

SAN LORENZO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

STAFF REVIEW AND PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

KIPP Summit Academy Charter Renewal Petition

Board Meeting | October 6, 2026

Prepared by Educational Services

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Assistant Superintendent

I. Purpose of the Report

KIPP Summit Academy submitted a petition to the San Lorenzo Unified School District seeking renewal of its charter for the 2027-2034 term. District staff reviewed the renewal petition, supporting documentation, California School Dashboard and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) information included with the petition, fiscal and operational information, and supplemental responses provided by KIPP Public Schools Northern California in response to District questions.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Education with staff's preliminary findings regarding KIPP Summit Academy's performance under the applicable charter renewal criteria and to identify areas for continued improvement, clarification, or verification before Board action. This report does not predetermine the length of the renewal term; for a school in the High Performance Category, the Board retains the statutory options of a five-, six-, or seven-year renewal.

II. Updated Renewal Requirements

California Education Code section 47607 requires a chartering authority, as an additional criterion in renewal, to consider the charter school's placement in the state performance categories based on California School Dashboard performance. For the 2026 renewal cycle, the California Department of Education (CDE) performance category file is based on the 2024 and 2025 Dashboards.

Performance Category	Renewal Framework
High	Eligible for a 5-, 6-, or 7-year renewal term.
Middle	May be renewed for a 5-year term.
Low	May be renewed for a 2-year term only if applicable statutory conditions are met.

For the High Performance Category, the statutory framework considers two consecutive years immediately preceding renewal. A charter school may qualify based on receiving the two highest performance levels schoolwide on all applicable state indicators, or through the alternative academic-performance comparison in Education Code section 47607(c)(2)(A). A charter school eligible for technical assistance under the applicable statute does not qualify for renewal under the High Performance Category provision.

Effective January 1, 2026, the middle-tier renewal criteria were updated. The prior verified-data requirement for middle-performing charter schools was removed; the authorizer now considers schoolwide and student-group performance on state and local Dashboard indicators, giving greater weight to academic performance. This statutory change does not alter KIPP Summit's High Performance Category designation.

Current state sources: California Department of Education, Performance Categories; Charter School Renewals; January 7, 2026 Performance Category Data File release; Education Code section 47607.

III. Renewal Qualification and Available Terms

KIPP Summit's petition states that the CDE identified the school in the High Performance Category for this renewal cycle under Criterion 1. District staff's review of the petition and supporting performance information is consistent with the school's qualification for renewal in the High Performance Category.

Board Renewal Option	Charter Term
Five-Year Renewal	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2032
Six-Year Renewal	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2033

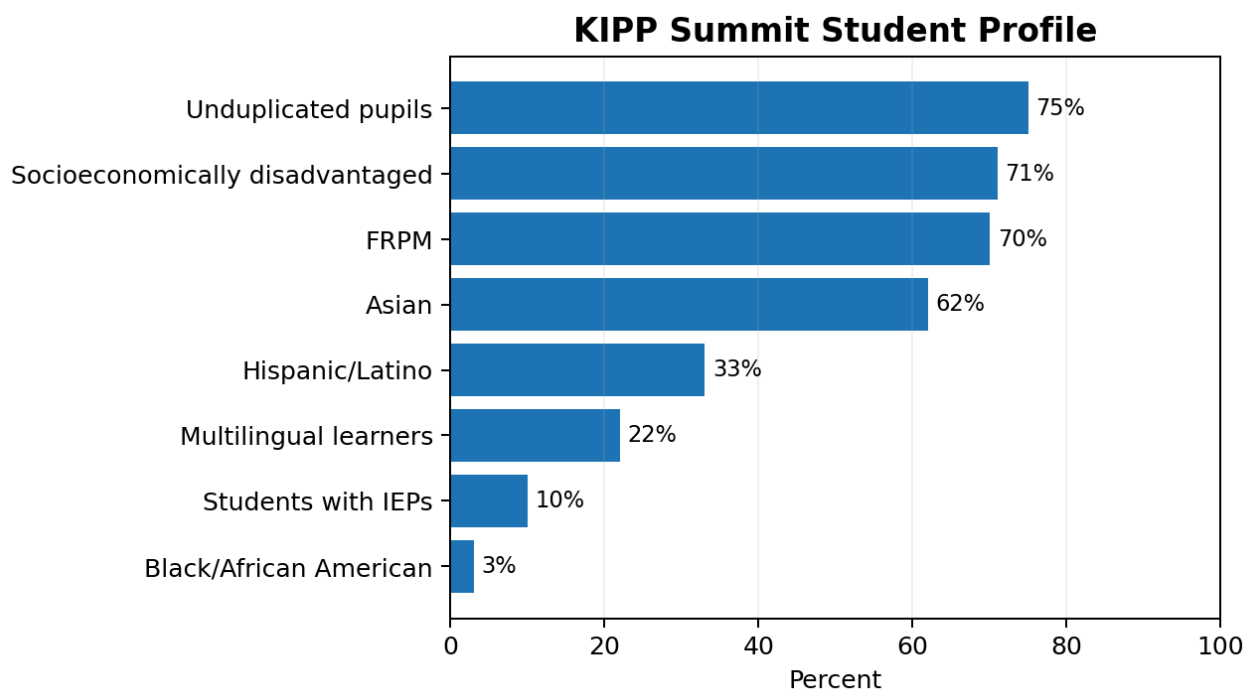
Board Renewal Option	Charter Term
Seven-Year Renewal	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2034

