

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 1

January 21, 2022

M [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa Id

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I recently heard that the Idaho Public Charter School Commission has recommended that Another Choice's Charter be revoked, and the school be shut down. My heart just breaks for families like mine. Because Another Choice was truly the Choice that my son needed. I know from meeting other parents that this was true for many many students. My son attended Another Choice for many years. He was a young man with a brain based disability who had failed out of numerous school systems because of behavior issues resulting from fear and anxiety. Home School provided the perfect environment for him where he could be educated in a calm environment. Another Choice Charter was a perfect choice for both of us, as I did not feel qualified to be a teacher. He was on an IEP. The teachers surrounded us and worked with him. they understood his challenges, and supported him so positively. He was able to attend school sometimes to work with the teachers, meet friends and be a part of a school. Yet do the most of his work at home in the calm environment he needed. This was the first time he felt safe and supported while in an educational environment. Teachers and staff were amazing. The support he got we could not have found any place else. My son completed all of his academic requirement and graduated in 2018. What was even better is that he graduate in the top 5 of his class. This would never have happened if we did not have Another Choice Charter School. I really hope the Charter Commission would look again. Too many students were able to succeed and move on to college, careers, and jobs because of this school. It is truly a good fit for so many. No other school offered this to the population of students who needed it. Again, I hope and pray you reconsider this decision. That any issues that may have swayed your decision to close, can we worked out to keep this school open. It would be a tragedy and a loss to students like my son and others.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

H [REDACTED] C [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Emmett ID 83617

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

ACVS has saved my son's academic career. This school allows him to get the help he needs and go at his own pace. When he started ACVS, he was failing all classes and didn't think he was worth anything. Mr. Hunter his advisor, changed that outlook for him and really helped with his self esteem as a student. My son has severe anxiety and has a hard time connecting to other students. The traditional atmosphere in a classroom was way to stimulating for him and his anxiety just was horrible. ACVS changed that for him. I am asking that ACVS obtain renewal. Every single staff member has a vested interest in my child's well being and learning. They will bend over backwards to help and are always available. This is not just in the school atmosphere, it is in the personal lives as well. If ACVS were to not get renewal, I am very afraid what will happen. ACVS gives students the support students need to achieve goals.

Thank you,

H [REDACTED] D C [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

K [REDACTED]

P [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Growing up I had social anxiety that ultimately led me to be a high school drop out (I'm now three classes away from an MPA and have overcome all of that) my oldest daughter who always excelled in school started to have the same symptoms and her grades and personally started to suffer from the school social environment. Another Choice has allowed her to have strong grades and work on her social strengths at a pace that does not impact her education. This program has and does make a difference for our family. She is now in FFA and wants to be a Farmer- that's worth investing our future into and allowing school formats that work for individual children.

Thank you,

K [REDACTED]

P [REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

C [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Caldwell ID 83607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My son has been going to Another choice since his sophomore year. He struggles in a brick and mortar school. He has greatly improved at Another choice. The teacher are great and take the time to help one on one. They reach out to me in text, calls, and emails. I also can reach out to them. I feel more in control of my student learning and know before it's to late to help. Being able to take him to the lab if needed. We love the school.

Thank you,

C [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

J [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

If not for this Charter School, our child would not have been able to complete the huge milestone in every child/parents life. Which is to graduate with a diploma. Our child did nothing but struggle in public school and the very day our child started at ACVS we saw the benefits and positive change. We would love to have other families experience this same accomplishment.

Thank you,

J [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

We have tried other "alternative" schooling methods and this has been the best thing to have ever happened to my son. His teachers are persistent, helpful, understanding and literally go above and beyond - over and over! They force them to be accountable and are flexible when needed. They want to see you graduate, too!! Closing this facility would be a detriment to the youth that thrive in this type of schooling atmosphere. My son talks highly about all of his teachers and that's NEVER been the case! Thankful is an understatement - 2022 I will have my third graduate! Thanks to these guys!!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

J [REDACTED] P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice took my son, who had been kicked out of my house by his mother while I was gone, & took a broken boy & helped finish up turning him into a man. He would not have graduated without the caring people at the school, he just completed his first year of marriage, & is in his 4th year in the Army as a successful Blackhawk Repairer. I couldn't be more proud of him & I can think of no reason why this school would be closed.

Thank you,

J [REDACTED] P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

J [REDACTED] E P [REDACTED] Sr
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

First, "Grandparent" of FIVE students that have used the Superior services of A.C.V.C.S., Four of which have graduated from the full-service school. Each student, of course, required individual educational services as each person should be entitled to receive. One grandchild was at risk of not finishing high school. He was guided to Another Choice, where he caught up and graduated. He has been in the military now over three years and has been married over a year. Another grandchild is a self-driven student, but requires help in a few subjects. She successfully graduated there and is a Senior at NNU, having earned nearly full ride scholarships. Two other students required vastly different assistances and received them and graduated under full standards and are successful in their individual lives.

I have had opportunity to study several schools, special education and vocational education. I have determined that A.C.V.C.S., being not perfect, has proven itself over and over to provide opportunities for students from all walks of life to make the best possible outcomes in education, depending on their willingness.

Sincerely

J [REDACTED] P [REDACTED] Sr. B.S. (Math) M.Ed. (Counseling) ID State Teaching Cert. (15years)
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

K [REDACTED] D [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Boise id

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My daughter was diagnosed with epilepsy her 6th grade year. School became very difficult for her to navigate. The over stimulation in the halls and classrooms were a huge trigger for her seizures. She tried a smaller private school but still was struggling. Another choice charter allowed her to continue her education and while tayloring to her specific needs. They have been a huge help to her success as a student. She is graduating this year and I honestly believe if she had to have continued in public school she would not be. Another choice did an amazing job making sure [REDACTED] was on task and on track. We are very thankful this was an option for us.

Thank you,

K [REDACTED] D [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

C [REDACTED] P [REDACTED]

1122 P [REDACTED] H [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Honestly ACVS has offered my kids another opportunity to learn they've been on point with the tutoring and giving my kids the help they need ONE ON ONE class with the teacher or with the tutor teacher they have been learning much better than when they used to go to regular school and we're very very happy with the ACVS my oldest daughter graduated last year and I have another one that she's been with the school since to.

Thank you,

C [REDACTED] P [REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

L [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My kids have never felt more safe in school. The school has allowed me and my kids to have an open schedule. No school is anywhere near as flexible.

Thank you,

L [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

M[REDACTED] Su[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

This school has allowed my children to excel at academics and has offered me and my children to be safe from covid.

Thank you,

M[REDACTED] S[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

K [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Charter School has helped my child tremendously. He was attending another High School and failing poorly. We took the appropriate steps to get him into something that would fit with our schedule, and he has excelled every since. This is his last year of high school and we are proud to say that he will finish at Another Choice Charter School!

Thank you,

K [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

N [REDACTED] E [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Charter school has been an excellent school for my sons education . Please
renew their licenses. The staff and educators do an excellent job.

Thank you,

N [REDACTED] E [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

A [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

If it wasn't for another choice I don't think my son would have ever gotten through school and graduated from high school. My son was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome when he about 4 years old. My son went through many Public Schools and none of them could help my son. I felt so hopeless for my son's future. I heard about another choice and I decided to take a chance and hope that they would be able to help my son get through school. my son started going to another choice starting in his Elementary years and he graduated High School last school year. I have never seen my son so happy and his life to be able to graduate and get his . I would really be sad to see another Choice close down. I'm sure there's other families out there that are struggling with what I was struggling with my child's education and his disability. We love you another choice you guys will forever be in our hearts.

Thank you,

A [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

P [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Caldwell, Idaho 83607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I appreciate the opportunity to educate our children in this school. The structured work week and the help that is provided, for our children to learn the material, is invaluable. Being able to accomplish the school work in a more flexible schedule at home is important to me and very worthwhile.

I do not understand why this learning format is being considered to be canceled. Having had our children in the public school system in the past, this is by far a superior way to teach our children.

Thank you,

P [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Idaho 83634

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

As a parent of a past Another Choice Charter graduate and a current student, both of my son's have anxiety and has prevented them attend school in person. Luckily, I was referred to Another Choice Charter by a friend so my sons could continue their education. My oldest attended 2012-2016. He was able to graduate.

My youngest son had anxiety hit in early 2020 with COVID hitting soon after, we tried to wade through in person school as Fall 2020 reopened in hybrid model. Soon we realized he was missing more school the attending. We made a switch to all online for the 2nd semester through school district we live. He thrived and learned more with online classes. Bringing us to need an all online school again in Fall 2021.

So I immediately enrolled him in Another Choice Charter. Seeing the growth of Another Choice Charter and their changes in structure amazes me. I know I have found the school my son needed. He has learned more this year then I think he has all his school past, also has gained confidence in his learning.

Thank you,

P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

J [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa ID 83651

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My name is J [REDACTED] B [REDACTED] and I am the mother of a tenth grade student by the name of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] has Asperger's Syndrome and was diagnosed when he was in first or second grade. He had a hard time making friends, would not focus on his school work, and an absolute nightmare to get up in the mornings for school. I work swing shift and fighting with him each and every morning was incredibly difficult. I would receive letters from the public school district for his attendance, he was threatened by his middle school principal that he would not be able to get his driver's license when the time came, if he would not cooperate and get to school. This went on for years and finally I came to the realization that attending in person was going to continue to be a challenge for [REDACTED] and that I needed to find another school that would better fit our family needs. After speaking with a friend that have children in Another Choice Charter, she told me how it has worked for them. I reluctantly gave in and pulled [REDACTED] out of the public school system here in Nampa back when he was in 8th grade. It was the best choice I have made for him.

[REDACTED] is now in 10th grade and is doing such a wonderful job at his academic studies. His classes have required him to try and come out of his shell with speaking to someone else over video, asking for help when needed which is something he would not do, communicating with his teachers, also something he did not do well with, and their system has been set up to hold him accountable if he does not stay on top of his schoolwork. He is able to go at a pace that best fits his needs. Now that he is older, attending Another Choice Charter has allowed him to start his own business and be able to work his job and do his studies at a time during the day that is convenient for both him and our family. During the first wave of the pandemic, nothing really had changed for him and he kept on track both academically and personally. If he was still at the public school campus, I could guarantee that the changes and the schedule would have been horrible for his spectrum issues. His teachers are always available, encourage him to come in when help is needed, and also has encouraged him to ask us for help rather than hiding in a corner and pretending that he doesn't have school work to do and fighting us on getting up in the morning and going to school.

Our older children whom have since married and moved away, attended a different Charter school for a brief time that closed down shortly after we pulled them out and put them back in public school. That experience was detrimental to my daughter's learning that she fell behind in school and I still feel as if she missed some important aspects of her second grade year and was never caught back up. I still see it to this day and she is 21 years old. If Another Choice Charter were to close down, I am not sure where my son will go. He refuses to go to public school and

since we are in the Nampa High School zone, he said he will not go under any circumstances. Change to his routine will send him spiraling down a path that I just cannot go down again. Another Choice has been a God send to our family and I would imagine to other families that have similar behavioral and social issues such as my son. He literally is doing fantastic in school now, I just don't want to see things go down with his last two years of school. I am trying to keep him in school, not push him out because of whatever issue has come up. As a parent, I am asking for some kind reconsideration and rectification on this matter so our students will not be put in the middle of this dispute and have their lives uprooted.

Thank you,

Je [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

I [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa ID 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I am writing you to tell you about my child's experience with Another Choice Charter for the last 12 years.

Little back story. My son [REDACTED] was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 5, while in public school kindergarten. [REDACTED] was labeled the "problem child" because he would throw fits when asked to move to another task BEFORE completing the task he was working on. His teacher thought he was ignoring her because he wouldn't look her in the eye while she was talking to him, so she would sit him in a corner. She would always send him to the principle's office where I was called to come get this child.

I was so sad, and didn't know if I, as a single parent, had to quit my job to home school my son. I was looking for options everywhere, praying every night for an answer.

I came upon this Charter School specializing in kiddos with Autism, difficulties learning, etc. With tons of anxiety, I registered [REDACTED] for his 1st grade year. I was constantly emailing the teacher to see about [REDACTED] behaviors, difficulties in emotion. The teacher would always communicate with me, answer every email. [REDACTED] didn't have the problems like he did at public school. The curriculum at Another Choice catered to [REDACTED] and how he learned and how fast or slow. The teachers cared about [REDACTED] him as a little human, not just a kid they have to deal with cause it's the job.

Another Choice made it possible for [REDACTED] to learn, and be a part of something awesome. [REDACTED] will be graduating this May 2022 as an A/B student. He will be starting a welding school Feb 1st, with continuing help from Another Choice Charter.

The values, the teachers, the administration that Another Choice have are very special. They truly love and care about every child.

Thank you,

I [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

J [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Caldwell, ID

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Virtual Charter school helped my older children continue school when covid restrictions made things difficult.

I have 1 child with social anxiety and ADHD. She could not handle the large amount of people in person at our local high school her freshman year. Virtual school was the choice that helped her finish out the school year last year. We were lucky to get her into Another Choice this year. Though she is struggling a bit personally. We are taking steps as a family to help get her more motivated.

Thank you,

J [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

A [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I love another choice for my children ❤️. They were in a public school before ' all my children didn't hardly know how to read !!! . Coming to another choice the teachers are wonderful and are always willing to help my child to succeed. Please know I would not want them to close down ' . I would be devastated 😞

Thank you,

A [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Laura Sandidge <lsandidge@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Fwd: ACVCS

1 message

Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 10:38 AM

To: "ACVCS - Mrs. Daniels Home Room 3rd Grade" <jdaniels@anotherchoicecharter.org>, L <lsandidge@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Please use this for any purpose you see fit. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: S [REDACTED] V [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022, 9:18 AM
Subject: ACVCS
To: ACVCS - Mrs. Daniels Home Room 3rd Grade <jdaniels@anotherchoicecharter.org>

To Whom it may concern:

My name is S [REDACTED] W [REDACTED] I have a 5th grader that goes to Another Choice Virtual Charter School his name is C [REDACTED] W [REDACTED] He has gone to ACVCS since he started school in 1st grade. The teachers are so helpful and encouraging at his school. They get back to me quickly and are C [REDACTED]'s biggest fans beside his father and me.

This school is very important to my family because we own a business in Oklahoma. My son gets to see his father more and stay up on his schoolwork going to this school. For one parent working out of state it is crucial for my family that my son continues at this school.

[REDACTED] is a straight A student who has always worked hard. [REDACTED] doesn't want candy or money but rather he thrives and exceeds at "Way to Go!" And "Great Job [REDACTED]!" His teachers know that and are quick to point that out every chance they get. Which they know only makes [REDACTED] work harder.

My family would not be as close as we are if my son had to go to another school. We have time together that we would lose if we didn't have this school to go to. That's everything to us. The education my son gets at this school is priceless in so many ways. My son has only ever earned straight A's every quarter and semester since he started first grade at this school. He works hard but a good school is only as good as it's teachers and with how caring and attentive and fun these teachers are at my son's school he thrives at his level. Not the student sitting next to him but rather at [REDACTED]

level.

