



Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-403-25/26, **Version:** 1
In Control: Charter Schools Division

Agenda Date: 5/12/2026

Denial of the Renewal Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles [PUBLIC HEARING]

Charter Schools Division

Brief Description:

(Denial of the Renewal Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles) Recommends denial of the renewal petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles, a Middle performing, Start-Up Independent charter school, located in Board District 1 and Region South, for five (5) years, beginning July 1, 2026, until June 30, 2031, to serve up to 342 students in grades TK-8 in each year of the charter term.

Action Proposed:

Adopt the denial of the renewal charter petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles ("Charter School"), located in Board District 1 and Region South, and adoption of the attached Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles.

Background:

The Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees is currently the chartering authorizer of Today's Fresh Start-Compton, a TK-8 span school currently serving 374 students on two private (non-District owned) facilities at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043 in Board District 1 and Region South; and 4513 East Compton Blvd., Compton, CA, 90221 in Compton Unified School District's boundaries. Today's Fresh Start-Compton was originally approved by the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees on July 14, 2015, to serve 715 students in grades K-8. On December 20, 2017, the charter school was renewed by the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees for a five-year term. 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 Today's Fresh Start-Compton expires June 30, 2026.

The charter for Today's Fresh Start-Compton was renewed by the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees on March 10, 2026 to operate at 4513 East Compton Blvd., Compton, CA, 90221., for a five-year term (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2031) to serve up to 220 students in grades TK-8.

A charter school that established one site outside the boundaries of the school district, but within the county in which that school district is located before January 1, 2020, may continue to operate that site until the charter school submits a request for the renewal of its charter petition. To continue operating the site, the charter school shall do either of the following:

- (i) First, before submitting the request for the renewal of the charter petition, obtain approval in writing from the school district where the site is operating.

- (ii) Submit a request for the renewal of the charter petition pursuant to Section 47607 to the school district in which the charter school is located.
(Ed. Code, §47605(a)(5)(A))

In this case, Today's Fresh Start (a California non-profit public benefit corporation that operates both Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles and Today's Fresh Start-Compton) seeks authorization by the LAUSD Board via this renewal petition application to continue operating at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd. pursuant to Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). Please note that Charter School may be required to have one or more of its sites [4476 Crenshaw Blvd., and 4513 East Compton Blvd] become a separately authorized charter school to comply with Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). (Ed. Code, § 47654.)

On March 5, 2026, Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles submitted its charter renewal petition application to the Charter Schools Division seeking to continue operating as an independent charter school at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043. The 90-day statutory timeline for Board action on this petition runs through June 3, 2026.

An initial Public Hearing was held on April 21, 2026.

Based on a review and assessment of Charter School's renewal petition application including Today's Fresh Start's record of performance and other publicly available information, staff has determined that Charter School has not met the requirements set forth in Education Code sections 47605, 47607 and/or 47607.2 and therefore recommends denial of the renewal petition.

Due Diligence:

Current Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles governing board members completed questionnaires so the District may assess whether any conflicts of interest arise based on the information provided. A confidential due diligence review of the charter school and its governing organization, school leader and financial manager, was performed by the Office of the Inspector General, and to the extent any material concerns were identified by the Office of the Inspector General, such information was forwarded to District staff for further assessment.

Statutory Framework and Criteria for Renewal:

A charter school must demonstrate that it is eligible for a renewal of its charter by meeting 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: The Charter Schools Act provides that renewals are governed by the standards and criteria described in Education Code section 47605 applicable to initial petitions. The first criterion considered in reviewing a renewal petition requires an analysis of the following:

- Whether the petition includes a sound educational program;
- Whether the petition contains a reasonably comprehensive description of the 15 elements required for petitions;
- Whether the petition contains an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education Code section 47605(e); and
- Whether the charter school is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in

the petition. Education Code section 47607(b) provides that renewals are governed by the standards and criteria described in section 47605 applicable to initial petitions. (The Board may not consider the community impact analysis or District fiscal analysis in determining whether to grant or deny a renewal petition).

Criterion 2: The Board is required to consider the charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard accountability indicators. Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2 prescribe three-tiers of performance classification in which a charter school falls within one of the following categories - "high," "middle," or "low." The three-tier classification considers a charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard accountability indicators, with an emphasis on the measurements of academic performance.

Criterion 3: Notwithstanding Criterion 1 and 2, the Board must also consider whether the charter school's enrollment or dismissal practices are discriminatory as grounds for nonrenewal. (Ed. Code, § 47607(e).) Additionally, the Board considers whether the charter school has substantial fiscal or governance factors as grounds for nonrenewal. (Ed. Code, § 47607(e).)

Grounds for Nonrenewal:

Staff of the Charter Schools Division and the Office of the General Counsel reviewed the renewal charter petition application for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles and have assessed that the renewal petition application does not meet the criteria for approval. As fully discussed in the attached Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles, based on review of the petition and supporting documentation, staff has determined, that Charter School has not met the requirements set forth in Education Code sections 47605, 47607, and/or 47607.2, and therefore recommends denial of the renewal petition.

Expected Outcomes:

Denial will prevent Today's Fresh Start from continuing its operations as a charter school at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043.

Board Options and Consequences:

"Yes" - If the Board adopts the recommendation of denial and the attached Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles, Today's Fresh Start would not be authorized to continue operating at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043 as a charter school. Charter School's current charter expires on June 30, 2026. The petitioners may appeal a denial to Los Angeles County Board of Education. If the petition is approved on appeal by the Los Angeles County Board of Education, Charter School would be authorized by the Los Angeles County Board of Education. If the Los Angeles County Board of Education denies the renewal petition, the petitioners may appeal that denial to the California State Board of Education. If the denial of the renewal petition is reversed by the California State Board of Education, the California State Board of Education shall designate, in consultation with the petitioners, either the LAUSD Board or the Los Angeles County Board of Education as the chartering authority. This Board Report No. 403-25/26, accompanying documents, and transcript of the Board meeting, shall constitute the Board of Education's adopted written findings of fact for the denial of Charter School renewal petition.

"No" - If the Board does not adopt the recommendation of denial of the charter petition and the attached Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-

Los Angeles, and instead takes specific action to approve the renewal charter petition, Charter School would be authorized to continue operating at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043, as a charter school under the terms of the approved renewal petition for a five (5) year period beginning July 1, 2026. Within 30 days, the Board requires that the school submit to the Charter Schools Division a revised renewal charter petition that is consistent with and meets all applicable legal and LAUSD requirements, including but not limited to a reasonably comprehensive description of all fifteen required elements and current Federal, State, District Required Language.

Policy Implications:

All provisions in the FSDRL shall be consistent with and be governed by all applicable legal and District policy requirements. To the extent any inconsistency may exist between any provision contained in the FSDRL and any applicable legal and District policy requirement, those applicable legal and District policy requirements shall control and the FSDRL shall be updated accordingly.

Budget Impact:

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and various other income sources of the District are reduced when current District students enroll at a charter school, and corresponding reduction in expenditures may not occur in such cases. If the Board adopts staff recommendation of denial of the petition, the action will not have a budget impact. If the Board does not adopt the staff denial recommendation and the petition is approved, the impact on the budget will be commensurate with the terms of the specific Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Option 1, 2, or 3) executed by the charter school and the District, if applicable.

Under Education Code section 47604(d), a chartering authority that grants a charter to a charter school to be operated as or by a nonprofit public benefit corporation is not liable for the debts or obligations of the charter school or for claims arising from the performance of acts, errors, or omissions by the charter school, if the chartering authority has complied with all oversight responsibilities required by law including, but not limited to, those required by Education Code section 47604.32 and Education Code section 47605(m). As the chartering authority, the District will monitor and evaluate the charter school's fiscal condition and operations, and management of public funds, including review of all legally required fiscal reports, and the annual update of the charter school's LCAP. (Ed. Code, §§ 47604.32, 47604.33, 47606.5.) Any significant modifications to the charter school's charter or operations that raise financial implications would require a material revision prior to implementation. Charter schools are expected to secure and maintain all insurance coverage consistent with all applicable legal, District and charter requirements.

Charter School has chosen to remain with a non-LAUSD SELPA of which it is currently a participating member. Should Charter School subsequently elect to be part of the LAUSD SELPA, any Option election that occurs during Charter School's charter term shall be mutually agreed upon and addressed in an MOU between the Charter School and the District. The Option election shall be effective on July 1 of the next school year with the corresponding fair share contribution.

Student Impact:

As stated in the LAUSD Policy and Procedures for Charter Schools, "[W]hen the LAUSD Board authorizes and oversees a charter school, it establishes a relationship to advance its vision and mission and to accelerate gains in academic achievement and accountability for all of its students and public schools," (Policy, p.3).

Based on a comprehensive review and assessment of Charter School's renewal petition application, staff has determined that Charter School has not met the requirements for charter school approval and therefore recommends denial of the renewal petition.

Equity Impact:

Not applicable

Issues and Analysis:

If all applicable pending issues, including but not limited to special education requirements, special education local planning area (SELPA) requirements, governance, fiscal and facilities matters, are not resolved at the time of the Board meeting, the item may be pulled from the agenda to the extent consistent with the Charter Schools Act and the LAUSD Policy and Procedures for Charter Schools.