Staff finds that KIPP Summit qualifies for renewal. The determination of whether the renewed charter term will be five, six, or seven years rests with the Board of Education.

IV. School Profile

KIPP Summit Academy is a single-site public charter middle school serving grades 5-8 in San Lorenzo. Its 2026-27 LCAP reports 429 students: 108 in grade 5, 108 in grade 6, 105 in grade 7, and 108 in grade 8.

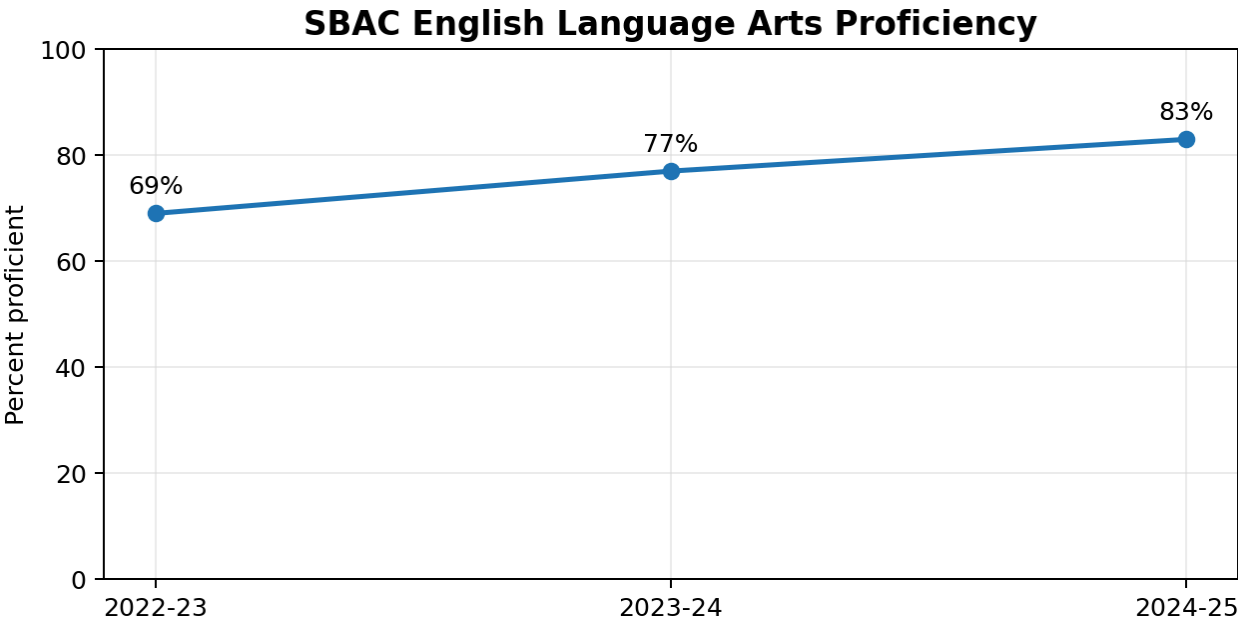
Student Group	Reported Share
Asian	62%
Hispanic/Latino	33%
Black/African American	3%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	71%
Free/Reduced-Price Meals	70%
Multilingual Learners	22%
Students with IEPs	10%
Unduplicated Pupils	75%



