

ATTACHMENT A
STAFF ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION REPORT
RENEWAL PETITION

Board of Education Report 145-25/26
November 17, 2025

School Name:	Valor Academy High			BOARD IS REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION BY: November 19, 2025
Type of Charter School:	Start-Up Independent Charter School			
Charter Operator	Bright Star Schools			
Location Code:	7626			
Type of Site(s):	Private			
Site Address(es):	9356 Lemona Avenue, North Hills, CA 91343			
Board District(s):	6	Region(s):	North	
Grade Levels Served:	9-12	Current Enrollment:	507	
Grade Levels Authorized in Current Charter:	9-12	Approved Enrollment in Current Charter:	480	
CONSIDERATION:	Renewal			
CDE PERFORMANCE CATEGORY: (PER CDE'S 2025 CLASSIFICATION)	Middle Performing			
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	Approval for a five (5)-year term (2026-2031)			
PROPOSED BENCHMARKS:	None			

STAFF ASSESSMENT

I. ACTION PROPOSED

Staff recommends approval of the renewal petition for Valor Academy High (“Charter School”), located in Board District 6 and Region North, for a term of five (5) years, beginning July 1, 2026, until June 30, 2031, to serve up to 480 students in grades 9-12 in each year of the charter term.

II. RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

Upon submission, District staff comprehensively reviews each renewal petition application to determine whether the school has met the requirements for renewal set forth in Education Code sections 47605, 47607, 47607.2, and 47611.5.

Criteria for Charter School Renewal and Grounds for Nonrenewal

As part of staff’s holistic review of the renewal petition application, the charter school must be determined to be eligible for renewal of its charter under the specific renewal criteria outlined in the Charter Schools Act. The renewal criteria prescribed in Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2 requires a three-pronged analysis:

- **Criterion 1:** Does the renewal petition include a sound educational program, a reasonably comprehensive description of the 15 elements required for petitions, an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code section 47605(e), and are petitioners demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition? (Ed. Code, § 47607(b).)

These criteria have been determined not to be bases for denial.

- **Criterion 2:** Is the charter school “high,” “middle,” or “low” performing? (see Ed. Code, §§ 47607(c), 47607.2(a), and 47607.2(b).) Has the charter school attained measurable increases in academic achievement schoolwide and for numerically significant student groups served by the charter school, and does the charter school have strong postsecondary outcomes, if applicable?

These criteria have been determined not to be bases for denial.

- **Criterion 3:** Is the charter school serving all pupils who wish to attend, or does the charter school have substantial fiscal or governance issues? (Ed. Code, § 47607(e).)

These criteria have been determined not to be bases for denial.

Charter Petition Requirement:

In accordance with Education Code section 47611.5, a charter school charter shall contain a declaration regarding whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees at the charter school for the purposes of Section 3540.1 of the Government Code, and that declaration shall not be materially inconsistent with the charter.

- Does the petition contain a declaration of whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public employer of the employees of the charter school?

This requirement has been determined not to be a basis for denial.

III. GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

A. School History

	Valor Academy High
Initial Authorization:	On March 19, 2013, Valor Academy High (formerly named Valor Academy Charter High School) was authorized by the LAUSD Board of Education to serve 480 students in grades 9-12.
Most Recent Renewal	The charter was renewed on December 5, 2017 for a five-year term (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2023) to serve up to 480 students in grades 9-12. Pursuant to Education Code section 47607.4, all charter schools whose term expires on or between January 1, 2022, and June 30, 2025, inclusive, shall have their term extended by two years, and all charter schools whose term expires on or between January 1, 2024, and June 30, 2027, inclusive, shall have their term extended by one additional year. Thus, by operation of law, the charter term for Valor Academy High expires June 30, 2026.
Approved Material Revisions of Current Charter:	The Board of Education approved a request for material revision on December 8, 2020, to amend Bright Star Schools governance structure and the admission requirements, preferences, and procedures for all nine Bright Star Schools.
Board Benchmarks in Current Charter Term:	Not applicable
Submission of Renewal Petition Application:	Valor Academy High submitted its renewal petition application on August 21, 2025. The 90-day statutory timeline for Board action on the petition runs through November 19, 2025.
Concurrent Request for Material Revision:	Not applicable
Master Plan for English Learners and Standard English Learners:	Valor Academy High implements its own Master Plan for English Learners and Standard English Learners.
Special Education SELPA	Valor Academy High participates in LAUSD Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Option 3.