Attachments:

Attachment A- Staff Assessment and Recommendation Report

Attachment B- Today's Fresh Start-Compton Data Set

Attachment C- Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles

Budget and Petition will be available prior to the board meeting at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nCZklciP38ntmOkpGfWH3CEddOJgt7A?usp=sharing>

Submitted:

04/20/26

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

APPROVED BY:

ANDRES E. CHAIT
Acting Superintendent

CAROLYN SPAHT GONZALEZ
Chief of Staff

REVIEWED BY:

APPROVED & PRESENTED BY:

DEVORA NAVERA REED
General Counsel

JOSÉ COLE-GUTIÉRREZ
Senior Executive Director of Strategy
Division of Data, Strategy, and Innovation

___ Approved as to form.

REVIEWED BY:

APPROVED & PRESENTED BY:

KURT E. JOHN
Deputy Chief Financial Officer

MARLA WILLMOTT
Director
Charter Schools Division

___ Approved as to budget impact statement.

STAFF ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION REPORT

RENEWAL PETITION

Board of Education Report 403-25/26
May 12, 2026

School Name:	Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles		BOARD IS REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION BY: June 3, 2026
Type of Charter School:	Start-Up Independent Charter School		
Charter Operator	Today's Fresh Start		
Location Code:	Not applicable		
Type of Site(s):	Private		
Site Address(es):	4476 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90043		
Board District(s):	1	Region(s):	South
Grade Levels Served:	TK-8	Current Enrollment:	374 (Per 2025 CA School Dashboard)
Grade Levels Authorized in Current Charter:	TK-8	Approved Enrollment in Current Charter:	715
CONSIDERATION:	Renewal		
CDE PERFORMANCE CATEGORY: (PER CDE'S 2026 CLASSIFICATION)	Middle Performing		
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	Denial		
PROPOSED BENCHMARKS:	None		

STAFF ASSESSMENT

I. ACTION PROPOSED

Staff recommends denial of the renewal petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles ("TFSCS-LA" or "Charter School"), located in Board District 1 and Region South, for a term of five (5) years, beginning July 1, 2026, until June 30, 2031, to serve up to 342 students in grade TK-8 in each year of the charter term.

The Compton Unified School District ("CUSD") Board of Trustees is currently the chartering authorizer of Today's Fresh Start-Compton ("TFS-Compton"), currently operating and located at 4513 E. Compton Blvd., Compton, CA 90221 ("Compton Site") and 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043 ("Vernon Site").

Per statute, a charter school that established one site outside the boundaries of the school district, but within the county in which that school district is located before January 1, 2020, may continue to operate that site until the charter school submits a request for the renewal of its charter petition. To continue operating the site, the charter school shall do either of the following:

- (i) First, before submitting the request for the renewal of the charter petition, obtain approval in writing from the school district where the site is operating.

- (ii) Submit a request for the renewal of the charter petition pursuant to Section 47607 to the school district in which the charter school is located.

(Ed. Code, §47605(a)(5)(A))

In this case, Today’s Fresh Start [California nonprofit public benefit corporation that operates both TFSCS-LA and TFS-Compton] seeks authorization by the LAUSD Board via this renewal petition application to continue operating at the Vernon Site pursuant to Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). Please note that Today’s Fresh Start may be required to have one or more of its sites [Compton Site and Vernon Site] become a separately authorized charter school to comply with Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). (Ed. Code, § 47654.)

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).) For reasons more fully set forth in the *Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles*, these criteria have been determined 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

	Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles
Initial Authorization:	On July 14, 2015, Today’s Fresh Start-Compton was authorized by the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees to serve 715 students in grades K-8.
Most Recent Renewal	The charter was renewed by CUSD Board of Trustees on December 20, 2017 for a five-year term (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2023) to serve up to 715 students in grades TK-8. 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 Today’s Fresh Start-Compton expires June 30, 2026.
Approved Material Revisions of Current Charter:	Not applicable
Board Benchmarks in Current Charter Term:	Not applicable
Submission of Renewal Petition Application:	Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles submitted its renewal petition application on March 5, 2026. The 90-day statutory timeline for Board action on the petition runs through June 3, 2026.
Concurrent Request for Material Revision:	Not applicable
Master Plan for English Learners and Standard English Learners:	Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles proposes to implement the District’s Master Plan for English Learners and Standard English Learners.
Special Education SELPA	Today’s Fresh Start-Compton participates in El Dorado County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles proposes to participate in El Dorado County SELPA.

B. Charter School Operator

Charter School is operated by Today’s Fresh Start, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation.

IV. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

a. Summary

As a renewing school, Today’s Fresh Start-Compton (which includes both the Compton Site and the Vernon Site) has a record of performance and has been identified by the state as a Middle performing charter school. Staff considered the schoolwide performance and performance of numerically significant student groups and the state and local indicators reported on the California School Dashboard.

Overall, Today’s Fresh Start-Compton’s Dashboard performance was higher than the state in ELA, Math, and Science, but lower on the English Language Progress Indicator (ELPI).

Please see the Today’s Fresh Start-Compton data set.

b. Measurements of Academic Performance on the California School Dashboard

The California School Dashboard displays performance for eight state measures. The Performance Level, or color, is based on two factors. The current year data for the measure (Status) and the difference between current year and prior year data (Change). The point at which these two levels intersect on the five-by-five table determines the color. From highest to lowest, the Performance Levels are Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red. Below, the 2023, 2024, and 2025, Dashboard Performance Levels (colors) are provided.

Today’s Fresh Start- Compton Dashboard Indicators

School Year	ELA	Math	Science	English Learner Progress	College/Career	Chronic Absenteeism	Graduation Rate	Suspension Rate
2022-2023	Orange	Yellow	Not Applicable	Orange	Not Applicable	Yellow	Not Applicable	Red
2023-2024	Yellow	Yellow	No Performance Color	Orange	Not Applicable	Yellow	Not Applicable	Blue
2024-2025	Yellow	Yellow	Blue	Blue	Not Applicable	Yellow	Not Applicable	Blue

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 2023 and 2024 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 four of five numerically significant student groups. In 2025 in ELA, the charter school’s DFS was lower than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for all five numerically significant student groups.

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	Orange	-36.0	2.4	Orange	-13.6	Lower
Black or African American	Met	Yellow	-49.3	5.5	Orange	-59.6	Higher
Latino	Met	Orange	-18.6	-3.4	Orange	-40.2	Higher
English Learner	Met	Yellow	-8.6	12.4	Orange	-67.7	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Orange	-36.4	0.8	Orange	-42.6	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Orange	-99.8	6.4	Red	-96.3	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	-29.9	6.1	Orange	-13.2	Lower
Black or African American	Met	Yellow	-35.5	13.8	Orange	-58.9	Higher
Latino	Met	Orange	-24.0	-5.4	Orange	-39.3	Higher
English Learner	Met	Orange	-53.1	-44.5	Orange	-67.6	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-30.5	5.9	Orange	-40.9	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Red	-97.6	2.1	Red	-95.6	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - English Language Arts Indicator - 2024-2025

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	-23.1	6.8	Yellow	-8.1	Lower
Black or African American	Not Met	Yellow	-31.0	4.5	Yellow	-51.3	Higher
Latino	Met	Yellow	-19.2	4.8	Yellow	-33.7	Higher
English Learner	Met	Yellow	-42.7	10.4	Yellow	-59.9	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-22.7	7.8	Yellow	-35.3	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Yellow	-63.8	33.8	Orange	-89.4	Higher

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

d. Math Indicator

In 2023 and 2024 in Math, the charter school's DFS was lower than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for four of five numerically significant student groups. In 2025 in Math, the charter school's DFS was lower than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for all five numerically significant student groups.

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	-77.6	3.8	Orange	-49.1	Lower
Black or African American	Met	Yellow	-91.4	4.2	Red	-104.5	Higher
Latino	Met	Orange	-59.6	1.8	Orange	-80.8	Higher
English Learner	Met	Orange	-62.1	0.0	Orange	-93.4	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Orange	-77.8	2.6	Yellow	-80.8	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Orange	-151.6	4.6	Orange	-127.3	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	-58.9	18.7	Orange	-47.6	Lower
Black or African American	Met	Yellow	-80.3	11.1	Red	-102.2	Higher
Latino	Met	Yellow	-34.3	25.3	Orange	-79.2	Higher
English Learner	Met	Yellow	-53.5	8.6	Orange	-93.4	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-61.0	16.8	Orange	-78.2	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Orange	-138.8	12.8	Red	-124.3	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - Math Indicator - 2024-2025

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	-49.3	9.6	Yellow	-42.4	Lower
Black or African American	Not Met	Yellow	-67.3	13.0	Orange	-95.8	Higher
Latino	Met	Orange	-33.2	1.2	Yellow	-73.6	Higher
English Learner	Met	Orange	-54.4	-0.9	Yellow	-86.1	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Yellow	-49.4	11.6	Yellow	-72.9	Higher
Students with Disabilities	Met	Orange	-104.1	34.7	Orange	-120.7	Higher

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

e. Science Indicator

In 2024 in Science, the charter school's Science Points (SPs) were lower than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for two of three numerically significant student groups. In 2025 in Science, the charter school's SPs were higher than the state for All Students, and higher than the state for all three numerically significant student groups.

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - Science Indicator - 2023-2024

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Science Points	Charter Change	State Color	State Science Points	Charter to State Comparison
All Students	Met	No Performance Color	46.2	10.0	No Performance Color	51.2	Lower
Black or African American	Met	No Performance Color	43.1	13.2	No Performance Color	41.4	Higher
Latino	Met	No Performance Color	52.1	3.9	No Performance Color	45.4	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	No Performance Color	45.3	10.6	No Performance Color	45.6	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - Science Indicator - 2024-2025

Student Group	Charter Participation Rate	Charter Color	Science Points	Charter Change	State Color	State Science Points	Charter to State Comparison
All Students	Met	Blue	56.1	10.0	Yellow	52.6	Higher
Black or African American	Met	Blue	56.3	13.2	Orange	43.4	Higher
Latino	Met	Green	56.0	3.9	Yellow	47.1	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	Met	Blue	55.9	10.6	Yellow	47.1	Higher

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

f. English Learner Progress Indicator

In 2023 on the English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI), the charter school's English Learner Progress Rate was lower than the state. In 2024 on the ELPI, the charter school's English Learner Progress Rates for the English Learner and Long-term English Learner student groups were lower than the state. In 2025 on the ELPI, the charter school's English Learner Progress Rate was higher than the state.