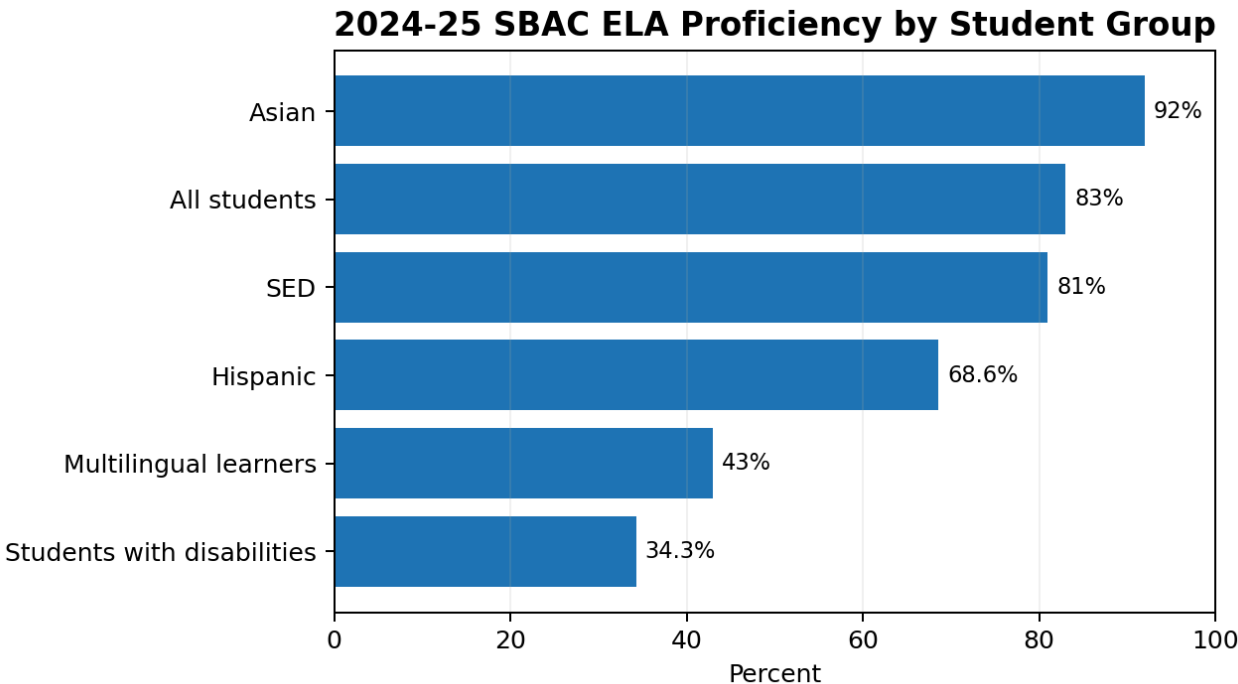
Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP.

V. Preliminary Finding 1: English Language Arts Performance

KIPP Summit reports sustained growth in English Language Arts. All-student SBAC proficiency increased from 69% in 2022-23 to 77% in 2023-24 and 83% in 2024-25. The 2025 Dashboard reports all students at 85.0 points above standard with a Very High (Blue) performance level.



Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP.



