriculum section with some understanding of actual implementation. I had major concerns for those students needing intervention—this section needed greater work. Overall I also wanted to see greater rigor at the upper grades.

	Reviewer	Recommended?	Comments
Applicant Carson HS/ LD 8	Reviewer A	YES	This school’s five small campus academies will offer students clear and distinct college/career paths. Mentors and counselors will provide guidance in the selection of academies to match students’ interests. In addition, students will participate in project-based learning, will be required to develop service learning projects for local and global communities, and must create reflective portfolios to self-monitor individual progress. Multiple sources of enrichment are proposed for students who achieve subject matter mastery (Advanced Placement courses, college classes, on-campus peer-mentor programs, and local internships). All the Academies require that students lead quarterly individual conferences with their parents/guardians. This will enable students to examine and evaluate their own data, and articulate their progress toward mastery of standards. The school plan’s emphasis on autonomy with accountability, mastery of subject matter, and development of each student’s individual sense of purpose are among many good reasons to recommend that this proposal be accepted.
	Reviewer B	YES	I strongly recommend this proposal. It demonstrates the hard work of a large core of teachers and community members who are striving to provide students with an outstanding school environment which focuses on high expectations for improvement for all students. The design team is well aware of where they have not met the needs of their student and community population and they are written a plan that deals with a more personal approach to learning, and a consistent solution to provide intervention that can work. There is evidence of shared leadership with the various teams and councils to work closely to define what strategies are needed to improve delivery of instruction in the various disciplines. Authentic parent and community involvement are also an integral part of the plan. Most of all, a change in the culture of the school is an underlying strength and key to the success of the plan. It calls for all stakeholders to support excellence, rigor, mastery and purpose. It provides for a safe and healthy campus. There are already agencies that support safety and health on Campus not. There is tremendous emphasis on collaboration with all stakeholders, being transparent with all councils, providing for reflection, sharing of best practices, trust and hard work.

	Reviewer C	YES	The Design Team has proposed a strong instructional focus to create 5 small learning communities alongside the two pilot schools. It has also identified the need to have an equitable distribution of students in all small learning communities.
	Reviewer D	YES (with reservations)	Has research based strategies planned for use in classrooms. Has built intervention into new schedule. New schedule allows for more PD time. However, a lot of different instructional initiatives—should be more focused. Also concerned that there is not nearly enough time for teachers to collaborate given all the different ways they are expected to create things in this plan. And governance model does not build in extra time. This plan is mediocre and is unlikely to yield substantive change.