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	Not Met	Orange	46.3%	-8.7%	Yellow	48.7%	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - 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	Orange	41.0%	-5.3%	Orange	45.7%	Lower
Long-Term English Learner	Met	No Performance Color	36.4%	-10.3%	Orange	45.8%	Lower

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

Today's Fresh Start- Compton - English Learner Progress Indicator - 2024-2025

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	66.7%	25.6%	Yellow	46.4%	Higher

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

g. College/Career Indicator

Not applicable

h. Chronic Absenteeism Indicator

In 2023, 2024, and 2025 on the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator, the charter school's rate of chronic absenteeism was higher than the state for All Students and for all six numerically significant student groups.

i. Graduation Indicator [HS only]

Not applicable

j. Suspension Rate Indicator

In 2023, the charter school's percentage of students suspended at least once was higher than the state for All Students, and for four of six numerically significant student groups. In 2024, and 2025, the charter school's percentage of students suspended at least once was lower than the state for All Students, and for all six numerically significant student groups.

k. 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, 2024 and 2025.

l. Additional Information

The charter for Today's Fresh Start-Compton was renewed by the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees on March 10, 2026 to operate at the Compton Site, for a five-year term (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2031) to serve up to 220 students in grades TK-8.

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*.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton has been overseen by the Compton Unified School District, as its chartering authorizer since the inception of Today's Fresh Start-Compton in 2015. LAUSD requested Charter School's records from CUSD. As of the writing of this report, the District has

not received the sought records, therefore, LAUSD was unable to review any documents related to CUSD’s oversight of the charter school for the current charter term.

VI. FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

a. Fiscal Condition

Today’s Fresh Start-Compton’s net assets were reported as positive in its 2023-2024 independent audit report, the most current and only audit report that LAUSD was able to locate. This audit was included in CUSD’s board meeting agenda dated February 10, 2026. The auditor noted, “The statements presented are for [Today’s Fresh Start-Compton] only, which serves an operating unit of Today’s Fresh Start and are not intended to be a complete presentation of [Today’s Fresh Start-Compton] financial position or results of operations.” It is unclear whether consolidated financial statements were issued.

Staff requested that CUSD (current chartering authorizer) provide Today’s Fresh Start-Compton’s full oversight file including its financial records (covering the past nine (9) years), all audited financial statements, enrollment data broken down by grade level, IRS Forms 990, the 2025-2026 Budget First Interim, and Second Interim financial reports. To date, the District has not obtained the sought oversight file.

The Financial Highlights table below summarizes Today’s Fresh Start-Compton’s financial data based on the above-mentioned 2023-2024 independent audit report.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS	
	2023-2024 (Audited Actuals)
Ending Net Assets	\$10,521,779
Net Income / (Loss)	(\$2,311,586)
Transfers In / Out	\$0
Prior Year Adjustment(s)	\$0
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$11,463,783
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$10,521,799
FINANCIAL RATIO ANALYSIS	
Fund Reserve (Reserve for Economic Uncertainty) (Unrestricted Net Assets/Total Expenditures) <i>3% - 5% and greater is recommended (depending on the school’s ADA)</i>	94.68%
Cash Reserve Level (Cash Balance/Total Expenditures) <i>5% and greater is recommended</i>	103.15%
Current Ratio (Working Capital Ratio) (Current Assets/Current Liabilities) <i>At least 1.2 or 120% is recommended</i>	269.77%
Debt Ratio (Total Liabilities/Total Assets) <i>Lower than 1.0 or 100% is recommended</i>	39.36%

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

As noted above, 2023-2024 Independent Audit Report was the most current and only audit report that LAUSD was able to locate and review.

c. Other Significant Fiscal Information

The five (5)-year budget and cash flow projections submitted with the renewal petition application to LAUSD reflect positive ending net assets and net income each year. However, as detailed in *Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles*, Charter School presented an unreasonable and unrealistic financial plan in support of its renewal petition application.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: Academic Performance - English Language Arts

This report shows the performance levels for the English Language Arts Academic Performance Indicator for all student groups in grades 3-8 and 11. It also shows the participation rate, number of students tested, DFS (status), and performance level (color) for three consecutive years of the CA Dashboard. Performance Levels (colors) have five possible values (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue). A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "--" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students and scores in the current and prior year, status is reported, but performance level (color) is not reported. Note: Charter Schools are treated as schools (not LEAs) when it comes to reporting Foster Youth and Homeless student groups. Charter schools will need at least 30 or more Foster Youth, or 30 or more Homeless youth, to receive a status level for each student group. The Every Student Succeeds Act requires districts and schools to test at least 95 percent of all students and student groups in English Language Arts and Mathematics. It also requires states to factor the participation rate into the Academic Indicator. For any local educational agency (LEA), school, or student group with less than 95 percent of students tested, the ESSA requires a penalty to be applied to the Academic Indicator. To meet this federal requirement, California assigns the Lowest Obtainable Scale Score (LOSS) to each student needed to bring the participation rate of the school, district, and/or student group to 95 percent. The LOSS assigned to each of these students who did not test will be used in calculating the Distance from Standard (DFS). When comparing school to state, only numerically significant student groups of 30 or more will be compared for accountability purposes.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

ELA (Grades 3-8 and Grade 11) Academic Indicator - CA School Dashboard Indicator																								
Student Group	Dashboard 2023							Dashboard 2024							Dashboard 2025									
	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State
All Students	100%	287	-36.0	2.4	Maintained	Orange	-13.6	Lower	99%	262	-29.9	6.1	Increased	Yellow	-13.2	Lower	97%	240	-23.1	6.8	Increased	Yellow	-8.1	Lower
African American/Black	99%	158	-49.3	5.5	Increased	Yellow	-59.6	Higher	98%	144	-35.5	13.8	Increased	Yellow	-58.9	Higher	94%	121	-31.0	4.5	Increased	Yellow	-51.3	Higher
English Learner	100%	63	-8.6	12.4	Increased	Yellow	-67.7	Higher	100%	46	-53.1	-44.5	Declined Significantly	Orange	-67.6	Higher	100%	40	-42.7	10.4	Increased	Yellow	-59.9	Higher
Homeless Youth	100%	17	-10.6	44.0	Increased Significantly	--	-67.9	--	100%	21	4.3	15.0	Increased Significantly	--	-70.4	--	100%	25	-11.9	-16.2	Declined Significantly	--	-68.9	--
Latino	100%	116	-18.6	-3.4	Declined	Orange	-40.2	Higher	100%	109	-24.0	-5.4	Declined	Orange	-39.3	Higher	100%	111	-19.2	4.8	Increased	Yellow	-33.7	Higher
Long-Term English Learner	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	100%	11	-101.1	-49.9	Declined Significantly	--	-109.6	--	100%	9	*	*	*	*	-104.5	*
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	100%	278	-36.4	0.8	Maintained	Orange	-42.6	Higher	99%	248	-30.5	5.9	Increased	Yellow	-40.9	Higher	97%	226	-22.7	7.8	Increased	Yellow	-35.3	Higher
Students with Disabilities	100%	59	-99.8	6.4	Increased	Orange	-96.3	Lower	100%	53	-97.6	2.1	Maintained	Red	-95.6	Lower	98%	50	-63.8	33.8	Increased Significantly	Yellow	-89.4	Higher

Data Sources: California School Dashboard Research data files.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: Academic Performance - Math

This report shows the performance levels for the Mathematics Academic Performance Indicator for all student groups in grades 3-8 and 11. It also shows the participation rate, number of students tested, DFS (status), and performance level (color) for three consecutive years of the CA Dashboard. Performance Levels (colors) have five possible values (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue). A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "--" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students and scores in the current and prior year, status is reported, but performance level (color) is not reported. Note: Charter Schools are treated as schools (not LEAs) when it comes to reporting Foster Youth and Homeless student groups. Charter schools will need at least 30 or more Foster Youth, or 30 or more Homeless youth, to receive a status level for each student group. The Every Student Succeeds Act requires districts and schools to test at least 95 percent of all students and student groups in English Language Arts and Mathematics. It also requires states to factor the participation rate into the Academic Indicator. For any local educational agency (LEA), school, or student group with less than 95 percent of students tested, the ESSA requires a penalty to be applied to the Academic Indicator. To meet this federal requirement, California assigns the Lowest Obtainable Scale Score (LOSS) to each student needed to bring the participation rate of the school, district, and/or student group to 95 percent. The LOSS assigned to each of these students who did not test will be used in calculating the Distance from Standard (DFS). When comparing school to state, only numerically significant student groups of 30 or more will be compared for accountability purposes.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

