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| Name of Board Member: |
|       |
| Name of Charter School: |
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INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOL

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE\*

Dear Board Member:

As you know, serving as a member of the governing board of an independent charter school is a position of great trust and responsibility. Members of the governing board of an independent charter school act as fiduciaries.[[1]](#footnote-1) For instance, each member owes a duty of care to its nonprofit corporation and is required to perform with the level of care that an ordinary prudence person in a like position would use similar circumstances. This includes making reasonable inquiries as needed.[[2]](#footnote-2) As part of its fiduciary duties, the governing board of a charter school not only is responsible for ensuring that the charter organization provides high quality educational opportunity and programming for all charter school students, but also must ensure that all public monies it receives are spent responsibly in accordance with all applicable legal, LAUSD and charter requirements.

In order to make its recommendation to the LAUSD Board of Education whether the charter school petition is likely or unlikely to be successfully implemented,[[3]](#footnote-3) the Charter Schools Division (CSD) seeks complete and detailed responses to the questions below, as such responses will provide the CSD with critical information necessary to ascertain whether the proposed/renewing charter school will be run in a financially, operationally, and educationally sound manner.

Please answer all questions, initial each page, including any supplemental pages, and sign at the end of the document. Responses of “Not Applicable” are not acceptable. If your initial response to any question is “yes” or “no”, please provide a detailed explanation of the basis for the response.

1. Describe at least five of the key roles, functions, and/or responsibilities of a public charter school governing board. Based on your experience and understanding, prioritize them and briefly explain their importance.

1. Describe the innovative features of your petition and how they will lead to improved student outcomes for the community you are planning to serve. Please be specific.

1. Please describe the specific expertise and experience, as well as personal attributes, that you bring to the board, including service on any other governing boards, and how they will contribute to the board’s ability to monitor the school’s academic, operational, and fiscal policies and practices.

1. Describe a scenario that represents a conflict of interest. Outline the steps, if any, you would expect your governing board to take to address such a conflict.

1. As a decision-making body, what are the most important factors that the charter school’s governing board will consider in order to ensure sound decisions?

1. Describe your experience and/or connection with the community that your school proposes to serve.

1. Describe a difficult professional or financial decision that you have had to make. What factors did you consider and how did you implement the decision?

1. In the event that the governing board finds it necessary to replace or add a board member, what qualifications and other factors will you expect and/or consider in evaluating candidates?

1. Please identify your relationship, if any, with each of the following:
2. Lead petitioner: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  Immediate Family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  Non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  Professional/business Friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  Casual/social (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  Non

1. Board chair or president: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  Immediate Family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  Non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  Professional/business Friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  Casual/social (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  None

1. Proposed executive director/chief executive officer: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  Immediate Family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  Non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  Professional/business Friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  Casual/social (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  None

1. Proposed director/principal: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  Immediate Family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  Non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  Professional/business Friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  Casual/social (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  None

1. Other members of the governing board: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  One or more is immediate family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  I have a professional/business relationship with one or more (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is a friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is a casual/social acquaintance (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  None

1. Any prospective employees or vendors, including the on-site financial manager: SELECT ALL DESCRIPTORS THAT APPLY.

[ ]  One or more is immediate family (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent) (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is non-immediate family (Specify:     )

[ ]  I have a professional/business relationship with one or more (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is a friend (Specify:     )

[ ]  One or more is a casual/social acquaintance (Specify:     )

[ ]  Other (Specify:     )

[ ]  None

1. List other charter schools for which you serve as a board member or of which you are an employee.

[ ]  None

[ ]  Specify:

1. Do you have a child or any relative who attends the charter school?

[ ]  None

[ ]  Yes, specify relationship and grade level

1. Please confirm whether you have accepted, solicited, or directed contributions exceeding $250 from any party to or participant in the pending proceeding involving this charter petition application. If so, please identify them.

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|       |
| Printed Name of Board Member |

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|       |  |  |
| Date |  | Signature of Board Member |

1. \*Should be current, within the last 12 months.

 A member of a governing board of a charter school owes what is known as a fiduciary duty to the nonprofit corporation

and charter school. A fiduciary duty imposes on a member of a governing board of a charter school a duty to act with the

utmost good faith in the best interests of their nonprofit corporation and charter school. (*See Wolf v. Superior Court* (2003)

107 Cal. App. 4th 25, 29.) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. (See Corp. Code, § 5231, subd. (a).) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. (See Ed. Code, § 47605, subd. (c).) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)