

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is made as of July 1, 2024 (the “Effective Date”) by and between Contra Costa County Charter Coalition (5Cs) and participating Non-Profit Charter Network/School hereby referred to as \_\_\_\_\_, (each, a “Party” and together, the “Parties”). 5Cs is the fiscal sponsor of Contra Costa County Charter Coalition (5C).

This MOU outlines the required commitments and the benefits of coalition membership.

### **Mission**

5C is a coalition of non-profit charter schools and networks whose members work collaboratively to ensure that all students and families in Contra Costa County have the ability to choose and attend a high quality, equitable public school.

### **Origin Story, Purpose & Strategy**

Nearly 20 years ago, families who demanded access to high quality schools began founding Contra Costa County public charter schools, especially in neighborhoods where public schools had failed generations with persistently low academic outcomes and gaps in college access. Over the last several years, a dangerous and inaccurate narrative has emerged that threatens the existence of school options for Contra Costa County families. This narrative scapegoats public charter schools for long-standing problems in public education, while failing to address the need for quality school options for Black, Brown and underserved families or respecting the power and agency of Black, Brown and underserved families.

5C seeks to increase support for quality charter public schools and the respective political power through four major strategies:

1. **Leadership Development** - Development of charter school parent and youth leadership to lead campaigns that result in concrete gains in access to quality schools, equitable resources and equitable student outcomes. Development of advocacy leadership capacity among charter school educators, board members and school leaders and structure opportunities for a healthy advocacy ecosystem.
2. **Organize and lead campaigns** that lead to measurable increases in access, quality and equity in public education and build sustainable capacity and infrastructure for civic and political engagement.

3. **Engagement of influentials** including elected officials, community and district leaders and organizations to increase awareness of the positive contributions of public charter schools and to garner political support.

### **Principles of Engagement**

#### Contributions

- Beginning in fall 2022, 5C is funded through a combination of philanthropy, grants, individual donors and Charter School/Network contributions.
- Charter Schools/Networks will contribute annually to support the 5C. Contributions are due by July 1, 2024.

#### **Contributions can be sent via check to:**

Contra Costa County Charter Coalition  
333 Hegenberger Road, Suite 705  
Oakland, CA 94621

### **Governance**

- Each Charter Schools/Networks appoints a senior leader who serves on the 5C Executive Sponsoring Committee (ESC). Now that our 501c3 status is finalized, the ESC will roll into an official governing board on July 1, 2024.
- We have a working Board and each member will attend a minimum of 4 annual, mandatory meetings per school year and participate as able in smaller working groups.
- Each year, the Board will approve the organization's annual goals and measures of success for the 5C strategy and evaluate the Executive Director.

### **Expectations**

- Charter School/Network leaders will facilitate the active participation of their schools in communications, leadership development institutes and at least one campaign per year.
  - Commit 1 dedicated staff member to spend 10-12 hours per week on 5C family organizing work.
  - Participation in 5C family/youth leadership institutes in summer and winter.
  - Distribute and promote communications including 5C newsletters, social media, non-partisan school board election information and events/actions/campaign invitations.

- Identifying key spokespeople who can share their personal experiences in earned, social and written media.
- Commitment to attendance at 3 collective actions and participation in at least 1 campaign.
- Participation in quarterly school leader meetings.
- Participation in quarterly 5C governing board meetings.

**Benefits**

5C provides unique benefits to our partner Charter Schools/Networks.

- Be a part of a historic, student and family-centered movement to reclaim the positive narrative about the role of public charter schools in Contra Costa County and to increase access to high quality, public schools.
- Be a part of changing the discourse and influencing public education policy and leadership that puts Black, Brown and underserved families in positions of power and honors their agency to choose high quality public schools.
- Be a part of a ground-breaking movement that breaks down the silos between charter schools, community organizations and the public power structure to build a strong, city-wide movement.
- Be featured in our local, expert, authentic, data and story-driven communications campaigns that lifts up positive data and stories from stakeholders in your charter school/network.
- Build leadership capacity in your school/network through family organizing and leadership development.
- Access to expert, equity-centered, authentic messages, and communications collateral.

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (Charter School/Network)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of Contra Costa County Charter Coalition

Signature Maribel Gonzalez Date 4/24/24

Printed Name: Maribel Gonzalez

Title Executive Director