Math (Grades 3-8 and Grade 11) Academic Indicator - CA School Dashboard Indicator																									
Student Group	Dashboard 2023								Dashboard 2024								Dashboard 2025								
	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	DFS	Change	Change Level	Color	State DFS	School vs State	
All Students	100%	287	-77.6	3.8	Increased	Yellow	-49.1	Lower	99%	262	-58.9	18.7	Increased Significantly	Yellow	-47.6	Lower	97%	240	-49.3	9.6	Increased	Yellow	-42.4	Lower	
African American/Black	99%	158	-91.4	4.2	Increased	Yellow	-104.5	Higher	98%	144	-80.3	11.1	Increased	Yellow	-102.2	Higher	93%	121	-67.3	13.0	Increased	Yellow	-95.8	Higher	
English Learner	100%	63	-62.1	0.0	Maintained	Orange	-93.4	Higher	100%	46	-53.5	8.6	Increased	Yellow	-93.4	Higher	100%	41	-54.4	-0.9	Maintained	Orange	-86.1	Higher	
Homeless Youth	100%	17	-54.6	16.5	Increased Significantly	--	-101.3	--	100%	21	-21.5	33.2	Increased Significantly	--	-106.0	--	100%	25	-38.4	-16.9	Declined Significantly	--	-102.8	--	
Latino	100%	116	-59.6	1.8	Maintained	Orange	-80.8	Higher	100%	109	-34.3	25.3	Increased Significantly	Yellow	-79.2	Higher	100%	112	-33.2	1.2	Maintained	Orange	-73.6	Higher	
Long-Term English Learner	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	100%	11	-195.5	-69.3	Declined Significantly	--	-163.5	--	100%	9	*	*	*	*	-158.9	*	
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	100%	278	-77.8	2.6	Maintained	Orange	-80.8	Higher	99%	248	-61.0	16.8	Increased Significantly	Yellow	-78.2	Higher	96%	226	-49.4	11.6	Increased	Yellow	-72.9	Higher	
Students with Disabilities	100%	59	-151.6	4.6	Increased	Orange	-127.3	Lower	100%	53	-138.8	12.8	Increased	Orange	-124.3	Lower	96%	49	-104.1	34.7	Increased Significantly	Orange	-120.7	Higher	

Data Sources: California School Dashboard Research data files.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: Academic Performance - Science

This report shows the performance levels for the Science Indicator for all student groups in grades 5, 8, and once during high school. It also shows the participation rate, number of students tested, science points (status), and performance level (color) for the 2025 CA Dashboard. Performance Levels (colors) have five possible values (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue). A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "--" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students and scores in the current and prior year, status is reported, but performance level (color) is not reported. Note: Charter Schools are treated as schools (not LEAs) when it comes to reporting Foster Youth and Homeless student groups. Charter schools will need at least 30 or more Foster Youth, or 30 or more Homeless youth, to receive a status level for each student group. The Science Indicator is calculated using two components: Science Points (SPs) and participation rate. The California State Board of Education (SBE) adopted a participation rate requirement within the Science Indicator to require LEAs, schools, and student groups to test at least 95 percent of their students. If they fail to meet this target, a Lowest Obtainable Scale Score (LOSS) is assigned to each student needed to bring the participation rate of the LEAs, schools and/or student group to 95 percent. The LOSS assigned to each of these students who did not test will be used in calculating the average SPs. If an LEA, school, and/or student group participation rate is 95 percent or above, assigned LOSS is not applied. When comparing school to state, only numerically significant student groups of 30 or more will be compared for accountability purposes.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

Science (Grades 5,8 and Once in HS) Academic Indicator - CA School Dashboard Indicator														
Student Group	Dashboard 2024						Dashboard 2025							
	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	Science Points	Color	State Science Points	School vs State	Part. Rate	Students w/ Scores	Science Points	Change	Change Level	Color	State Science Points	School vs State
All Students	98%	95	46.2	--	51.2	Lower	99%	73	56.1	10.0	Increased Significantly	Blue	52.6	Higher
African American/Black	97%	61	43.1	--	41.4	Higher	97%	33	56.3	13.2	Increased Significantly	Blue	43.4	Higher
English Learner	100%	18	50.4	--	39.0	--	100%	10	*	*	*	*	41.1	*
Latino	100%	31	52.1	--	45.4	Higher	100%	38	56.0	3.9	Increased	Green	47.1	Higher
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	98%	91	45.3	--	45.6	Lower	99%	69	55.9	10.6	Increased Significantly	Blue	47.1	Higher
Students with Disabilities	100%	18	37.5	--	36.7	--	100%	15	43.0	5.5	Increased Significantly	--	38.3	--

Data Sources: California School Dashboard Research data files.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI)

This report shows the percentage of current English learner (EL) students making progress towards English language proficiency at their school for all student groups in grades 1-12. The English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI) relies on the results of the Summative English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPAC), including Summative Alternate ELPAC results, to determine EL student progress. For the EL students taking the Summative ELPAC, those who increase an ELPI level or maintain ELPAC Level 4 are counted as making progress towards English language proficiency. ELPI Change measures the rate at which schools are improving their ability to move their EL students towards English language proficiency. It is the difference between the prior year Status and the current year Status. A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "--" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students and scores in the current and prior year, status is reported, but performance level (color) is not reported.

Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI) - CA School Dashboard Indicator																					
Student Group	Dashboard 2023							Dashboard 2024							Dashboard 2025						
	Students	ELPI	Change	Change Level	Color	State ELPI	School vs State	Students	ELPI	Change	Change Level	Color	State ELPI	School vs State	Students	ELPI	Change	Change Level	Color	State ELPI	School vs State
English Learner	41	46.3%	-8.7	Declined	Orange	48.7%	Lower	39	41.0%	-5.3	Declined	Orange	45.7%	Lower	45	66.7%	25.6	Increased Significantly	Blue	46.4%	Higher
Long-Term English Learner	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	36.4%	-10.3	Declined Significantly	--	45.8%	Lower	8	*	*	*	*	49.1%	*

Student English Language Acquisition Results Summative ELPAC									
End Year	Student Group	School				State of California			
		Progressed at Least One ELPI Level	Maintained ELPI Level 4	Maintained ELPI Level 1, 2L, 2H, 3L, 3H	Decreased at Least One ELPI Level	Progressed at Least One ELPI Level	Maintained ELPI Level 4	Maintained ELPI Level 1, 2L, 2H, 3L, 3H	Decreased at Least One ELPI Level
2023	EL	46.3%	0%	24.4%	29.3%	45.7%	2.3%	32.2%	18.3%
2024	EL	41.0%	0%	41.0%	17.9%	43.2%	1.9%	34.4%	19.1%
2024	LTEL	36.4%	0%	18.2%	45.5%	41.6%	3.4%	28.5%	24.7%
2025	EL	66.7%	0%	24.4%	8.9%	44.6%	1.3%	35.5%	17.2%
2025	LTEL	--	--	--	--	46.1%	2.4%	28.2%	21.6%

Districts and schools that do not meet the 95 percent participation rate on the Summative ELPAC and Summative Alternative ELPAC and have at least 30 EL students enrolled during the testing window (February 1 to May 31) will receive a modified ELPI rate on the California School Dashboard (Dashboard). For each district and school that does not meet the 95 percent target, the minimum number of students needed to reach a participation rate of at least 95 percent is determined. The resulting number of students will be counted as not making progress in the current ELPI Status calculation.

Summative ELPAC Participation Rate Report									
End Year	Student Group	School				State of California			
		Students Tested During Testing Window	Students Enrolled During Testing Window	Participation Rate	Participation Rate Greater Than 95%	Students Tested During Testing Window	Students Enrolled During Testing Window	Participation Rate	Participation Rate Greater Than 95%
2023	EL	59	59	100.0%	Y	1,048,300	1,069,515	98.0%	Y
2023	LTEL	10	10	100.0%	Y	193,182	202,530	95.4%	Y
2024	EL	59	60	98.3%	Y	1,028,083	1,047,977	98.1%	Y
2024	LTEL	6	6	100.0%	Y	182,603	190,459	95.9%	Y
2025	EL	53	53	100.0%	Y	947,393	963,338	98.3%	Y
2025	LTEL	5	5	100.0%	Y	175,106	181,495	96.5%	Y

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: Chronic Absenteeism

This report shows the percentage of students in Kindergarten through grade eight who were absent 10 percent or more of the school year for all student groups in grades TK-8. Please note that good performance on the Chronic Absenteeism indicator means having the lowest percentage of students chronically absent in the current year. A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "—" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students with scores in the current and prior year, status is reported, but no performance level (color) will be reported. When comparing school to state, only numerically significant student groups of 30 or more will be compared for accountability purposes.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

Chronic Absenteeism - CA School Dashboard Indicator																					
Student Group	Dashboard 2023							Dashboard 2024							Dashboard 2025						
	Students	Chronic Absenteeism	Change	Change Level	Color	State Chronic Absenteeism	School vs State	Students	Chronic Absenteeism	Change	Change Level	Color	State Chronic Absenteeism	School vs State	Students	Chronic Absenteeism	Change	Change Level	Color	State Chronic Absenteeism	School vs State
All Students	478	52.3%	-8.4	Declined Significantly	Yellow	24.3%	Higher	443	45.6%	-6.7	Declined Significantly	Yellow	18.6%	Higher	397	41.6%	-4.0	Declined Significantly	Yellow	17.1%	Higher
African American/Black	261	54.0%	-11.1	Declined Significantly	Yellow	36.4%	Higher	243	49.0%	-5.1	Declined Significantly	Yellow	31.3%	Higher	213	52.1%	3.1	Increased Significantly	Red	29.8%	Higher
English Learner	60	41.7%	-10.1	Declined	Orange	26.3%	Higher	62	41.9%	0.3	Maintained	Red	20.1%	Higher	59	23.7%	-18.2	Declined	Orange	18.1%	Higher
Homeless Youth	33	51.5%	-2.7	Declined	--	38.7%	Higher	33	39.4%	-12.1	Declined	Orange	32.7%	Higher	46	50.0%	10.6	Increased	Red	30.7%	Higher
Latino	199	50.8%	-3.1	Declined Significantly	Yellow	28.4%	Higher	183	42.6%	-8.1	Declined Significantly	Yellow	21.7%	Higher	170	28.8%	-13.8	Declined Significantly	Yellow	20.1%	Higher
Long-Term English Learner	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	27.3%	3.7	Increased	--	23.9%	--	9	*	*	*	*	22.5%	*
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	467	52.5%	-8.1	Declined Significantly	Yellow	29.9%	Higher	426	46.0%	-6.5	Declined Significantly	Yellow	23.4%	Higher	377	41.6%	-4.4	Declined Significantly	Yellow	21.7%	Higher
Students with Disabilities	91	51.6%	-2.0	Declined	Orange	33.1%	Higher	74	44.6%	-7.1	Declined	Orange	26.3%	Higher	76	42.1%	-2.5	Declined	Orange	24.9%	Higher

