



SANTA CLARA COUNTY  OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Charles Weis, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

March 17, 2010

TO: Santa Clara County Board of Education

FROM:  Joe Fimiani, Chief Schools Officer
Student Services Branch

 Lucretia Peebles, Ph.D.
Director, Charter Schools

VIA: Charles Weis, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Approve the Revisions to the Admissions and Enrollment Timeline for ACE
Charter School

SCCOE 2010 Associated Goal

Goal 2: SCCOE schools will be “models of excellence” in student learning and well-being.

Background

ACE Charter School (ACE) is requesting to change for the 2009-2010 academic year and all subsequent years, the student admission lottery timing delineated in Attachment 5 on p. 50 of the 2009-10 Contract, and on p. 18 in the charter petition. ACE has requested the change to facilitate the enrollment of their target population families soon after they express an interest in enrolling their child in the school. ACE has learned from previous enrollment experiences that families who applied early and were subjected to a long waiting period were less likely to enroll their child in the school. Families who applied closer to the lottery date and were selected were more likely to become involved at ACE and assist in the referral of other families. Additionally, ACE seeks to build a stronger relationship with the Alum Rock Union School District (ARUSD). The ARUSD has requested that the school provide enrollment figures as soon possible to assist them in planning for their students.

Current Admissions and Enrollment Plan:

- December-April: Bilingual information sessions, meetings with family groups, home visits
- February-April: Application materials sent to target students as well as interested families – open application period
- April 30: Application deadline

- First week of May: Public random drawing held, status of application mailed home to all students
- End of May and Early June: Enrollment seminars, family/student orientations held

Students on the waiting list are enrolled throughout the summer and the first three months of school as spaces open up. All applications received after the April 30 deadline are held on a space available basis. In the case that the wait has been extinguished, those applications will be considered through a public random drawing for subsequent available spaces.

Proposed Changes to the Admissions and Enrollment Timeline:

- November-April: Bilingual information sessions, meetings with family groups, home visits
- November –February: Application materials sent to target students as well as interested families – open application period
- Last day of February: Application deadline
- First week of March: Public random drawing held, status of application mailed home to all students
- End of May and Early June: Enrollment seminars, family/student orientations held

Students on the waiting list are enrolled as spaces open up. All applications received after the last day of February deadline are held on a space-available basis. In the case that the wait has been extinguished, those applications will be considered through a public random drawing for subsequent available spaces.

Requested Action

Approve the revisions to the Admissions and Enrollment Timeline for ACE Charter School

LP:kbh