They have seasonal parties and field trips and with their virtual clubs and classes he really gets a super education experience. It's helped keep my family close. Priceless.

Sincerely,

S [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]

State of Idaho

Department of Education

650 West State Street

Boise, ID 83702

(208) 332-6800

Re: Another Choice Virtual Charter School – Dr. Laura Sandidge

To Whom It May Concern,

Regarding the actions taken against Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVS) based out of Nampa, Idaho, I hereby give my account of the school and the administration.

My name is M. C. I'm a mother first but I served our community and state in various roles concerning Early Childhood (Region III Chair for Early Childhood with Health and Welfare, State Parent Representative for EC3 appointed by Former Governor Dirk Kempthorne and Idaho State University Early Childhood Council, Autism Speaker/Presenter for the Treasure Valley, etc.) All three of our children, now adults, attended ACVS for over 10 years. We were part of the initial 50 members of a trial group to get ACVS established. We sought out a resolution to the constant problems we encountered within the public schools in District 131 that our children were attending but not receiving adequate care through their IEP, 504 Plan and various accommodations. However, ACVS graciously accepted our children, made the appropriate accommodations and they were more than effective in giving our three children the education they deserved.

Throughout those 10 years, we were very involved in the structure of our children's education and felt that the school, administration and teachers gave our children confidence, security and pride in their achievements. They grew, not only as individuals but gained independence with the help of ACVS and their AFI (Advocates for Inclusion) technicians. Every one of our children graduated from ACVS (2016, 2018 and 2019) and we are ever so grateful for the direction that Dr. Laura Sandidge and staff have given them to be successful in school, life and that they gave them a future.

Our oldest son is 24 and has Autism, he was formerly rejected from other schools in the district, but ACVS accepted him and loved him in all his short-comings, and he is now a vital part of his community serving in many areas across the Treasure Valley in various volunteer positions. Our second son is 21 with Aspergers, was also formerly rejected from other schools in the district, but ACVS accepted him and loved him in all his short-comings, and he is now working at the Boise ACVS office as well as Sodexo on the NNU campus. Both our boys were ruthlessly bullied and no one within the public school system would come to their aid and we were forced to pull them from those establishments. Had ACVS not given them opportunities within the school to gain confidence and grow they would still be struggling in life, work and other areas. Our daughter is 20 and was born with Excessive Femoral Anteversion (twisted femurs) and was bullied by children and teachers on the district but ACVS accepted her with open arms and allowed her to do things that she would otherwise not have had the opportunity. Not only did she graduate a year early from ACVS, but she is currently a senior attending Northwest

Nazarene University as a Graphic Art Design Major with a Minor in Music. She is set to graduate within the year and currently works at Hobby Lobby.

I'm saddened at the fact that the State of Idaho is blind to the value of ACVS and what it is accomplishing in and around our community. Instead, this school should be used as an example of how the districts should be running their schools with those who have disabilities and that these kids are vital to our state but instead, they are being wrongfully accused, chastised and constantly threatened. Dr. Laura Sandidge has devoted her life to the well-being of those with disabilities and it was under my suggestion, due to our children being outcasts in other schools, that she started this wonderful virtual charter school. We consider her to be the most influential in our children's successful educational experience. First and foremost, she wants everyone to succeed, feel important and accomplished. Another Choice Virtual Charter has always worked within the state's guidelines and parameters and never once have they intentionally tried to go against standards, they have always complied. ACVS is accepting of everyone, treats everyone with respect and dignity and my only wish is that the state would reciprocate by not allowing outside disrupters to destroy a perfect model of educational instruction and allow these children to complete their education with self-assurance and pride in their accomplishments.

I appreciate your time and due diligence in this matter to quash those that are simply disappointed that they didn't think of this education model first.

Born and raised an Idahoan,

[REDACTED]

M [REDACTED] C [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Nampa, ID 83651

[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

C [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Caldwell, Idaho 83607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I have four kids enrolled in another choice charter school. It started with my second to oldest son, he was diagnosed with being on the spectrum and is actually very high functioning, the term used back in the day would be asbergers, we were just learning about his diagnosis and he was having such a hard time in regular school he shut down. I thought I was going to lose him one day because he was just so depressed, Another choice charter was recommended by a counselor at his school and it was such a blessing. It took the anxiety of having to navigate his diagnosis in public, just out of the way, he was able to deal with everything in a safe environment and not fall behind on school, I have similar stories for each of my kids, my 7 year old son lost half of his intestines and is considered disabled, but you couldn't tell by just looking at him. He has such high medical needs at times and the traditional school was failing him badly even with an iep, he has managed to stay out of the hospital now thanks to another choice and he has not had to miss school work because of his medical appointments. The best part of this school is that my kids can go somewhere locally and get help at the school lab, the teachers that end up working with my kids are amazing. Honestly they are so patient and they accommodate just about anything that is going to help the kids learn. The teachers do more one on one interaction through this school, they do one on one zoom meetings with the kids that can't go to lab, and they keep an eye on grades and reach out almost everyday to see how the work is going. I mean what other school encourages you to text your teacher. There is just so much more help at another choice that I honestly can't imagine it closing. What are all the kids going to do if that happens, the other charter schools in the area do not have an online learning program like this and k12 is so hard my kids tried that and they received no individual help. This school allowed my kids to be happy emotionally strong kids, no bullying, no snotty teachers or administrators, they got encouragement from everyone, the teachers really do show the kids how to advocate for themselves as well. It's a necessity to the community this school remain an option for the kiddos who find themselves in need of a school like this. If it wasn't around my kids would not be a success story I know that for sure.

Thank you,

C [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I would be devastated if Another Choice would close. My son wouldn't be in school if it wouldn't be for Another Choice and the staff.

Another Choice has gone above and beyond to help our son. Belive me when I say if it wouldn't be for Another Choice my son wouldn't have a chance and a regular High School.

Thank you,

B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

S [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa Idaho 83651

I am a Parent.

Idaho Public Charter School Commission,

I wanted to share with you how Another Choice Charter School has changed the course of my child's education and his life in an incredible way. His future will be different because of the education and care he has received at Another Choice for the past 5 years. I hope that the support he is receiving will continue both for his sake and for the sake of many others who need alternate learning settings and special resources to make progress.

Previous to coming to Another Choice, my son [REDACTED] attended traditional public school in Washington State. He was in a self contained classroom at a school where I also taught 3rd grade. I saw him in his learning environment every day and also spent time in his classroom every week. He made very little progress in that program because the resources were not in place to make it a viable learning environment. It was a frustrating situation as a parent to walk by my son's classroom several times a day and never see him engaged in any kind of learning. The staff there desperately tried to manage high needs behaviors in the classroom at the expense of academic engagement. My own child was so stressed in this environment that he was completely shut down all of the time. I mention this situation so that I can contrast the incredible experience we have had with Another Choice.

From our first contact with the school I felt that they treated my son, me and my husband with respect, true concern and care. My first contact with a teacher there involved a conversation where I felt heard and the teacher expressed her belief that my son could learn. In subsequent meetings the teachers and other staff presented concrete plans and appropriate and attainable goals for [REDACTED]. Their handling of his IEP has been exceptional. Once goals are attained, the teachers are immediately implementing the next goal. The physical building where students go to learn, get help, and receive interventions is professional and welcoming. The teachers and staff there are caring and perform their work in a professional manner. They give great attention to the needs of each individual and figure out ways to meet those needs. [REDACTED] benefited greatly from their attention to his needs and their creative solutions and instruction. Since I am a 20 year veteran teacher, I recognize how rare it is to have this amount of individualized attention.

We have been with Another Choice for 5 years and in that time my son has received individual instruction from both teachers and para educators on a regular basis. He has been involved in reading intervention and social groups. He has had opportunities for individual Speech and Occupational Therapy. These are things that were not offered to him in any other educational setting for the 5 years that he was in Washington. He has progressed from having zero

academic skills at all, to exceeding our expectations on his academic goals each year. I was shocked at how much he learned in just the first year and cried in relief many times to have found a place for him to learn. The learning and high expectations have continued ever since. We credit the appropriate learning settings, accommodations that work, support from staff, and resources provided by Another Choice. His teachers could see that he had potential to learn and worked hard to provide a setting and resources where this could happen. I have not perceived there is any other charter school providing something of this caliber for students with special needs. I commend Another Choice for giving such great effort to create a place of learning for students who are different. I also hear from other parents that the typical kids in this school benefit from this individualized approach as well. When I visit the lab building, I see all types of students entering there to learn together in a positive environment where the learning is prioritized. It is obvious that there is a high expectation for students to learn, no matter the level they are working or how difficult it may be for them. The teachers and staff there invest their very best in each student and the board and administration are focused on giving a quality educational experience to all students in their care, no matter their ability.

Another Choice has opened a door for [REDACTED] and our family to see a different future for him. We have hope that he can keep progressing with their help and when he is an adult will advocate for his own needs, participate in meaningful work and activity, develop relationships and participate in social activities that enrich his life. We know that he will always be different than others, but we have hope that with help his future can be just as bright.

Sincerely,

S [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

J [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa ID 83651

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

We are learning and growing and this school is allowing us to do so. We can move at our own pace and enjoy learning as a family. We have friends who their kids went to this school and they loved it. I do not want to put my son at a different school. We love this school and our routine and what this school allows us to do and achieve. Two of my nephews and a niece are super excited about applying and attending this school within the next few years when they are of age! Regular in person schools can't even keep their doors open with constant sickness and staffing issues. With another choice charter we are able to continue lessons in our home when we are sick or when life gets in the way. We don't miss assignments and get bad grades because we've been out of school for a week when it's shut down, school is in our home! I searched for months before finding this school and I'm so happy to be apart of it with my son! I believe we are one of many who want this school to stay open! Thank you for your time! - J [REDACTED] and T [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 24, 2022

K. [REDACTED] R. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa Idaho 83651

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My daughter [REDACTED] currently attends Another Choice. It has been a blessing for her and our family. [REDACTED] has a hard time making friends because of anxiety and she is also very shy. She attended another charter school in our area 2nd -5th grade However she was missing so much school and would cry almost every night with the stress of going to school. When she came to Another Choice she was able to work from home, come into the school for help and join clubs to help her socialize. (She currently attends Anime club and Kindness club) She says she loves Another Choice because the teachers are great, she gets one on one help when needed and Can go to the lab and not feel judged or singled out. [REDACTED] feels like the students here understand some of what she is going through. As a parent I feel the same way. She is now in the 8th grade and doing very well. I honestly do not know what we would do with out Another Choice.

Thank you,

K. [REDACTED] R. [REDACTED]

January 23, 2022

[REDACTED] E [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Homedale, ID 83628

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My daughter [REDACTED] joined ACVCs this last year. With our daughter's many health issues/diagnoses traditional public school did not accommodate her needs. Most of all her potential, (even with her 504 in place) she felt inadequate. I gathered her work, helped outside the classroom, and tried to work with all her teachers to keep her grades intact. With all her doctor appointments & flares she started feeling bad about herself. She was able to get A's & B's but the cost was all her time. We spent countless hours trying to catch up. We had no family time, time to socialize, and we both shed many tears. Day after day, Night after night, we did the very best we could. She did not receive enough classroom time or establish the teacher relationships needed to feel successful. Another Choice Virtual Academy has given her back her confidence. You will not find a more dedicated staff (no matter the circumstance). [REDACTED] absolutely loves the help that is available to her every day. She no longer has to stress about doctor appointments, if she will be sick, or if she will be able to catch up. The work is accessible, well explained, and easy to navigate. She's gotten her life back even with the obstacles in her life. I am completely devastated at the thought of this school closing down. We have tried other online curriculum based schools (as her siblings have diagnoses as well) with little to no success. Children need adult supervision, support, and guidance. We know we will not find this with any other homeschool program. I fought homeschool for years. I had an idea of what normal needed to be for our [REDACTED] Although she didn't get it with public school like I thought, she has gotten it with Another Choice. To anyone who has taken the time to read my statement or anyone else's. Please read them with an open heart, please look at the success behind this school (I know many students who graduated because of the staff & curriculum). We pray every night for this school to be able to continue to help. [REDACTED] prays with us. She hopes she can continue to feel successful & happy. This school does not only educate, accommodate, or teach, it saves! Many generations of students need to believe in themselves and have this extra help. No two children are alike, no situation is the same, and no one can truly know the difference this program makes unless they have experienced it first hand. Several children need this school. Please make this possible. Thank you for taking the time to read about our daughter's hope, opportunities, and benefits with Another Choice Virtual Charter School.

Thank you,

A [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

January 23, 2022

S [REDACTED] H [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Meridian, ID 83642

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Virtual School has changed my son's life and our household. My son is on the spectrum and has always had a hard time in school with terrible grades, social interactions with other students, being bullied, getting in trouble, suspended, never fit in etc...since being at at Another Choice he's had all A's and B's which he's never had his whole life or the desire to have, now he does. He's off all his anxiety meds, he loves school and life now. Another Choice has brought happiness and confidence into his life. He loves all his teacher and they all have been so nice and kind to him. He actually wants to learn and has a drive which he's never had. I don't know what we would have done without Another Choice Virtual School. I ask that you please consider continuing Another Choice Virtual school. It has been a life saver for my son and I don't know where my son would be without this school. It gives him the flexibility he needs when he's having an "off day" and still get the education he needs with out attendance penalties. He has the choice to go into school or not on his own without the pressure of going in if it's not a good day. I am so thankful for what Another Choice has done for our family and my son.

Thank you,

S [REDACTED] H [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 23, 2022

P [REDACTED] E [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] homedale, Idaho 83628

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another choice has helped my child to enjoy learning. His teachers are very helpful and do everything to ensure he succeeds. He used to dislike learning but now has become way more independent and enjoys school more than he did in the past. He has had a bad experience with a teacher in public school that made him very leery of doing this program but he has great teachers who've helped him to overcome his past fears. He really has thrived in another choice. We love this program! Hopefully it will always be available for my children and many others who are looking for a great learning program.

Thank you,

P [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 22, 2022

J [REDACTED] H [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My daughter is autistic and has always been on an IEP at the schools she attended. Studies can be very difficult for her. [REDACTED] started at ACVS at the seventh grade level. [REDACTED] was able to work at a pace that was comfortable for her. Subject matter usually proved challenging and rigorous for her, but the faculty provided much needed support, direction and encouragement. [REDACTED] completed her high school education at ACVS and went on to attend Stevens Henegar College. The college staff was reluctant to let [REDACTED] enroll in classes because they do not support IEPs and was worried that she would not be able to handle the rigors of college classes. Not only did [REDACTED] survive at this level, she thrived. I have no doubt that because of the class taking skills she learned at ACVS, she excelled at the college level. She just graduated this summer from Stevens Henegar Magna Cum Laude with a degree in computer programming.

Thank you,

J [REDACTED] H [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 22, 2022

D [REDACTED] A [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Boise Idaho 83704

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Until I got my daughter's diagnosis and actually during, it was a constant struggle of chaos. There was never any real consistent accommodations for her that met the needs she needed in her other schools environments. Until I discovered Another Choice Virtual Charter School and she entered there in 7th grade I wondered if she would every graduate high school. Not only did she graduate high school but they worked with me when times were difficult with her mental and special health needs. My daughter has graduated high school all thanks to the choice she and I were given by Another Choice Charter School.