Data Sources: California School Dashboard Research data files.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

CA School Dashboard: Suspension Rate Indicator

This report shows the number of students who have been suspended at least once in the school year for all student groups in grades TK-12. A student is counted as suspended in the suspension rate only once regardless of multiple suspensions or multiple days of suspension. Please note that good performance on the Suspension Rate Indicator means having the lowest percentage of students suspended in the current year. A single asterisk (*) shows that the student group has fewer than 11 students and is not reported for privacy reasons. A cell with "--" means that data is not currently available. For student groups with less than 30 students with scores in the current and prior year, status and change are reported, but no performance level (color) will be reported. When comparing school to state, only numerically significant student groups of 30 or more will be compared for accountability purposes.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

Suspension Rate Indicator - CA School Dashboard Indicator																					
Student Group	Dashboard 2023							Dashboard 2024							Dashboard 2025						
	Students	Suspension Rate	Change	Change Level	Color	State Suspension Rate	School vs State	Students	Suspension Rate	Change	Change Level	Color	State Suspension Rate	School vs State	Students	Suspension Rate	Change	Change Level	Color	State Suspension Rate	School vs State
All Students	490	6.5%	4.8	Increased Significantly	Red	3.5%	Higher	455	0.9%	-5.7	Declined Significantly	Blue	3.2%	Lower	408	0.0%	-0.9	Declined	Blue	2.9%	Lower
African American/Black	267	7.9%	5.5	Increased Significantly	Red	8.8%	Lower	249	1.6%	-6.3	Declined Significantly	Green	8.4%	Lower	222	0.0%	-1.6	Declined Significantly	Blue	7.7%	Lower
English Learner	63	7.9%	7.9	Increased	Red	3.7%	Higher	62	0.0%	-7.9	Declined	Blue	3.4%	Lower	60	0.0%	0.0	Maintained	Blue	3.2%	Lower
Homeless Youth	33	6.1%	6.1	Increased	--	6.5%	Lower	35	0.0%	-6.1	Declined	Blue	5.7%	Lower	48	0.0%	0.0	Maintained	Blue	5.1%	Lower
Latino	205	4.4%	4.0	Increased Significantly	Red	3.8%	Higher	188	0.0%	-4.4	Declined Significantly	Blue	3.4%	Lower	171	0.0%	0.0	Maintained	Blue	3.0%	Lower
Long-Term English Learner	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	0.0%	-22.2	Declined	--	8.1%	--	9	*	*	*	*	7.0%	*
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	479	6.3%	4.5	Increased Significantly	Red	4.5%	Higher	435	0.9%	-5.3	Declined Significantly	Blue	4.0%	Lower	387	0.0%	-0.9	Declined	Blue	3.6%	Lower
Students with Disabilities	93	6.5%	4.5	Increased	Red	5.9%	Higher	76	0.0%	-6.5	Declined	Blue	5.4%	Lower	78	0.0%	0.0	Maintained	Blue	5.0%	Lower

Data Sources: California School Dashboard Research data files.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

Board District: 1 | Region: South | Location Code: TBD | CDS Code: 19734370132845

Enrollment Report

This report displays CALPADS K-12 enrollment number and percentages of select student groups. Annual enrollment consists of the number of students primarily enrolled on Census Day (the first Wednesday in October). This information was submitted by local educational agencies (LEAs) and charter schools to the California Department of Education (CDE) as part of the annual Fall 1 data submission in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). These data were reviewed and certified in CALPADS as being accurate by authorized district or school personnel. In order to certify data in CALPADS, authorized district or charter school personnel are required to review the accuracy of all data associated with the applicable CALPADS submission. The CDE collects some data on GATE programs through the CALPADS; however, this information is submitted by LEAs on a voluntary basis and it wouldn't necessarily be accurate as per CDE.

Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

Enrollment by Ethnicity and Student Group						
Student Group	2023-2024			2024-2025		
	School	Los Angeles Unified	State of California	School	Los Angeles Unified	State of California
Enrollment	409	529,902	5,837,690	374	516,685	5,806,221
F/R Meal	94.9%	80.6%	61.6%	93.0%	81.9%	62.7%
GATE	N/A	11.6%	N/A	N/A	13.0%	N/A
English Learner	11.7%	20.1%	18.4%	15.2%	18.6%	17.4%
Foster Youth	1.2%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%
Homeless Youth	7.1%	2.1%	3.6%	10.2%	2.7%	4.0%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	95.4%	81.3%	62.7%	93.0%	82.4%	63.6%
Students w/ Disabilities	16.9%	14.8%	13.7%	16.8%	15.6%	14.2%
Migrant Youth	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%
African American/Black	54.5%	7.3%	4.9%	51.9%	7.1%	4.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.5%	0.1%	0.4%	1.1%	0.1%	0.4%
Asian	0.0%	3.4%	9.9%	0.0%	3.3%	10.1%
Filipino	0.2%	1.7%	2.2%	0.3%	1.6%	2.2%
Latino	41.8%	73.8%	56.1%	44.4%	73.6%	56.1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%
White	0.2%	9.8%	20.3%	0.0%	9.7%	20.0%
Two or More Races	1.2%	2.0%	4.6%	1.9%	2.1%	4.8%
Not Reported	0.0%	1.8%	1.1%	0.0%	2.2%	1.2%

N/A: The CDE does not publish centralized, statewide Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) data.

Data Source: Data Quest, Student and School Downloadable Data Files <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp>

Today's Fresh Start-Compton

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Long-Term English Learners (LTEL) and “At-Risk”

Note: The “EL Total” column in this report displays the summed total of the disaggregated English Learner (EL) data in the four columns under the “English Learners” heading. The “Total (Ever-EL)” column displays the summed total of the data in the “RFEP” column plus the data in the four columns under the “English Learners” heading OR the data in the “EL Total” column, but not both. The percent values displayed in this report are calculated as a percent of the “Total (Ever-EL)” which fully and more accurately considers what happens to all EL students over time, including those who are Reclassified Fluent English Proficient (RFEP). Source: Data collected by the California Department of Education (CDE) through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS), California School Dashboard, and testing vendor. Aggregate data files are provided by the CDE – Data Reporting Office at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesenr.asp> and California School Dashboard System of Support <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>. Please note: There may be slight differences with some of the information in this report and with what is displayed in Dataquest and California School Dashboard due to changes in file modifications such as Date Modified, Date Posted, other data updates by the testing vendor and updates in CALPADS.

	2022-2023						2023-2024						2024-2025					
	School		Los Angeles Unified		State of California		School		Los Angeles Unified		State of California		School		Los Angeles Unified		State of California	
English Learners	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
LTEL 6+ Years	11	9.1%	17,921	7.3%	226,508	11.1%	7	6.5%	15,302	6.5%	211,186	10.6%	5	4.8%	13,052	5.9%	198,853	10.4%
At-Risk 4-5 Years	5	4.1%	17,295	7.1%	144,189	7.1%	2	1.9%	15,717	6.7%	136,188	6.8%	5	4.8%	11,406	5.2%	115,009	6.0%
EL 0-3 Years	25	20.7%	60,457	24.7%	505,486	24.8%	27	25.0%	60,574	25.7%	519,651	26.0%	40	38.1%	57,726	26.1%	516,862	26.9%
EL 4+ Years & Not At-Risk or LTEL	10	8.3%	18,850	7.7%	236,319	11.6%	12	11.1%	14,725	6.2%	207,768	10.4%	7	6.7%	13,775	6.2%	178,306	9.3%
EL Total	51	42.1%	114,523	46.8%	1,112,502	54.5%	48	44.4%	106,318	45.0%	1,074,793	53.8%	57	54.3%	95,959	43.3%	1,009,030	52.6%
RFEP	70	57.9%	130,377	53.2%	927,694	45.5%	60	55.6%	129,789	55.0%	924,422	46.2%	48	45.7%	125,465	56.7%	909,298	47.4%
Total Ever EL	121	100.0%	244,900	100.0%	2,040,196	100.0%	108	100.0%	236,107	100.0%	1,999,215	100.0%	105	100.0%	221,424	100.0%	1,918,328	100.0%

Data Source: Data Quest, Student and School Downloadable Data Files <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ad/filesltel.asp>

ATTACHMENT C

FINDINGS OF FACT IN SUPPORT OF DENIAL OF THE RENEWAL CHARTER PETITION FOR TODAY'S FRESH START CHARTER SCHOOL – LOS ANGELES BY THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT
May 12, 2026

I. INTRODUCTION

On March 5, 2026, Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles ("Charter School" or "Petitioners")¹ submitted a renewal petition ("Renewal Petition") to the Charter Schools Division ("CSD") of the Los Angeles Unified School District ("LAUSD" or "District"), seeking to renew its charter to serve up to 342 students in grades TK-8 for a five-year term, July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2031. (See Exhibit 1, Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles Renewal Petition). Today's Fresh Start currently operates on a private site (non-District owned facility) located at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90043 ("Vernon Site"), which is served by Board District 1 and Region South. Charter School's performance classification is designated as Middle performing.

