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Charter Schools Division
2023-24 Preliminary Annual Report
Revised: October 4, 2024

School Name: Alma d'Arte Charter High School

School Address: 402 W. Court Ave Las Cruces, NM 88005

Head Administrator: Dr. Adam Amador

Governing Board Chair: Richelle Peugh-Swafford

Business Manager: Chris Masters

Authorized Grade Levels: 9-12

Grade Levels Served: 9-12

Authorized Enrollment Cap: 280

2023-24 120-Day Enrollment: 131

Contract Term: 2022-2027

CAPs or Conditions: PEC Corrective Action Plan; SPED Corrective Action Plan; Academic Renewal Conditions

Notice from 2022-23 Annual Report: Unsatisfactory performance; the school is not on track for renewal.

Unsatisfactory terms that need to be addressed from 2022-23 Annual Report:

- The Vistas designation of CSI Graduation; the low academic proficiency rates in math and science; the lack of growth in reading overall and for the subgroups identified on page 6 of the annual report; the lack of growth in math overall and for the subgroups identified on page 7 of the annual report; the low graduation rates; the inability to provide data for the Mission Specific Indicators resulting in no score; the overall designation on the Organizational and Financial

Frameworks of “Does Not Meet”, and the unsatisfactory performance related to 1.c. Rights of Students with Disabilities, 3.a. Rights of All Students, 3.c. Staff Credentialing, 3.d. Employee Rights, and 5.a. 5.f. indicators related to fiscal management

- Reporting on the School’s Condition of Renewal is unsatisfactory (see 2022-23 Annual Report for details).
- Breach of Contract: Based on concerns in the 2022-2023 annual report, the report on the Condition and concerns outlined in the letter from February 26, 2024, the PEC voted on April, 19, 2024 to provide notice of breach of the charter school contract and to place the school on the intervention ladder. The PEC has issued a Corrective Action Plan which includes concerns to be remedied that are academic, financial, and organizational.
- For full details, please review the letter from the PEC to the school at the end of their 2022-23 Annual Report.

Waivers: none

Mission: To Graduate Artist/ Scholars Prepared to Succeed.

To be an preeminent Center for artistic and academic excellence in preparing students for post-secondary education and successful living in a global community.

Their mission was taken from their website: <https://www.almadarte.org/>

(This does not match the contract that we have online):

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Alma-d%E2%80%99arte-Charter-High-School-Amended-Contract-and-Performance-Framework-2022-2027.1.pdf>

Educational Program:

School Vision: To be a pre-eminent center for artistic and academic excellence in preparing students for post-secondary education and successful living in a global community.

- Alma d’arte provides at least four art strands (visual arts, performing arts, culinary arts and literary arts) that students choose from year to year.
- Alma d'arte students are expected to contribute in one or more of the following each semester:
 - the school’s Winter Arts Showcase,
 - a recruiting presentation or event,
 - a community arts event, or
 - a community-based activity or event as part of the apprenticeship experience.
- As an essential component of the school’s academic and artistic focus, seniors at the school will participate in community apprenticeships. The teachers work with the students to identify the community mentors for the apprenticeships.
- Alma will provide annual training for teachers in integrating arts with core curriculum.
- Arts integration shall be demonstrated via evidence such as, but not limited to, lesson plans, classroom evidence, or completed projects.

Demographics as reported in Nova 2023-24 (120-Day)

Note: demographics by subgroup is not yet available; pending Nova certification.

Academic Performance

Academic Performance Framework Indicators	2022-23 Score (100 points possible)	2023-24 Score (100 points possible)
1: State Accountability System: NMVistas Overall Score	CSI.Grad 56.3	pending*
2: Subgroup performance: high, middle, and low-performing quartiles	unavailable	unavailable
3: School-specific Goals: if two goals, average of points on each	0	pending
Overall Academic Score: average of indicators 1 and 3	28.15	–

***Note:** NM Vistas scores are not yet available. Report will be updated when published.

State Accountability System:

State and federal statute mandates accountability for all public schools. This section provides a snapshot of the school's academic performance according to data collected by the Public Education Department (PED) for the school years 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 (when available).