B. Charter School Operator

Valor Academy High is operated by Bright Star Schools, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation that also operates eight other LAUSD-authorized charter schools.

IV. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

a. Summary

Valor Academy High has been identified by the state as a Middle performing charter school. The recommendation for renewal has considered the schoolwide performance and performance of numerically significant student groups and the state and local indicators reported on the

California School Dashboard, and whether there was clear and convincing verified data evidence showing the school demonstrated measurable increases in academic achievement, as defined by at least one year's progress in each year in school, and/or strong postsecondary outcomes, as applicable.

Overall, Charter School's Dashboard performance was higher than the state in both ELA and College/Career Indicator (CCI), but lower on Math and on the English Language Progress Indicator (ELPI). The charter school provided four years of verified data, demonstrating one year's progress for All Students and a majority of numerically significant student groups in ELA and Math. The charter school also provided postsecondary outcome information, which demonstrated mixed results.

Please see the Valor Academy High data sets and Verified Data Reports.

b. Measurements of Academic Performance on the California School Dashboard

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 Dashboard only displayed one year of data (also known as Status). Status Levels are reported based on the 2021-2022 school year data using one of five Status Levels (ranging from Very High, High, Medium, Low, and Very Low) for state measures. Please note that the Status Levels associated with the Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension Rate Indicators are reversed (ranging from Very Low, Low, Medium, High, and Very High). Below, the 2023 and 2024 Dashboard Performance Levels (colors) based on two years' data are provided.

Valor Academy High Dashboard Indicators

School Year	ELA	Math	English Learner Progress	College/Career	Chronic Absenteeism	Graduation Rate	Suspension Rate
2021-2022	Low	Very Low	Low	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Very High	Medium
2022-2023	Green	Yellow	Blue	Medium	Not Applicable	Yellow	Orange
2023-2024	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Green	Not Applicable	Blue	Green

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

c. English Language Arts Indicator

In 2022 in English Language Arts (ELA), the charter school's Distance from Standard (DFS) was lower than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for two of three numerically significant student groups. In 2023 and 2024 in ELA, the charter school's DFS was higher than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for all numerically significant student groups.

Valor Academy High - English Language Arts Indicator - 2021-2022

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Level	Charter ELA (DFS)	State Level	State ELA (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Low	-26.2	Low	-12.2	Lower
Latino	Met	Low	-33.4	Low	-38.6	Higher
English Learner	Met	Very Low	-126.2	Low	-61.2	Lower
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Low	-31.4	Low	-41.4	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - English Language Arts Indicator - 2022-2023

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter ELA (DFS)	Charter Change	State Color	State ELA (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Green	21.5	47.8	Orange	-13.6	Higher
Latino	Met	Green	21.0	54.4	Orange	-40.2	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Green	19.4	50.8	Orange	-42.6	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - English Language Arts Indicator - 2023-2024

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter ELA (DFS)	Charter Change	State Color	State ELA (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Yellow	22.3	0.7	Orange	-13.2	Higher
Latino	Met	Yellow	22.7	1.7	Orange	-39.3	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	21.2	1.8	Orange	-40.9	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

d. Math Indicator

In 2022 in Math, the charter school's DFS was lower than the state for All Students, and lower than the state for three of three numerically significant student groups. In 2023 and 2024 in Math, the charter school's DFS was lower than the state for All Students, and lower than the state for both student groups.

