

CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Date: October 19, 2022

**Board Item: California Republic Leadership Academy Charter School Admissions Preferences**

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Education Code § 47605 (e)(2)(B) provides that:

If the number of pupils who wish to attend the charter school exceeds the charter school's capacity, attendance, except for existing pupils of the charter school, shall be determined by a public random drawing. Preference shall be extended to pupils currently attending the charter school and pupils who reside in the school district except as provided for in Section 47614.5. Preferences, including, but not limited to, siblings of pupils admitted or attending the charter school and children of the charter school's teachers, staff, and founders identified in the initial charter, may also be permitted by the chartering authority on an individual charter school basis. Priority order for any preference shall be determined in the charter petition in accordance with all of the following:

*(i) Each type of preference shall be approved by the chartering authority at a public hearing.*

(ii) Preferences shall be consistent with federal law, the California Constitution, and Section 200.

(iii) Preferences shall not result in limiting enrollment access for pupils with disabilities, academically low-achieving pupils, English learners, neglected or delinquent pupils, homeless pupils, or pupils who are economically disadvantaged, as determined by eligibility for any free or reduced-price meal program, foster youth, or pupils based on nationality, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

(iv) In accordance with Section 49011, preferences shall not require mandatory parental volunteer hours as a criterion for admission or continued enrollment.

The governing board of a school district shall publish any staff recommendation at least 15 days before the public hearing at which the Board considers the admissions preferences. (Ed. Code, § 47605, subd. (b).)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has reviewed the admissions preferences that are listed in California Republic Leadership Academy Charter School's Petition in the following priority order:

1. Children and grandchildren of employees of California Republic Leadership Academy Capistrano.
2. Children and grandchildren of Board Members.

3. Siblings of scholars enrolled in or admitted to California Republic Leadership Academy Capistrano.
4. If the Academy operates a campus that is physically located in the attendance area of a district operated public elementary school in which at least 55% of the enrollment is eligible for free and reduced price lunch, then students currently enrolled in that school and students who reside in that elementary school attendance area will be given preference to attend such campus operated by the Academy in accordance with Education Code Section 47614.5(c)(2) (for purposes of the SB 740 Charter School Facility Grant Program).
5. Students who reside in the District.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed admissions preferences with the following modifications, to remain consistent with other District charter schools:

- Removal of grandchildren from Preferences 1 and 2.
- Addition of a limitation that no more than 10% of the school's enrollment during a school year shall be comprised of children of staff and Board members.

Specifically, staff recommends that Preferences 1 and 2 be combined and edited to state: "Children of California Republic Leadership Academy Capistrano staff and Board members, not to exceed 10% of total enrollment."

Staff further recommends that Preferences 3, 4, and 5 be re-numbered 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

**PREPARED BY:** Heidi Crowley, Administrator on Special Assignment

**APPROVED BY:** Gregory Merwin, Associate Superintendent, Education and Support Services