

1-14-20 YCBE Reg. Mtg. Oct. Item 5.1
Handout # 1

Empowering Possibilities International Charter (EPIC)

Yolo County Board of Education
Charter Renewal Presentation
January 14, 2020



Gateway Community Charters (GCC)

- ▶ Local non profit 501c(3) Charter Management Organization with 17 years of experience providing high quality school choice in collaboration with local school districts and counties (Yolo County Office of Education, San Juan Unified School District, Twin Rivers Unified School District, Elk Grove Unified School District and Sacramento City Unified School District).
- ▶ Successfully managing and operating 9 charter schools with 19 sites in the greater Sacramento region.
- ▶ GCC provides central office services (leadership, instructional support services, special education services, human resources, purchasing, accounts payable/receivable, budget and fiscal oversight, facilities, community engagement, and professional development) to all of our charter schools
- ▶ The GCC has over 500 employees serving approximately 5,200 students in both TK-12 site based and non-classroom based models with an annual budget of over \$70 million dollars with positive annual fiscal audits and reserves well above the required 3% minimum.
- ▶ The GCC is proud to have twice received the Best Places to Work in Sacramento designation from the Sacramento Business Journal in the large company category.



Success and Performance of the Charter



- ▶ **International Baccalaureate (IB) Authorization** – EPIC was awarded IB PYP Authorization (Grades K-5) in summer 2019. The MYP Authorization (Grades 6-8) is expected in Spring 2020.
- ▶ **Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH) Implementation** – EPIC was one of approximately 150 schools Nationwide chosen for the CKH Showcase School honor for 2018-2019. EPIC is a Showcase School nominee for 2019-2020.
- ▶ **WASC Accreditation** – EPIC is fully WASC accredited through June 30, 2021. This is a testament to the overall high-quality educational programs at EPIC.
- ▶ **World Language Programs** – EPIC is very proud of its Russian and Spanish programs. All EPIC students K-8 have access to Russian and Spanish. EPIC middle school students receive Russian and Spanish instruction, so we are essentially creating tri-lingual students.

Success and Performance of the Charter

- ▶ **Federal Program Monitoring (FPM)** – EPIC underwent a comprehensive FPM and received no findings in our Title I or EL programs. This is a testament to the integrity of our compliance and monitoring at EPIC.
- ▶ **Academic Performance of English Learners** – EPIC is proud of the performance our large population of EL students compared to state and county averages. This is evidence of our strong program of Designated and Integrated ELD through GLAD strategies, and Newcomer programs.
- ▶ **Art Programs** - All EPIC students receive art as a part of their regular school program. All middle school students have Art/Design class daily. EPIC students are regularly honored in GCC art contests and programs.





California School

DASHBOARD

Areas of Strength

- English Language Arts
 - Distance from Standard improved from 50.3 below (2017) to 16.7 below (2019) for all student groups
- Mathematics
 - Distance from Standard improved from 36.4 below (2017) to 27.1 below (2019) for all student groups
- English Learner Progress
 - 45.5% of English Learners increased one English Learner Progress Level

California School Dashboard - Areas of Growth

- Chronic Absenteeism
 - Orange: increased 2.4%
- Academic Indicators
 - ELA - all subgroups in yellow
 - Math - all subgroups in orange
- Suspension Rate
 - Red: increased 3.2 %
- English Learner Progress
 - 26.3% decreased a level
 - 18.5% maintained level 1, 2 or 3
 - 9.5% maintained level 4

All Students

All Students

State



18.4% chronically absent

Increased 2.4% 

Number of Students: 396

Community Outreach



Llame al 916-286-1960 para obtener información de inscripción

La inscripción abierta comienza el 13 de enero de 2020. La inscripción continúa hasta que se llene el cupo.

Posibilidades de Empoderamiento Charter Internacional

¡Escuela charter gratis (K-8) en West Sacramento!

2020-2021

** Todos los alumnos de Kindergarten y 7º grado deben haber completado la inmunización para inscribirse.*

EPIC es una escuela charter pública K-8 gratuita con un enfoque de Bachillerato Internacional.

EPIC ofrece:

- Instrucción en los Estándares Estatales de CA
- Idiomas Extranjeros (Español, Ruso)
- Arte

• Educación Física

• Programa Gratuito Después de la Escuela:

- Clases de Música
- Deportes / Gimnasia
- Tutoría



EPIC

2945 Ramco St. Suite 200 West Sacramento, CA 95691

www.epicib.org ~ www.gcccharters.org



Outreach Efforts

- ▶ Marketing and Outreach in multiple languages
 - ▶ Print and Digital
 - ▶ Global Mailing (entire West Sac community two times per year)
- ▶ Partnership with the City of West Sacramento
- ▶ Outreach at community cultural events and programs
- ▶ Advertising the International Baccalaureate program
- ▶ Offering Spanish as part of the instructional program/ IB World Language

Growth Opportunities

- ▶ Continue to deepen our outreach efforts to the West Sacramento Community
- ▶ Work with YCOE staff to identify areas that we can strength and develop
- ▶ Continued work with WUSD- RCHS on articulation and support for our students
- ▶ Continuing Cultural Responsive Teaching through the IB framework
- ▶ US Census partnership- more than the "box" initiative- how ethnicity is tracked in the Census.

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Key Focuses during next charter term...

- ▶ Continue Work to Diversify Student Population - EPIC will continue to work vigorously to recruit a culturally diverse student population through marketing and course offerings that will appeal to a wide range of students.
- ▶ Work to Improve CA School Dashboard Indicators - EPIC will prioritize work to improve CA School dashboard indicators in academics, as well as in Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension Rate.
- ▶ Continue Focused Work on Mathematics Achievement - EPIC is making a focused effort to improve student math instruction and achievement through school-wide participation in SCOE Math Matters, framework analysis, after school tutoring, and the use of Success Maker.

Key Focuses during next charter term...

- ▶ Expand PE Facilities and Programs - EPIC has big plans for physical education and is currently pursuing an expanded physical area with artificial turf and new restrooms to complement our current playground. EPIC has a new certificated middle school PE teacher who is implementing Heartzones technology.
- ▶ Expand Meaningful Student Technology Use - EPIC has a 1-1 student/Chromebook ratio in grades 5-8. It is our goal to become 1-1 Schoolwide in the next 2-3 years. EPIC will continue work through the SAMR Model with teachers so technology is used meaningfully to increase academic performance.
- ▶ Expand After School and Intramural Sports Programs - While EPIC already has an excellent after school program with gymnastics, music and tutoring, we will always seek to expand as budget allows.

Renewal Criteria

EPIC became operational in 2015 and at the end of the current school year, June 30, 2020, will have been in operation five years. EPIC meets the minimum statutory requirements for renewal as set forth in Education Code Section 47607(b)(4) in the following manner:

- ▶ *The academic performance of EPIC is at least equal to the academic performance of public schools that students would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of demographically similar schools in the District in which the Charter School is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the charter school. (Page 17 of the charter petition)*

Therefore, EPIC meets the charter renewal standards of Education Code Sections 47607(b)(4) and 47607(a)(3)(A) and should be granted a five-year charter renewal term pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(a)(1).

In Conclusion

On behalf of Gateway Community Charters we would like to thank you for your time and continued support of Empowering Possibilities International Charter (EPIC). We would love to have you on campus soon.