Thank you,

D [REDACTED] A [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 22, 2022

A [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Homedale, ID 83628

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Virtual Academy is the school we had been looking for. It offers our family freedoms that are not offered thru a public school setting. Working in agriculture and farming there is always a hand needed and the hours of that are various. It has been a life saver to set our own schedule and still have our children help out with farming while instilling good work ethic and knowledge. As a stay at home mom, I had been searching for a school that would offer my family everything we were looking for, Another Choice has filled that need. I am raising my children while they are receiving an education. I am not sending them off somewhere where they are practically raised by someone else or by themselves, and having very little "home life." My son and daughter both attended public school previously before we switched to Another Choice. My son was bullied nearly everyday he went to school. He came home almost everyday crying and saying he never wanted to go back to school. This was so heartbreaking and hard to explain to him that it was a necessity that he attended school everyday. Since we moved to Another Choice we do not have to worry about that anymore. My son has friends and is still able to get an education in a safe environment. I probably would have home schooled my children on my own if it was not for Another Choice. I did not have to worry about the curriculum, the classes or how I was going to teach them. Another Choice is full of great teachers that are the head of each class, teaching the kids their education instead of me. I feel like they are receiving a very adequate education with Another Choice compared to what me as a teacher would have to offer. I love that my children can receive their education online from Another Choice whether it be in the comforts of our own home or anywhere they can take their computer. I do not care for the public school school system in general. The children can be very rude, pick on others, use fowl language and for the most part get away with it. This society and their use of fowl language all the time is appalling. I try to teach my children so many things, like how it is inappropriate to use fowl language, to have good influences and to be kind to each and everyone. Being enrolled with Another Choice has allowed me to instill these good habits in my children without having to toss them to the wolves. Raising children with good morals and understanding of what a good human being should be like is important to me. This school has allowed me to control the environment my kids are in. My children are not sheltered like you would think, they are not a bunch of shut ins. They have friends, lots of family and are able to gain much needed life experiences. My daughter is on track to graduating next year, she has expressed how much she will be disappointed if we are unable to return. The other day she said even tho she is almost finished with her education she would not return to a public school setting. That means she would rather drop out of school and not finish if she is unable to return to Another Choice and I agree with her. I feel like Another Choice has offered my children a very good education while also

offering a somewhat easiness to life. What I mean is the convenience of being able to receive an education at home. Being able to receive an education if we go on vacation or visit family in another state. My children have always brought their computers with them and was able to complete the tasks asked of them for the day. In public school setting I always had to schedule a vacation time and they had to make up their work when they returned and missed out on the instruction. Another Choice was always brought with us and worked on whether we were home or out of state. There is no other school option like this that I am aware of. If Another Choice would have been around back when I went to school I would have LOVED it! My family would choose Another Choice Virtual academy over and over again for the education of our children. My hope is that my children will be able to return to Another Choice and each receive their educations in full until the graduate. It would make me sad to see my daughter go so far and almost have that victory in hand, only to be denied an education at this school. We all only want what is best for our children in life, and no one can know better than a parent. Please do not deny my children to receive an education that WORKS for them. We need this school and what they have to offer to our children! I do not know what we will do if we are unable to return.

Thank you,

A. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 26, 2022

H [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nampa I.D 83687

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Hola mi opinión es que por una persona que se equivocó y iso algo mal. Tanto Maestros como alumnos merecen seguir trabajando por medio de este programa. Por mi parte estoy muy agradecido y a la vez me siento muy bien al saber que mis hijos están en esta escuela más ahora con el COVID 19 me siento más agusto que mis hijos tengan escuela en casa es gran ventaja que no se exponen a enfermaste al asistir en persona a una escuela.

Espero que puedan seguir adelante con esta escuela pues es mucha ayuda sería una lastima que se perdiera por favor permitan que siga adelante por mi parte les doy las gracias por tener este programa y esperando que continúe en el futuro. Por favor. Gracias

Thank you,

H [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 22, 2022

L [REDACTED] G [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My daughter started attending Another Choice about 3 years ago after a horrible bullying experience that was not dealt with in the Nampa school district. We love Another Choice because they offer a safe environment when my daughter needs to go to the lab. The many options offered by the teachers for one-on-one help is great as my daughter has some special needs.

Thank you,

L [REDACTED] G [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

L [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, Idaho 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I am a Great-Aunt and tutor of four nephews and two neices that have been successful in ACVCS ; one is still attending. One went from a dysfunctional public school and low self-esteem to excelling with ACVCS and joined the Army. The Army wanted to know what happened his last year, and he was proud to say it was ACVCS. No other school personalizes the student's needs and goals to optimize the success of each person. They are all responsible or are becoming responsible adults that go on to college, Army, gainful employment. The school has great leadership.

Thank you,

L [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

D [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]
PO Box 395 New Plymouth Idaho 83655

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

So nice to find a school for my son to finish his Senior year after he was singled out by a supposedly "wonderful basketball coach" who had a vendetta against some peoples religious choices. He was so much happier being able to work his Senior year instead of being stuck in school and still being able to graduates with a diploma! He has had a multitude of job offers and has been continuously employed since his Junior year. He is doing very well, still at home only because of exorbitant housing prices. Idaho needs choices like "Another Choice Charter" so young adults can get on with their lives if they do choose! Thank You!

Thank you,

D [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

L. P. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, ID 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

It took a long time to find the right school for my daughter. She has a slue of medical issues, anxiety, seizures, etc. She loves her school and the flexibility. She loves the lab, not having to hurry from classroom to classroom and she loves all of the teachers.

Thank you,

L. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

M [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Caldwell, ID 83607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I love this option for my kids because it lets me teach them at home but also I can get help from teachers if I need it and everything is already laid out so I don't have to try and make up the curriculum on my own. My kids love that they get their own laptop to do their school on and the fun learning games they can play on them for school. My son has learned a lot from doing this school and I hope to continue to get to teach him through this school.

Thank you,

M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

F [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Parma, ID 83660

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My son graduated this past year from Another Choice Virtual Charter School. I have 2 sons with high functioning autism. My oldest who is 23 is a high school drop out. Completing only the 8th grade through traditional school through the Nampa School District. My youngest was in the Gateways program in the Nampa School District. He had many behavioral issues. One Neuro-Psych told me that he would be in and out of prison. 6th grade brought many changes for this child. His teacher chose to go to a middle school to teach, leaving behind a bunch of emotional disturbed children without a teacher. From substitute teachers to moving into the secondary school. I requested a meeting for parents to help the transition into the new school & was denied. We stayed with the school until March, that's when my son transferred to Another Choice. Let me tell you...that was the best decision EVER. My son had a 1-on-1 aid to assist with his needs. I am excited to say that my son was able to graduate in May & is a full-time employee at Walmart as a cashier. I am so glad there was a great alternative for education when my son needed it most.

If I ever needed a meeting with staff I was heard. My son enjoyed participating in the clubs that were offered. His behaviors had gotten so much better in the environment that Another Choice offered. If I had to make the decision of my son's education all over again I would have chosen the same, however if they were not around...I would say my son's behaviors would not have changed & that he would have also been a drop out. I am so thankful for all the help & education they offered. By the way because Walmart offers free college, he is actually thinking that is a choice for him in the future.

Thank you,

F [REDACTED] L [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

A [REDACTED]: M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I am so grateful that I found Another Choice Charter School. When my son was in the eighth grade, 5 years ago, he had a lot of anxiety and stress being around so many students. He was diagnosed with Non Verbal Learning Disability and he was falling through the cracks at his Jr High school. I pulled him out of school and tried homeschooling but it was a disaster. That's when I found Another Choice Charter and it's been a life-saving experience. [REDACTED] has been able to receive the assistance he needed. He's gained more confidence as a student and his teachers are more than willing to assist him in any way they can. The staff communicates well with him and reaches out if he needs help. I am a retired school teacher and I am amazed at how much dedication has been given to my son. The teachers and staff have done a wonderful job. My son is a senior and graduating this year and I give full credit to myself, the staff and teachers at Another Choice Charter School. The only answer for my son was to be in an online school. I honestly don't know what we would've done if Another Choice Charter was not an option.

Thank you,

A [REDACTED] M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

F [REDACTED] B [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Eagle ID 83616

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice has been a great experience for our family.

Thank you,

F [REDACTED] B [REDACTED];

[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

L ■ N ■

■ Nampa, Idaho 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

My child attends Another Choice Virtual Charter School. She deals with numerous challenges with needs not being met at Public school, including autism, body dysmorphia, Dissociative Identity Disorder and a history of child abuse.

Her teachers and the staff at Another Choice have worked with us in a way that have allowed her to work her way toward graduation (without giving up and dropping out). It has made a world of difference to us in what otherwise would be another possible reason to feel different and a failure. We both appreciate this school for their constant desire to help her succeed!

Thank you,

L ■ N ■

■

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 2

January 26, 2022

Idaho Public Charter School Commission
304 N 8th St Suite 242
Boise, ID 83702

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of keeping Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVS) open. I have been teaching for 16 years and the last 8 years have been at ACVS. In the past 8 years at ACVS, I have had the privilege to fill various teaching and leadership assignments. I have been able to teach English, Spanish, and Physical Education and I have also been the English Language Learner coordinator as well as part of the school improvement leadership team. Through these roles, I have been able to see how ACVS has helped so many students grow and reach goals that students might have felt were out of reach.

I have had the opportunity to work with students who needed to help their family financially so they had to find employment and quit going to school. By enrolling at ACVS, these students found that they could accomplish their goal of graduating. ACVS has a unique model that provides the flexibility that some students need to be able to work and help their families while still continuing their education.

ACVS is one of the few schools that is finding solutions for students that a traditional school can't provide. For example, students that excel in activities outside of school can continue to pursue their passion while still having access to a quality education. Another example are students that have children. ACVS provides remote learning for students that need to study at home while they are raising their children. Remote learning also helps students that travel. I work with students that travel to Mexico during the winter. In a traditional school, they would have had to lose credits for not completing their classes. ACVS has provided the framework for students to continue studying no matter where they are at.

As you have read, there is a great need for a school that can service students that would not be successful at a traditional school. ACVS fills that void! I would request that you reconsider your decision to not reauthorize ACVS's charter. I have personally seen many students thrive at ACVS, don't deny that same opportunity for future students.

Sincerely,

Liliana Carreon-Sanders



To whom it may concern,

My name is Anne Madden and I have been the physical therapist providing school based services to Another Choice Virtual Charter School since 2016. My company Proximity Telehealth also provides the Speech Language Pathology Services as well as School Psychology services to the school.

Our company has interactions with students on a daily basis as well as teachers, case managers, parents, and administration. Another Choice puts students with special needs first by providing individualized education and unique accommodations for students who otherwise have difficulty thriving and functioning in a traditional school setting. Their focus on students with disabilities is unique in itself but so is the care, kindness, and respect they show students who are often seen as a burden by others.

I was especially impressed with how they handled COVID in 2020. When other schools and districts closed and left parents and students with no resources, Another Choice was able to continue providing valuable educational services and social contact to their students during this difficult time. We made slight adjustments to our physical therapy and speech therapy services and did not miss a week of connecting and working with our students in 2020. There are few, if any, schools in the entire state who handled COVID as well as they did. This speaks volumes about how much the staff and administration at Another Choice care and value their students.

Now speaking on a more personal level as a parent. Another Choice is a blessing to parents who have a child with special needs. To know that there is a place that is specifically created for your child to thrive and excel when they were not born with all the advantages of a typical child is incredible. There should be more schools like Another Choice Virtual Charter School, not less. I hope you reconsider taking this option away from the families and students who need it.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Anne Madden'.

J. Anne Madden, PT, DPT

Doctor of Physical Therapy

(208) 600-4325

amadden@proximitytelehealth.com

January 27, 2022

Tracey R Crosley

[REDACTED] Nampa ID 83651

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

As a teacher at ACVS, I have seen first-hand how our unique set up has benefited many students.

ACVS is virtual. It's a place where those students both on and off the spectrum can work from the comfort and safety of their own homes. We have a Virtual Lab where students can sign in to a Zoom meeting in order to ask for help, or to just work independently but with accountability from the teacher who is manning the Virtual Lab.

ACVS is hybrid. Students have the option to come into a lab setting where they can get help from a teacher if they want or need it. Many students meet their tutors or techs here and work through the day.

ACVS is people. From its administration to its faculty and staff, ACVS cares about each student that is enrolled. Virtual and face-to-face meetings between teachers and students are the norm. These are taken extremely seriously. All teachers share a "Synchronous Meetings" spreadsheet to which we refer before scheduling any recurring meetings in order to prevent overlap.

ACVS is second chances. It is also third chances. Many students who have withdrawn from ACVS have come back after finding they are less successful at other schools.

In conclusion, every child is welcome and encouraged at ACVS whether they participate 100% virtually or if they take advantage of its hybrid features and it would be a shame to take this unique educational option off the table.

Thank you,

Tracey R Crosley

tcrosley@anotherchoicecharter.org

[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Dennis Lenz
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

I just wanted to say in regards to keeping ACVS open, I think it would be a great disservice to many students in our community if we were to close. This is the third school I have taught at, the other two were brick and mortar schools. I feel like I have reached more students at ACVS because of our hybrid model, where I can help them in person and online any time of the day. I am afraid that if our school is not available, many of our students will simply become numbers at a different school and fall through the cracks and not get the education they deserve. At ACVS we have the time and resources to really get to know our kids, which is so important because they often have different needs than most students. State test scores are important but they aren't the only thing that should count when evaluating ACVS. If every student has the right to learn and we are helping students that do not learn traditionally, then we should not be evaluated traditionally. Not only do our students get a quality education but they also get a chance to grow socially and experience things they most likely wouldn't outside of our school. ACVS is a special school with great teachers and unique kids that not only want us to stay open for them, but need us to stay open for them. Thank you for your time.

Thank you,
Dennis Lenz
dlenz@anotherchoicecharter.org
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Ryan Josephson
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

To whom it concerns regarding the operation of ACVS, I've worked at this school for 12 years now and can say we've absolutely grown a lot as a school. Online schools were in the very beginning stages when we opened our doors back in 2010. It was new to the administrators and teachers alike. We've had our growing pains for sure, but we've had many successes too. I've seen students graduate that never had a chance, students with their own babies or those with disabilities that make classrooms difficult for all involved. Even more students that have had to pick up jobs to help pay bills to keep the roof over their head. Students that have been bullied or abused, students with high anxiety. What are you saying to these kids by closing our school? That if they don't fit the mold, then they don't get a seat at the table?

I know our testing scores are low and growth is sometimes hard to show, what with our population being largely SPED and students needing to work. We're also a dumping ground for students from other districts with attendance issues and other problems. Yet we still have our success stories and I think that despite online schools not being a good fit for some students, it's absolutely the right fit for others.

Please consider keeping our doors open, even if that means a change in administration as I still believe we're a good fit for a lot of students and we give them the best opportunity to succeed.