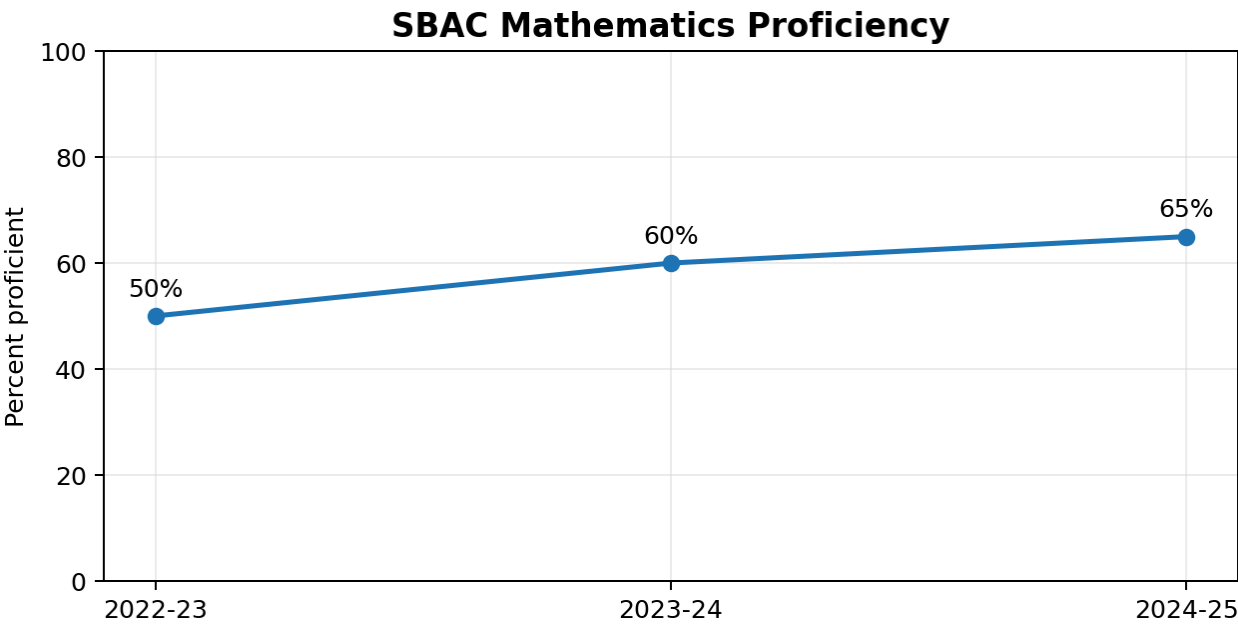
Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP; 2024-25 reported proficiency.

Staff Analysis

The ELA data demonstrate strong overall achievement and improvement. Disaggregated results remain important to the renewal review. Students with disabilities were reported at 34.3% proficient and 14.9 points below standard in 2025. KIPP's LCAP identifies this as an area requiring deeper collaboration between general and special education teachers and more consistent implementation of IEP accommodations.

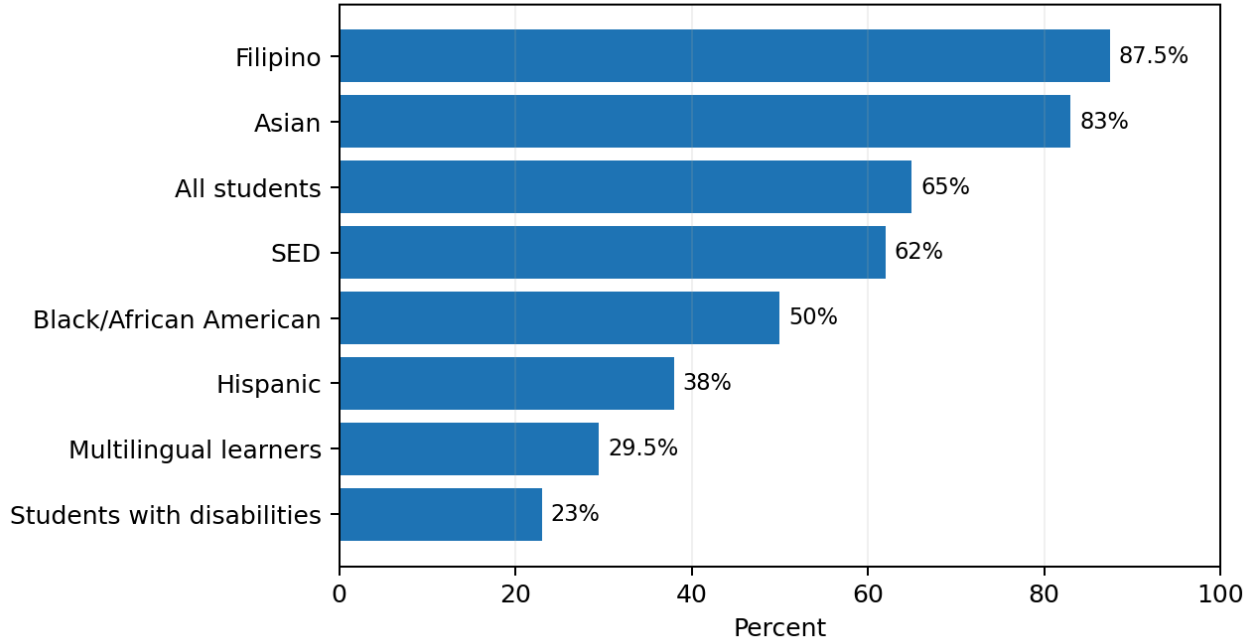
VI. Preliminary Finding 2: Mathematics Performance