In order to increase student outcomes in Math, charter school leaders report they have increased the number of Algebra 1 sections to lower the student to teacher ratio, implemented a co-teaching model for Math to improve outcomes for Students with Disabilities, emphasized professional development related to the new curriculum, offered Math lab classes and small group instruction pull out sessions for struggling students, using paraprofessionals to assist English Learner students and Students with Disabilities in Math classes, providing translations of lesson materials for English Learner students, and implementing a peer mentorship system for English Learner students.

Valor Academy High - Math Indicator - 2021-2022

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Level	Charter Math (DFS)	State Level	State Math (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Very Low	-117.8	Low	-51.7	Lower
Latino	Met	Very Low	-126.3	Low	-83.4	Lower
English Learner	Met	Very Low	-193.2	Low	-92.0	Lower
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Very Low	-123.0	Low	-84.0	Lower

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - Math Indicator - 2022-2023

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter Math (DFS)	Charter Change	State Color	State Math (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Yellow	-93.7	24.2	Orange	-49.1	Lower
Latino	Met	Yellow	-95.1	31.1	Orange	-80.8	Lower
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-97.0	26.1	Yellow	-80.8	Lower

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - Math Indicator - 2023-2024

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter Math (DFS)	Charter Change	State Color	State Math (DFS)	Charter to State Comparison (DFS)
All Students	Met	Yellow	-83.0	10.6	Orange	-47.6	Lower
Latino	Met	Yellow	-83.3	11.8	Orange	-79.2	Lower
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-84.5	12.4	Orange	-78.2	Lower

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

e. English Learner Progress Indicator

In 2022 on the English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI), the charter school's English Learner Progress Rate was lower than the state. In 2023 on the ELPI, the charter school's English Learner progress rate was higher than the state. In 2024 on the ELPI, the charter school's English Learner Progress Rate for English Learner and Long-term English Learner student groups was lower than the state's rates.

Valor Academy High - English Learner Progress Indicator - 2021-2022

Student Group	Charter ELPAC Participation Rate	Charter Level	Charter EL Progress Rate	State Level	State EL Progress Rate	Charter to State Comparison
English Learner	Met	Low	35.0%	Medium	50.3%	Lower

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - English Learner Progress Indicator - 2022-2023

Student Group	Charter ELPAC Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter EL Progress Rate	Charter Change	State Color	State EL Progress Rate	Charter to State Comparison
English Learner	Met	Blue	56.6%	21.6%	Yellow	48.7%	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - English Learner Progress Indicator - 2023-2024

Student Group	Charter ELPAC Participation Rate	Charter Color	Charter EL Progress Rate	Charter Change	State Color	State EL Progress Rate	Charter to State Comparison
English Learner	Met	Red	40.0%	-16.6%	Orange	45.7%	Lower
Long-term English Learner	Met	Red	44.0%	-17.4%	Orange	45.8%	Lower

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

f. College/Career Indicator

The College/Career Indicator was not reported on the 2022 Dashboard. In 2023, the charter school's percentage of students prepared was higher than the state for All Students and for both numerically significant student groups. In 2024, the charter school's percentage of students prepared was higher for All Students and higher than the state for both numerically significant student groups.

Valor Academy High - College/Career Indicator - 2022-2023

Student Group	Charter Level	Charter Prepared	State Level	State Prepared	Charter to State Comparison
All Students	Medium	44.1%	Medium	43.9%	Higher
Latino	Medium	41.3%	Medium	35.5%	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Medium	41.6%	Medium	35.4%	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

Valor Academy High - College/Career Indicator - 2023-2024

Student Group	Charter Level	Charter Prepared	Charter Change	State Level	State Prepared	Charter to State Comparison
All Students	Green	52.5%	8.5	Yellow	45.3%	Higher
Latino	Green	53.1%	11.8	Yellow	37.4%	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Green	53.5%	11.9	Yellow	37.4%	Higher

Data Sources: CA School Dashboard Research Files (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/dashboardresources.asp?tabsection=3>)

g. Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

Not applicable

h. Graduation Indicator [HS only]

In 2022, 2023, and 2024, the charter school's percentage of graduated students was higher than the state for All Students and for all student groups. Valor Academy High students must meet A-G requirements with a grade of "C" or better.