The New Mexico State Accountability System ([NM Vistas](#)) gives every public school in the state an overall score. NM Vistas scored schools according to the following designations:

<p>Spotlight: Top 25% of schools, excluding schools with designations of CSI, Graduation Rate or TSI/ATSI</p>	<p>Traditional: No other designation</p>	<p>TSI (Targeted Support and Improvement): Multi-year low performing subgroup(s)</p>
		<p>ATSI (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement): TSI in the lowest 5% of schools. Exit from ATSI status requires an increase in subgroup performance in both of the next 2 years.</p>
		<p>CSI (Comprehensive Support): Lowest 5% of all schools; OR 3 years in ATSI; OR 3-year average of 4-Year Graduation rate is below 66.67%</p>
		<p>MRI (More Rigorous Intervention): on CSI for 3 years</p>

Note about 2022-23 NM Vistas Revision: on May 20, 2024, the Accountability, Research, Evaluation, and Assessment (AREA) Division released new figures on NM Vistas for the school year 2022-23. The figures were recalculated because: 1) AREA received a high number of appeals from schools about their data; 2) the Vistas data and designations needed to align with the state’s *Consolidated State Plan* (CSP) that is sent to the U.S. Department of Education as part of the *State ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) Accountability Model*; 3) during the initial release of Vistas 2022-23 reports, a number of schools were prematurely exited from designations of CSI and ATSI. Those schools are on a three-year cycle, some of which started in 2018-19. Because of Covid, two years of accountability reports were waived, so the designation should have continued through 2022-23.

Important: According to the May 20, 2024 NM Vistas revision, the highest **overall** designation a school may receive is “Spotlight,” however, an additional designation/distinction of “Excellence” is assigned to schools scoring above the 90th percentile on specific indicators.

Refer to the [2022-23 Accountability Measures Overview](#) for a summary of indicators included in Vistas calculations. Further details and criteria for each designation are provided in the *Accountability Technical Manual* linked to the [NM Vistas](#) web page.

Note: NM Vistas designations and academic proficiencies are not available at this time. Report will be updated when data are available.

Mission-Specific Goals

Goal 1: Graduating 12th graders, who are enrolled on the 40th day and 120th day, will complete 100 hours in their apprenticeship by the end of April. Timesheets will be verified by the apprenticeship teacher and turned in every Monday for the previous week.

Performance Level	Target	Points
Exceeds Standard	90% or more of the graduating 12th graders, who are enrolled on the 40th day and 120th day, will complete 100 hours in their apprenticeship by the end of April.	100
Meets Standard	75-89% of graduating 12th graders, who are enrolled on the 40th day and 120th day, will complete 100 hours in their apprenticeship by the end of April.	75
Working to Meet Standard	55-74% of graduating 12th graders, who are enrolled on the 40th day and 120th day, will complete 100 hours in their apprenticeship by the end of April.	25
Does Not Meet Standard	Less than 55% of graduating 12th graders, who are enrolled on the 40th day and 120th day, will complete 100 hours in their apprenticeship by the end of April.	0

Goal 1 Rating: Pending

Goal 2: All 9-12th graders enrolled on the 40th and 120th day, will earn 20 out of 24 points (83%), using the school-provided rubric, on a year-long arts-integrated project including an oral presentation to a panel of staff members.

Performance Level	Target	Points
Exceeds Standard	90% or more 9-12th graders, enrolled on the 40th and 120th day, will earn a score of 20 out of 24 possible points (83%), using the school provided rubric, on a year-long arts-integrated project including an oral presentation to a panel of staff members.	100
Meets Standard	80-89% of 9-12th graders, enrolled on the 40th and 120th day, will earn a score of 20 out of 24 possible points (83%), using the school provided rubric, on a year-long arts-integrated project including an oral presentation to a panel of staff members.	75
Working to Meet Standard	70-79% of 9- 12th graders, enrolled on the 40th and 120th day, will earn a score of 20 out of 24 possible points (83%), using the school provided rubric, on a year-long arts-integrated project including an oral presentation to a panel of staff members.	25
Does Not Meet Standard	Less than 70% of 9-12th graders, enrolled on the 40th and 120th day, will earn a score of 20 out of 24 possible points (83%), using the school provided rubric, on a year-long arts-integrated project including an oral presentation to a panel of staff members.	0

Goal 2 Rating: Pending

Organizational and Financial Performance Framework

2023-24 Overall Rating: Does Not Meet

Pursuant to the [PEC Performance Framework and Accountability System](#), schools receive ratings of **Meets Standard**, **Working to Meet Standard**, or **Does Not Meet Standard** for individual indicators in the framework. Explanations for any rating other than Meets Standard are provided below.