All-student mathematics proficiency increased from 50% in 2022-23 to 60% in 2023-24 and 65% in 2024-25. The 2025 Dashboard reports all students at 39.0 points above standard with a Very High (Blue) performance level.



Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP.

2024-25 SBAC Math Proficiency by Student Group



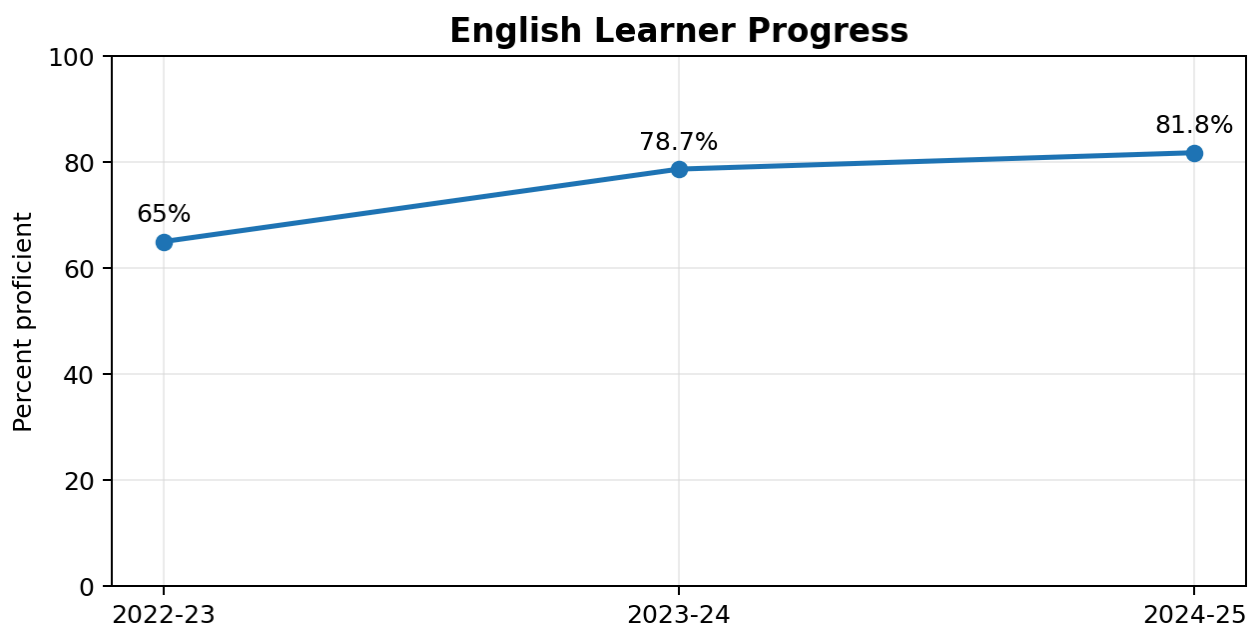
Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP; 2024-25 reported proficiency.

Staff Analysis

Overall mathematics performance improved substantially, while student-group outcomes show areas for continued attention. Students with disabilities were 86.1 points below standard in 2025. Long-term English Learners were 72.3 points below standard, and Hispanic students were 18.3 points below standard, although the Hispanic result represented a 21-point improvement from the prior year.

VII. Preliminary Finding 3: English Learner Performance

Approximately 22% of KIPP Summit students are reported as active multilingual learners. KIPP reports that 81.8% of active multilingual learners made progress toward English proficiency in 2025, compared with 78.7% in the prior year and 65% in 2022-23.



Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP.

KIPP also reports a prior-year reclassification rate of 24.48%, above its LCAP target of 20%. The 2025-26 reclassification rate was not final when staff prepared the LCAP.