i. Suspension Rate Indicator

In 2022, the charter school's percentage of students suspended at least once was lower than the state for All Students and for all numerically significant student groups. In 2023, the charter school's percentage of students suspended at least once was higher than the state for All Students but lower than the state for three of four numerically significant student groups. In 2024, the charter school's percentage of students suspended at least once was lower than the state for All Students and for three of five numerically significant student groups and the same as the state for one of five numerically significant student group.

j. Dashboard Local Indicators

Staff also considered the Local Indicators (e.g., Basic: Teachers, Instructional Materials, Facilities; Implementation of Academic Standards; Parent and Family Engagement; Local Climate Survey; Access to a Broad Course of Study) which have all been reported as "Met" in 2023 and 2024.

k. Additional Information

Not applicable

V. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE-BASED OVERSIGHT RESULTS

In accordance with Education Code section 47604.32, the District's Charter Schools Division (CSD) conducts at least one school site visit each year where the CSD evaluates charter school performance in the following four categories: Governance; Student Achievement and Educational Performance; Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations; and Fiscal Operations. Charter schools are rated in each category based on information and evidence gathered at the time of the annual performance-based oversight visit following a four-point rubric: (4) *Accomplished*, (3) *Proficient*, (2) *Developing*, and (1) *Unsatisfactory*. Please see below for Valor Academy High outcomes on its annual oversight evaluation reports for the last two years.

a. Governance

Oversight Ratings/Concerns	
2023-2024	<i>Proficient</i>
2024-2025	<i>Accomplished</i>
Concerns	No unresolved issues pending

b. Student Achievement and Educational Performance

Oversight Ratings/Concerns	
2023-2024	<i>Proficient</i>
2024-2025	<i>Proficient</i>
Concerns	No unresolved issues pending

c. Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations

Oversight Ratings/Concerns	
2023-2024	<i>Proficient</i>
2024-2025	<i>Accomplished</i>
Concerns	No unresolved issues pending

d. Fiscal Operations

Oversight Ratings/Concerns	
2023-2024	<i>Developing</i>
2024-2025	<i>Proficient</i>
Concerns	The rating of <i>Developing</i> in 2023-2024 was primarily due to the various significant fiscal management-related issues, including non-adherence to the Bright Star Schools governing board-approved fiscal policies and procedures. Bright Star Schools provided responses and took actions to address these issues. The CSD will continue to monitor these matters through the oversight process.

VI. VERIFIED DATA

Charter schools satisfying the Middle performing criteria may be renewed for a specified term. (Ed. Code, § 47607.2 (b)(7).) A chartering authority must consider, among other requirements, clear and convincing evidence, demonstrated by verified data, showing the charter school's achieved measurable increases in academic achievement, or strong postsecondary outcomes for the timeframe specified in law. (Ed. Code, § 47607.2(b)(3).)

ELA

Charter School provided data for Reading from “i-Ready 9-12 by Curriculum Associates” (i-Ready) *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report for 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 for All Students and for the following student groups: Latino, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English Learner, and Students with Disabilities. i-Ready is an adopted academic progress indicator approved by the SBE to be on the verified data list.

Per Education Code section 47607.2 (c)(2), the SBE established criteria to define verified data. To be eligible for inclusion as verified data, a data source (e.g., assessment or postsecondary outcome) must include the results of at least 95 percent of eligible students. Although the i-Ready *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report shows a participation percent, i-Ready’s publisher (Curriculum Associates) has shared that these numbers do not constitute an official participation rate that would reflect which students *should* have been tested, thereby an official participation rate is not provided. The *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report provided by Charter School reported 485 students with a baseline score in Reading and 486 students were enrolled in i-Ready. The *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report provided by Charter School reported 100% participation rate for All Students in Reading. Thus, based on the information provided by Charter School, the 2024-2025 assessment data appears to include at least 95% of eligible students.

