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CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL



## Parent Advisory Committee Minutes

### Agenda

**DATE** Thursday, 5/7/2026

**TIME** 5PM-7PM

#### I. Welcome & Activity

The meeting began at 5:10 pm. Mrs. Bonilla, the principal welcomed to the Desert Sands Charter School PAC meeting. Parents and staff participated in introductions and shared their experiences at Desert Sands, including how long they have attended the school and what brought them to the program. The agenda for the meeting was reviewed with the parents.

#### II. 25-26 Cycle of Improvement: School Year Outcomes

Mrs. Bonilla reviewed student outcome data and progress measures for the 2025–2026 school year. Presentation topics included student progress rates, credit completion averages, graduation data, and dual enrollment participation.

The following yearly average credit completion rates were shared:

2020–2021: 2.02  
2021–2022: 2.67  
2022–2023: 2.78  
2023–2024: 3.21  
2024–2025: 3.41  
2025–2026: 4.0

The continued upward trend in student credit completion and progress toward graduation was highlighted.

Mrs. Bonilla presented one-year DASS cohort graduation information for the 2025–2026 school year as follows.

- Cohort Size: 142 students
- Graduates: 86 students
- Non-Completers: 54 students
- Graduation Rate: 60.56%



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It was explained that last year, the school reached 92.19% graduation rate for the DASS cohort of students. The school goal is to achieve 90% plus for the DASS grad cohort rate. The Spring Graduation Ceremony was announced for June 5, 2026.

Next, Mrs. Bonilla reviewed dual enrollment data for the 2023–2024, 2024–2025, and 2025–2026 school years and discussed the positive impact dual enrollment participation has had on the California Dashboard and student postsecondary readiness.

### III. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Alex Morris, Federal & State Programs Coordinator, presented information regarding the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). He reviewed the LCAP and shared data regarding the EL students. He reviewed that the EL student population grew to green status on the California Dashboard for reclassification; a 4.8% increase from the previous year. He also shared that in order to keep improving student outcomes, the school is in differentiated assistance and comprehensive support and improvement with the state. Programs that help schools with looking at data, and identifying research based instructional strategies to improve student success. He shared that for example, we are implementing more tutoring opportunities for students, given that students who are tutored on average turn in .84 more credits per learning period than non-tutored students.

Then discussion focused on Goal #4: Increasing Educational Partner Engagement. Mrs. Sarahi Hernandez-Rico, Community Programs Manager, presented on the California Community Schools Partnership Program. She introduced herself and Cecilia Rodriguez, the parent liaison (who was not present). The parents said that they had met Cecilia at a previous parent event and that she was very nice. Then Mrs. Hernandez Rico, proceeded with the presentation. She emphasized that the purpose of the CCSPP program was to strengthen communication, increasing parent involvement opportunities, and supporting collaborative partnerships between families and the school. She reviewed the 4 Pillars of the CCSPP: Integrated Student Supports, Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities, Active Family and Community Engagement, and Collaborative Leadership and Practices. She then shared the outcomes of the parent assessment survey conducted this past semester. She asked the parents if they'd like to be part of the steering committee that helps to make decisions regarding the CCSPP grant funds and how they are being used. Two parents expressed their interest in participating in the steering committee. Then Mrs. Hernandez-Rico asked if they had any suggestions or ideas to support the 4 pillars of the CCSPP program. The parents shared the following ideas:

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- Community Garden
- College Fair
- Resume Building/Interview Practice activities
- CPR/First Aid Training Opportunities
- OSHA Training
- 5-10 Year Goal Setting Plans
- Career Day: Invite Fire Department/Paramedics Program/Lancaster Police Department/Sheriffs/Nurses
- Legal Aid
- Clothing Closet
- Monthly Student Recognition Events
- Life Skills Workshops: Reading leases, taxes, applications, Cal Fresh, basics

Mrs. Hernandez-Rico thanked them for their input and shared that she would be inviting them for future steering committee meetings.

#### IV. Calendar of Upcoming Events & Activities

Next, Mrs. Bonilla reviewed upcoming school activities and events, including:

- Vision and Hearing Screenings
- Senior Credit Completion Deadlines
- Senior Grad Nite
- Prom and Prom Permission Deadlines
- Parent Teacher Conferences and Re-registration Days
- Social Vitality Parent Café
- Spring Graduation Ceremony
- Summer Break Dates
- First Day of School for the 2026–2027 School Year

She encouraged the parents to participate in school activities and remain informed regarding important deadlines and events via the L4L Connect platform. The parents said they were not sure how to use L4L Connect. Mrs. Bonilla said she would provide instructions for them.



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## V. Assembly Bill 3216

Mrs. Bonilla then reviewed Assembly Bill 3216, the “Cell Phone Free Schools Act” with the parents. She reviewed the implementation and the school’s cell phone procedures using Yondr pouches. Key points included:

- Effective April 27, 2026, Desert Sands began implementing Yondr pouches.
- Students are required to place smart devices, including phones, smart watches, earbuds, and smart glasses, into locked pouches during the school day.
- Students retain possession of the pouch and devices are unlocked at checkout.
- iPads cannot be locked in pouches; however, they are not permitted for use on campus during instructional time.

She clarified emergency communication procedures:

- Yondr pouches will be unlocked by school personnel during school emergencies.
- Families may contact the main office or teachers directly in the event of a family emergency.

Parents were informed that:

- Students with schedule changes or transportation needs may use the front office phone.
- Students regain access to their phones upon checkout for the day.

Mrs. Bonilla addressed questions regarding student focus and music accommodations. Students may use school-provided headphones and student laptops to listen to music during instructional activities when appropriate. Mrs. Bonilla asked if there were any questions regarding the cell phone policy. There were no questions.

## VI. Parent Survey

Mrs. Bonilla invited the parents to provide feedback regarding the school program. Discussion prompts included:

- What families appreciate most about Desert Sands Charter School
- Suggestions for school improvement
- Strategies to improve attendance at parent meetings

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- Workshop topics and activities families would like the school to offer

The parents had already shared many ideas during the CCSPP program information portion of the presentation and felt that they had given enough ideas, but they did share that they believe more parents will attend parent meetings if we:

- Have food at the meetings
- Sprinkle the school information throughout fun activities such as BINGO NIGHT
- Give door prizes for first families to arrive

Mrs. Bonilla thanked them for the feedback and asked that they continue participating in our events.

## VII. Adjourn

Mrs. Bonilla concluded with appreciation to all parents for their attendance and participation. The meeting ended at 6:40 pm.