California Department of Education  
Charter Schools Division  
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memo-lacb-csd-jun24item02  
Attachment 24

# New West Charter Academic Memorandum Response

## Section 1. School Information

### General Information

1. **School Address:** 1905 Armacost Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025-5210
2. **Located in District:** Los Angeles Unified School District
3. **Website Address:** www.newwestcharter.org
4. **County-District-School (CDS) Code:** 19756636120158
5. **Charter Number:** 431
6. **Current Charter Term Start Date:** 07/01/2017
7. **Current Charter Term End Date:** 06/30/2025
8. **School Description:** The mission of New West Charter (NWC) is to provide an academically rigorous, highly individualized education for twenty-first century students in grade six through grade twelve. NWC aims to produce competent, independent, self-reliant students by creating a learning environment that promotes academic excellence and strong character development as the antecedents for success in college preparatory high school programs.
9. **Grade Levels Served:** Grade Six through Grade Twelve
10. **2022–23 Enrollment:** 997
11. **Instruction Type:** Site Based

### Demographic Information

The following demographic information was obtained from the California School Dashboard website at <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>.

Table 1. 2023 Student Group Information

| Student Group | School Total (Percentage) | District Total (Percentage) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| English Learners | 2.7% | 22.6% |
| Foster Youth | Not Listed | 0.8% |
| Homeless | Not Listed | 1.7% |
| Socioeconomically Disadvantaged | 17.4% | 86.0% |
| Students with Disabilities | 12.5% | 14.6% |

Table 2. 2023 Race/Ethnicity Information

| Race/Ethnicity | School Total (Percentage) | District Total (Percentage) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| African American | 4.2% | 2.9% |
| American Indian | 0.3% | 0.1% |
| Asian | 8.5% | 1.3% |
| Filipino | 1.0% | 0.6% |
| Hispanic | 23.3% | 77.2% |
| Pacific Islander | Not Listed | 0.1% |
| Two or More Races | 7.8% | 0.2% |
| White | 53.7% | 2.9% |

## Section 2. California School Dashboard Data Overview

### California School Dashboard

The following performance information was obtained from the California School Dashboard website at <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>.

Table 1. 2023 Performance Levels

| **Dashboard Indicator** | **School Performance Level** | **State Performance Level** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Chronic Absenteeism** | Orange  7.0% chronicall absent | **Yellow**  24.3% chronically absent |
| **Suspension Rate** | Blue  0.6% suspended at least one day | **Orange**  3.5% suspended at least one day |
| **English Learner Progress** | No Performance Color  44.0% making progress | **Yellow**  48.7% making progress |
| **Graduation Rate** | Orange  83.1% graduated | **Orange**  86.4% graduated |
| **College/Career** | High  56.1% prepared | **Medium**  43.9% prepared |
| **English Language Arts** | Blue  48.3 points above standard | **Orange** 13.6 points below standard |
| **Mathematics** | Green  8.8 points below standard | **Orange**  49.1 points below standard |

### California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

The School’s California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) results are available on the CAASPP website at <https://caaspp-elpac.ets.org/caaspp/>.

A direct link to the School’s CAASPP English language arts/literacy and mathematics test results is available at https://caaspp-elpac.ets.org/caaspp/DashViewReportSB?ps=true&lstTestYear=2023&lstTestType=B&lstCounty=19&lstDistrict=75663-000&lstSchool=6120158&lstGroup=1&lstSubGroup=1&lstSchoolType=A&lstGrade=13&Keyword=new%20west&ct=2&cds=19756636120158.

## Section 3. Areas of Greatest Progress and Need

### Based on California School Dashboard (Dashboard) data, identify the School’s areas of greatest progress.

New West is particularly pleased with the performance of all subgroups in English Language Arts. No subgroups are in the Orange or Red, and our students are performing well above standard with an impressive 13.9 increase over the prior year. Math performance is also tracking positively, with an increase of 6 points from the prior year. While there is work to do with our English Learners, we are pleased that there are no subgroups in the Red category. Importantly, New West's students continue to outperform the state average and local schools in our area, demonstrating the need in the community for the educational program we are delivering.

### What internal assessments (not CAASPP) are being used to demonstrate the School’s areas of greatest progress? Are any of these assessments on the approved verified data list? If so, which ones?

New West sophomores and juniors take the PSAT (verified data) annually. These students consistently outperform the average scores of their California and national peers. For example, as sophomores, the class of 2024 scored an average 979 on their test versus 888 for California and 918 nationally. As juniors, the class of 2024 improved their average score to 1033, versus 973 for California and 987 nationally. Similarly, as sophomores, the classes of 2025 and 2026 outperformed their California and national peers by nearly 100 points. New West students also take the NWEA MAP assessments (verified data) to help teachers and administrators understand where there may be gaps in learning between state mandated assessments. Nearly 80% of students are scoring at or above the 40th percentile across subjects; average scores in math and reading exceed NWEA national norms, and the majority of students are projected to meet or exceed grade level standards on SBAC based on Fall 2023 NWEA performance.

### Based on Dashboard data, identify the School’s areas of greatest need. Include references to student groups.

New West continues to invest in improving progress toward reclassification for our English Learners. While there is still room to grow, we are pleased with the progress English Learners are making. On the Dashboard we can see that 44% of English Learners are making progress toward proficiency. While this represents a modest decline from the prior year, English Learners are showing steady progress toward English language acquisition, and New West will continue to allocate resources to ensure this progress.