For Reading, the i-Ready *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report indicated the school rating for ranges of students meeting criteria is Average. Per Curriculum Associates’ Using i-Ready Diagnostic as a Verified Data and Academic Progress Indicator for California Charter Schools for Grades 9-12, publisher guidance states, “For the purposes of California’s charter requirements, “Average”, “Effective”, and “Highly Effective” schools can be considered to meet one year’s worth of growth.” Therefore, based Curriculum Associates’ final determination based on Criteria 1¹ and 2² Charter School met criteria for All Students in Reading in 2024-2025.

As seen in the table below, Charter School provided the most recent data for four student groups and four student groups demonstrated one year’s progress based on i-Ready’s school rating for ranges of students meeting criteria in 2024-2025.

i-Ready Diagnostic Growth Reading 2024-2025					
Student Groups	Number of Students with Baseline Scores	Percent Met Growth or Proficiency	i-Ready Range	School Rating	One Year’s Progress
All Students 9-12	485	62%	“Average” “Effective” and “Highly Effective” meet one year’s worth of growth	Average	Met
Latino	456	63%		Average	Met
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	452	63%		Average	Met
English Learner	49	82%		Effective	Met
Students with Disabilities	91	62%		Average	Met

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2023-2024 school year. Based on i-Ready’s school rating, Charter School met the one year’s progress for All Students and met one year’s progress for three of four student groups in Reading in 2023-2024.

¹ Criterion 1: Growth Goal (Achieving a Sufficient Gain Score on i-Ready Diagnostic)

² Criterion 2: Proficiency Goal (Achieving the Mid-On Grade Level Cut on i-Ready Diagnostic)

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2022-2023 school year. Based on i-Ready's school rating, Charter School met the one year's progress for All Students and met one year's progress for three of four student groups in Reading in 2022-2023.

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2021-2022 school year. Based on i-Ready's school rating, Charter School met the one year's progress for All Students and met one year's progress for all four student groups in Reading in 2021-2022.

MATH

Charter School provided data for Math from "i-Ready 9-12 by Curriculum Associates" (i-Ready) *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report for 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 for All Students and for the following student groups: Latino, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English Learner, and Students with Disabilities. i-Ready is an adopted academic progress indicator approved by the California SBE to be on the verified data list.

The *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report provided by Charter School reported 486 students with a baseline score in Math and 486 students were enrolled in i-Ready. The *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report provided by Charter School reported 100% participation rate for All Students in Math. Thus, based on the information provided by Charter School, the 2024-2025 assessment data appears to include at least 95% of eligible students.

For Math, the i-Ready *California Charter Schools Academic Progress Indicator for Grades 9-12* report indicated the school rating for ranges of students meeting criteria is Average. Per Curriculum Associates' Using i-Ready Diagnostic as a Verified Data and Academic Progress Indicator for California Charter Schools for Grades 9-12, publisher guidance states, "For the purposes of California's charter requirements, "Average", "Effective", and "Highly Effective" schools can be considered to meet one year's worth of growth." Therefore, based Curriculum Associates' final determination based on Criteria 1³ and 2⁴ Charter School met criteria for All Students in Math in 2024-2025.

As seen in the table below, Charter School provided the most recent data for four student groups, and four student groups demonstrated one year's progress based on i-Ready's school rating for ranges of students meeting criteria in 2024-2025.

i-Ready Diagnostic Growth Math 2024-2025					
Student Groups	Number of Students with Baseline Scores	Percent Met Growth or Proficiency	i-Ready Range	School Rating	One Year's Progress
All Students 9-12	486	63%	"Average" "Effective" and "Highly Effective" meet one year's worth of growth	Average	Met
Latino	457	64%		Average	Met
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	452	64%		Average	Met
English Learner	50	68%		Average	Met
Students with Disabilities	91	62%		Average	Met

³ Criterion 1: Growth Goal (Achieving a Sufficient Gain Score on i-Ready Diagnostic)

⁴ Criterion 2: Proficiency Goal (Achieving the Mid-On Grade Level Cut on i-Ready Diagnostic)

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2023-2024 school year. Based on i-Ready's school rating, Charter School met the one year's progress for All Students and met one year's progress for all four student groups in Math in 2023-2024.

