

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Staff Recommendation on Request for Material Revision

Submitted by

Orange County Educational Arts Academy

September 23, 2025

On June 18, 2025, the Santa Ana Unified School District (“District”) received a request for a material revision of Orange County Educational Arts Academy’s (“OCEAA”) charter to add a new school site at 817 North Broadway in Santa Ana, California.

BACKGROUND

OCEAA is a District-authorized charter school that opened in August 2005. It serves approximately 625 students in grades TK-8. The District last renewed OCEAA’s charter for a five year term beginning July 1, 2020. The term of OCEAA’s charter was extended by a total of three years to June 30, 2028, in accordance with Education Code section 47607.4.

OCEAA currently occupies two private facilities across the street from each other in downtown Santa Ana. It owns the facility located at 825 North Broadway, and rents the facility located at 826 North Broadway.

OCEAA represents that it has an opportunity to purchase the 7,500 square foot parcel at 817 North Broadway in Santa Ana, which is directly adjacent to the 825 North Broadway site it currently occupies. OCEAA explains that acquisition of this site would enable it to expand the property line of its existing 825 North Broadway location and allow it to accommodate its needs for administrative offices, small group instruction/intervention services, classrooms or meeting areas. OCEAA does not seek to expand its enrollment as a result of the potential acquisition.

OCEAA represents that it has engaged in preliminary discussions and negotiations with the seller of 817 North Broadway and that it will submit an offer to purchase the parcel if the District approves the material revision. OCEAA expects to allow approximately three to five years following acquisition of the property for community engagement, architectural planning, regulatory approvals, and securing the necessary financing for construction.

The material revision is conditional upon OCEAA’s purchase of the 817 North Broadway property. If OCEAA does not purchase the property, the material revision will not take effect.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MATERIAL REVISION

After receiving approval of its charter petition, a charter school that proposes to expand operations to an additional location must request a material revision of its charter and notify the chartering authority of the additional location. (Ed. Code, §§ 47605, subd. (a)(4); 47607, subd.

(a)(3).) A material revision of the provisions of a charter petition may be made only with the approval of the charter school's chartering authority. (Ed. Code, § 47607, subd. (a)(3).) The chartering authority must consider whether to approve the additional location at an open, public meeting. If the additional location is approved it shall be a material revision to the charter school's charter. (Ed. Code, § 47605, subd. (a)(4).)

Material revisions of charter petitions are governed by the standards and criteria described in Education Code section 47605 and shall include, but not be limited to, a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of charter schools enacted into law after the charter was originally granted or last renewed. (Ed. Code, § 47607, subd. (b).)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

After evaluating OCEAA's request for a material revision utilizing the standards and criteria set forth in Education Code section 47605 and considering new requirements of charter schools enacted into law since the time OCEAA's charter was last renewed, District staff recommends approval of the material revision, conditioned upon OCEAA's purchase of the 817 North Broadway property.