Thank you,
Ryan Josephson
rjosephson@anotherchoicecharter.org
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Taryn

[REDACTED] Homedale Id 83628

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

I have so many positives I can say, but I will do just a few. Starting with the school, I have seen kids grow in ways that I could never believe. From coming in with very low reading to graduating out of the reading class, for example. They are able to get the help and one on one that they can't other places. I personally had a student that was referred to us from a brick and mortar, that was having a hard time excelling in school there, but once they joined us, they have taken off. They are gaining knowledge along with building self confidence. Its reasons like this I am proud to be a teacher here at ACVS. Our admin Laura has also be a big influence on me. I started my teaching career here and I have learned so much from her, on how to care and teach SPED kids. Her heart has always been to help kids. I have gained so much from working here.

Thank you,

Taryn

tcook@anotherchoicecharter.org

[REDACTED]

January 26, 2022

Julie Tonn (Euijin Choe)

[REDACTED], Nampa, ID 83687

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

This is my 2nd year at Another Choice. I've worked at other schools before, but this is one of the most cooperative and well-structured school I've ever seen.

I believe everyone deserves to have equal opportunity for education, regardless of their performance level. Unfortunately, special-need or low-performing students usually don't get much benefit from current school systems. In ACVS, all the teachers and staff truly care about students' success. They go above and beyond the "call of duty" to fill the students' individual need. This school is dedicated to help them to realize they can still success and provide the system they need. They can get extra support from the teachers, tutors and ed partners, student services etc.

We need more schools with hybrid system like Another Choice. Especially with Covid-19, we all have experienced the uncertainty of the future, and lots of schools closed due to the lack of staff and the spread of illness. However, it was much easier for Another Choice to adjust to the changes since we've already had the system built. Another Choice's hybrid system adds more flexibility and allows us to continue education without severe changes, providing both the convenience of online learning and the ability to have in-person contact just like brick-and-mortar schools.

Thank you,
Julie Tonn (Euijin Choe)
jtonn@anotherchoicecharter.org

Idaho Charter School Commission:

I would like to share with you some thoughts concerning Another Choice Virtual Charter School. I am aware that I am not privy to all facts in this case but do appreciate being able to share from my perspective as an employee at ACVS. From our administration down to all of our staff there is a sincere desire from the vast majority to provide a good education to our student body. We deal with a huge number of students that have not been successful at other schools and often multiple other schools. I can honestly share with you that the heart of the people involved here is to help them overcome difficulties and find success and help them achieve their goals all the way to graduation and beyond.

As part of our student support team I can tell you that we do things to go above and beyond what the students and parents have seen in other places. More often than not when I travel to a students home to meet with parents or students their reaction is that of surprise because they have never had a staff member from a school go to the trouble of tracking them down to try and come up with a plan to help their student be more successful in their work and they are almost always very appreciative of the effort.

I ask you to seriously consider what the closing of ACVS will mean for our staff, Parents and mostly our student body. I believe we meet an abundance of needs for our student body that may not be met as well other places. I believe our enrollment is an indication of that fact. I appreciate the time and work you are putting into this decision and I thank you for your time.

Les Little



Laura Sandidge <lsandidge@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Letters from Students

Whitney Oliver <woliver@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Wed, Jan 26, 2022 at
6:51 PM

To: Laura Sandidge <lsandidge@anotherchoicecharter.org>

██████████

My name is ██████████ ██████████ and I am in tenth grade, I am writing this with the intention of telling you why I like ACVS.

I am a student who recently moved to the United States and how do you know my English is lousy but I am studying it, in this school I feel a little more comfortable learning, because by holding meetings I can see my ability to speak, for example, with the class of reading I have been able to advance with my reading and I have been able to speak better, although I still have an accent but I have been able to improve. I like this school because it gives you the time you need and you are not rushed, for example if you have a job but you are studying at the same time, ACVS gives you the time to hand in your homework and so on.

This school gives you many opportunities and its teachers are great, it seems a bit bad to waste their abilities

so I hope you can reconsider your decision and give ACVS one more chance.

██████████ ██████████

One thing that I love about ACVS, is that its free and anybody can join the school, I remember the first I came here was that I knocked out 6 months of work, and getting help from teachers, which honestly I never had before, this school has shaped who I am today, now I have As, Bs, and nothing lower than that, these teachers has helped kids grow and be supported, Ms. Oliver and Ms. Flint including all the other teachers has helped and guided me to grow and the gratitude that I have for them is skyrocketing. I love this school, and I think it should stay, and I will try everything in my power to keep it here as a student.

██████████ ██████████

I love AVCS because it gave me hope that I could actually do good in school. Before I joined ACVS I was getting heavily bullied at my old school so I left, I was out of school for almost 6 months because no school would take me, my mom heard great things from my doctor about ACVS and looked into it. When I first joined ACVS I didn't want to graduate and was giving up on school, the teachers at my school didn't give up on me and they helped me because they wanted me to do better and actually believe in myself. I've been at ACVS since 7th grade and it has helped me so much, every year my grades get better and now I plan to graduate from ACVS.

██████████ ██████████

Something I love about our school is how amazing our teachers are and how easily I can communicate with them.

██████████ ██████████

ACVS is as outstanding online virtual school experience. With amazing teachers willing to help you at every second of the way. And not only the teachers are outstanding but the schools curriculum, I feel like I'm learning so much every week and it actually makes me a little excited. So IF you decide not to be open next year, I'm glad to say I had a wonderful experience and thank you for having me.

██████████ ██████████

Dear Commissioners,

I would love for ACVCS to stay open. I've loved the 3 years I've been here. I have enjoyed all the nice teachers, the students, and I would love to be able to graduate next year here at this school. I have loved the experience of being homeschooled. I would not have changed my decision of coming to an online school. Thanks.

Sincerely, ██████████ ██████████

██████████ ██████████ ██████████

This school has done alot for me. It got me out of syringa middle school where bullies were beating me everywhere I went. This school got me in a better place emotionally. The clubs are great and I really don't want this school to shut down. I was going insane when I was over at syringa and the teachers were not doing anything about it. I feel happy here at another choice. I feel safe here, if i go back to public schools all I have here will disappear.

Whitney Oliver
High School Reading Teacher
Another Choice Virtual Charter School
208-272-9725

January 24, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to protest the closing for Another Choice Virtual Charter School. My protest is two-fold in that the characterization put out from the committee to the media about our leader, Laura Sandidge, was not complete and the way our school was cast aside was prejudicial and not in good faith or focused on the original plan with which we were initially approved. Please allow me this opportunity to clarify my position.

It was stated that Laura benefited from ACVS as if she were using us rather than providing for us as a school. Laura has a missionary heart in that her life's focus has been for children with disabilities. She was a single mom that has worked at the state school, has flown to villages in Alaska to provide services for students, and even wrote a curriculum for an orphanage in China and presented it in person to help them learn what best to do for children with disabilities. Laura went to China when they were still strapping students to potty seats if they were not potty trained. This woman sat on a street in China with a child because an orphanage did not want to take the child in after hours so would have left her there all night alone. Here at home, Laura had a vision for a school that would focus on student improvement rather than "making the grade", because they most likely would never meet the world's standard. In our school they are not stragglers and outliers, they are equals if they do their best. When she provided services from her other business or bought us a building to work out of, it was for the school's benefit. The way she pours herself into our school causes her to sacrifice much more than she gains from it. I will say that she is tough and might overextend herself at times, in efforts for us to succeed, but it is most definitely not from selfishness. To cast her out would be to lose an amazing resource and a wealth of knowledge. It is important for you to know that there is much more to the picture than what you evidently saw when you judged our situation.

Closing Another choice is not something that seems just or warranted. The commission knew the focus for our school would be on student improvement and not dependent on ISAT scores alone. That was the whole point of our school; we were another choice for students with learning differences. Our focus was on student improvement. No school has worked harder to get scores up, but that was not the only thing that you were to consider. In fact, closing our school appears to be a move based on prejudice because our students will find it difficult to produce scores that make Idaho "look good". Not everyone is created equal, but they should be provided equal opportunities. Our students are provided opportunities to interact with each other in class with discussion boards that allow for their various communication abilities, they are allowed to interact in labs that encourage them to do their individual best while working next to another student that might work at a totally different individual best. They are not only allowed, but encouraged to have fun in clubs, on field trips, at a prom, and even as a speaker or entertainer at an event where they can be acknowledged and celebrated. That would not be the case for some of our students in another setting.

Scores do not reflect some of the wonderful things that I have seen, such as a student that responded like a wild kitten upon entry to ACVS only to grow into the young lady that grinned with pride as she walked across the stage for her diploma. Her scores would not win us a prize, but her growth was inspiring! I will never forget the 9th grader that came in without an IEP but a doctor's note saying that she was "retarded". This girl was emotional and withdrawn but we tested her and nurtured her to where she graduated a lovely young lady that was NOT "retarded" but had a severe Language disability and was given interventions that helped her to feel seen, heard, and valued. Scores would not reflect the young man that faked his way through school with an amazing smile and personality that cloaked his Intellectual Disability enough so that previous teachers missed his need. Providing him with work that he was able to comprehend and grow with, allowed him confidence that blossomed and aided him in making a decent living after his graduation. I am so proud of the success stories that there are to share about our students. I cannot convey how many suffer with depression as well as lack of confidence and motivation that will be dropped by the wayside if left to schools whose focus is only to compete for scores. Some were encouraged to attend our school by other schools as those students did not present well on the school's reported numbers. We are not only willing to take them but are ready to fight for them to succeed.

In closing, I implore you to reconsider your decision to close Another Choice Virtual Charter School and allow us to continue working with our students. I acknowledge that you have a difficult job, and you want to hold schools accountable to do their best for Idaho students. However, I feel that we are one of those schools that are doing our best for its students. We realize there is much work to be done and improvements to be made along the way. Our mission has not changed from the day we opened, it is to provide students with learning differences an opportunity to grow and be successful in their educational experience. It's to help them stand up and be counted as they flourish in a world that is not always as accepting or accommodating to their abilities. There is a need for our school as demonstrated by the number of students that attend, as demonstrated by the students that are recommended to us from other schools, and as demonstrated by smiling faces that interacting with peers and staff with a feeling of accomplishment. Please widen your lens to include a broader definition of success.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ramona Jones

Ramona Jones, Special Education Teacher

Idaho Public Charter School Commission
304 North 8th Street, Suite 242
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Idaho Public Charter School Commission,

I am writing to request that you accept the appeal and renew the accreditation for Another Choice Virtual Charter School in Nampa, Idaho. As one of its teachers, I can attest to the value of the school, its unique and incredible student body, the driven heart of the teachers for their students, and the determination to continually improve learning and testing scores.

Another Choice Virtual Charter School meets a specific need within our community. Many of our students face challenges within other school environments that include lack of diversified and leveled curriculum, bullying, and struggle with social engagement. This leads students to enter adulthood with an inability to become active members of society. Students who struggle consistently often give up. Many students say, "Why try when it is always so hard?"

Within our school environment, students demonstrate achievement with individual academic and personal growth. Students learn to believe in themselves and learn the value of their role in the community. After experiencing our unique approach to leveled classes and the supportive collaboration of their teachers, these students graduate. They come back to their advisors and teachers to thank them. They speak to other students and encourage them to press on. The students, who wanted to give up, don't give up! They *graduate*.

Teachers collaborate and work hard to instruct well, reteach concepts in new ways, and focus on growth with state standards. We, as teachers, do this because we are committed to the success of our students. Scores have improved and students continue to demonstrate their learning. More importantly, students are proud of their growth and look forward to accomplishing more. *They* want to succeed. *They* want to learn. *They* want to be involved in bettering their families and communities. *They* want to give to others the kindness, the persistence and the heart that their teachers have shown to them.

Our school is worth the sacrifice. It is worth the hard work. It is worth the determination. Our students need us to educate them, to walk beside them, to challenge them and to celebrate with them. We believe in our students and in our work to provide quality education. Our students are worth the effort. They are worth the re-accreditation of Another Choice Virtual Charter School.

Sincerely,

Amanda Popescu

Amanda Popescu, LMSW

apopescu@anotherchoicecharter.org

1/27/22

Dear Idaho Charter Commission,

My name is Hope and I have had the opportunity to be both a student and a hired tutor at Another Choice Virtual Charter School. The amount of support that ACVS provides each of its students is unmatched. I was a student at another charter school when I was in a car accident that resulted in a brain injury. I needed accommodations in the form of a 504 plan that my current school could not provide. Thanks to the support at ACVS I was able to stay on track for graduation the following year.

As a tutor I was able to observe just how vital this school and its staff is to the community. A large portion of the student body at Another Choice is made up of students that other schools have given up on. ACVS takes students from all walks of life and tough situations and gives them the support and encouragement they need to start believing in themselves and their education.

As a current college student studying to be an educator myself, I hold the belief that every student has the potential and the ability to thrive if given the opportunity. That is what ACVS does, they provide the opportunity and support students need to continue their education. Without this school many students would lose the opportunity to be educated by wonderful teachers who truly care about their students' success. ACVS is a wonderful school that I hope will be able to continue to provide education to all students with learning differences in the community.

Thank you,

Hope Graubeger



Another Choice VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Dear Idaho Charter Commission,

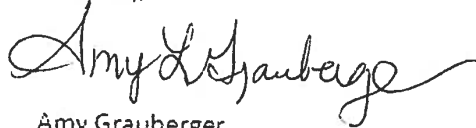
I have been a special education teacher at ACVS for 10 years and am currently the K-6 Special Education Coordinator and the K-12 Low Incidence Program Coordinator, and I have loved every minute of it. Not only is this the first school I have worked for that differentiates and customizes learning to help every child succeed, but I also experienced being a parent of an ACVS student when my daughter suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury from a severe car crash in January of her junior year of high school.

ACVS is a unique place to work because we have a variety of methods and interventions available to help students. Unlike all other districts I have worked for, not once at ACVS have I ever been told that after having identified a data driven need for a student, there was no money or no staff available to help meet that need. Instead, ACVS is full of administrators and staff that think outside the box and freely provide what is needed for student success. When other schools shut down for weeks due to the winter storms of 2017, ACVS stayed open. When other districts struggled to figure out remote learning and shut down their schools for Covid-19, ACVS stayed open and continued to offer all our usual services to our students.

At a school where roughly 50% of the population is special education students, the entire teaching staff needs to know a lot about meeting students' individual needs. I cannot count the number of times families have told me how much they appreciate our school because they feel valued for the first time. The teachers are in constant communication with the students and are willing to hop online and meet with them 1:1 at a moment's notice. Since our charter is about serving those students with learning differences, we have a significant number of students who, because of their disabilities and low-test scores, are not wanted at other schools, but we want them! We want every single one of them! While we strive to help each student achieve personal academic growth, more importantly, we want them to feel like valued, competent, contributing members of the community.