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2022-2023 school year. Based on i-Ready's school rating, Charter School met the one year's progress for All Students and met one year's progress for three of four student groups in Math in 2022-2023.

Charter School also submitted verified data using i-Ready for the 2021-2022 school year. Based on i-Ready's school rating, Charter School met the one year's progress for All Students and met one year's progress for all four student groups in Math in 2021-2022.

Based on the review and consideration of verified data, Valor Academy High included four years of data, including schoolwide and student group reports (Latino, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, English Learner, and Students with Disabilities) for both ELA and Math. In 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025, Valor Academy High appears to have met 95 percent participation rate for schoolwide and all numerically significant student groups.

POST-SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Pursuant to Education Code section 47607.2(c)(2), the State Board of Education (SBE) established criteria to define verified data and identified an approved list of valid and reliable assessments and measures of postsecondary outcomes, for the timeframe specified in law. Education Code section 47607.2(c)(2) specifies that strong postsecondary outcomes are defined by, "college enrollment, persistence, and completion rates equal to similar peers." To determine whether a charter school has demonstrated strong postsecondary outcomes, multiple data sources may need to be considered to assess college enrollment, persistence, and completion, as well as to identify similar peers.

Charter School provided the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) StudentTracker for High Schools Aggregate Report for the most recent year, dated November 21, 2024.⁵ National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker is an adopted Postsecondary Indicator approved by the SBE to be on the verified data list and includes measures of college enrollment, persistence, and completion.⁶

Charter School also provided the California Department of Education DataQuest College Going Rate for the two most recent years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate is an adopted Postsecondary Indicator approved by the SBE to be on the verified data list and includes measures of college enrollment.

National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) StudentTracker for High Schools Aggregate Report

Enrollment

For Charter School's class of 2022, 68.0% of students enrolled in college the fall immediately after high school, which is higher than the 2022 (high poverty⁷) national rate of 49.9%, per the 2023 NSC

⁵ Charter School's submitted 2024 NSC StudentTracker report also included enrollment and persistence data for Charter School's class of 2022 and 2020, respectively, which was used to populate data in the "2023 Student Tracker report" column. However, the submitted 2024 NSC StudentTracker report did not include completion data for Charter School's class of 2016.

⁶ A charter school's Student Tracker Report includes multiple years of data which are used to compare the charter school's postsecondary outcomes with applicable national rates published in the National Student Clearinghouse's annual High School Benchmarks report. For example, Charter School's 2024 Student Tracker Report was compared with NSC's 2024 High School Benchmarks report which, "examines first-fall (immediate) college enrollment for the high school graduating class of 2023, persistence for the class of 2021, and completion for the class of 2017."

⁷ High poverty schools are defined by National Student Clearinghouse as a subset of low-income schools, where at least 75 percent of the student population are eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

High School Benchmarks report. For Charter School’s class of 2023, 72.0% of students enrolled in college the fall immediately after high school, which is higher than the 2023 (high poverty) national rate of 50.5%, per the 2024 NSC High School Benchmarks report.

Persistence

For Charter School’s class of 2020, 70.0% of students enrolled in college the first year after high school returned for a second year, which is lower than the 2020 (high poverty) national rate of 72.0%, per the 2023 NSC High School Benchmarks report. For Charter School’s class of 2021, 62.0% of students enrolled in college the first year after high school returned for a second year, which is lower than the 2021 (high poverty) national rate of 76.0%, per the 2024 NSC High School Benchmarks report.

Completion

Completion data for Charter School’s class of 2016 was not available. For Charter School’s class of 2017, 24.0% of graduates⁸ completed a two- or four-year degree within six years, which is lower than the 2017 (high poverty) rate of 25.1%, per the 2024 NSC High School Benchmarks.

Therefore, as described above and seen in the table below, Charter School demonstrated strong postsecondary outcomes relative to similar peers for less than a majority of the measures (college enrollment, persistence, and completion) included in the 2024 NSC High School Benchmarks report.

