Feather River Charter School

Special Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday January 26, 2021 at 7:30 PM PST

Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/96568347400

Meeting ID: 965 6834 7400
Join by Phone: (669) 900-6833

Agenda

I. Opening Items

- **A.** Record Attendance
- **B.** Call the Meeting to Order
- **C.** Approval of the Agenda
- **D.** Public Comments

II. Academic Excellence

- **A.** Policy & Procedure for Opting Out of State Testing

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Public Comment Rules: Members of the public may address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items through the teleconference platform, Zoom. Zoom does not require the members of the public to have an account or login. Please either utilize the chat option to communicate to the administrative team of your desire to address the Board or simply communicate orally your desire to address the Board when the Board asks for public comments. Speakers may be called in the order requests are received. Comments are limited to 2 minutes each, with no more than 15 minutes per single topic. If a member of the public utilizes a translator to address the Board, those individuals are allotted 4 minutes each. If the Board utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the Board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously, those individuals are allotted 2 minutes each. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to school staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Note: The Governing Board encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Governing Board Office at (562) 584-0427 at least 48 hours before the scheduled board meeting so every reasonable effort can be made to accommodate you. (Government Code § 54954.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. § 12132)).

Coversheet

Policy & Procedure for Opting Out of State Testing

Section: II. Academic Excellence
Item: A. Policy & Procedure for Opting Out of State Testing
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: Policy and Procedure for Opting Out of State Testing-Feather River.pdf

Policy and Procedure for Opting Out of State Testing

Feather River Charter School pupils are required to participate in all statewide assessments that are applicable to pupils in non-charter public schools according to California Education Code Section 47605(c). Parents do indeed have the right to waive, *under specified conditions*, state testing requirements for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System according to California Education Code section 60615. A charter school cannot disregard or take away this parental right. However, the California Department of Education states that parent waivers do not exempt students from participation rate calculations.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires states to test at least 95% of all eligible students and student groups in ELA and Mathematics. In 2020, the US Department of Education reviewed the California Department of Education (CDE)'s methodology and determined that it does not meet ESSA requirements.

Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, instead of a 0.25point penalty for each percentage point below 95%, the CDE will assign the Lowest Obtainable Score (LOSS) for each student needed to bring the school, district, or student group to a 95% participation rate.

Under the new methodology, the calculation will add the number of students needed to reach a 95% participation rate into the DFS calculations, and these students will be assigned a predetermined LOSS score. The calculation will assign the LOSS among the school's tested grade levels that penalizes the school the least.

In simpler terms, 95% of testing age students must participate or Feather River Charter School will face severe penalties on the California Dashboard, the states' measurement of school accountability. This in turn will impact our ability to renew our charter and continue operations.

Exceptions to the Participation Rate Requirement
Students flagged with the "Medical Emergency" condition code will be automatically removed from the participation rate calculation unless they log onto both parts of the test. English learners new to the country (enrolled in a U.S. school for less than one year) are exempt from taking the ELA portion of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments. Note that the same LOSS will be applied to students who do not take the California Alternative Assessments as for those taking the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments.

Opt-out Procedure for Feather River Charter School
In order for a family to complete the opt-out process, the HST and the family will complete the following steps:

1. Parent communicates intent to opt out of state testing to HST
2. HST fills out this survey documenting the reason for the opt-out request
3. The Testing Team reviews the reason for the opt-out request, and then schedules an advisory phone call with the parent to discuss the reason for the opt-out request prior to the opt-out being processed
4. If after the conversation the parent still decides to opt-out, the testing team will complete a spreadsheet documenting the conversation and the resolution.