Staff Analysis

English Learner progress is a strength. Staff recommends continuing to review language progress alongside academic content outcomes, particularly mathematics outcomes for multilingual learners and long-term English Learners.

VIII. Preliminary Finding 4: Students with Disabilities

Approximately 10% of KIPP Summit students receive special education services through an IEP. The petition states that KIPP Summit operates as its own LEA for special education, participates in the El Dorado County Charter SELPA, assumes responsibility for special education and related services, and selects, contracts with, and oversees NPS and NPA providers.

Reported Service	Service Count
Speech-Language	23
Occupational Therapy	5
Adapted Physical Education	3
Physical Therapy	1
NPS Placements	0

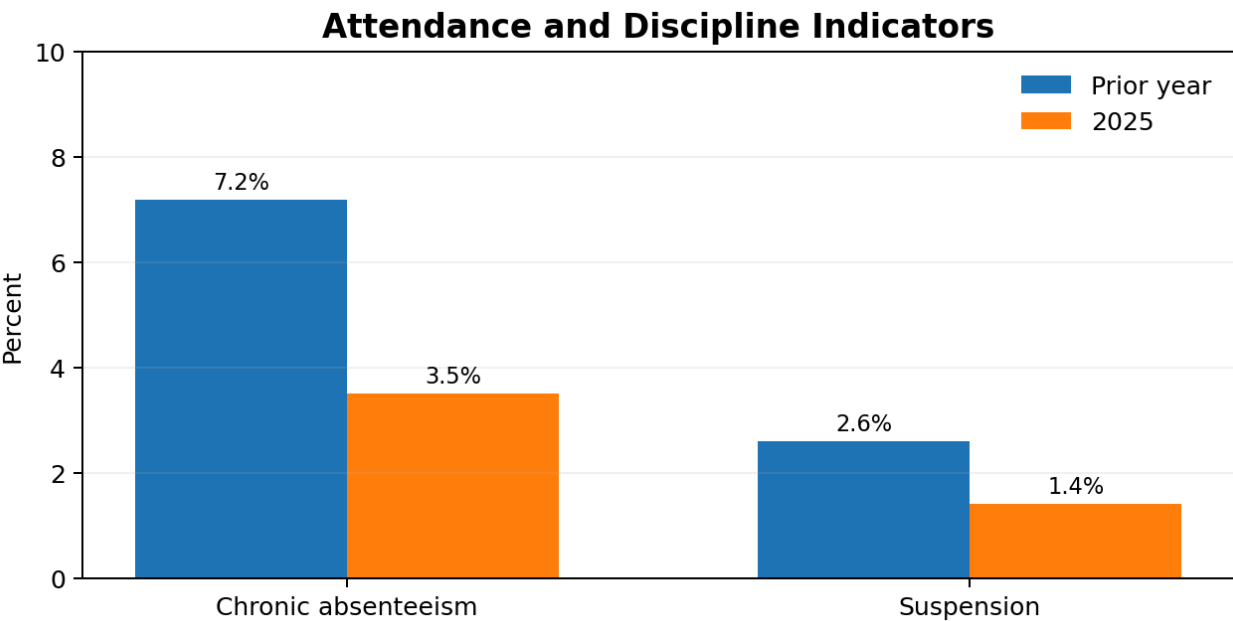
These service counts were supplied by KIPP in response to District questions and are not presented as unique-student counts; one student may receive more than one related service.

Staff Analysis

The petition establishes KIPP's LEA responsibility for special education. Staff recommends continued review of service delivery, NPA/NPS documentation, academic outcomes, and implementation of IEP supports. Student achievement data for students with disabilities remains a priority area, particularly in mathematics.

IX. Preliminary Finding 5: Attendance, Suspension, and School Climate

KIPP reports improvement in chronic absenteeism and suspension. Chronic absenteeism declined from 7.2% to 3.5% between the prior year and the 2025 Dashboard, while suspension declined from 2.6% to 1.4%. KIPP also reports 96.8% average daily attendance in 2025-26, student retention of at least 97% in each of the prior five years, and an increase in students reporting emotional safety from 55% in 2022-23 to 79% in 2025-26.



Source: KIPP Summit Academy 2026-27 LCAP and renewal petition.

Staff Analysis

The available data indicate improvement in attendance, suspension, and reported student emotional safety. Staff recommends continued disaggregated monitoring because smaller student-group counts can produce significant year-to-year variation.

