



OFFICE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

December 1, 2020

Kate Goedeker
Oakland Unity Middle School
1180 70th Ave
Oakland, CA 94621

Re: Proposition 39 Facilities Request for 2021-22
Response to Charter School’s Enrollment Projections

Dear Kate Goedeker:

The Oakland Unified School District (“OUSD” or “District”) responds to the November 1, 2020 Request for Facilities for Oakland Unity Middle School (“Unity Middle” or “Charter School”) for the 2021-22 school year.

The regulations implementing Proposition 39¹ permit a school district to assess the projections upon which a charter school’s facilities request is based, express objections to those projections, and issue a counterprojection. In conducting its evaluation, the District assesses whether the charter school’s Request for Facilities meets the requirements contained in the regulations² governing such a request.

The District objects to the charter school’s projections as set forth below.

REVIEW OF CHARTER SCHOOL’S ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Proposition 39 only obligates a school district to offer facilities commensurate with a charter school’s In-District population. Therefore, the District will only evaluate the Charter School’s In-District classroom-based Average Daily Attendance (In-District ADA) projections. Unity Middle’s enrollment and enrollment projections are as follows:

Table 1: Charter School’s Enrollment and Projections

Grade Level	20-21 In-District Enrollment	21-22 Projected In-District Enrollment	21-22 Projected Attendance Rate	21-22 Projected In-District ADA
6 th	28	60	93.35%	56.01
7 th	51	49	91.17%	44.67
8 th	64	60	88.86%	53.31
Total	143	169	-	153.99

Source: Charter School’s Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form, Appendix I

OUSD’S EVALUATION OF CHARTER SCHOOL’S ADA PROJECTIONS

As shown in Table 2, Unity Middle substantially overprojected its 2020-21 enrollment, particularly for grades 6 and 7 in its previous Prop 39 request. This was primarily due to a large drop in 6th grade enrollment and a slight decrease in 7th grade enrollment in contrast to the Charter School’s projected substantial increases for its incoming 6th grade cohort and the cohort of student

¹ Cal. Admin. Code, title 5, §11969.9(d)

² Cal. Admin. Code, title 5, § 11969.9(c)(1)(A)



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articulating from 6th to 7th grade between 2019-20 and 2020-21. As shown in Table 3, this was also impacted to a lesser extent by slight attrition in its articulating cohorts, which had an overall decrease of about 3% between 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Table 2: Charter School’s Projections vs. Actual In-District Enrollment

Grade Level	2019-20 In-District Enrollment	2020-21 Projected In-District Enrollment	2020-21 Actual In-District Enrollment	% Over-projected 2020-21 In-District Enrollment
6 th	54	67	28	139%
7 th	65	63	51	24%
8 th	51	65	64	2%
Total	170	195	143	36%

Source: 2019-20 and 2020-21 Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form, Appendix I

Table 3: Charter School’s In-District Cohort Attrition and Retention Rates between 2019-20 and 2020-21

Cohort Grade Level by Year		2019-20 Cohort In-District Enrollment	2020-21 Cohort In-District Enrollment	Attrition Rate	Retention Rate
2019-20	2020-21				
6 th	7 th	54	51	-6%	94%
7 th	8 th	65	64	-2%	98%
Total		119	115	-3%	97%

Source: Appendix I of Charter School’s 2019-20 and 2020-21 Proposition 39 Facilities Request Forms

As indicated in the OUSD Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form Instructions, a projected enrollment increase in 6th grade of more than 15% between the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years requires the inclusion of Appendix II, Student Application Documentation, in order to provide evidence for the additional projected ADA. As shown in Table 4, Unity Middle projected its 6th grade to over double in size (an increase of 114%), but did not include Appendix II in the facilities request, nor did it include any documentation or even a narrative to support the projected increase in enrollment in 6th grade. Additionally, Unity Middle did not provide documentation or narrative to support the substantial projected increases in enrollment for its current 6th and 7th grade cohorts, which were projected to increase by 82% and 38%, respectively, as shown in Table 5. The Charter School’s Prop 39 Request for Facilities provided essentially no explanation or rationale for its projections, stating only that “Oakland Unity Middle School (OUMS) uses the Powerschool system to determine ADA” in the section where it was asked to describe the methodology it used to create its ADA projections.

