

# **Report on Findings for Programmatic Review of BASE / AIAHS Charter Renewal Petition**

**October 27, 2015**

# Charter Renewal Inspection Team

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# Criteria For Approval of Charter Renewal

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California Education Code section 47607 (b)  
**To renew, charters must have achieved one  
of the following criteria:**

- (1) Attained its Academic Performance Index (API) growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years, or in the aggregate for the prior three years.  
Alternatives in Action did not meet the growth target in 2013 and had no growth target assigned for 2012. Alternatives in Action did meet the growth target in 2011 and 2010.
- (2) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API in the prior year or in two of the last three years.  
AIAHS's decile ranking is 1.

# Criteria For Approval of Charter Renewal

- (3) Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API for a demographically comparable school in the prior year or in two of the last three years.

The California Department of Education has not assigned AIAHS any comparable school ranking data from 2010 to 2015.

# Criteria For Approval of Charter Renewal

- (4) Achieved academic performance at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that AIAHS pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in AUSD, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at AIAHS.

The AIAHS students who reside within Alameda would have likely attended Island High School. The majority of AIAHS students reside within Oakland. The table below lists the corresponding alternative schools API scores. AIAHS's API scores are comparable to the alternative schools listed on the next slide.

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	2011	2012	2013
AIAHS	602	537	543
Island High	615	496	576
Rudsdale Continuation (OUSD)	515	510	485
MetWest High (OUSD)	546	575	664
Oakland International High (OUSD)	389	409	391
Ralph Bunche High (OUSD)	436	534	572
Street Academy (OUSD)	581	568	504

# Criteria For Approval of Charter Renewal

- (5) Qualified for an alternative accountability system pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 52052.

AIAHS has qualified for an alternative accountability system pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 52052 and has been approved by the CDE as an Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM) school.

# Charter Schools Act, Education Code 47605

Additional criteria for approving charter school renewal petitions:

1. The charter school presents a sound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.
2. The petitioners are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
3. The petition contains an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code 47605 (d).
4. The petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.

# Charter Renewal

## **1. The AIAHS petition presents a sound educational program.**

The Alternatives in Action High School's educational program is sound:

- AIAHS is continuously and systematically measuring student learning performance, using the results to inform further instruction, determine students in need of intervention, and determine the focus for further staff professional development.
- Over 70% of AIAHS's graduates were accepted to 4-year colleges, and 85% have gone on to pursue some form of higher education.
- AIAHS provides supports and interventions for students and has a comprehensive and timely Response to Intervention (RTI) model.
- AIAHS was accredited by Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in 2012-2013 for a six-year term through June 30, 2019.

# Charter Renewal

## **1. The AIAHS petition presents a sound educational program (continued).**

- The MAP assessment indicates that over the last two years students at AIAHS have grown an average of 3.95 grade levels in math annually.
- AIAHS 10<sup>th</sup> grade student pass rate of the CAHSEE exceeds that of local continuation schools.

# Charter Renewal

## **2. The petitioners are demonstrably likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.**

- The petitioners are likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the renewal petition as evidenced by their 14 years of implementation. Data and observation confirm that AIAHS has faithfully implemented its charter.
- Inspection team confirmed through observation that AIAHS remains committed to working with students who have been unsuccessful in traditional schools as well as students who come from underserved communities.
- AIAHS has maintained graduation requirements aligned with UC/CSU A-G admission requirements and provides students with A-G certified classes.
- AIAHS continues to demonstrate a commitment to youth empowerment as demonstrated through many opportunities for youth leadership that are available on campus.

# Charter Renewal

## 3. Required Affirmations

Pursuant to CA Education Code 47605(b)(4) the petition contains an affirmation of each of required conditions contained in CA Education Code section 47605(d)(1).

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**(4) The petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.**

**Here are the examples of a few of the elements:**

## **Element 2: Measures pupil outcomes**

- AIAHS implements school-wide writing assessments, scores the compositions through a calibrated rubric, and utilizes the results to plan further instruction, intervention, and professional development.
- AIAHS implements the NWEA MAP assessment to capture student learning in math, reading, and language. AIAHS is one of the few charter schools in the state to use this assessment tool.
- AIAHS engages students in self-measurement of learning through the Presentation of Learning (POL) assessment.

