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**Charter Schools Division
Final Renewal Recommendation
November 4, 2024**

School Name: South Valley Preparatory School

School Address: 2551 Karsten Ct. SE Albuquerque, NM 87102

Head Administrator: Dr. Baylor Del Rosario

Governing Board Chair: Brittney Barreras

Contract Term: 2020–2025

Statutory Renewal Requirements

According to New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 1979, Section 22-8B-12 K., a charter may be suspended, revoked, or not renewed by the chartering authority if the chartering authority determines that the charter school:

- (1) committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards or procedures set forth in the charter contract;
- (2) failed to meet or make substantial progress toward achievement of the department's standards of excellence or student performance standards identified in the charter contract;
- (3) failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management;
- (4) for a charter school located on tribal land, failed to comply with ongoing consultations pursuant to the Indian Education Act; or
- (5) violated any provision of law from which the charter school was not specifically exempted.

Preliminary Renewal Recommendation

The Charter Schools Division (CSD) recommends that South Valley Preparatory be renewed with a charter contract term of five years, without conditions.

Part B: Progress Report

The school’s narratives in Part B are rated **Meets the Standards, Demonstrates Substantial Progress**, or **Failing to Demonstrate Progress** according to the rubric on pages 6-7 of the 2024 Charter School Renewal Application.

Part B: Progress Report	
Academic Performance	Rating
1.a. Student Outcomes	Demonstrates Substantial Progress*
1.b. Mission-Specific Goals	Failing to Demonstrate Progress
Organizational Performance	Rating
2.a. Educational Program	Meets the Standard
2.b. Financial Compliance	Demonstrates Substantial Progress
2.c. Governance Responsibilities	Failing to Demonstrate Progress
2.d. Equity and Identity	Meets the Standard
2.e. Tribal Consultation	N/A
2.f. Other Performance Framework Indicators	Demonstrates Substantial Progress

** Results from 2023-24 Vistas data, scheduled to be released in November 2024, could change this rating in the final recommendation.*

1.a. Student Outcomes

South Valley Preparatory conducts the following interim assessments: NWEA MAP for reading, science, and math, as well as all state-required assessments like NMASSA and ACCESS. However, in ELA and math, the school has not met the district or state averages. To address these challenges, the school has established an RTI class, which is their main focus. They are utilizing NMASSA results to analyze and strategize all core teachers are implementing the RTI math intervention strategy in their classrooms.

The school has also introduced “weekly extended response” to support math intervention resources to all staff and students. They also have targeted lesson planning and targeted on-going professional development to better support their students. South Valley Preparatory also has a strong focus on school-home communications, during leadership and staff focus groups they spoke highly of how great communication is. Parents also spoke about how staff provide individualized care for their students. Students in the renewal visit focus group were all able to confirm the school’s new process for goals setting and student tracking their progress toward meeting their specific target.

1.b. Mission-specific Goals

South Valley Preparatory only “Exceeded Standard” in year 2 of their mission goal, the goal was not evaluated in year 1 due to the pandemic. In year 3 data was not reported and in year 4, students fell far below the standard. Unfortunately, leadership changes during years 2 and 3 affected the outcome of the goal with improper assessment of students, which resulted in no data. This situation highlights the need for stable leadership and consistent assessment practices to ensure student success moving forward. There were inconsistencies around clarifying the system of collecting and reporting of the Mission Specific Goal and the role it plays in school accountability.

2.a. Educational Program

South Valley Preparatory offers a robust curriculum to its students such as reading intervention, service learning, outdoor learning program and health and wellness as well as fine arts. South Valley Preparatory has initiated a service project during the holidays to support families in need, reinforcing their commitment to community engagement. Additionally, they incorporate outdoor experiences and a health and wellness component through community partnerships with organizations like Los Jardines and Nature Niños. All students participate in these activities every couple of months, promoting their connection to nature and well-being. The school ensures that all students benefit from a well-rounded, supportive environment.

One of the schools greatest strengths is that they are now witnessing a growing connection with family members-generations which is reflective of trust that has been built through word-of-mouth within their original community of the South Valley. Remarkably, 80% of the student population comes from the South Valley. Family engagement is active; they reach out via email and phone and are always willing to work with us when any kind of issues arise with their students. The school is most proud to highlight that two former students applied to Stanford and received full-ride scholarships, and they’ve started a pen pal program with the eighth grader class.

To ensure student safety, South Valley Prep hired an SEL interventionist last year, and are continuing this support with a second interventionist this year. Some of these measures reflect the ongoing commitment to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all students.

2.b. Financial Compliance

The school has made progress over the course of the contract term to improve financial processes, earning a rating of Meets Standard on all financial indicators in the most recent contract year. The school had eight audit findings over the course of the term but only one repeat finding in the first year and no significant deficiency or material weakness findings. To address the most recent findings, the head administrator is implementing training for staff and the business manager is implementing proper closing procedures at the end of the fiscal year.

2.c. Governance Responsibilities

The governing board is primarily made up of new members and is in the process of rebuilding after a period of significant transition. Despite previously facing serious gaps in board training; they've shown progress. The board is actively working to enhance its training and development, positioning itself to effectively support the school's mission and address the needs of the community.

2.d. Equity and Identity

The school has an active equity council confirmed mostly by students. South Valley Preparatory holds several cultural activities throughout the school year. They also participate in the Language and Culture Division’s Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs to help English Language Learners through the Spanish Language Arts and English Language Arts course offerings.

2.e. Tribal Consultation

The school does not fall under the Indian Education Act (NMSA 22-23A) or the 6.35.2 NMAC definition of a “historically defined Indian-impacted” school.

2.f. Other Performance Indicators

Throughout the contract term, South Valley Prep had several repeated Working to Meet and Does Not Meet on the performance framework indicators. To address these challenges under governance, we’ve introduced a standing agenda item focused on improvement strategies so that all members obtain all training hours each fiscal year. The school is actively communicating with parents about student attendance and implementing targeted home visits for those with high absenteeism or tardiness. Additionally, we're using text messages to keep parents informed and engaged. The school was placed on an Office of Special Education Corrective Action Plan in early Spring and it was successfully closed in May 2024.

Unrated Sections of Application	
Part D: Petitions of Support	Submitted as Required
Part E: Facilities	Submitted as Required
Part F: Change in Authorizer	N/A

Site Visit Attendees

September 18, 2024

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

CSD Remote Team: Martica Davis and Ken Norris

School Leadership: Baylor del Rosario (Head Administrator), Bianca Carabello (SPED Coordinator), Carmela Montez (Founding member and teacher) and Abraham Falco (teacher)

Governing Board: Brittney Barreras (Chair), Melissa Toledo-Ontiveros, and Mary Beth Libbey