When my daughter had her TBI, her school was kind but their solution to the fact that she could not read, type on the computer, or tolerate sitting in class, was to put off all her schoolwork until summer when she would feel better. They did not seem to understand that a TBI heals on its own timeline. There was no way she would be able to complete a whole semester in just two months during the summer, especially when she would not be fully recovered. There was no way that I was going to let her lose an entire semester of school so I met with the secondary ACVS teachers who graciously offered suggestion after suggestion on how they could accommodate her classes. My daughter's school agreed to have ACVS provide the classes while my daughter sat in study hall, building up her tolerance to the brick-and-mortar setting. It was stressful but we were able to salvage her semester, and then she transferred to ACVS for her senior year so she could work and go to school at the same time. Now, she is a senior and on the dean's list at BSU. Next year she will graduate with her certificate in early childhood special education. If it weren't for ACVS, I do not know how long it would have taken her to finish high school. As a parent, I am truly thankful for a school who was willing to go the extra mile for a student who was not even theirs, but then again, ACVS is unwilling to let one student fall through the cracks. I hope you will reconsider authorization of ACVS so it may continue its mission to help all students overcome their obstacles and receive a highschool diploma.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Grauberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Amy Grauberger

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you on behalf of ACVS. I am currently the High School reading teacher. Our class focuses on students who are reading below grade level, most of whom are reading significantly below. We currently have 120 students in this class and we work diligently to help them grow in fluency and comprehension.

Our curriculum is designed to take 5-6 hours a week to complete correctly and it has 20 minutes of ^(online) face to face reading time with each student. This is 20 minutes we spend one on one with each student, every week. They don't have to read in front of their peers, but we listen to them, and work directly with each student, at their level, to help them grow.

The reason I say all this is to show that our school works hard to help our students. We are creative in finding the best, data based approach, and are willing to do what it takes to teach them well.

I know it doesn't always show in our test scores, but if you visited our school, and you observed our classes you would see teachers working hard, focusing on the data and doing our best to help our students succeed.

If you look at our student population you would see that many of them struggled prior to joining ACVS, that many are differently abled, and that a brick and mortar environment was not working well for them. Our school gives them another option for their family. Being able to choose an online school that has in person support is huge! We are able to provide a safe place for students to learn. We serve an incredibly vulnerable population who may have been bullied, struggle with anxiety, autism, and other special needs. The parents have chosen our school for a reason.

I hope you will consider keeping our school as doing what is best for the students. I truly believe this.

- Whitney Oliver
Whitney Oliver

Patrick Berg

Educator

██████████ McCall, ID 83638

patrickberg74@gmail.com

1/22/22

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVS). I am currently a Special Education Teacher for Inspire Connections Academy, Boise, ID. Previously I worked in the Nampa School District as an Inst. Coach and VP with Union High School and Ridgeline High School, both schools whose mission is to serve at-risk youth where the traditional model did not work.

I've had many opportunities over the past 15 years to work with students who have left the school I am or was working for to attend ACVS, as well as those who have left ACVS to attend my school. It has always been a pleasure to work with ACVS and the transition of those students between the schools. I am a firm believer and supporter of schools who work hard to meet the individual needs of students and provide flexible educational choices to families. Having choice for families, as well as flexibility in education, is vital in our society. ACVS and other choice schools in the area are perfect examples of how we need these schools to exist.

I am confident ACVS, with fifteen years of experience in working with transient families in the Treasure Valley, will continue to do what's best for students and their families. ACVS provides an exceptional educational choice to elementary, middle school, and high school students in the Treasure Valley.

I support the approval of ACVS to continue serving students in the Treasure Valley. I value the mission, vision and educational philosophy of ACVS and would be pleased to see the continued choice for families in the area. As educators we don't give up on students and as educators we should not give up on schools that offer options to those families who have felt everyone has given up on them.

Sincerely,



Patrick Berg

1-25-22

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of Another Choice Charter School. I have the privilege of seeing this school from two different perspectives and cannot express what a blessing it has been in our lives. My daughter attended Another Choice Charter School for middle school and high school and I am currently a special education teacher at Another Choice Charter School.

My daughter has an intellectual disability and when she was in elementary school, I struggled to find a place where she would get the support and educational planning that she needed. She was in an extended resource special education classroom in a traditional school through elementary School. She did not have disruptive behavior issues in that classroom, so she did not get the attention she needed and spent most of her day looking at books and stacking or restacking books and toys on shelves. The teachers and the aides were busy with students with severe disruptive behaviors and did not have time to support students who had less disruptive behavioral issues. As a parent, it was heartbreaking to see her not get the education she needed. She did not get the support she needed to participate in meaningful activities and programs. I tried to work with the school to get this changed, but they could not or would not make changes for my daughter.

After years of trying to make it work in her regular school, we made the decision to give Another Choice Charter School a try. It was a wonderful change! My daughter was able to have one-on-one and small group support to help her with her educational programs and support her participation in various educational and social activities. Although I realize most students do not need this level of support, some truly do.

As a special education teacher and a parent, I am grateful for the flexible support and truly individualized plans that are available to the students who need it. ACVS has a high number of low incidence special education students, many of whom had an experience similar to my daughter's, where they could not get the needed support at their traditional school and came to ACVS to get the much needed support and individualization with their education. It will be devastating to these students and families if Another Choice Charter School does not stay open.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Pam Gaona, Special Education Teacher and Parent of a former ACVS student

██████████

January 26, 2022

Dean Chavez

To Whom It May Concern:

My Name is Dean Chavez and this is my forth school year working at Another Choice Virtual Charter in Student Support Services. Although we are a small school/district based on others, we are by no means less of a school. The time that I have spent here working with Dr. Laura Sandidge and the rest of the staff has been extremely fulfilling for students, parents as well as myself.

When I came to work with the school I had little experience within academia but as a college graduate as well as parent of four children I had a good understanding of what a good, bad and complacent looked like within schools. The stark difference I experienced almost immediately was how deeply Dr. Sandidge cared about the school, staff, students and parents. I came to realize that Another Choice Virtual Charter was not just a business to her but it was her passion. In my 52 years on this planet I can honestly say she is one of the most dedicated employers I have ever worked for. Her passion is so much so that you can't help but feel the same way...it is infectious. I know that is why I personally stay year after year. When you find someone who believes in a cause so deeply you can't help but want to try and make that dream a reality.

I think something to point out is that Another Choice Virtual Charter fills a pretty specific niche. We see a lot of students that have been turned away by other schools due to not fitting the bigger mold. The High number of SPED students as well as Students that have been expelled or emotionally discarded for one reason or another end up at our door and they are welcomed with open arms. They are not a number, statistic, or diagnosis they are our new students and we are ready to work them and their families in any way it takes. As we see this world changing at an ever rapid speed, we as a society can't afford to lose a school like Another Choice Virtual Charter.

When it comes down to it, I truly feel that the ultimate losers if the school was to close would be the students and families. The way the job market is to day I am sure most staff could find a replacement job quickly. Finding a school that fits a child's needs after taking away one that worked could be the difference between success and failure...graduating and not graduating. Please be sure to look at the entire picture prior to making a potentially drastic decision.

Thank you,
Dean Chavez
dchavez623@hotmail.com
[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

Cherish Flint

[REDACTED], Bellingham, WA 98225

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

While I am a new secondary teacher at Another Choice Virtual Charter School this year, I have already witnessed countless positive impacts this unique learning environment provides to its students and families. Being a hybrid school with both onsite and online learning options offers flexibility to meet the diverse and often changing needs of our students. Whether a student is experiencing homelessness or frequent relocations and needs a remote learning environment to offer stability, or had adverse experiences at previous schools and needs a safe space such as one of our onsite labs to feel secure within, Another Choice provides an adaptable environment for each student to grow and thrive. Our student body is incredibly diverse and we strive each day to build skills, knowledge, and strategies that will help each child succeed both inside and beyond school. In my own childhood, I benefited greatly from a school that in many ways embodied the underlying principles that drive Another Choice. I was bullied in high school and didn't feel safe. Thankfully, I had the option to transfer to an alternative school where I connected with compassionate teachers who encouraged me to continue my education through high school and college. I don't know what would have happened to my future if I didn't have the choice to attend a school that better understood and advocated for my learning needs. I believe Another Choice offers vital learning paths for our unique students and positively impacts the trajectory of their lives. I hope you consider the important role Another Choice plays in providing a safe learning environment for the diverse children we serve. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Cherish Flint

cflint@anotherchoicecharter.org

[REDACTED]

January 24, 2022

Natasha Tirado

[REDACTED] Caldwell, ID 83607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

Another Choice is a fantastic and instrumental school to the parts of the community we serve. Our families come to us for many reasons, all special in their respect. Rather it is pregnancy, special education needs, or juvenile probation, Another Choice provides our students with the opportunity to succeed. Where traditional schools are not set up to deal with the real-world demands of our students, we offer them the opportunity to reach their goals with pride. Our outstanding school has a place for everyone and is very much needed and essential to our families. I hope that we can continue to serve our families.

Thank you,

Natasha Tirado

ntirado@anotherchoicecharter.org

[REDACTED]

January 23, 2022

Denise Vincent

[REDACTED], Nampa

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

I have over twenty years of experience as a special education consulting teacher and reading coach in a nearby district. My move to ACVS has allowed me to use my expertise and experience to impact the lives of our diverse, mobile, and high-risk population. We test students three times a year to determine their current reading level. Currently we have 169 secondary students placed in a reading class based on their test results. Some have been with us for several years, but many are new to us.

This year, I teach the Middle School Reading Literacy class for students reading below grade level and am the instructional coach for the school. Translating my expertise to use in an online environment is a continued challenge. At ACVS, I have been encouraged to develop a scientifically research-based reading program for our secondary students. With many schools needing to move to remote learning recently the curriculum companies have stepped up and developed more age-appropriate scientifically research-based reading program choices.

Last year, I piloted one of these programs with a group of middle school students. It showed promise but required more time for teachers to work directly with students on phonics, fluency, and comprehension. This is how reading should be taught. My administrator hired two additional reading teachers at the secondary level to fully implement the program.

We have structured the classes so that any student reading below grade level can receive 1-1 reading instruction weekly and earn course credit. Students do not need to qualify for specialized services. In my experience this is a unique practice at the secondary level. In a traditional school setting students need to qualify for special education services to receive this type of directed instruction. There are many reasons students are not reading at grade level but currently, of the 169 students, only forty-five percent of them qualify for an IEP.

Current reading research states that to close the reading gap for secondary students they must receive teaching at their instructional level as well as at their grade level. I have worked monthly with the secondary reading teachers and the science teachers during the first semester of this school year to develop a plan to do this. In second semester, the reading teachers are now adding directed instruction on grade level science text. Science teachers are integrating strategies to increase student engagement and comprehension.

Also, in preparing for second semester the reading teachers analyzed the data and determined that we needed to further differentiate instruction. We proposed to add additional instruction

in phonics, fluency, and comprehension. Students would be assigned to one of these groups based on need. Our administrator was able to adjust teaching assignments to dedicate another certified teacher to teach reading. I firmly believe that our focus on instructing all students through data analysis and research have enabled us to move quickly to restructure our classes to target the needs of our students.

With my years of teaching experience, I could have retired 7 years ago. I continue to be energized by the administrative support and program development opportunities that ACVS provides. It is truly a small school that works dynamically to provide targeted instruction to students who have not been successful in the traditional school environment.

Please consider my input and the long-term impact this decision will have on the education and lives of students and families in our community.

Thank you,
Denise Vincent
Reading Teacher
Instructional Coach



SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL



229 West Greenhurst Rd
Nampa, ID 83686
Phone: (208) 468-4740
Fax: (208) 468-2826

January 25, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVCS), in an effort to keep their doors open. I have been a school counselor in the Nampa School District for over 10 years, primarily at the middle and high school levels. I am currently a counselor at South Middle School in Nampa. I have worked with many at risk students over my years, and when working with the students and families to find alternate school settings ACVCS has always been my number one choice for an "online" school setting.

I have found that my students who left for online schooling found more success when they were able to attend ACVCS compared to the alternative. What I love about this school is the unique hybrid opportunity they offer. Many of the students I work with need that in person connection with both teachers and students, which ACVCS was able to provide with their local school setting and lab in Nampa, and clubs that they had available for students. Many of the families I work with, love and appreciate the fact that they have the flexibility of working from home, but could go into a school building when needed to work with their teacher. The opportunity of clubs allows those students to still have the essential social connection they need, while still having the flexibility of online academic school.

I believe that our local educational community would be at a detriment to lose such a great school. I urge you to keep Another Choice Virtual Charter School open!

Sincerely,

Chelsea Pelton
School Counselor
South Middle School

STUART VICKERS, PRINCIPAL
JOHN EMERSON, VICE PRINCIPAL
ROMMIE LEWIS, DEAN OF STUDENTS



Another Choice
Virtual Charter School

1014 Hemingway Blvd

Nampa, ID 83651

208-546-9856

jwolfe@anotherchoicecharter.org

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing this letter in full support of the Idaho Charter School Commission reauthorizing Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVCS). I'm currently an elementary teacher at ACVCS and have worked at the school since it opened in 2010. Our vision is to meet the individual needs of our students. We partner with families to ensure success for each student. We focus on individual differences and know that all students are unique. I personally believe in a variety of educational institutions both as a teacher and a parent. Schools of choice provide students and families with an opportunity to find success in their educational journey.

Another Choice continues to adapt curriculum and policies as needed to meet state standards and learning differences. We value collaboration with parents/caregivers and colleagues. We continually talk to families and meet as a team each week to analyze data, discuss student progress, and plan future learning opportunities. Prior to working at Another Choice, I taught at Iowa Elementary for 8 years as a first grade teacher and extended resource teacher. As a brick and mortar teacher, I wasn't given the time to personally connect with parents/caregivers like I have at ACVCS. I've witnessed the value in teaming up to help each student find success at his or her individual level.

As a Kindergarten through third grade teacher at ACVCS, I've been blessed to work closely with students and families. Our hybrid approach gives parents/caregivers the opportunity to be their child's primary educational partner at home with the support of a teacher online or in person. With three lab locations in the Treasure Valley, students have plenty of options to meet with teachers for individual and/or small group face-to-face support. This is unlike most virtual schools and helps students continue to build social skills along with academic skills.

ACVCS is essential to the Treasure Valley and gives families hope with its focus on individual needs and uniqueness.

Sincerely,

Jamie Wolfe

Jamie Wolfe

ACVS Teacher

[REDACTED]
Nampa, ID 83686
January 25, 2022

Idaho Public Charter School Commission
304 North 8th St., Suite 242
Boise, ID 83702

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Mindy Wilkins and I have been a teacher at Another Choice Charter for the past 10 years. In those 10 years, I have been blessed by the environment in which I get to teach. Coming from the traditional, brick and mortar school, ACVS has given me the ability to reach students where they are academically and help them grow from that point. I have been able to help students individually find success in our school, where they would have been lost in a traditional setting. There are countless stories about the lives that have been touched by our school, but I will just share a few that have been impactful to me.

(Names have been changed in the stories below).

Andrew was a high achieving student who wanted more opportunities than his traditional school could provide him. He came to us in middle school and was able to take advanced math classes as well as some summer classes to help him get ahead in high school. During his sophomore year, he took multiple dual credit classes as well as classes to fulfill his high school requirements. His junior year, he continued in dual credit classes and was able to hold a job. This job helped him save money to put towards his future college plans. When he graduated high school, he had earned over 24 college credits, established employment, was accepted into college, and completed hours of community service. The flexibility that ACVS provided Andrew, allowed him to accomplish these things.

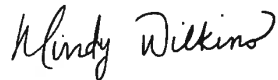
Bella came to us when she was 19 years old. She had been out of school for a couple years, was working, had a 2 year old son, and was expecting another child. She wanted a diploma, but felt like it was out of reach. She sat down with me and we looked at her classes and what she would need to graduate. Tears filled her eyes when she realized that she could continue to provide for her child and complete her schooling. She didn't think she had any other options, but ACVS provided a place for her to excel academically and accomplish her dreams of earning a high school diploma. She graduated the following year and thanked us for being her "last chance" school.

Johnny had some learning difficulties and was placed on an IEP in elementary school to help him be successful in school. He would get pulled from his classes in the traditional school to receive special education services and would miss out on a lot of the content provided by his classroom teacher. Johnny's parents knew that he could do more, but was limited in the traditional school. When Johnny transferred to us, his IEP came with him, but he was able to take grade level courses with accommodations at ACVS. The following year, Johnny, his parents, and his Special Education Teacher at ACVC came to the conclusion that he didn't need an IEP any longer. He was able to finish his high school requirements without special education services and graduated from ACVS with a traditional high school diploma.

These are only a few stories of the countless number of students who have been able to succeed because of ACVS. It has been an honor to work with these students and help them

individually meet their goals that may not have been accomplished in a traditional setting. Our school provides the blended learning option that so many students need. I love having the flexibility to help students online as well as in the learning lab. Some students need the support that the learning lab provides, while others are more successful online. ACVS gives students options that they do not have at other traditional or online schools. I am proud to say that I am a teacher at Another Choice Virtual Charter School. My hope is that ACVS can continue to educate students in the Treasure Valley for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mindy Wilkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mindy Wilkins

January 27, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to implore you to make a decision to approve renewal for Another Choice Virtual Charter School. I am the Office Manager, and primarily work in the front office and greet all who walk through the front door. I started working at ACVS in 2015, and I can't stress to you enough how important this school is to its students. Our students and their parents choose to come to our school to receive a dynamic educational experience that meets ALL students where they are at and works with them in a way that actually works for them. Our model can provide students with a high-quality individualized education that works for ALL students, including the most disadvantaged students. Many of our students often come from environments that are not conducive to their educational endeavors. The way we execute education for our students caters to students from ALL environments, cultures, and backgrounds. We work in a way that never turns students away. We work with every single student, and never concern ourselves with what the student brings to the table for the school, but ONLY what can we, as a school, bring to the table for them.

As I pointed out earlier, I work throughout the student lab, but primarily at the front door of the office. I know our students, and I have spent years observing students initially walk through those doors discouraged, disadvantaged, and often in pain; and the same students eventually walk out those doors encouraged, empowered, and often comforted and/or hopeful. Shxxxxxe Axxxx, entered our school as a homeless, pregnant, and discouraged student ready to abandon school altogether, but found relief and a way forward with our accommodating education model, caring staff, and the dynamic student support services provided. She graduated from our school in 2018 and now lives in a home, providing for her young child as the manager of a local market. Lxxxxh Mxxxxxxx, a Latina student who was caught between needing to work for the family business while also desiring an education, was relieved to find our school, that provided above and beyond support, both on location while at work, and at the student lab with onsite teachers. With much emotion, she demonstrated her gratitude for the help and accommodation she received from the staff of our school and was beyond ecstatic to graduate in 2019. An accomplishment that she still recalls fondly when I run into her, as a Dental Hygienist after having graduated from dental hygienist school.

These stories were the first two stories that came to my mind, as I recently interacted with them. However, I can rattle off the names of hundreds of students with stories like these, where other schools could not have provided the opportunities for them that we provide. I have never seen a school that does so much to reach students where they are at. There is a place for this school in this community. There is room in this community for a school like this one. There must be a place like this in our community, and all communities, if possible, where students can achieve student learning when all of the odds are stacked against them. As a school, we are equipped to work with and grow students who are truly disadvantaged. It is heartbreaking to think of what students will do without a school option like ours. Parents and students, and even at the advice of other schools and surrounding school districts, know that our school is particularly effective in working with ALL students in most ALL situations. Parents and their children choose to attend our school because they know what is needed, and they know what is best for them. Please respect their decisions and keep this school open. This school is needed here and now.

Thank you for considering.

Sincerely,

Lillian Jones

Emily Farley

Nampa ID, 83687

January 27th, 2022

Idaho Public Charter School Commission
304 North 8th Street, Suite 242
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Comissioners,

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I am a special education teacher at Another Choice Virtual Charter School. I wanted to take a moment to share my experience at the school as well as why I hope you will reconsider renewing our license. This school meets a critical need in the community; it serves a unique student body that is often underserved and overlooked in the traditional school model. The level of collaboration, student support, and flexibility in educational access that this school has offered has helped us make significant gains with a very vulnerable population.

We often have students transfer to our school who are multiple instructional years behind their same-age peers. These students usually come to us from a traditional school model that could not meet their needs. When a student enrolls in our school, they are placed with an advisor who they will likely have for multiple years. The advisor works with each student in order to get to know them and help orient them to the expectations of their classes as well as how to navigate their computers. Advisory classes are generally smaller for these reasons. The advisory role is a cornerstone position at our school. Advisors help these students move through critical years in their lives and support them on their personal and academic journeys.

During this uncertain time in the pandemic, we are in dire need of alternative school models that are able to sustain access to quality education, regardless of the rise and fall of Covid cases or the evolving variants. During the first year of the pandemic and for some months last year, our in-person labs had to shut down because of the spread of the virus. However, our students were still able to access their education at that time. We knew students would still struggle with this though, so as a staff, we increased our support for them virtually. This year, our labs have not shut down at all. If teachers are sick, their classes are still available online. If students need to quarantine because of Covid, they are still able to access their learning and get help from tutors or their teachers digitally.

Many of the students who I have in my advisory load came to this school as a last attempt to finish high school after 'slipping through the cracks' in the traditional school system for too many years. Closing the school shuts the door on the students who depend on us. Through the close relationships that I have formed with my students, as well as the collaboration, support, and

flexibility that the school offered, I have fourteen advisory students who will be graduating this year. Three of them have experienced homelessness or are currently experiencing it. Three have been in the foster-care system, Two have spent time in juvenile detention, and two come from homes where their parents only speak Spanish. While all of my advisory students have at least one disability, seven of them have one that causes extreme social anxiety. Our academic data may not compare well to traditional schools with typical student bodies but this school serves a critical need for the community. It is a refuge and a beacon of hope for students from disadvantaged and underserved backgrounds who have spent years in broken systems. Sometimes it is their last hope. Please consider renewing our license so that we can continue to support this community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Farley". The script is cursive and fluid.

Emily Farley
Special Education Teacher
efarley@anotherchoicecharter.org
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Lorissa Pooley

[REDACTED]. Boise ID 83713

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

I love working at Another Choice Charter School. I have spent many years teaching in brick and mortar schools and feel I can give so much more focus and attention on students in this online platform. It has been so rewarding to help students as they need it and give feedback in a timely manner. I also see students taking initiative and advocating for their learning and understanding of the content. I have learned so much and love my experience so far at ACVS.

Thank you,

Lorissa Pooley

lorissa.pooley74@gmail.com

5 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Janice Daniels

[REDACTED], Nampa, ID 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

I have only been a teacher with ACVCS for the past 2.5 years but I can see the difference it is making in students' lives. Many of our students come to us from other settings where they were struggling to succeed academically. The setting or flexibility for instruction was not the right fit for them at that time. In addition, there are often extenuating circumstances for these families that make attendance difficult without the flexibility in schedules for learning. Many students are often below grade level academically when they come to our school and struggling to feel like they can be successful.

Our teachers assess a student's academic levels when they come to us initially, and determine where they need support to move towards proficiency in these skill areas. We constantly review weekly data to ensure they are moving forward and make adjustments/reteach as necessary to provide the support they need to be successful in their new learning environment. They have the flexibility to complete academic learning at varied times and locations, if necessary, seven days a week. We are able to work with students online, in our labs and help them build social skills through weekly advisory meetings and virtual and in person student clubs. They receive both grade level curriculum as well as intervention lessons, as needed, to move towards grade-level proficiencies in core academic standards.

While many of our students do come to us well below grade level, they are making good growth. I see this weekly as I monitor interventions, review classroom work and interact with students. I see them growing academically and see their confidence growing as well.

There is a definite need for ACVCS to be part of the school choice for students and their families in the treasure valley.

Thank you,

Janice Daniels

jdaniels@anotherchoicecharter.org

[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Greg Warren
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Teacher.

The school offers not just an online experience, but much more. All schools should have caring teachers, and we do have caring teachers. All schools should reach out to parents and students, and we do reach out to parents and students. However, our school works with many students that were not fitting into the typical classroom setting. Many of our students have frequent medical appointments and other therapies our school can accommodate because our online learning provides the flexibility they need. I am very proud of our students, teachers, and administration. We are constantly looking at ways to make our school even better. We provide our students and their families an alternative way of learning which enables them a better way of learning.

Thank you,
Greg Warren
gwarren@anotherchoicecharter.org
[REDACTED]

To Whom it May Consider,

I have worked at Another Choice for the past six years and have had the opportunity to work with our students and hear each of their unique situations. The phrase that I hear the most when I talk with families and students is "They would have dropped out without Another Choice." Parents come in at a loss because their child just does not thrive in a typical environment, and they are fighting for them to be educated. I have had students come in on their own because they are working a fulltime job, but they are determined to graduate, and need a school that is flexible enough to attend while meeting their needs at home. Students that have attended multiple schools and at the age of 19 or 20 are giving the chance to have a diploma one more shot.

We also have students that struggle socially and are completely overwhelmed by a typical brick and mortar environment. Another Choice is unique because it offers a variety of ways to communicate to peers and teachers. This flexibility allows kids to reach out on a level that is comfortable for them until they have the confidence and skills to push their boundaries.

I have personally had conversations with school counselors, special education teachers and vice principles asking how to get a student enrolled at ACVS. Their student's needs or behaviors could not be handled at their school, and they were looking for a school that could help them. What would happen to these kids if Another Choice was closed?

On the other end of the spectrum are students that are accelerated in their learning and enjoy the format of the school because it allows them to pursue their goals. One example is a student in special education that came to us in the 9th grade. He was overwhelmed in middle school and failing. He was overwhelmed with the thought of high school and wanted to drop out. This child is now thriving. He works a full-time job, is taking a full load at ACVS and two dual credit classes. He is pursuing college and is excited about his education. He is just one example out of literally hundreds of children that have been positively impacted by this school.

The consideration to keep the school open may be complicated, until you talk with our students and their families, it is not complicated for them because it is literally their education on the line. After working here for six years the biggest lesson that I have learned is that our school is not best for every student, but for our students, Another Choice is a necessity. Please do not fail our students after the adversity they have overcome and work they have put in to continue to pursue their education. Allow Another Choice to stay open and continue to work for our students.

Thank you,

Michelle Carroll

This is my 30th year of being a full-time teacher.

It is also my first year of being diagnosed with Stage 4, Metastatic Breast Cancer.

My doctor tells me that my case is too advanced to be cured by surgery or chemotherapy. He expects that I will only live two to four more years.

However, being able to work at Another Choice Virtual Charter School, with Dr. Laura Sandidge as my administrator for the past 12 years, has been a true blessing to me.

Especially during the last year, after learning of my diagnosis, Dr. Sandidge made sure I have been in teaching positions that not only help me feel fulfilled as a teacher, but also comfortable as a person trying to improve in health every day.

Although I have 30 years' experience teaching Elementary, Middle School, and High School students, as well as a Master's degree in Literacy, I would not have been able to teach in a brick and mortar school, because (like some of my students) most of this past year I could not walk.

However, being a teacher at Another Choice has not only allowed me to interact with my students one on one, on a daily basis-- teaching U.S. Government in a positive manner on ZOOM, but it has also given me a reason to look forward to getting up and living each day!

It has also given the State of Idaho one more teacher, who is interested in staying and teaching in Idaho, for as long as possible.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to let you know how important it is not only for our students--but for our teachers as well--to have a CHOICE in the schools in Idaho.

I am so grateful I am allowed to choose to teach at Another Choice Virtual Charter School, with Dr. Laura Sandidge as my administrator. Please allow that blessing for me (and my students) to continue...

Laureli Christensen, M.Ed.

U.S. Government and Virtual Lab Teacher

Cell Phone and/or Text: [REDACTED]

Virtual Lab Teacher, 11:00 am-7:00 pm, Mon-Thurs.

January 28, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am happy to submit testimony in support of Another Choice Virtual Charter School (ACVS). To begin, I will share a little about myself. I have been an educator since 1976 after graduating from BSU. I also spent one year as an Intensive Behavior Interventionist (IBI) and 2 years as a service coordinator for families with children who experienced learning challenges due to various diagnoses. I also served at ACVS as a special education teacher, retiring in 2014 and continuing part time until 2021.

During the years I worked in IBI and Service Coordination, I became aware of the frustration of many families whose children experienced these learning challenges in the brick and mortar learning environment. In some cases, at parent request I attended meetings with public school teachers and parents to address the challenges and possible solutions. I was not surprised to find that most teachers were extremely capable and caring and had a desire to help the students, however due to the restrictions placed on them by their class size as well as an inability to change some of the structure or physical environment, their efforts were not entirely successful. When ACVS opened in 2010, I witnessed students who I had worked with or known about who had been failing educationally and/or behaviorally in the brick and mortar setting, now being successful. For the most part, they were able to focus on their on-line classes and achieve academic skills due to the ability of the teachers at ACVS to structure a learning environment specific to individual student needs. Negative behaviors in students also decreased and in some cases, eventually were nonexistent.

I started at ACVS on day one in 2010 and over the years I have been impressed with the way the administrators have monitored the programs, teachers, student progress and each year implemented improvements to the overall program to be able to offer an exemplary education to all students.

My entire career I have worked with special needs children and adults and it is my firm belief that there needs to be multiple educational options available to meet the varied learning styles of the special needs population. ACVS is just one of those options, but I have witnessed first-hand how it has been so crucial to the educational and emotional success of the students and their families.

Sincerely,
Sylvia Blake
sylviajeanblake@gmail.com

January 27, 2022

T [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Meridian Idaho

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

I do not want Another Choice Charter School to close. It's my choice for my daughter. My daughter has Down Syndrome, so learning is more difficult for her. When I had her in the typical school, she got lost in the cracks. I saw little academic improvement. At Another Choice she has been able to have someone directly assigned to her. They work to keep her on task, to make sure she is understanding the work, and they watch for her cues that it's getting overwhelming for her. I do the same on my days. When a problem arises, the teacher is contacted and helps us adjust to be successful again. My daughter was in typical school for 3 years. Her math goal was to count. They said she struggled with that. This will be her fourth year at Another Choice. She has learned to count by 5's to 100. To add, subtract, borrow, carry, tell time, identify money change, and she is now beginning to learn how to make correct change to buy items and how to multiply. In reading, we have had similar gains. She is reading beginning chapter books. I am asking you to please reconsider your decision and allow Another Choice to remain another choice for children like my daughter. Thank you.