# **Charter Renewal**

**(5) The petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.**

## **Element 5: Qualification to be met by individuals employed at the school**

The majority of teaching staff possess current, valid, and proper credentials for their assignment, although there are some areas for follow up.

# Charter Renewal

**(5) The petition contains reasonably comprehensive descriptions of the 16 required charter elements.**

## **Element 7: Means for achieving racial and ethnic balance**

AIAHS has conducted targeted recruitment to outreach students who are most at risk, including partnerships with the Transition Center of the Juvenile Justice Center, East Bay Asian Youth Center, and East Bay Asian Local Development Cooperation.

<b>Ethnicity/Race</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
<b>African-American</b>	40%	33%	17%	18%	16%	11%
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	9%	9%	4%	2%	1%	1%
<b>Hispanic</b>	39%	47%	71%	70%	77%	84%
<b>White</b>	7%	6%	6%	8%	4%	0%
<b>Mixed/No Response</b>	2%	3%	1%	0%	12%	3%

# **Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric**

**AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:**

- 1. Improving Student Achievement**
- 2. Strong Leadership**
- 3. A Focus on Continuous Improvement**
- 4. Responsible Governance**
- 5. Fiscal Accountability**

# **Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric**

## **AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:**

### **1. Improving Student Achievement**

- AIAHS's high expectations for student achievement are reflected in the fact that, over the last charter term, 70% attended a four-year university.

# **Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric**

## **AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:**

### **2. Strong Leadership**

- The AIAHS Leadership Team makes management decisions based on data, and they utilize the data to inform them on how to utilize or prioritize their resources, both fiscal and staffing resources.
- AIAHS consistently reviews student learning and uses the data to evaluate the success of the program and plan future initiatives.
- AIAHS engages every student in outlining a plan for after high school that includes higher education or career.

# Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric

## AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:

### 3. A Focus on Continuous Improvement

- AIAHS consistently reviews student learning data and uses the data to evaluate the success of the program and plan future initiatives.
- AIAHS implements a school-wide writing assessment at the beginning and end of the school year based on a SAT persuasive writing prompt. AIAHS utilizes the data school wide to plan further instruction.
- AIAHS utilizes an ongoing cycle of inquiry as a key driver of their progress monitoring and goal setting. This occurs at an organizational, staff, and student level.

# **Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric**

## **AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:**

### **4. Responsible Governance**

- AIAHS Board of Directors and AIAHS Governing Committee attend an annual in-service retreat for the purposes of training members on new laws, Brown Act, and other important topics.
- AIAHS has created a Governance Committee which advises and informs the Governing Board. The Governance Committee is comprised of students, staff, school site leadership, parents, and members of the larger AIAHS organization.

# Charter Renewal: AUSD Rubric

## **AUSD Charter Renewal Rubric Focuses Upon 5 Criteria:**

### **5. Fiscal Accountability**

- AIAHS has a finance committee that meets several times a year which is comprised of the Director of Operations and Finance, the board treasurer, and other key board members. The finance committee must approve all fiscal reports for the Budget Report, First Interim, Second Interim, Unaudited Actuals, the organization's Yearly Audit, and they review and update the financial procedures each year.

# Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the Alameda Unified School District's Board of Education **approve** the petition for the renewal of AIAHS.
- If approved, the term of this charter will be from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021, the term required for a renewal under the California Charter Schools Act (Education Code 47607 (a)(1)).

# Recommendation

Staff recommends that AIAHS focus on addressing the following during the next five years:

1. Continue to focus on the development of parent education opportunities.
2. Continue to deepen and refine a system of disaggregating data and using the data to inform instruction, provide intervention, determine use of resources, and measure the effectiveness of programs.
3. Continue to seek out ways to connect staff with professional development opportunities outside of the school.

# Recommendation

Staff recommends that AIAHS focus on addressing the following during the next five years:

4. Continue to reflect on the current work around rigor and deepen the collective understanding around ways to implement differentiated and alternative instructional strategies with rigor.
5. Continue to grow the opportunities for student work and internships.
6. Deeply focus on credentialing issues to insure that AIAHS is meeting all of the requirements outlined by the California Teaching Commission (CTC).