On July 14, 2015, the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees ("CUSD Board") approved Today's Fresh Start's new petition for a five-year term from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2020, allowing it to locate and operate a charter school at the Vernon Site. The CUSD Board was expected to oversee Today's Fresh Start's operations at the Vernon Site. On December 20, 2017, the CUSD Board approved Today's Fresh Start's renewal for a five-year renewal term from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2023. 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, Today's Fresh Start's charter allowing it to operate at the Vernon Site expires on June 30, 2026.² The CUSD Board is currently the chartering authorizer of the sites located at the Compton Site and the Vernon Site under the name Today's Fresh Start-Compton.³

Pursuant to statute, a charter school that established one site outside the boundaries of the school district, but within the county in which that school district is located before January 1, 2020, may continue to operate that site until the charter school submits a request for the renewal of its charter petition. To continue operating the site, the charter school shall do either of the following:

- (i) First, before submitting the request for the renewal of the charter petition, obtain approval in writing from the school district where the site is operating; or
- (ii) Submit a request for the renewal of the charter petition pursuant to Section 47607 to the school district in which the charter school is located.

¹ Today's Fresh Start is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation that operates both Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles and Today's Fresh Start-Compton.

² On March 10, 2026, CUSD Board approved Petitioners' renewal for a five-year term from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031 to operate at 4513 Compton Blvd., Compton, CA 90021 ("Compton Site").

³ The LAUSD Board is not currently, and has never been, the chartering authorizer of any charter school operated by Today's Fresh Start.

(Ed. Code, §47605(a)(5)(A).)

In this case, Today's Fresh Start seeks authorization by the LAUSD Board via this Renewal Petition application to continue operating at 4476 Crenshaw Blvd. pursuant to Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). Please note that Today's Fresh Start may be required to have one or more of its sites [Compton Site and Vernon Site] become a separately authorized charter school to comply with Education Code section 47605(a)(5)(A). (Ed. Code, § 47654.)

Pursuant to the Charter Schools Act (Ed. Code, § 47600 *et seq.*) and the adopted *LAUSD Policy and Procedures for Charter Schools* ("LAUSD policy" or "District policy"), LAUSD's Board of Education ("Board") has 90 days upon receipt of the renewal petition to either grant or deny the renewal petition unless an extension of an additional 30 days is mutually agreed upon by the parties. No later than 60 days following receipt of the renewal petition, the LAUSD Board must hold an initial public hearing to consider the level of support for the renewal petition by teachers employed by the District, other employees of the District, and parents. At the second public hearing, at which the Board will either grant or deny the charter, the petitioner shall have equivalent time and procedures to present evidence and testimony to respond to District staff's recommendation and findings. The LAUSD Board must publish all staff recommendations, including the recommended findings regarding the renewal petition, at least 15 days before the public hearing at which the LAUSD Board will either grant or deny the renewal petition.

The District evaluates renewal petitions in accordance with the standards and criteria specified in the Charter Schools Act. Based on a review of the Renewal Petition application including Today's Fresh Start's record of performance and other publicly available information, as described in greater detail below, District staff has determined that Charter School has not met the requirements set forth in Education Code sections 47605, 47607, 47607.2 and/or 47611.5, and therefore recommends denial of the renewal petition.

II. CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL AND GROUNDS FOR NONRENEWAL

Upon submission, District staff comprehensively reviews each renewal petition application to determine whether the charter school has met the requirements for renewal set forth in Education Code sections 47605, 47607, 47607.2 and 47611.5. The renewal criteria prescribed in Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2 requires a three-pronged analysis:

Criterion 1:

The Charter Schools Act provides that renewals are governed by the standards and criteria described in Education Code section 47605 applicable to initial petitions. The first criterion considered in reviewing a renewal petition requires an analysis of the following:

- Whether the petition includes a sound educational program;
- Whether the petition contains a reasonably comprehensive description of the 15 elements required for petitions;
- Whether the petition contains an affirmation of each of the conditions described in Education

Code section 47605(e); and

- Whether the charter school is likely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition. Education Code section 47607(b) provides that renewals are governed by the standards and criteria described in section 47605 applicable to initial petitions.

While Criterion 1 is similar to the criteria for a new petition, for renewal petitions, there is more information and data regarding past performance since the initial petition for establishment of the charter school was granted. Thus, soundness of the educational program and capacity for implementation are assessed through the past performance of the existing charter school as indicators of likely future performance, including any applicable benchmarks that have been established. The LAUSD Board will examine the charter school's record in four key areas of charter school performance:

- 1) Governance
- 2) Student Achievement and Educational Performance
- 3) Organizational Management, Programs and Operations
- 4) Fiscal Operations

As part of its analysis, the LAUSD Board is to assess the extent to which charter school governing board members and staff have successfully implemented the terms of their charter, addressed deficiencies, and demonstrated capacity to continue to do so in the future based on evidence of past performance.⁴

Criterion 2:

The LAUSD Board is required to consider the charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard accountability indicators. Education Code sections 47607 and 47607.2 prescribe three-tiers of performance classification in which a charter school falls within one of the following categories - "high," "middle," or "low" performing. The state will publish an annual list of charter schools and their performance classification.

The three-tier classification considers a charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard accountability indicators, with an emphasis on the measurements of academic performance. "Measurements of academic performance" refers to the state indicators included on the California School Dashboard that are based on statewide assessments in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress System (CAASPP), or any successor system, English Learner Progress Indicator (ELPI), or any successor system, and the College/Career Indicator (CCI). A charter school submitting a renewal petition should include in its application all evidence and data related to the charter school's performance on the California School Dashboard.

⁴ See LAUSD policy, pp. 28-29.

Middle Performing Charter Schools

For all charter schools that do not meet the High performing or Low performing criteria, the LAUSD Board shall consider the charter school under Middle performing criteria. (Ed. Code, § 47607.2(b).) Pursuant to Education Code section 47607.2(b), the LAUSD Board shall consider the following:

- (1) The schoolwide performance and performance of all student groups of pupils served by the charter school on both the state and local indicators on the California School Dashboard;
- (2) The LAUSD Board shall provide greater weight to the performance on measurements of academic performance on the California School Dashboard;

The LAUSD Board may deny a renewal of a Middle performing charter school pursuant to Education Code section 47607.2(b) upon making each of the following written factual findings:

- (1) The charter school has failed to meet or make sufficient progress toward meeting standards that provide a benefit to pupils of the school;
- (2) The closure of the charter school is in the best interest of the pupils; and
- (3) The decision provided greater weight to the performance on the measurements of academic performance.

When determining whether to deny a renewal petition under prong 1 or 2, LAUSD will consider the full oversight record of the charter school, providing greater weight to performance on the measurements of academic performance. This consideration will include a comparison to Resident Schools' performance on the measurements of academic performance (e.g., reclassification rates, Long-Term English Learner (LTEL) rates, and percentage of students Met or Exceeded Standards as measured on the CAASPP as compared to the state averages, California School Dashboard data, four-year cohort graduation rates). A list of Resident Schools is generated, based on students' addresses as reported in CALPADS. For schools within an LAUSD "Zone of Choice," all the schools that the students could have potentially attended will be used to calculate a Resident Schools Median (RSM).

For a charter renewed as a Middle performing charter school, the LAUSD Board shall grant a renewal for a period of five years. (Ed. Code, § 47607.2(b).)⁵

Criterion 3:

Notwithstanding Criterion 1 and 2, the LAUSD Board will also consider whether the charter school's enrollment or dismissal practices are discriminatory as grounds for nonrenewal. (Ed. Code, § 47607(e).) Additionally, the LAUSD Board shall consider whether the charter school has substantial fiscal or governance factors as grounds for nonrenewal. (*Id.*)

⁵ See LAUSD policy, pp. 35-37.

Specifically, the LAUSD Board may deny renewal of any charter petition, regardless of whether the charter school satisfies the High, Middle, or Low performing criteria, upon a finding that either:

- (1) The charter school is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the renewal petition due to either:
 - (a) Substantial fiscal factors, or
 - (b) Substantial governance factors.

Pursuant to the District Policy, substantial fiscal factors may include, but are not limited to, issues related to the charter school's fiscal solvency, mismanagement of funds, cash flow concerns, or outstanding financial liabilities owed to the District and/or others (e.g., contractual obligations, judgments/settlements, unpaid bills or debts, fee-for-service arrangements, facilities related costs, Prop. 39 over-allocated space reimbursements, etc.). Substantial governance factors may include, but are not limited to, issues related to the retention of faculty (such as school leadership and teachers) which rise to the level of disruption of delivery of educational programs; conflicts of interest; or, violations of the Brown Act or California Public Records Act.

- (2) The charter school is not serving the pupils who wish to attend.

Upon a finding that the charter school is not serving all pupils who wish to attend, LAUSD must identify evidence supporting this finding, including aggregate data reflecting pupil enrollment patterns at the charter school. (Ed. Code, § 47607(d).)⁶

Prior to a nonrenewal determination pursuant to number 1 or 2 noted above, LAUSD shall provide the charter school with at least 30 days' notice of the alleged violation and provide the charter school with a reasonable opportunity to cure the violation, including providing an opportunity for the charter school to present a proposed corrective plan. (Ed. Code, § 47607(e).) After providing notice of the alleged violation and reasonable opportunity to cure the violation, the LAUSD Board may deny a renewal petition if it finds that either:

- 1) The corrective action proposed by the charter school has been unsuccessful, or
- 2) The violations are sufficiently severe and pervasive as to render a corrective action plan unviable.

III. FINDINGS OF FACT IN SUPPORT OF DENIAL OF CHARTER RENEWAL

As noted above, the LAUSD Board is not, and has never been, the chartering authorizer of any charter school operated by Today's Fresh Start. As such, in effort to gain further clarity of Charter School's educational or instructional program (including student academic performance), operations, governance, and fiscal management, Staff requested that CUSD (current chartering authorizer) provide Today's Fresh Start-Compton's full oversight file to the District for review and assessment. However, to date, the District has not obtained the sought oversight file from

⁶ See LAUSD policy, pp. 37-38.

Today's Fresh Start-Compton's current chartering authorizer.

Notwithstanding the above, based on a review of Charter School's Renewal Petition application including Today's Fresh Start's record of performance and other publicly available information pertaining to Petitioners' past history of involvement in charter schools or other education agencies (public or private), District staff recommends that the LAUSD Board **deny** the Renewal Petition and adopt these *Findings of Fact In Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School – Los Angeles* based on the following ground(s):

- Petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition. (Ed. Code § 47605(c)(2).) (Criterion 1); and

The Renewal Petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all required elements. (Ed. Code, § 47605(c)(5).) (Criterion 1)

A. Petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition (Ed. Code, § 47605(c)(2)), as indicated by the following findings:

In evaluating whether a petitioner is demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement⁷ the program set forth in the renewal petition, the LAUSD Board assesses a variety of factors, including but not limited to, petitioner's past history of involvement in charter schools or other education agencies (public or private), as one the LAUSD Board would regard as unsuccessful; and the financial and operational plan for the charter school.⁸ Based on the grounds and analyses set forth below, the Petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition. (Ed. Code, § 47605(c)(2).)

1. Petitioners Have a Past History of Unsuccessfully Operating a Charter School and a State-Funded Preschool

In reviewing the past history of a charter operator, it is appropriate to review the history of Charter School itself as well as the record of performance of Today's Fresh Start that will operate Charter School: Petitioners operated a charter school that has been revoked by a chartering authority; has a pattern and history of notices to cure, notices of violation, or corrective actions from a chartering authority or a government agency; and operated an educational entity (public or private) that has been cited by a government agency and/or closed down. This past history raises questions whether Petitioners can successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition, including the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, governance and/or business management.

⁷ The policy for "demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program" includes factors and guidance promulgated by the State Board of Education. See Title 5 California Code of Regulations, section 11967.5.1.

⁸ See LAUSD policy, pgs. 12-13.

a. Questionable Operations of Golden Day Schools, Inc.

The binding appellate case entitled *Golden Day Schools, Inc. v. Office of Administrative Hearings* (2017) 8 Cal.App.5th 1012 (the “Appeal”), outlines the following facts and legal conclusions below:

Golden Day Schools, Inc., is a nonprofit corporation (“Golden Day”) founded by Clark Parker that provided children from low-income families with daycare, education, and social development since 1968. At the time, the sites were owned by Clark Parker and his wife, Jeanette Parker (one of the Petitioners in the subject Renewal Petition). The Parkers leased certain sites to Golden Day, which in turn subleased four classrooms to Today's Fresh Start, operated by Jeanette Parker. At that time, both Parkers were members of Golden Day's board of directors. (*Id.* at 1018.)

Beginning around 1971, Golden Day began contracting with the CDE to receive funds necessary to provide childcare services to eligible children in areas of South Central Los Angeles. The two contracts at issue during that time involved the fiscal/school years of 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. (*Id.*) Under those contracts, the CDE advanced to Golden Day \$4,324,098 for fiscal year 2006-2007 and \$4,519,980 for fiscal year 2007-2008. Golden Day agreed to abide by the “Funding Terms and Conditions” incorporated into the contracts, which, in turn, incorporated applicable statutory and regulatory provisions. (*Id.*)

In 2008, the CDE conducted a performance review of Golden Day, building upon Golden Day's audits, for the purpose of determining whether Golden Day operated the child care and development programs in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and agreement terms and conditions for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008. (*Id.* at 1018-19.) The review was prompted by the CDE's concerns over the validity of parent employment records necessary to establish eligibility for funding. The review consisted of the CDE's representatives visiting Golden Day's sites, interviewing employees and staff, and examining nearly all of Golden Day's business records, including inventory, payroll, invoices, receipts, checks, student sign in/out sheets, time cards and journal entries. (*Id.* at 1019.)

At the end of the process, the CDE notified Golden Day of its conclusion that “Golden Day failed to meet the minimum contractual requirements for compliance, did not have effective internal controls over its fiscal and program operations, and charged a significant amount of non-reimbursable and unallowable expenditures to the child development program.” (*Id.* at 1019.) The CDE made nine specific findings regarding various issues and sought to recoup \$3,257,732 for the period between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2008. (*Id.*)

The CDE determined that a significant proportion of the funds it had provided to Golden Day were not being spent on reasonable expenses for eligible children and sought recoupment of those amounts.

Golden Day appealed the CDE's determination through several administrative

proceedings before the Office of Administrative Hearings and a writ action, all culminating in the Appeal.

The Court concluded in the Appeal that substantial evidence supported the findings of the administrative law judge (ALJ) and the trial court that the CDE was allowed to recoup (i) costs for commingling eligible and noneligible students, (ii) certain payroll costs for employees who also worked at a charter school on some of the same sites, and (iii) various nonreimbursable costs. (*Id.* at 1017.)

As a significant finding established by the Court, Golden Day wrongfully sought reimbursement from the CDE for 48 employees that were actually employees of Today's Fresh Start. In relation to these findings, the Court specifically stated that: "As a result, the Department 'determined that \$930,657 in payroll costs relating to Today's Fresh Start were inappropriately charged to the child development program for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008.'" (*Id.* at 1028.)

The above findings and Court ruling present very serious concerns regarding the Parkers' operations of Golden Day and call into question whether Petitioners, inclusive of Jeanette Parker, would appropriately expend public/educational/charitable funds for Charter School students. Accordingly, this past history raises questions whether Petitioners can successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition, including the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, governance and/or business management.

The LAUSD Board of Education Report 027-15/16 (*See* Exhibit 2, LAUSD Denial of New Petition Today's for Fresh Start Adams Hyde Park),⁹ and the attached Exhibits, outline other facts regarding Golden Day's operations and grounds for denial which are hereby incorporated into this denial finding by this reference.

b. Petitioners' Previous Charter Under LACOE Board's Authorization Was Revoked

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Board authorized a Today's Fresh Start charter school in 2003, renewed that charter school in 2005, and then, revoked that charter school in 2007. The LACOE Board revoked Today's Fresh Start's charter school based on several violations discussed in California Supreme Court's decision, *Today's Fresh Start, Inc. v. Los Angeles County Office of Education* (2013) 57 Cal.4th 197. The California Supreme Court upheld the 2007 LACOE Board revocation. The violations which led to the revocation by the LACOE Board included failing to properly administer state testing; violation of governance requirements applicable to charter schools; failure to meet pupil outcomes; and violations of law. (*Id.* at 208-10.) The LACOE Board also addressed concerns that Today's Fresh Start's board members were not protecting public funds and were using their positions improperly for their own personal enrichment. (*Id.* at 208.) Thus, Today Fresh Start's prior revocation by the LACOE Board illustrates the organization's unsuccessful history.

⁹ On September 1, 2015, the LAUSD Board of Education denied Today's Fresh Start's petition to establish a new charter school, named Today's Fresh Start Adams Hyde Park. Exhibit 2 presents the denial findings that the LAUSD Board of Education adopted in that matter pursuant to applicable requirements.

The LAUSD Board of Education Report 027-15/16 (*See Exhibit 2, LAUSD Denial of New Petition Today's for Fresh Start Adams Hyde Park*), and the attached Exhibits, detail the facts regarding the LACOE Board's revocation proceedings and grounds for denial which are hereby incorporated into this denial finding by this reference.

c. Today's Fresh Start Inglewood's Nonrenewal

In 2019, Today's Fresh Start Inglewood submitted its renewal petition to Inglewood Unified School District ("Inglewood USD") for consideration. After Inglewood USD denied Today's Fresh Start Inglewood's charter renewal petition, Today's Fresh Start Inglewood's appealed that denial to the LACOE Board for consideration. The LACOE Board denied the renewal petition on appeal around January 2020.

Today's Fresh Start Inglewood appealed to the State Board of Education (SBE). On or around July 2020, the SBE unanimously denied Today's Fresh Start Inglewood's renewal petition because, among other reasons, the organization's county charter was revoked in 2007 and its operational history exhibited "ambiguity, self-dealings, and a lack of transparency." The lacking merits of Today's Fresh Start Inglewood's renewal petition was established by three separate administrative bodies. (*See Exhibit 3, SBE Denial of Renewal Petition for Today's Fresh Start Inglewood*)

d. Two Current Today's Fresh Start Board Members Governed the Organization During Questionable Past History

Two of the four current Today's Fresh Start Board members served on that governing body for an extended period particularly during some of the events and/or questionable history noted in sections a-c above. (*See Exhibit 4, Today's Fresh Start Board Member Resumes.*) These Today's Fresh Start governing board members may not possess the capacity to govern a successful charter school in the future based on evidence of past performance of the organization.

Therefore, as reflected in **sections a-d** above, the Petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the Renewal Petition. (Ed. Code, § 47605(c)(2).)

2. Charter School's Historical Under-Enrollment and Declining Student Enrollment Trend

Today's Fresh Start-Compton's historical enrollment data indicates that the charter school has been consistently under-enrolled, in comparison with the projected enrollment outlined in its operative charter. Additionally, Today's Fresh Start-Compton has experienced a steady decline in enrollment since Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

The table below summarizes Today’s Fresh Start-Compton’s historical enrollment¹⁰ and projected enrollment provided in its operative charter since Fiscal Year 2018-2019, demonstrating that the charter school has been under-enrolled for six of the eight fiscal years. This reduced enrollment directly decreases revenue, as the Local Control Funding Formula (“LCFF”) funding is directly tied to enrollment and Average Daily Attendance (“ADA”). As explained further in **Section 3** below, while the charter school projects a significant enrollment increase, Petitioners do not present a reasonable and realistic financial plan given that Today’s Fresh Start-Compton has shown a consistent pattern of under-enrollment and a multi-year decline in student numbers.

Historical Enrollment Trend Table

Grade Level	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
TK ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	4	0 ²
K	73	71	48	51	36	33	24	32 ²
1	58	86	58	43	52	34	40	29
2	74	73	82	54	41	47	38	34
3	75	79	76	68	41	40	50	34
4	75	81	88	67	64	36	39	54
5	80	88	82	70	53	58	39	35
6	64	81	68	62	57	51	48	31
7	57	72	87	53	57	53	49	51
8	38	56	72	69	43	50	43	45
TOTAL	594	687	661	537	444	409	374	345
Increase/ (Decrease) in Enrollment from Prior Year	N/A	93	(26)	(124)	(93)	(35)	(35)	(29)
Enrollment Growth (%)	N/A	15.7%	(3.8%)	(18.8%)	(17.3%)	(7.9%)	(8.6%)	(7.8%)
Projected Enrollment in the Operative Charter	715	715	715	715	715	715	715	715
Under-Enrollment	(121)	(28)	(54)	(178)	(271)	(306)	(341)	(370)
Under-Enrollment %	(16.9%)	(3.9%)	(7.6%)	(24.9%)	(37.9%)	(42.8%)	(47.7%)	(51.7%)
¹ Prior to FY 2023-2024, TK (Traditional Kindergarten) and K (Kindergarten) counts might have been reported together. Therefore, the K counts (if applicable) may include the TK counts for the school years prior to 2023-2024. ² Charter School’s budget submitted with the renewal petition to LAUSD did not provide a breakdown for TK and K enrollment data.								

¹⁰ Sources: Enrollment data for all school years presented in the table were obtained from the CDE’s DataQuest webpage (<https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/2/atp-safelinks.html>), with the exception of the 2025-2026 school year, for which the enrollment data were obtained from the budget submitted with the renewal petition to LAUSD.

3. Unreliable and Unrealistic Petition Budget and Cash Flow Projections

Petitioners have presented an unreasonable and unrealistic financial plan in support of Today’s Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles’ Renewal Petition application.

- **Unrealistic Enrollment Projections:**

The budget submitted with the Renewal Petition relies on overly optimistic enrollment assumptions and revenue projections that are not supported by the charter school’s historical performance trends. Despite a consistent pattern of under-enrollment and a multi-year decline in student numbers (as described in **Section 2** above), Charter School projects a significant enrollment increase. Petitioners did not provide supporting documentation detailing how Charter School intends to achieve the increased enrollment projections for the proposed charter term, which directly drive the projected revenue increases. This raises significant concerns regarding the reasonableness and reliability of Charter School’s enrollment and revenue assumptions, which may result in overstated revenues, potential budget shortfalls, and fiscal instability during the proposed charter term.

Additionally, for purposes of comparison with the charter school’s historical enrollment data, District staff have summarized and combined the enrollment projections for both the Compton Site and Vernon Site below, which is based on the renewal petitions submitted to CUSD and LAUSD, respectively, for which a site-level breakdown is not available.

Table 1: Renewal Enrollment Projections Submitted to CUSD

Grade	Year 1 2026-27	Year 2 2027-28	Year 3 2028-29	Year 4 2029-30	Year 5 2030-31
TK/K	58	20	20	20	20
1	20	60	20	20	20
2	20	20	60	20	20
3	20	20	20	60	20
4	20	20	20	20	60
5	18	20	20	20	20
6	16	16	20	20	20
7	16	16	16	20	20
8	16	16	16	16	20
Totals	204	208	212	216	220

Table 2: Renewal Enrollment Projections Submitted to LAUSD

Grade	Year 1 2026-27	Year 2 2027-28	Year 3 2028-29	Year 4 2029-30	Year 5 2030-31
TK/K	40	50	50	50	60
1	30	40	40	40	40
2	25	30	40	40	40
3	33	25	30	40	40
4	32	33	25	30	40
5	52	32	33	25	30
6	33	52	32	33	25
7	25	33	52	32	33
8	47	25	33	52	32
Totals	317	320	335	342	340

Table 3: Combined Renewal Projections Submitted to CUSD and LAUSD (Table 1 and 2) and 2025-2026 Enrollment Data

Grade	2025-2026 Enrollment ¹¹	Year 1 2026-27	Year 2 2027-28	Year 3 2028-29	Year 4 2029-30	Year 5 2030-31
TK/K	32	98	70	70	70	80
1	29	50	100	60	60	60
2	34	45	50	100	60	60
3	34	53	45	50	100	60
4	54	52	53	45	50	100
5	35	70	52	53	45	50
6	31	49	68	52	53	45
7	51	41	49	68	52	53
8	45	63	41	49	68	52
Combined Totals	345	521	528	547	558	560
Increase in Enrollment from Prior Year	N/A	176	7	19	11	2
Enrollment Growth (%)	N/A	51.0%	1.3%	3.6%	2.0%	0.4%

Based on the combined projected enrollment of 521 to 560 students for the charter school's proposed renewal term compared to the charter school's

¹¹ The 2025-2026 enrollment data were included in the budget submitted with the Renewal Petition to LAUSD without the site-level breakdown.

historical enrollment trends noted above, Petitioners' projected enrollment appears unreasonable and overly optimistic. Over the most current five (5) years, Today's Fresh Start-Compton's student enrollment declined by 192 students (or 35.8%), from 537 in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to 345 in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for both the Compton site and Vernon site. Despite this trend, Today's Fresh Start Charter School-Los Angeles projects 521 students for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, an increase of 176 students (or 51.0%), without providing supporting documentation or underlying assumptions explaining how this growth will be achieved. The foregoing raises concerns regarding the reasonableness of a calculated budget for the renewal charter term.

○ **Incorrect Fund Balances for Fiscal Years 2029-2030 and 2030-2031**

Petitioners' budget contains apparent errors or inconsistencies between the beginning fund balance for Fiscal Year 2029–2030 and the ending fund balance for Fiscal Year 2028–2029. As a result, the ending net assets for Fiscal Years 2029–2030 and 2030–2031 are understated by approximately \$1.9 million. These inconsistencies materially affect the projected fund balances for these two school years, and thus, raise concerns about the reliability of Petitioners' budget projections.

B. The Renewal Petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all required elements. (Ed. Code, § 47605 (c)(5).) (Criterion 1)

A renewal petition must contain a reasonably comprehensive description of each of the 15 elements required by Education Code section 47605(c)(5). Reasonably comprehensive descriptions are expected to be substantive, address all aspects of the elements, and be specific to the renewal petition being proposed. The Renewal Petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions in compliance with the law. (*See Exhibit 1, Today's Fresh Start Charter Renewal Petition.*)

1. Employee Qualifications (Element 5)

Petitioners' budget includes an Executive Assistant (EA) at 0.5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) with a salary of \$103,905, equivalent to \$207,810 on a full-time (1.0 FTE) basis. This EA position is the second highest paid employee based on Charter School's budget assumptions; however, the EA position does not appear to be included in the charter petition staffing plan, inclusive of job description and minimum and desirable qualifications. Petitioners are asked to identify key staff positions and detail the specific, high-level qualifications required for those roles to ensure effective leadership and instruction, and the omission of this information raises concerns about the comprehensiveness of the petition, and whether the expenditures for the position are justified.

2. Suspension and Expulsion Procedures (Element 10)

The Renewal Petition does not sufficiently describe the suspension and expulsion appeals process to ensure a consistent impartial process is in place. Consistent with applicable authorities and requirements, charter schools are expected to establish and implement policies and procedures to ensure full compliance with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the discipline of students. Here, the Renewal Petition fails to include necessary provisions outlining how it plans to provide due process rights regarding suspensions and expulsions that specifically includes a student's right to appeal. Thus, the Renewal Petition fails to examine the procedures a charter school must follow when suspending or expelling a student under applicable requirements.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing, District staff recommends that the LAUSD Board deny Charter School's Renewal Petition. The recommendation for denial is based on findings that Petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the educational program set forth in the Renewal Petition. Additionally, the recommendation for denial is based on District staff findings that the Renewal Petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all fifteen required elements.

In order to deny the Renewal Petition on the grounds set forth above, the LAUSD Board must make written findings setting forth specific facts to support the denial of the Renewal Petition. (Ed. Code § 47605(c).) Should the LAUSD Board decide to deny renewal of the Charter School's charter, District staff recommends that the Board adopt these *Findings of Fact in Support of Denial of the Renewal Charter Petition for Today's Fresh Start Charter School – Los Angeles* as the Board's written findings of fact in support of the denial.

Exhibits are available for perusal at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1lcORn8tdGpeWnoPhEBztGBzdK_jlVS0Q?usp=sharing