Post Secondary Data Table
National Student Clearinghouse (NSC)

Postsecondary Outcome	2023 NSC High School Benchmarks (High Poverty*)	2023 Student Tracker report Valor Academy High	2024 NSC High School Benchmarks (High Poverty*)	2024 Student Tracker Report Valor Academy High
Enrollment	49.9% (class of 2022)	68.0%	50.5% (class of 2023)	72.0%
Persistence	72.0% (class of 2020)	70.0%	76.0% (class of 2021)	62.0%
Completion	24.9% (class of 2016)	Not available	25.1% (class of 2017)	24.0%

*Per NSC, “high poverty” schools are defined as schools where 75% or more of the student population is eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FPRL), and “low income” schools have 50% or more students eligible for FRPL.

California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate

Enrollment

For Charter School’s class of 2021, 49.0% of high school completers enrolled in College, which is lower than the enrollment rate of 55.0% for LAUSD, and lower than the enrollment rate of 62.2% for the state of California.

⁸ Per the National Student Clearinghouse’s 2024 High School Benchmarks report, “Students are included in this outcome regardless of whether they have enrolled in postsecondary education or not.”

For Charter School’s class of 2022, 57.0% of high school completers enrolled in College, which is higher than the enrollment rate of 54.9% for LAUSD, but lower than the enrollment rate of 62.0% for the state of California.

Therefore, as described above and seen in the table below, Charter School demonstrated stronger enrollment in a postsecondary institution of higher education within 12 or 16 months of completing high school in one of two years compared to similar peers within Los Angeles Unified. However, its enrollment rates were lower than the state average, as reported by the California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate reports for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate

Year	2020-2021	2021-2022
Valor Academy High – All Students	49.0%	57.0%
Los Angeles Unified	55.0%	54.9%
California	62.2%	62.0%

Persistence

The California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate does not include student persistence metrics.

Completion

The California Department of Education DataQuest College-Going Rate does not include metrics on student completion.

VII. FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

a. Fiscal Condition

Valor Academy High’s fiscal condition is positive and has been upward trending since the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

	2020-2021 (Audited Actuals)	2021-2022 (Audited Actuals)	2022-2023 (Audited Actuals)	2023-2024 (Audited Actuals)	2024-2025 (Unaudited Actuals)
Net Assets	\$1,795,874	\$2,860,070	\$4,050,942	\$4,264,618	\$4,859,878
Net Income/Loss	\$1,162,375	\$1,064,196	\$1,190,872	\$213,676	\$595,260
Transfers In/Out	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Prior Year Adjustment(s)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Norm Enrollment ^A	530	530	497	491	495

^A Valor Academy High reported 507 Norm Enrollment for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The CSD staff will continue to monitor Valor Academy High’s enrollment in accordance with established procedures and will take appropriate actions to ensure Charter School’s alignment with the approved capacity.

- b. 2023-2024 Independent Audit Report
 Audit Opinion: Unmodified/Unqualified
 Material Weaknesses: None Reported
 Deficiencies/Findings: None Reported
 Lack of a Going Concern: None Reported

- c. Other Significant Fiscal Information

The financial condition of the charter operator is summarized in the table below.

Bright Star Schools (BSS)					
Source: Independent Audit Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2024					
# of Charter Schools		<u>Including</u> related parties and charter schools		<u>Excluding</u> related parties and charter schools	
Operated	Authorized by LAUSD	Net Assets	Net Income / (Loss)	Net Assets	Net Income / (Loss)
9	9	\$71,806,876	\$1,550,391	\$7,650,362	(\$828,809) ¹

¹ According to BSS, the organization did not charge certain BSS charter schools the full management fees in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 due to various school-specific challenges, such as enrollment shortfalls, unexpected facility repairs, higher-than-anticipated Special Education service needs, and other one-time operational expenses. BSS stated that it absorbed a portion of these costs, which resulted in a net loss for the year.