Comparing Funding for Charter Schools and Their School District Peers

Legislative Analyst's Office

California Charter School Association March 1, 2012



Overview of Presentation

- Background on Existing Funding Model
- Funding Disparities

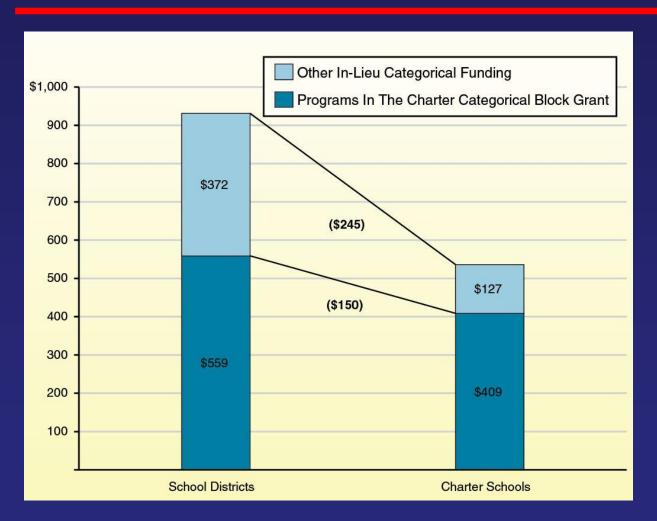
- Addressing Funding Disparities
- Governor's Proposals



What Does the Current School Funding Model Look Like?

- General Purpose Entitlement/ Revenue Limits
- In-Lieu Categorical Funding
- Restricted Programs
- Reimbursable Mandates

Charters Receive Somewhat Less Per-Pupil Funding





Gap Exacerbated by Lack of Access to Mandate Reimbursements...

Required Activities for Both Charter Schools and School Districts

Agency Fee Arrangements

Behavioral Intervention Plans

California State Teachers' Retirement System Service Credit

Caregiver Affidavits

Collective Bargaining

Comprehensive School Safety Plans

Criminal Background Checks I-II

Expulsion Transcripts

Financial Compliance and Audits

High School Exit Examination

High School Science Graduation Requirements

Immunization Records—Hepatitis B

Immunization Records—Original

Missing Children Notifications Physical Performance Tests

Pupil Health Screenings

Pupil Suspensions, Expulsions, and Expulsion Appeals

Required Activities Only for School Districts

Stull Act

Absentee Ballots

AIDS Prevention Instruction I-II

Annual Parent Notification

Charter Schools I-III

Differential Pay and Reemployment

Habitual Truant Parent Notification and Conference

Inter/Intradistrict Attendance

Juvenile Court Notices II

Law Enforcement Agency Notifications

Mandate Reimbursement Process

Notification of Truancy

Notification to Teachers of Mandatory Expulsion

Open Meetings Act

Pupil Safety Notices

School Accountability Report Cards

School District Fiscal Accountability Reporting County Office Fiscal Accountability Reporting

School District Reorganizations



... And By Changes to K-3 CSR Rules

- K-3 Class Size Reduction (CSR) Program Changed in 2008-09
- All New Schools Locked Out of funding
- New Charter Schools Do Not Receive Roughly \$721 Per Student



Addressing Funding Disparities Under Existing System

- If Existing K-12 Funding structure Is Retained:
 - Equalize in-lieu categorical funding rates.
 - Provide mandate funding.
 - Remove K-3 CSR strings, provide funding for all charter schools.
 - Provide more flexibility for Career-Technical Education (CTE) programs.



Statewide Cost Estimate in 2012-13

- \$200 Million Total
- In-Lieu Categorical: \$174 Million
- Mandate Supplement: \$10 Million
- K-3 CSR for New Charters: \$16 Million
- CTE Flexibility: \$0



Addressing Funding Disparities Under New System

- If New K-12 Funding Structure Is Pursued:
 - Block grants.
 - Weighted student formula.



Governor's Proposals

- Weighted Student Formula
 - Expand flexibility in eliminating several remaining categorical programs.
 - Formula phased in over six years.
 - Incentives for strong performance in future years.
- How Does it Affect Charter Schools?



Governor's Proposals

Mandate Reform

- Maintain existing reimbursement process for districts.
- Provide block grant option to districts and charter schools.
- Eliminates 31 mandates.

Contact Information

Want to Know More?

www.lao.ca.gov

Jeimee.estrada@lao.ca.gov

(916) 319-8339

