

ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Alameda, California
Resolution

May 28, 2019

Resolution No. 2018-2019.48

**Call for a Moratorium on Charter School Expansion and Strengthening
of Transparency and Oversight in Governance and Practice**

WHEREAS, since the passage of the 1992 California Charter Schools Act, the number of publicly-funded and privately-operated charter schools has grown rapidly statewide; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, researchers from Columbia University and the University of Florida found that charter schools nationwide are less likely to respond to enrollment requests from students with significant special needs; and

WHEREAS, a May 2018 study by In the Public Interest found that charter schools led to a combined net fiscal shortfall of over \$142 million annually for three California school districts; and

WHEREAS, current law requires district campuses to accommodate co-locations of charter schools, resulting in shortages of resources and space and increasing tension and conflict within school communities; and

WHEREAS, local school boards are the best determiners of how local education dollars should be spent to benefit local students, including the appropriate number and type of schools in their district, yet are prohibited under current law from considering such factors when deciding whether or not to approve a charter school petition; and

WHEREAS, the California State Board of Education and the County Boards of Education currently may authorize charter schools within Alameda Unified School District boundaries over the objections of democratically elected School Board Members; and

WHEREAS, the resources to meet the needs of students are woefully inadequate and at a crisis level; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP, the Journey for Justice Alliance, the Movement for Black Lives, the Los Angeles Unified School District, the West Contra Costa Unified School District, the Anaheim Union High School District, the City of Richmond, the City of Huntington Park, and other organizations have called for and/or passed a moratorium on charter school expansion and for the strengthening of oversight in governance and practice of charter schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda Unified School District joins the above organizations and hereby supports a moratorium on the establishment of new charter schools in the state of California and will support state legislation introduced and enacted to establish such a moratorium; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Alameda Unified School District supports and will work with educational, community, and labor partners to pass the following legislation to better oversee California charter schools:

- AB 1505, which improves charter school accountability by returning charter school authorization and oversight to the communities where they are located while also allowing authorizers to consider the economic, facility, and academic impact of new charter schools on existing neighborhood schools;
- AB 1506, which caps the unregulated growth of privately-managed charter schools;
- AB 1507, which increases local control by preventing charter schools from locating outside the district that authorized them;
- SB 756, which imposes a five-year charter school moratorium; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in compliance with the California Charter Schools Act (EC Section 47600 et. seq.), and in order to ensure equitable access to all to a quality public education, the Alameda Unified School District shall conduct a full, open, and thorough analysis of the potential financial and educational impacts that the expansion and addition of charter schools will have on Alameda Unified School District traditional public schools, and that this analysis shall be made public upon completion; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, per the recently signed SB 126, the Alameda Unified School District shall assess compliance of charter schools with the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, Government Code Section 1090, and the California Political Reform Act; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda Unified School District and charter schools in Alameda will inform families about their rights in accordance to charter laws and California state laws.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of May, 2019.

AYES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

NOES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT: _____ MEMBERS: _____

Mialisa Bonta, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: _____
Sean McPhetridge, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California