Overview of the Process

- Check your data and consider whether you meet the academic criteria for renewal
- Meet with the Authorizer to reach consensus on the renewal process
- Update the charter to reflect new laws and current practice
- Rally your community to prepare them to support the renewal
- Approval of the renewal charter by the Charter School board (not legally required)
- Submission of charter to Authorizer
- Public hearing and action by Authorizer
- Appeal if necessary

Legal Basis for Renewal (EC Section 47607(a))

- Renewals are governed by the “standards and criteria” of Section 47605
- Each renewal can only be for a term of 5 years
- Renewals shall include a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed
Legal Basis for Renewal
(EC Section 47607(a))

• The authority that granted the charter shall consider increases in pupil academic achievement for all groups of pupils served by the charter school as the most important factor in determining whether to grant a charter renewal.
• “All groups of pupils served by the charter school” = a numerically significant pupil sub-group

Academic Threshold Criteria
(EC Section 47607(b))

Once a charter school has been in operation for four years, it shall meet at least one of the following criteria before receiving renewal:
1. Attained its Academic Performance Index (API) growth target in the prior year or in two of the last three years, both schoolwide and for all groups of pupils served by the charter school.
2. Ranked in deciles 4 to 10, inclusive, on the API in the prior year or in two of the last three years.
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.

(4)(A) The entity that granted the charter determines that the academic performance of the charter school is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the charter school pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the charter school is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the charter school.
(4)(B) The determination made pursuant to this paragraph shall be based upon all of the following:

(i) Documented and clear and convincing data.
(ii) Pupil achievement data from assessments, including, but not limited to, the [CAASPP] for demographically similar pupil populations in the comparison schools.
(iii) Information submitted by the charter school.
   -- must submit to SPI for recommendation and wait 30 days.

(5) Has qualified as a [DASS] School.

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**Data, Data, Data**

- Know your academic performance
- CA School Dashboard Report
- CAASPP scores
- Use a data management system
- Use data to improve academic performance
- Use a statewide or nationally recognized performance assessment tool
- Clearly define how the criteria for renewal are met

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**Data, Data, Data**

**What state level data is available for charter school renewals?**

- The three proxies authorized in EC Section 52052(e)(4) are: (1) the most recent API calculation; (2) an average of the three most recent annual API calculations; or (3) alternative measures that show increases in pupil academic achievement for all groups of pupils school wide and among significant student groups (e.g., CAASPP).
### Update Your Charter to Reflect New Laws

- Only 15 Elements + now 6 reasons for denial
- Anti-discrimination language
- Local Control Funding Formula (LCAP)
- Common Core State Standards
- California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
- California School Dashboard Report
- Admission policies and procedures, preferences (AB 1360)
- Suspension and expulsion offenses, due process (AB 1360)
- Health and safety procedures
- Governing law

(CE Section 47607(a)(2))

### Update Your Charter to Reflect Current and Future Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Educational Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Student Outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Methods of Measurement</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Governance Structure</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Employment Qualifications</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Health and Safety</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Racial and Ethnic Balance</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Admission Policies and Procedures</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Financial Audit</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Suspension and Expulsion</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Retirement Systems</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Public School</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Attendance Alternatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Employee Return Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Public School Employer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Closure Procedures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consider changes in practice to:
- Educational program
- Facility(ies)
- Grade levels
- Enrollment build out
- Curriculum
- Admissions procedures
- Student outcomes and methods of measurement (preferably upward)
Draft the strongest possible charter:
- Brag section: tell your own story; demonstrate multiple pieces of evidence of success
- Flesh out a “skinny” charter
- Attention to detail – consistency!
- Help the reader – lots of headers
- Support conclusions with empirical evidence
- Avoid the patchwork quilt effect
- Appearance matters – charts, photos, graphics
- Version control, table of contents, legal citations
- Draft with an eye toward appeal

Timing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitting to</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Possible Extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>One year before expiration (YM&amp;C suggestion)</td>
<td>60 days from submission (automatic renewal)</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>30 days from denial by District</td>
<td>60 days from submission if no action, can appeal to SBE in 60 days</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBE</td>
<td>[unspecified]</td>
<td>90-120 days from submission</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017-18 SBE Calendar

State Board of Education Meeting Dates | Appeal Submission Due by 4 p.m.
---------------------------------------|-------------------------------
January 18-19, 2018 | October 2, 2017
March 14-15, 2018 | December 1, 2017
May 9-10, 2018 | January 29, 2018
July 11-12, 2018 | April 2, 2018
September 6-7, 2018 | May 29, 2018
November 8-9, 2018 | July 30, 2018
Closely Track the Process

- Automatic renewal: “If within 60 days of its receipt of a petition for renewal, a district governing board has not made a written factual finding as mandated by Education Code section 47605(b), the absence of written factual findings shall be deemed an approval of the petition for renewal.” 5 CCR 11966.4(c)
- Carefully count the days
- Be cautious about how a request for extension or waiver is presented

Manage Local Politics

- Invite local politicians, especially Authorizer Board members, to school events
- Develop relationships with local politicians
- Consider whether someone in your charter community wants to run for office
- Become a fixture at Authorizer Board meetings
- Watch for Authorizer action on other renewals and learn from the process

Rally the Community for Renewal

- Lobby Authorizer Board members
- Demonstrate strong public support (fill the Board room with supporters, feed families to get them there)
- Create a strong visual effect (t-shirts, ribbons)
- Script and control communications with Authorizer as much as possible
- Act as a unit
- Represent the community of your Authorizer during public meetings
- Be sensitive and understand your impact on the Authorizer
- Don’t assume the Authorizer knows the law or your charter
- Don’t get lulled into a false sense of security
### Common Roadblocks to Renewal

1. **Fiscal Viability**
   - Reserve
   - Cash flow
   - Low Enrollment
   - Lack of or weak fiscal controls

2. **Local Politics**
   - Change in Board Support
   - Change in Local Circumstances

3. **Academic Growth**
   - Criteria for renewal
   - Comparison with local schools

4. **Internal Disputes**
   - Fracture amongst board or administration
   - Public criticisms

5. **Governance**
   - Public Accountability Laws
   - Weak Board
   - Weak Administration

6. **Racial and Ethnic Balance**
   - Failure to reflect District racial and ethnic balance
   - Failure to reflect District socio-economic balance

### Outside Support

- **Legal**
- **Fiscal**
- **Educational statistics and data**
- **Lobbyist**
- **PR specialist**

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**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**YM&C 25th Anniversary Networking Event**

CONE CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS!

Join us for a buffet, drinks, and the opportunity to meet and mingle with the YM&C team and other charter school educators!

**Hard Rock Hotel, Miami**

**March 21st, 2018: 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM**