

What mechanisms do Authorizers need to hold charter schools accountable to fulfilling the responsibilities of **PURE** public schools?

Summary of Recommendations

Public
Accountability

School finance and operations should be transparent to the public. Charter schools should be required to publicly post the following:

- Budget and audit reports,
- LCAP document and budget,
- Fiscal and conflict of interest policies, and
- Board member contact information.

Uphold Basic
Student Rights

All public schools should be required to participate in the federal meal programs. Despite widely available food vendor services, at least 18% of California charter schools do not currently serve meals to children.

- A version of Assembly Member Eng’s AB 1594 (2012) should be resurrected, no longer exempting charter schools from federal meal program participation.

Representative
Student Body

Increase accountability related to Element 7 [EC § 47605(b)(5)(g)] allowing authorizers to not only evaluate a charter’s recruitment plan to achieve “racial and ethnic balance,” but also the actual enrollment outcomes.

- Special Education and English Learner students should also be included in Element 7.

Equal
Access

When charter law was established over 20 years ago, traditional school districts did not have open enrollment/lotteries. Today, districts like Oakland Unified hold city-wide lotteries for enrollment.

- If a charter school is located in such a district, the charter school should participate in that system, as opposed to holding an independent lottery.