X. Preliminary Finding 6: Student Population Balance and Access

Element 7 of the petition states that KIPP Summit strives to serve a population reflective of the racial, ethnic, English Learner, and special education composition of the population residing within San Lorenzo. The petition commits KIPP to evaluating population balance annually and adjusting recruitment practices when necessary.

KIPP Summit's 2026-27 LCAP reports a student population that is 62% Asian, 33% Hispanic/Latino, and 3% Black/African American. District staff asked KIPP to explain the demographic pattern and the role of recruitment and enrollment practices. KIPP responded that enrollment is driven by applications and a public random lottery, and that existing enrollment preferences are intended in part to support student diversity.

Staff Analysis

Staff does not treat a demographic difference, standing alone, as evidence of an inappropriate enrollment practice. The relevant oversight questions are whether recruitment, admissions, lottery, enrollment, and retention practices comply with applicable requirements and are consistent with the commitments in the charter. Staff recommends continuing to review applicant, lottery, offer, acceptance, enrollment, withdrawal, and retention patterns, disaggregated where legally and practically available.

XI. Special Note: Correction to Element 8 - Enrollment Preferences

During the District's review of the renewal petition, KIPP identified an error in the enrollment preference language included in Element 8 on page 121. The submitted renewal petition omitted an existing enrollment preference that gives priority to students who qualify for Free or Reduced-Price Meals (FRPM) and reside within specified ZIP-code and community combinations. KIPP explained that the omission occurred while multiple charter petitions were being edited and clarified that it is not seeking to change KIPP Summit Academy's existing enrollment preferences.

Under KIPP Summit Academy's existing enrollment preference structure, priority is provided in the following order:

1. Siblings of students admitted to or attending KIPP Summit Academy or KIPP King Collegiate High School, and children of KIPP Northern California employees;
2. Students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals and who also reside within any of the following ZIP code and community combinations: San Lorenzo, CA 94541; Hayward, CA 94541; Cherryland, CA 94541; Cherryland, CA 94580; Ashland, CA 94580; or Ashland, CA 94578;
3. Students who reside within the District and are eligible for FRPM;
4. Students who reside within the District and are not eligible for FRPM;
5. Students who reside outside the District and are eligible for FRPM; and
6. All other applicants.

KIPP explained that the ZIP-code-based preference was purposefully designed to prioritize communities with higher proportions of Black students as part of its effort to increase student diversity.

Staff Analysis and Recommended Correction

KIPP's clarification identifies the omission in the submitted renewal petition and confirms its intent to continue the enrollment preference structure contained in KIPP Summit Academy's existing charter. The correction does not establish a new enrollment preference; rather, it restores the ZIP-code/FRPM-based preference that KIPP states is currently part of its enrollment structure.

Because the language in the submitted renewal petition does not accurately reflect the enrollment preferences KIPP intends to continue using, staff recommends that any Board approval expressly incorporate the corrected Element 8 language. This will ensure that the renewed charter accurately reflects the enrollment preference structure reviewed by the District and approved by the Board.

Proposed motion language: "I move to approve the renewal of KIPP Summit Academy's charter for a term of [five/six/seven] years, subject to the correction of Element 8 on page 121 by replacing the

enrollment preferences stated there with the enrollment preferences contained in KIPP Summit Academy's current charter petition."

XII. Preliminary Finding 7: Special Education and SELPA Costs

Cost	KIPP Summit	KIPP King
2026-27 SELPA Administrative Fee	\$13,503	\$20,904
FY27 Local Special Education Contribution	\$850,650	\$1,116,449

KIPP explained that the SELPA administrative fee is separate from the unrestricted local contribution each school makes to KIPP NorCal's regionally managed special education program. The Summit petition budget supports a special education contribution of approximately \$850,650. KIPP's supplemental response provided the specific administrative fee and described reimbursement arrangements.

Staff Analysis

Staff recommends retaining source documentation for the SELPA administrative fee and reimbursement arrangements and continuing to distinguish the SELPA fee from the larger local special education contribution in District oversight.