Thank you,

T [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Hi [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

Another Choice Charter school has made my children feel safe with everything that has been going on with Covid-19. They have been able to learn without interruption and stress of not knowing when school would be shut down. Our school remained open during the pandemic, which has allowed my children to excel in school and not fall back. Others have said how hard public school has been for there kids because of all the unknown with Covid-19 and how there kids have not even learn anything with sudden closures and always getting sent home. My kids love the one on one they can receive from teachers if they are struggling. Public school does not allow this kind of treatment. If this school were to close my children will be very upset and it will be a very hard task to find a school that will even hold up to the standards of Another Choice Virtual Charter .

Thank you,

Hi [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

M [REDACTED] Di [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], New Plymouth ID 83655

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Parent.

This school has been the best thing that has happened to my daughter! She has been a student for 5 years. I am an educator in the public school system and I know this school has met her needs. If we would not have found Another Choice Virtual, she probably would have failed and maybe even dropped out. We live in a society that includes school choice. My choice was ACVS! The curriculum, schedule, and most of all, the staff are excellent. I have never worked before with such a caring, available, and encouraging staff! Please don't take this away from my daughter!

Thank you,

M [REDACTED] Di [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have two children who attend Another Choice Virtual Charter School. My daughter is in kindergarten and my son is in first grade. While my children are relatively new to the school, we chose Another Choice for its uniqueness to the other schools in the area. My husband's job keeps us going back and forth between Idaho and the east coast. I did not want to take on the full responsibility of having to homeschool our kids and make the curriculum myself, but I also did not want to stay in Idaho while my husband was away from myself and our five children. When we discovered Another Choice, we felt like the name said it all, it truly gave us another choice.

The structure at Another Choice is great because I feel like my children are learning the information they need for their grade, but with the reward that should they finish their work early, they have that much more time to be free and do what children love to do. It is a great alternative to having them sit in a classroom for 7 hours a day. The teachers do a great job presenting the work required for that week and they are always available with any questions myself or my kids might have. I feel like it is a team effort and if the parents do their part in playing a more active and hands on roll, then the students will thrive. The labs are also beneficial in that it gives the kids time to see and be with their peers, but also work closely with the teachers in a more one on one setting.

While I may not understand the ins and outs as to what the board looks for when deciding on whether to continue with a charter school, I would like to say that from what I can see Another Choice is its own breed. By another breed I mean it does not function and run the way

the other charter schools in Idaho do. I am sure you are aware of this point, but I would ask that you would consider this heavily as you make your decisions about the future of this school. I think it is a great in-between alternative for so many families while still providing a proper education to our children. I feel there should be more schools like this across the country.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

C [REDACTED] E [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to address the very significant need that Another Choice Virtual Charter School addresses for families who have circumstances requiring a flexible schedule. Many families have significant life, medical or in our case, trauma related events that make conventional school an unworkable solution for their children and families.

My family was recently victims to a crime. The aftermath of that both in appointments and processing through emotions meant our day-to-day lives were in upheaval. There were days when my daughter was reliving her trauma and sending her to school was not the answer. Then again, we couldn't have her fall behind. Another Choice allows us to flex our schooling around court dates, counseling and emotional needs. This ability has allowed my kids the ability to move forward healthily without compromising their schooling and progress.

Beyond the flexibility there are a number of benefits that we are already experiencing. One is the level of availability of the teachers. Both kids have commented on how good it is to be able to message their teachers and get focused one on one assistance. For my daughter who has an IEP, this is extremely beneficial to her retention and capacity. Her scores are improving already and she is gaining confidence in her knowledge and ability.

Another benefit is that this format of learning teaches the kids to manage their time and assignments independently. They have to look at their syllabus and work through the assignments and lessons managing their time and scores in real time. This is much closer to a real-life work or college environment and it is exciting to see them grow in their management skills. These are executive skills that so many of our kids struggle with. Many of these independent management skills will benefit our kids greatly as they face their futures.

My biggest concern is that there are many families with medical and extenuating circumstances that make the traditional learning model for their families a challenge at least, a setup for failure at most. Having an option like Another Choice Virtual Charter School has been a God send to us continuing to be our best selves. Asking kids with special circumstances to fit into the traditional model will leave them struggling, discouraged and ultimately failing. It is critical that we continue to have options that equip our kids to succeed and move through circumstances that are unique.

Thank You,

S [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 3

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

This school has been helpful to me throughout the years. It's open to everyone and lets you work at your own pace. The teachers and staff are very kind and helpful as well. They always like to check in on you, make sure you understand what you're learning, and offer help constantly. The school is a welcoming place and makes sure all your needs are met.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

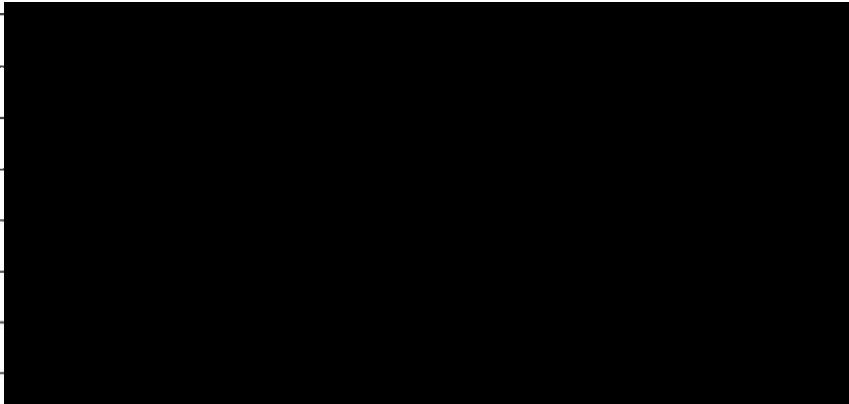
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

1(208) [REDACTED]

Dear Idaho Public charter commission,
● I am one of Another choice virtual charter's many senior student. I'm writing this letter to you guys because I think that if you close down (ACVS) that it will be very detrimental for the state wide academics. The reason why I think this is because some of the other schools transfer student are one that have learned from (ACVS) but only transferred because of being suspended from the school for not doing their school work because their parents were not strict enough on them. Another Choice virtual charter is an amazing school ● especially for me because they recognized what three of Idaho other schools failed to recognize that I was in need of an [REDACTED] ACVS recognized that I needed an [REDACTED] plan because I have a learning disability and ever since they recognized that I have finally been able to understand the curriculum that I have been being taught because when I went to Lincoln elementary, Jefferson middle school, and Lone Star middle school I was never able to understand any of the curriculums that they tried to teach me but ● since I got to (ACVS) my academic life has really improved. If I never join Another choice virtual

charter, I Probaly never would
have made it Past the Seventh
grade, so this is why I think
That Another choice virtual
charter School should stay open.

Sincerely,



January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I think this way of online school has helped so many people and I don't see why not doing it is a good option I have always struggled in school and never really been able to have a good year but since I did soccer this was my best option to go with so I could play soccer and since I have been doing good I was able to play and I passed all my classes for one semester which I've never been really capable of that

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Nampa, Idaho

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I like the flexibility and opportunities I get through this school, the teachers are good, so is the environment. It's helped me grow in more ways than one, with out it I wouldn't have my friends, grades, and confidence I've gained because of it.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@gmail.com
208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

We should keep tis school cause its easy to be able to do other things

Thank vou.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I like Another Choice Virtual Charter School because it works perfectly with my schedule and makes it easier for me to complete my assignments at home at any time from 7-4. Another thing that I like about this school is that the teachers take a lot of time to work with the students by assigning meetings that are really helpful. They are also at the lab at certain times of the week so they can help you which is really nice for me when I need a lot of help with my math lets say, I can just go to the lab at a certain day that my teacher has told me and get lots of help.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

Another choice makes learning easier. I spend years in public schools and it was never right for me, my anxiety made it incredibly difficult to learn. With another choice, I have the ability to work when I'm able to, whenever. It gives me time to clean, babysit, do my hobbies, take care of my family, and learn in a better environment.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

This school provides the best teachers, best courses, best help, and flexibility to work at my own time. I've liked this school better than any of my other schools, to be honest.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Caldwell Id

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

Hello, my name is [REDACTED] and I have been at Another Choice for this is the 3 years now. I love the flexibility of this school, and I also love how the service is! The teachers and students are very understanding, and super polite. I like how there is an option for us to go work virtually, or hands on with other teachers. Thanks for letting me be here, it makes me feel very welcomed! You all are very great people and thank you so much!!!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
(208) [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I like how we are able to complete all the work in a couple days. For example if we want to do 3 classes in one day we are able to and if you need anything you just message your teacher and they always respond in less than 20 min. I like that you're able to ask questions and your teacher will help you or you can meet with them and they're able to show you in depth how to do the work. If you need to redo a quiz they let you redo it and they help you figure out why you got it wrong and in my other school they just cared about you finishing your assignments as fast as you can but this school cares about you understanding your work and they don't rush you, you have as much time as you need to go over the lessons and take notes.

I also like my music class because I feel like when I work in this class I write how I feel about a song and sometimes it's hard to describe the exact feelings and she always understands and appreciates my thoughts. I enjoy this class so much just because it doesn't feel like you're doing school work it feels like something I can enjoy and look forward to. Whenever I work in this class I try my best to not rush and actually try my best and whenever she want us to write long paragraphs I start doing the work and then it's like I actually get into it, I start understanding and appreciate the work put into showing us the best way to understand the work were doing.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
208 [REDACTED]

@anotherchoicecharter.org

January 26, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I am a student that would not graduate this year if i went to any other school

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

530 [REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

Another choice, help me opened up and talk to someone when I needed help.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208-[REDACTED]

January 25, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

This school has done alot for me. It got me out of syringa middle school where bullies were beating me everywhere I went. This school got me in a better place emotionally. The clubs are great and I really don't want this school to shut down.

I was going insane when I was over at syringa and the teachers were not doing anything about it. I feel happy here at another choice. I feel safe here if I go back to public schools all I have here will disappear.

sincerely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am a Student.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

January 21, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I have been in this school for around six years, this has been the best school that I have ever been to. This school is what made my brain think and grow as I learned new things everyday, the education system has to be best type of format I've come across. The staff and teachers put their souls into helping each individual student here, not once have I ever come across a "bad" teacher here, and that's saying something. I rely on my teachers because I know they will be there if I need them, without a doubt I always get a reply and the help that I need. The way the classes are formed out is amazing, they have classes that or not too challenging nor too easy; I can work at my own pace and schedule with their system. I have learned so much while attending this school, I've even learned to socialize during my stay. I cross my fingers and hope that I can graduate with my class and teachers, I will be heading into my last year next year and never in a million years thought I would have to change schools; it truly breaks my heart and I only wish for the best regarding the situation. This school feels like family as they truly got me ready for college and the future ahead.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

N/A

January 20, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I would love to continue for the rest of my school years this online school is amazing and helped me so much more and made me feel good when I'm in public school my mental health goes down and online school helps me with that.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]@gmail.com
208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I love Another Choice School. It gives me flexibility and I can work at my own pace. Regular school stresses me out and I have off days and I am not so stressed when I can do my school work from home. On my off days sometimes I have a hard time socially and I have a lot of anxiety. Another Choice is the best school I've ever gone to. I also have the highest grades I've ever had, because now I care about school since I can work from home. I only have 1 more year of school left, I would be devastated if I couldn't continue here next year.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

This school helped my get my grades up and they are always there to help and make sure I have everything for my classes. I can always ask them for help when I need it.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

208-626-5007

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I don't think the school should shut down. I believe that my experience at this school has been nothing but positive, the teachers are nice and willing to help every single student to the best of their abilities. Another choice has a lot to offer that other schools don't, such as a flexible schedule one on one time with teachers in the lab and online, if you're sick or can't go into school you can always go on your computer and do school. I would prefer that the school doesn't shut down because I like it here and would like if I could graduate here.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

Another choice has helped me improve so much especially with my grades. The teachers there are amazing there! They are very caring and help with so much. Everyone is kind! It has changed me so much. This school is different compared to other schools! before coming to this school my grades were off and weren't good but now i am passing every class which i am great full for and for the teachers help!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, ID 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

LET THIS SCHOOL STAY! When I first went to another choice I felt comfortable from the start, and I thank everything and everyone for making me feel happy and excited to be at this wonderful school. Secondly, I think this school should stay because I want to thank all the teachers that have been there to support me and accept me, another thing is that this school provides a healthy environment and abstract learning that makes the school extremely fun! Another thing that I love about ACVS, is that it's free and anybody can join the school, I remember the first I came here was that I knocked out 6 months of work, and getting help from teachers, which honestly I never had before, this school has shaped who I am today, now I have As, Bs, and nothing lower than that, these teachers has helped kids grow and be supported, Ms. Oliver and Ms. Flint including all the other teachers has helped and guided me to grow and the gratitude that I have for them is skyrocketing. I love this school, and I think it should stay, and I will try everything in my power to keep it here as a student. The reason why I love this school so much is that when a student needs help a teacher is there to help them, I have never gotten that in my life, so therefore LET THIS SCHOOL STAY!!!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
I would like to keep that private

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I have really bad social anxiety in school settings and although my grades were fine I hated being at school. I went from a normal middle school with hundreds of kids to a school with 124 students in total but then we had to move and I had wanted to try online school so I joined ACVS. My first year here was kind of rough as I was 5 weeks behind and it was my first time in online school. Although I did end up (barely) passing all my classes I had to take summer school but I still wanted to give online school another try just this time not 5 weeks behind. My experiences this year are totally different from when I first joined, all the teachers are really nice (that part hasn't changed) and they really want to help you and because this isn't in a school setting where you have to try and help 30 kids all at once they can really give you the help that you need. One thing I really love about ACVS is the flexibility it gives me with work. Instead of having the work due on one day and not being able to turn it in the next, most of the teachers are totally okay with grading late work no matter how long ago it was due. This is especially useful when you are down to the last couple weeks in the semester and you need to get your grades up. Overall I would say that being in ACVS has been a great experience and I hope the school stays open next year.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, ID 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

This school has saved me because when I had no other school to turn to ACVS was there for me. I've been with this school since 7th grade and I've learned so much from all the amazing teachers. I've made great bonds with my teachers and I love them dearly, this school gives students the opportunity to still do school but at home. ACVS gave me the flexibility to do schoolwork while on the road going from Doctor appointment to doctor appointment. No other school has been able to meet my needs other than this school. It's so special because all of the teachers care deeply about every student and the teachers can gain a closer relationship with students because it's a smaller school. I would never want anyone to lose this school because it's so accommodating and it makes school much less stressful and we can't lose this school. It's one of the best schools I've ever worked with.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
(208) [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I love this school

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Nampa ID 83687

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I Like the school Becuse teachers are so nice , Everyone is so nice helpful.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchioceharter.org
(208) [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, Idaho 83686

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

Another Choice Virtual Charter School has been an incredible experience. Having the choice to work online and at my own pace while being home with my family has been a great opportunity. Although I have started attending Another Choice Charter since a few weeks ago, the staff/teachers and learning path is the best experience I have had for online learning. Furthermore, I enjoy the work at my pace idea because it doesn't stress me out on finishing something for a certain class fast. Instead, at my own pace so I can stay how much I would like on a lesson and try my best to put my best effort in it. In addition, if I don't understand something/need help, I always have either one of my teachers or a help link that immediately connects me to a live teacher that can help or answer questions. Finally, if this Charter doesn't get renewed it will be detrimental and a loss for the community and many staff and students. The board should reconsider renewing this charter because it has had many successful students that have graduated. In conclusion, going to this charter school has been a big opportunity, and the staff is great, and always their to help you continue and be successful on your learning path.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Greenleaf, ID 83626

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I have been doing school at Another Choice for three year and have loved it so much. All of my teachers have been amazing! They are always going out of their way to be helpful and will do extra work to help me understand something I am not catching on to. I tend to ask lots of questions and my teachers always answer promptly and never seem to get frustrated. Being able to do school at home, yet also having teachers to keep me motivated is wonderful. Our family travels a lot so it is awesome to be able to bring my school along. I also love having my school on my computer instead of having a bunch of books to haul around. Since schooling is usually very expensive my parents love having this option of free schooling. Also, as I get into harder subjects my mom is grateful that I can have teachers to help me so I won't get frustrated at her for not understanding my work. Thank you to all of my teachers and the other ACVS staff who are helping me get a good education!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208 [REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Nampa, ID

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Student.