The school also receives an overall rating of either **Meets Standard** or **Does Not Meet Standard** for the year. If a school receives a **Does Not Meet Standard** rating for three or more indicators, it will receive an overall rating of **Does Not Meet Standard**.

If a school receives a **Does Not Meet Standard** rating, on any indicator, the CSD and PEC may conduct a closer review the following year on that indicator, and/or the PEC may require the school to submit a corrective action plan in order to specify actions and a timeline to correct the performance deficiency.

A school may receive a **Working to Meet Standard** rating on multiple indicators and still receive an overall rating of **Meets Standard**. If a school receives this rating across multiple years, the CSD and PEC may conduct a closer review the following year on that indicator, and the school will need to address the issue in its renewal application at the end of its charter term.

Screenshot of Multi-year Performance Framework Ratings

Alma d'Arte Charter High School	2022-23	2023-24
Organizational and Financial Performance Ratings		
1a Mission and Educational Program	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
1b State Assessment Requirements	Meets Standard	Pending
1c Rights of Students with Disabilities	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
1d Rights of English Learners	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
1e Meeting Program Requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
1f NM DASH Plan	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
2a Governance Requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
2b Nepotism, Conflict of Interest	Meets Standard	Working to Meet Standard
2c Reporting Requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
3a Rights of All Students	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
3b Attendance and Retention	Working to Meet Standard	Pending
3c Staff Credentialing	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
3d Employee Rights	Does Not Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
3e Background Checks, Ethics	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
4a Facilities	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
4b Transportation	N/A	N/A
4c Health and Safety	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
4d Handling Information	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
4e Information accessible to the public	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
4f School climate	Working to Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
5a Financial Reporting and Compliance	Does Not Meet Standard	Meets Standard
5b Accounting Principles	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
5c Responsive to Audit Findings	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
5d Managing Grant Funds	Does Not Meet Standard	Meets Standard
5e Staffing for Fiscal Management	Working to Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
5f Internal Controls	Meets Standard	Meets Standard

Explanation of 2023-24 Indicator Ratings

- 1.a. Observations and interviews demonstrate program/mission being implemented >50%; plan in place for full implementation.
- 1.c. SPED CAPs issued (Annual Determination and State Complaint); OSE continues to monitor and will determine when SPED CAP terms have been satisfied.
- 1.e. CCRB indicated that the school is not compliant with Innovation Zone or CTE Perkins/Next Gen grants.
- 2.a. Board training not complete for some members.
- 2.b. Conflict of interest complaints received re: governing board; no nepotism or conflict of interest policy in place.
- 2.c. More than 3 late notification requests; concerns meeting requirements not addressed adequately and timely.

- 3.a. More than 3 complaints determined valid re: disenrollment, transcripts. Complaint policy published late spring 2024.
- 3.c. As of 7.8.24, not all licensure discrepancies have been cleared.
- 3.d. New teacher mentorship program was not in place in February; was in place by April.
- 3.e. School had employees without background checks complete and did not provide evidence that those staff were not alone with students.
- 4.a. PSFA report (Facility Maintenance Assessment Report) indicated that school has rating of "Poor". Safety concerns noted during site visit. School has improved some areas in the Art Wing and Gallery since Feb. visit, but still have work to do.
- 4.c. Safe Schools Plan letter of non-compliance issued on 7.3.24.
- 4.e. As of the end of the school year, Handbook still not posted to the website or complete.
- 4.f. School did not have an active EC this year; no evidence of building intentional connections to family and community. Antagonistic relationships between stakeholders (Admin, parents, GB, students, staff).
- 5.b. [FY23 Audit](#): 6 Audit findings in FY23 Audit, 1 Material weakness.
- 5.c. The school has three repeat findings in FY23.
- 5.e. GC created Finance Committee in spring; no finance or audit committees were in place at time of visit in Feb. CPO's certificate expired in Jan. 2023.

Site Visit Attendees

February 7, 2024 and April 15, 2024

CSD Team: Cheryl Rowe (lead), Corina Chavez, Dr. Brigette Russell and Lucy Valenzuela

School Leadership: Dr. Adam Amador (Head administrator) and Cecilia Romero

Governing Board: Kim Skaggs and Richelle Peugh-Swafford