XIII. Preliminary Finding 8: Fiscal and Organizational Capacity

The petition describes centralized KIPP NorCal services that support accounting, payroll, benefits, financial management, human resources, compliance, technology, special education, facilities, academic support, fundraising, and governance. District staff's final review should continue to reconcile multi-year projections, enrollment assumptions, special education expenditures, management/service fees, facilities obligations, and audited financial information as available.

XIV. Staff Recommendations for Continued Improvement

District staff recognizes KIPP Summit's overall academic performance and progress across several state and local indicators. The following recommendations are intended to support continued improvement and authorizer oversight during the next charter term. They do not change KIPP Summit's qualification for renewal or limit the Board's authority to select a five-, six-, or seven-year renewal term.

Students with Disabilities: Continue strengthening academic supports, particularly in mathematics; monitor achievement and growth, access to core instruction, service delivery, IEP implementation, and collaboration between general and special education staff.

Long-Term English Learners and Mathematics: Continue targeted academic language and content supports in mathematics and review whether English language progress is accompanied by stronger core academic outcomes.

Student Population Balance and Recruitment: Annually examine applicant, lottery, enrollment, retention, and withdrawal patterns and use the analysis to inform outreach and recruitment efforts across the District's diverse communities.

Enrollment and Lottery Procedures: Ensure the corrected Element 8 preferences, Board-approved charter language, public enrollment materials, and actual lottery procedures remain aligned.

Special Education and SELPA Documentation: Maintain current documentation of NPA/NPS services, SELPA fees, special education expenditures, and reimbursement arrangements for authorizer oversight.

Continued Disaggregated Data Review: Review academic achievement, growth, attendance, chronic absenteeism, suspension, retention, reclassification, and other relevant indicators by student group so schoolwide averages do not obscure disparities.

XV. Summary of Preliminary Findings

Area Reviewed	Preliminary Staff Finding
Renewal Performance	KIPP Summit is identified as High Performance and qualifies for renewal; the Board may select a 5-, 6-, or 7-year term.
ELA	Strong overall performance and growth; differences remain for some student groups.
Mathematics	Strong overall growth; continued attention warranted for SWD, LTEL, Hispanic, and other groups with lower outcomes.
English Learners	Strong ELPI progress; mathematics outcomes warrant continued monitoring.
Students with Disabilities	LEA responsibilities and services are described; academic outcomes remain an improvement priority.
Attendance/Climate	Chronic absenteeism and suspension improved; student-reported emotional safety increased.
Population Balance	Petition includes annual review and recruitment commitments; continued disaggregated enrollment analysis recommended.
Enrollment/Lottery	KIPP identified a drafting error in Element 8 and requests preservation of its existing ZIP-code/FRPM-based preferences; staff recommends explicit correction in Board action.
Special Education/SELPA	LEA responsibility is established; fee and service documentation should remain part of oversight.
Fiscal/Operations	Centralized organizational support is described; final and ongoing oversight should include fiscal assumptions and audited information.

XVI. Staff Preliminary Recommendation

Based on the review completed to date, District staff finds that KIPP Summit Academy meets the performance requirements applicable to a charter school identified by the California Department of Education in the High Performance Category and therefore qualifies for charter renewal.

Under the applicable renewal framework, the Board of Education may renew KIPP Summit Academy's charter for a term of five, six, or seven years. The determination of the renewal term rests with the Board.

Staff recommends approval of the charter renewal, with the Board determining whether the appropriate renewal term is five, six, or seven years after considering the petition, staff's review and preliminary findings, information presented during the public review process, and any additional information received before Board action. Any approval should also expressly incorporate the correction to the enrollment preference language in Element 8 identified by KIPP during the District's review.

Appendix A. Board Renewal Options

Option	Term	Motion Term
Option 1	5 years	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2032
Option 2	6 years	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2033
Option 3	7 years	July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2034

For any approval option, staff recommends adding the Element 8 correction language described in Section XI.

Sources

- KIPP Summit Academy Charter Renewal Petition 2027-2034 and embedded 2026-27 LCAP.
- KIPP Public Schools Northern California supplemental responses to District staff questions regarding enrollment preferences, special education/NPA services, and SELPA costs.
- California Department of Education, Performance Categories - Charter Schools (2026).
- California Department of Education, Release of Charter School Performance Category Data File, January 7, 2026.
- California Department of Education, Charter School Renewals.
- California Education Code section 47607 and related renewal provisions.