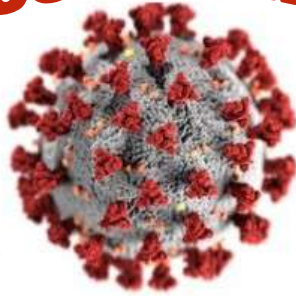




Special Edition



Covered in this issue:

- Charter School Oversight During COVID-19 School Closures
- COVID-19 Resources
 - State
 - National
- Office Hours

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak situation



<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

COVID-19 Resources

As schools throughout California have closed, CCAP is continuing to tracking information pertaining to the pandemic’s impact on authorizing. Please check our website for updates: <https://calauthorizers.org/>

Charter School Oversight during COVID-19 School Closures

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, charter schools throughout California have been forced to close their doors. However, like school districts, charter schools are expected to remain serving their students. During these times of unchartered and ever-changing waters, below are measures we recommend authorizers take to ensure charter schools adhere to the guidance provided in Executive Order N-26-20 signed by Governor Newsom on March 13, 2020.

Executive Order N-26-20 provides that closed Local Education Agencies (“LEA”), which includes charter schools, will continue to receive state funding for those days closed so that they can:

- Continue delivering high-quality educational opportunities to students through such options as distance learning and/or independent study
- Provide school meals through the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option
- Arrange for supervision for students during ordinary school hours
- Continue to pay employees

Office Hours

We have on-line “**office hours.**” Have a **question**, we have an **answer**. See the Event Calendar on our website by **Clicking Here**

Our Mission...

To advance quality public education for all students by providing charter school authorizing professionals with the support, resources, and collective voice necessary to foster high-performing, fiscally sound, autonomous, and accountable charter schools.

(Article continues)

Additionally, Executive Order N-26-20 requires the California Department of Education (“CDE”) to issue guidance on ensuring students with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education consistent with their individualized education program and meeting other procedural requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and California law. It is also important that charter schools not forget to ensure English Learners and students who do not have access to computers and/or the Internet at home can access such educational models.

Charter school authorizers are advised to determine the current state of each charter school and the schools’ respective plans for providing the services listed above, as well as remaining in compliance with Executive Order N-26-20. This can be accomplished by asking each charter school to respond, in writing, to simple and straightforward questions as to how the school is implementing each of the aforementioned goals (i.e., that they are continuing to provide educational opportunities; that they are providing meals to eligible students; and that they continue to pay their employees, etc.). These queries should not be overly burdensome, but merely keep authorizers up-to-date with the state of their respective charter schools. Subsequently, authorizers should follow-up with each charter school on an ongoing basis to learn whether the status of any of these items has changed.

On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom signed SB 117, which enacted several school-related emergency provisions related to COVID-19 issues. SB 117 includes a temporary reprieve from material revision requirements so long as the charter school is closed and in compliance with Executive Order N-26-20. Thus, if a charter school chooses to deliver an independent study or distance learning model not otherwise contemplated within its charter petition, it does not need to get an authorizer’s approval to make a material revision to its charter to implement such model.

Lastly, when things return to normal, and students are allowed back in school buildings, authorizers should inquire into each charter schools’ plans to reopen.