### How is the School addressing these areas of need? Include references to student groups.

Supporting English learners Strategies: (1) Improve access for Spanish speaking families to information about the school, student grades, and academic expectations in accordance with the English Language Development Teacher and DEI Office. (2) Integrate research proven strategies for supporting English Learners into the curriculum and instructional practices at all levels in accordance with the English Language Development Teacher and DEI Office. (3) Increase awareness of which students have EL or RFEP designations and require teachers to monitor their performance and support success in accordance with the English Language Development Teacher and DEI Office.

It should be noted that the graduation rate currently reflected on the Dashboard is inaccurate. The true graduation rate is 100%, however there was an issue with data translation between Infinite Campus (our SIS) and CALPADS that has made the rate appear lower.

## Section 4. Summary of Performance on Measurable Pupil Outcomes

### Identify the Measurable Pupil Outcomes in Element 2 of the petition. Summarize the performance for each outcome.

New West's most recently charter renewal took place in 2016. Given the length of time and extenuating circumstances (e.g., pandemic) since the last renewal, some of the outcomes in element 2 of the 2016 petition are outdated. However, New West's measurable pupil outcomes still remain aligned to the state priorities. In all academic measures, New West students are outperforming their peers at the State average level and at local neighborhood schools. Measures like graduation rates, CAASPP performance, suspension and expulsion, and average daily attendance, are consistently high and aligned with the goals of the 2016 petition and those reflected in the updated petition that will go before LAUSD for approval this year.

## Section 5. Local Control and Accountability Plan Progress

### Provide a summary of progress made in meeting the School’s 2022–23 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals.

Goal 1: New West Charter School will close the achievement gap for our subgroup students and continue to strive to achieve a high level of academic excellence by ensuring all students are on track to graduate college and be career ready. All 7 action items related to goal 1 have either been met are in progress to being met; all subgroups are making consistent progress toward exceeding grade level standards, EL reclassification rate is nearing the desired outcome (within 0.6%), college acceptance rate exceeds desired outcome, all students have access to standards-aligned materials, graduates are meeting UC/CSU entrance requirements, and all standards and a broad course of study have been implemented.

Goal 2: Maintain a safe campus learning environment that fosters students' intellectual and emotional maturity and simultaneously inspires and challenges each student to fulfill his/her individual potential as a personal lifelong objective and as contributing members of society. All action items for goal 2 are tracking close to desired outcomes, including high rates of average daily attendance, low chronic absenteeism, high rates of students feeling safe at school, and high graduation and college acceptance rates.

Goal 3: Increase and strengthen parental support, stakeholder, and community engagement. Indicators are tracking positively with high percentages of parent involvement, high response rates on parent surveys, and facilities are in good repair.

### Provide a summary of the School’s 2023–24 LCAP mid-year update that describes what the School is doing to increase community input.

Board: The school’s Governance Council has three elected Founders, three elected parents of enrolled students of the middle and high schools, two appointed community members, the Director/Principal, three teachers, one non-instructional staff member, and one representative of the chartering authority. The Governance Council requests the formation of Board Committees composed of mixed stakeholder groups to provide information and advice on specific topics. Our Governance Council participates in a needs analysis process and identifies the key successes and challenges for Leadership High, based on the CA School Dashboard and locally disaggregated data. Our board meets openly seven times each year and provides the opportunity for public comment. New West promotes parent participation in public meetings and public hearings with website and agenda postings. Translation services are provided, as requested. The public hearing date was 5/16/23. The LCAP was approved by the Board on 6/13/23. Administrators: School administration meets weekly and the team provides input on accountability topics, including the determination of need. Further, administrative staff completes the annual staff survey to elicit input used to determine any need for the coming year. Teachers: Teachers provide feedback during regular staff meetings every Wednesday and in our annual (multiple times grade level and department) surveys. Other School: Staff Additional school staff attend school wide meetings at the beginning of each semester and can provide input on the school year during these events. All school staff completed the annual survey in February 2023 to determine needs for the upcoming year.

Parents/Guardians: Parents/guardians provide feedback during regular family meetings and through our extensive family survey in February of 2023. Parents are encouraged to communicate via email, phone call, or in-person meetings with the administration and staff. They are recruited to participate in the governing council and attend public meetings where public comment can be made. Parents also complete the annual LCAP survey annually each spring. Students: Students were surveyed in February 2023. Teachers hold classroom discussions in Advisory groups with students regarding their experiences, perspectives, and needs. Teachers share student feedback from these discussions with school leadership to inform plans. 2023 Annual Survey: A total of 53 staff members, 802 students, and 284 parents/families responded to questions on the same topics, making it easy to compare the results from each group of stakeholders. WASC Accreditation Educational Partner Engagement: Starting in the spring of 2022 and continuing through February 2023, the faculty, staff, administrators, parents, students, and community members involved with New West Charter School engaged in a reflective dialogue about the school’s efforts to improve itself before, during, and after the pandemic. Thought provoking qualitative and quantitative data was analyzed in a series of meetings - especially in the fall of 2022 - on everything from recent demographic patterns and indicators of success on the California Dashboard to graduation rates and college admissions trends. The numbers shared were important, but the notes from those meetings proved just as powerful because that analysis shows the building of consensus about New West’s overall “areas of strength” and “areas for improvement”.