



AN ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AUTHORIZED CHARTER SCHOOL

## CHARTER MATERIAL REVISION PACKET

Submitted by:

**Krishna Feeney, Head of School**

Submitted to:

**Karen Monroe, Superintendent, Alameda County Office of Education; and  
Alameda County Board of Education**

Submitted on:

**June 26, 2020**



June 26, 2020

Sent Via Email  
lkmonroe@acoe.org

Alameda County Office of Education  
Attn: Superintendent L. Karen Monroe  
313 West Winton Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94544

**Re: Material Revision to Urban Montessori Charter School Charter Petition**

Dear Superintendent Monroe:

This letter is to inform you that Urban Montessori Charter School (the "Charter School") hereby submits a material revision to its charter petition to the Alameda County Board of Education and Alameda County Office of Education (hereinafter, collectively the "County"), in accordance with Education Code Section 47607, and applicable County requirements.

The Charter School currently operates at two separate facilities (one Oakland Unified School District ("OUSD" or "District") facility provided under Proposition 39, and the other a privately leased facility). The Charter School intends to relocate to a single District facility under Proposition 39. A detailed description of the proposed facility change is provided in the narrative that follows this cover letter.

In accordance with applicable County requirements, please find enclosed following documents for the material revision submission package:

1. Cover Letter addressed to the County Superintendent of Schools requesting a material revision, and a Narrative that states the reason for the revision and its impact to the school
2. Attachment of supporting documents
3. Evidence that the Charter School's governing board has approved the submission of the material revision request and supporting documentation
4. Revised budget that reflects the fiscal impact of the material revision
5. Revised charter petition that reflects the proposed facility change and includes a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of law since the charter was approved or last renewed pursuant to Education Code Section 47607

Based on correspondence with the County Charter Schools Office staff, it is our understanding that the County Board will hold a public hearing on our material revision request at a Board meeting in July and will take action at a subsequent Board meeting in August. We



# Urban Montessori

CHARTER SCHOOL

respectfully request written confirmation of the official dates of the public hearing and Board action.

By signing below, I confirm that I am submitting this material revision to the Alameda County Board of Education and Alameda County Office of Education and certify that Urban Montessori Charter School will comply with all laws applicable to charter schools in California. We look forward to working with the County during consideration of the material revision to our charter. Please feel free to contact me at [krishnaf@urbanmontessori.org](mailto:krishnaf@urbanmontessori.org) or (510) 690-4838 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Krishna Feeney  
Head of School

cc: Juwen Lam, Executive Director – Research, Assessment & Accountability Partnerships



## **MATERIAL REVISION NARRATIVE**

***Proposed material revision to Urban Montessori Charter School to change the school address to:***

***Tilden/John Swett Campus  
4551 Steele St, Oakland, CA 94619***

### **Background Information as to Why the Material Revision is Necessary:**

Urban Montessori Charter School (“UMCS” or the “Charter School”) is currently operating successfully out of our two campuses:

1. OUSD’s Sherman Campus at 5328 Brann Street, Oakland, CA 94619
2. St Jarlath’s Church at 2634 Pleasant Street, Oakland, CA 94602

The Sherman/Brann Street campus was provided by Oakland Unified School District (“OUSD” or the “District”) pursuant to Proposition 39. Due to the limited space at the Brann Street campus, the Charter School has been also separately leasing the St. Jarlath’s Church facilities to ensure all of our students can be served effectively.

UMCS has located at the Brann Street campus since the Charter School first opened its doors, eight years ago. Over that time period, we leased facilities both through Prop. 39 and in-lieu lease agreements with Oakland Unified School District.

Unfortunately, OUSD notified UMCS that we would be unable to remain at our Brann Street Campus for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year when we received our preliminary Prop 39 offer February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. In 2020-2021, Melrose Leadership Academy (“MLA”), an OUSD TK-8 school, will be expanding from the Maxwell Park campus and taking over occupancy of the Sherman Campus. While UMCS is excited for the families of Oakland that MLA will be able to grow and serve more students in the community, our Charter School was faced with a sudden and unexpected move from the Brann Street campus for 2020-2021. While both district schools and charter schools, including UMCS, may move campuses, it is unprecedented that a charter school—a public school located in OUSD boundaries—is being required to relocate to accommodate another public school.

OUSD is offering a single-site facility that will accommodate UMCS’ entire student and staff population, allowing us to return to operating from one campus instead of two separate campuses. OUSD has offered the Tilden/John Swett Campus identified above, which will fully house UMCS’s entire student population and staff.

Because this facility change is occurring as a result of OUSD moving another school into UMCS’s



current facilities, UMCS maintains the position that this facility change was not initiated by UMCS and should not be subject to the same material revision requirements that ACOE applies to material revisions for changes in facilities initiated by charter schools. However, UMCS has prepared all of the necessary material revision documentation in accordance with County requirements.

**Impact of the Material Revision on the Charter and Authorizer:**

For the 2020-21 school year, all existing classrooms, administrative and support program support from both the Sherman campus and Jarlath campus will be relocated to the Tilden/John Swett campus. The Charter School will serve students from a single campus, which will provide both convenience and a greater sense of school unity. While the Charter School has been able to effectively operate at two separate facilities, the single campus will provide Charter School administrators and staff to operate even more efficiently and to better serve our students.

UMCS does not expect that the material revision will impact the Alameda County Board of Education and Alameda County Office of Education in any way as to its oversight responsibilities and duties of the Charter School. UMCS affirms continued compliance with all applicable legal requirements and provisions of our charter.

A description of the specific details of the material revision on the charter school operations and on the charter petition is described below.

**Specific Details of the Change Impacting Charter School Operations and/or Charter Petition:**

**Number of Classrooms:** There will be no change in the number of classrooms and/or class sizes. We will maintain the same class sizes of approximately 33 students per each multi-age classroom for a total of 13 classrooms.

**Staff:** There will be no change in staff.

**Grade Levels:** There will be no change in grade levels. We will continue to serve students in grades TK – 8.

**Total Enrollment:** There will be no change in the total enrollment as a result of our address change. Our enrollment projections remain the same as outlined in budget projections.

**Specific Location:** There will be a change in the charter school location. As described above, UMCS will no longer use (1) OUSD's Sherman Campus at 5328 Brann Street, Oakland, CA 94619 and (2) St. Jarlath's Church at 2634 Pleasant Street, Oakland, CA 94602. Instead, in the 2020-21 school year, UMCS will be located at OUSD's Tilden/John Swett Campus at 4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94619.

**Start Date:** We will maintain our fall start date of August 17, 2020.



**Financial Impact:** Moving from two facilities to one will save us approximately \$94,837 overall. These savings come from:

- Decreased utility expenses due to single-site occupancy
- Decreased janitorial expenses due to single-site occupancy
- Assuming Prop 39 rent based on OUSD's proposal
- No longer renting a private facility.

An updated budget, including a table showing the financial impact of the facility change, is attached.

**Revised Charter Elements:**

**Affirmations and Assurances (pp. 6-7):** This section has been updated to reflect a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of law since the charter was approved or last renewed pursuant to Education Code Section 47607.

**Elements A – O:** All charter elements were updated to reflect a reasonably comprehensive description of any new requirement of law since the charter was approved or last renewed pursuant to Education Code Section 47607 (e.g., legal updates pursuant to AB 1505, SB 126, etc.).

**Supplemental Information, Facilities (pp. 158-159):** The “Facilities” section of the charter has been revised to describe the change in Charter School facilities.