Table 4: Unity Middle’s In-District 2020-21 Enrollment and 2021-22 Enrollment Projection: 6th Grade

Grade Level	2020-21 In-District Enrollment	Projected 2021-22 In-District Enrollment	Projected % Increase in In-District Enrollment
6 th	28	60	114%

Source: Charter School’s Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form, Appendix I



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Table 5: Unity Middle’s In-District 2020-21 Enrollment and 2021-22 Enrollment Projection: By Cohort

Cohort Grade Level by Year		20-21 Cohort In-District Enrollment	Projected 21-22 Cohort In-District Enrollment	Projected % Increase in Cohort In-District Enrollment
2020-21	2021-22			
6 th	7 th	28	49	75%
7 th	8 th	51	60	18%

Source: Charter School’s Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form, Appendix I

OUSD COUNTERPROJECTIONS:

The District is exercising its right to provide counterprojections to the Charter School’s projections for the 2021-22 school year. Based on factors discussed above, the District counterprojects a total of **106.99** In-District ADA for the Charter School’s middle school grade levels. The District’s grade-level counterprojections are shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6: 2021-22 In-District ADA – Charter School Projections and OUSD Counterprojections

Grade Level	Charter School Projections	OUSD Counterprojections
6 th	56.01	38.27
7 th	44.67	24.76
8 th	53.31	43.96
Total	153.99	106.99

Source: Charter School Projections – Charter School’s Proposition 39 Facilities Request Form, Appendix I; OUSD Counterprojections – calculated in Tables 7 and 8 below

The District’s counterprojection for 6th grade, as shown in Table 7, was developed by considering the following factors: (1) the average of the prior and current year 6th grade In-District enrollment and (2) its projected 2021-22 6th grade attendance rate. The District’s counterprojection assumes that next year’s 6th grade cohort will be an average of the enrollment of the two previous years’ 6th grade enrollment, as documentation to support an increase in meaningfully interested students was not submitted.

Table 7: Calculation of 6th grade In-District ADA Counterprojection

Grade Level	(A) Average of 19-20 and 20-21 In-District Enrollment	(B) 21-22 Projected Attendance Rate	In-District ADA Counterprojection (A x B)
6 th	41	93.35%	38.27

Source: Charter School’s 2020-21 and 2021-22 Proposition 39 Facilities Request Forms; OUSD Counterprojections – calculated as shown in column header

The District’s counterprojection for 7th and 8th grade, as shown in Table 8, was developed by considering the following factors: (1) current 6th and 7th grade In-District enrollment, (1) Unity Middle’s overall retention rate between 2019-20 and 2020-21, and (3) its projected 2021-22 attendance rates. Documentation to support the projected 75% and 18% increase in enrollment for the current 6th and 7th grade cohorts as they articulate to 7th and 8th grade, respectively, for the 2021-22 school year was not submitted; therefore, the District’s counterprojection assumes a 3% rate of attrition for the current 6th and 7th grade cohorts between 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years without the addition of new students.



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Table 8: Calculation of 7th and 8th Grade In-District ADA Counterprojections

Cohort Grade Level by Year		(A) 2020-21 In-District Enrollment	(B) Average Cohort Retention Rate Between 2019-20 and 2020-21	(C) 2021-22 Projected Attendance Rate	Cohort 2021-22 In-District ADA Counterprojection (A x B x C)
2020- 21	2021- 22				
6 th	7 th	28	97%	91.17%	24.76
7 th	8 th	51	97%	88.86%	43.96

Source: Charter School's 2020-21 and 2021-22 Proposition 39 Facilities Request Forms; OUSD Counterprojections – calculated as shown in column header

CONCLUSION:

Unity Middle has until January 2, 2021 to deliver a response to this letter to charteroffice@ousd.org. Please do not mail or hand deliver a response to this letter.

Pursuant to Cal. Admin. Code tit. 5, § 11969.9, additional information included in the letter (beyond what is permitted under subdivision (e)) will not be considered.

Sincerely,

Kelly Krag-Arnold
Policy Specialist, Office of Charter Schools