I really appreciate another choice, all the staff has been super supportive and kind as well as helpful especially my teachers. The flexible hours have really help me, as have the resources. Another choice is a great school.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@anotherchoicecharter.org
208 [REDACTED]

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 4

Another Choice Virtual Charter School

L: [REDACTED] C [REDACTED]

21 January 2022

ACVCS

Family

- Two brothers with [REDACTED] one with [REDACTED] and the other is a much higher spectrum that is not allowed to be alone or drive or live alone
- Dad has [REDACTED]
- Mom has an incurable disease called [REDACTED] (which is similar to [REDACTED] and it attacks her body and makes day to day life very difficult
- I grew up with a disability where my legs were turned in and had to have surgery to correct it

How ACVCS helped me

- Was able to learn how to be independent
- Learned that if I work hard and learn that I am smart and a hard worker
- Graduated a year early
- Graduated as a salutatorian
- Was finally accepted as me in the school when in earlier other public schools, I was bullied by teachers and students
- Felt like I can do anything I put my mind to whereas other schools made me feel more incompetent

How ACVCS helped my family

[REDACTED]

- My brother [REDACTED] and my mom were told by a doctor that he would never graduate high school and ACVCS was able to push him to be able to tell that doctor that he was wrong
 - ACVCS showed my brother that he is smart and that he can do anything
- At other schools, he was chased down by adult men when they scared him and my mom was called
 - When my mom got there, she found these adult men shoving my brother [REDACTED] into the ground and not explaining to him why they were running at him
- [REDACTED] was bullied every day at other public schools until going to ACVCS and he was told by ACVCS that he is smart and special

- Having [REDACTED] he struggled a lot with socializing and doing his best in school
- Going to ACVCS, he learned how to socialize with other people and found out he can do anything he puts his mind to and that he is smart were other people like doctors and teachers from other schools told him that he can't and that he won't be able to make it through school

[REDACTED] (myself)

- Was bullied by teachers and students
- Was told by those same people that I won't be able to make it and that I am not special or smart enough to graduate
- Was yelled at by teachers at small things like not being able to do criss-cross applesauce because of my disability at the moment before I had surgery and was sent to the principles office for not being able to do it
 - And got yelled at for it too
 - Criss-cross applesauce was like making my legs go backwards and it was so painful as if I was breaking a bone slowly and painfully

At ACVCS

- They understood that I had surgery and was still relearning to walk/run
 - Didn't push me too much for my PE classes
- Fell on my hand one day and made it get inflamed and for 2 years it was easily inflamed the school was very understanding about it when I struggled with finishing assignments because of my bad hand
- Was able to finish a college class in high school
- Was a Senior Editor for 2 years
- Was part of a college club that helped me get ready for college and what scholarships to look for

ACVCS' Goal

- ACVCS' goal is to give people, people who were treated badly at other schools and not given chances or pushed to show how far they can go, another chance, which is in the name
- The teachers and faculty all support this goal and push themselves to always be there for their students and they push the students to rise against others who think they are not important or smart enough to make it

About ACVCS

- Another Choice Virtual Charter School is a school specifically made for students with no other choice, ones that were kicked out of other schools and bullied to no end and treated like animals than other human beings

Click here for further details-

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

L █ Cr █

ENGL 1030

Professor Fehrer

30 April 2020

Special Needs and Charter Schools

Special needs is an umbrella term covering most disabilities that are recognized by the Idaho Board of Education. For what the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 say that it is an impairment of an individual that limits them from doing regular everyday activities (Disability). The law within the U.S declares that all special needs students have the right to be in any school and these schools must have tools specialized to help each special needs student learn. Yet, within Idaho, the Idaho Board of Education neglects that charter schools are currently in dire need of support for helping special needs students. They only notice if a school is rebuking a child with disabilities and the Board of Education reprimands them for breaking the law. The government does not regard the schools that sacrifice their test scores, average, and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), among the community just to be able to devote their help to special needs and at-risk students so they can be and feel successful. If the Idaho Board of Education does notice, they simply keep in consideration that the school has more of these students, but they still warn the charter schools that they need to raise their scores. Within the state of Idaho, there were laws made for special needs kids that charter schools are required to follow, but there are no laws put in place that were made to protect charter schools from being shut down because of lost funding, poor ISATs and/or the loss of atypical students if the schools have an abundance of special needs or at-risk students.

The PCSC and ISBE need to enable leniency in charter schools for special needs and at-risk students and the score requirements should be lowered for these charter schools.

There are many laws in the state of Idaho that were made for students with special needs, but there are no laws or regulations made by the Public Charter School Commission (PCSC) to protect charter schools. A couple of these laws that were made for special needs kids are IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and IEPs (Individual Education Plan). These laws were made by the state of Idaho to protect and help plan the future of each child with a disability so they can have, at least, their high school diploma like their peers. IDEA, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, was created to protect educational opportunities for every special needs student from the age of 3 all the way to the age of 21.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the amended 1990 version of the original 1970 Education for All Handicapped Children Act (EAHCA or EHA) and seeks to assure equal opportunity in education for all handicapped children between the ages of 5 and 18, and in most cases for children between the ages of 3–5 and 18–21 years of age as well (Cataldo, Jean, and Bullard).

With this large time frame, it helps give them more time to understand subjects that they do not understand well enough and take their time in learning until they graduate. Other than IDEA, the IEP, Individual Education Plan, is a plan which was made for each student with a diagnosed disability that states they have a right to their education. IEPs are made so a child with disabilities can have a plan of what they need to learn so they can either graduate at age 18 or 21.

Within the state of Idaho, the Public Charter School Commissions, PCSC, has a specific mission for all schools in Idaho. Its mission is, to ensure PCSC-authorized public charter

schools' compliance with Idaho statute, protecting student and public interests by balancing high standards of accountability with respect for the autonomy of public charter schools and implementing best authorizing practices to ensure the excellence of public charter school options available to Idaho families (Webmaster).

The PCSC is like the 'government officials' of all charter schools within the state of Idaho and it has many requirements for each charter school to meet so they can stay as an accredited and funded charter school. If said charter schools do not meet the AYP, Adequate Yearly Progress, by not meeting their 'standards', these charter schools will get consequences by the state. A few consequences could be as bad as the loss of funding, a bad enough reputation that their students are taken out of their schools, or parents of future pupils for such certain charter schools decide not to have them attend.

If an Idaho charter school's test scores start to lower, they will be in the onslaught of the PCSC and the Idaho Board of Education if not raised. Over time, if a charter school does not meet its AYP, which is examined by the outcome of ISAT tests, it can be shut down. Charter schools wouldn't be shut down by the state per-say, but by not being properly funded by taxpayers, losing credibility, and losing students can ensure their closure. This can happen to charter schools in the state of Idaho because the PCSC has requirements for all students in all charter schools to meet a certain testing rank. The testing rank must be met for a charter school to be able to stay accredited and still be funded.

Funding for public education follows the student. If a student chooses to attend a charter school the funding will follow that student. The funding formula is based on three things
1) average daily attendance, 2) experience and education of teachers, and 3) type of

students taught. The formula is consistent for all public schools (Idaho Charter Schools FAQ).

To this day, many schools that have special needs and at-risk students are currently struggling with the PCSC on their fundings and public scrutiny. This is because not all of their students are passing the same tests as others due to their various learning or developmental status. Schools with these problems would agree there needs to be protection for charter schools, especially ones with the most special needs and at-risk students. For example, two charter schools that are currently struggling in this area are ACVS (Another Choice Virtual School) and HCCS (Heritage Community Charter School). This is because the majority of their kids have to take the same tests like atypical students to determine a charter school's AYP, Adequate Yearly Progress. In which this is difficult for schools like ACVS and HCCS to maintain high levels of achievement with the majority of students having disabilities.

When a school or school district does not make the Adequate Yearly Progress for four years in a row, the state will place it under a corrective action plan. The plan will include resources to improve teaching, administration, or curriculum. If no progress is made, then the state has increased authority to make necessary additional changes to ensure improvement (Idaho State Board of Education).

However, if there is no progress being made, even with the "increased authority", there would be no hope left for that certain charter school. Ideally, this was made to help ensure that all charter schools will be successful in teaching their students, but it destroys those schools that have the most special needs and at-risk students in attendance. Charter schools are regulated and restricted under laws, both state and federal, and can be closed down if "student achievement" is

not improved, which is not the case for regular public schools. Public schools, however, are allowed to keep running and are asked to improve their scores, but they are given an unlimited amount of time to do it (About Idaho Charter Schools).

There is a considerable amount of pressure on charter schools within the Idaho State Board of Education to maintain a standard, and it can be unfair to most of these charter schools. It hinders charter schools accreditations because of the high AYP that are set by the PCSC to try and “match” atypical schools as much as possible. For the PCSC to determine how a school is doing, it keeps the scores of their kids’ ISATs, their graduation rates, and compares them to not only other charter schools but also to public schools. Because of this, it creates a high expectation of all charter schools and only a small amount of leniency for those that are primarily for kids with disabilities and at-risk kids. The Public Charter School Commission has a high expectation of Adequate Yearly Progress that can be lowered for these charter schools because not everyone fits into the same mold.

Mostly, these ISAT tests for Idaho’s charter schools’ AYP are to make sure each charter school in the state of Idaho is on the right track to help parents of “normal” kids choose between schools. ISAT scores help show what school excels or is inadequate at teaching their students, and it makes sense for the PCSC to have this sort of structure for each of their schools to set a high standard. However, the expectations of high AYP and ISAT scores makes it harder for charter schools that have acquired the majority of their students as special needs and at-risk kids. This high expectancy lowers their rating as a school and they lose potential students due to the parents worrying their kids would not progress developmentally if put in these schools. There are

those who think these “achievement tests” or ISATs for Idaho’s tests are made to help instead of hinder kids and the school.

That impact is relevant because concerns have been raised that the tests use arbitrarily set standards, that they do not test important skills, that they shift the learning environment away from more creative learning, that they disadvantage particular groups in society, and that they are being used inappropriately (POST Data).

In many ways, these tests do help the schools and teachers. The tests can help atypical schools by showing where they need to do better and could get a good representation to their community. This test can also help show teachers what they need to work more on with each student to make sure they are being well educated. Many think this is not a problem for charter schools and that what needs to be focused on is the kids and not the schools. To some degree, this is true, kids need to be supervised and all schools need to be accounted for if they are not doing enough for what their students need.

Although, to keep charter schools going, especially ones that try to fulfill each IEP and support every at-risk student, the standards for testing need to be revised. There can be many different ways for the PCSC to counteract this problem within its system. A few ways to counteract this: the PCSC could lower the AYPs for charter schools and put a pie graph on the majority of special needs and/or at-risk kids of a certain charter school. Doing this could help assure the parents it is not the fault of teachers or their teaching methods within the school. It could also help if it shows the percentage of how well they are following and fulfilling each student’s IEP up until their graduation. Other than those ideas, the Public Charter School Commission needs to explain to parents why the AYP is different for that particular charter

school and why it is important for them to identify how many kids, through percentages, are included within the special needs or at-risk category. The reason for this is because it is unethical to schools who are following the law for special needs kids to get reprimanded by the PCSC, the Idaho State Board of Education, and others consequently due to their uncontrollable low scores as a school.

Overall, there were laws made in Idaho for special needs kids that charter schools are required to follow, but charter schools are forced to fit into an atypical mold that is impossible to achieve. Currently, there are no laws made to protect charter schools from being shut down due to funding loss and the loss of additional students if they have exceedingly more special needs or at-risk students. An accountability process is needed for the PCSC in regards to accommodating these schools. Even though the test for a school's AYP was ideally made to help make sure all charter schools will be successful in teaching, it hurts the schools as a whole with those special needs and at-risk kids. There are many pressures like these on all charter schools within the state of Idaho. By hindering their accreditation, due to the high AYP and expected ISAT scores put on by the PCSC to try and “match” other atypical schools as much as possible, these schools are suffering and need our support. The problem within the Idaho State Board of Education needs to be changed so it adheres not only to public schools, but to charter schools. With this problem and solution in mind, that not everyone fits into the same mold, so we must mold to fit them.

Works Cited

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January 25, 2022

A [REDACTED] G [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Delano CA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

Please do not shut down this school. I was missing so much school due to illness without ACVS I would not have passed 8th grade. I would still be attending if we did not have to move to California. I wish they had ACVS here too.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 23, 2022

S [REDACTED] F [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] boise 83709

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

This school didn't only change my life but also almost every single one of the students in my graduating class were forever changed by Another Choice Charter. Not only was it great knowledge but also being able to have more of a flexible schedule and individualized learning with a teacher if needed was amazing. If it weren't for Another Choice I wouldn't have had any other Choice but to dropout due to the learning environment of a full school with 30+ students in a class and never learn a thing. Thanks to Another Choice I was able to get my high school diploma when I never thought I would!

Thank you,

S [REDACTED] F [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 22, 2022

S [REDACTED] A A [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

Another Choice has always been true to its name. This school has always offered parents and their children another option to choose for education.

The teachers in this school have always gone out of their way for my education, more than they'd ever needed to.

The teachers of Another Choice Charter have always been encouraging and supportive of their students. As a former student, I can confirm that Another Choice has exceeded all qualifications as a School, as public schools in the United States (Specifically in Idaho) have been limited and lacking in their services.

Another Choice has not just taught me the knowledge needed for everyday life, but they as well taught me the philosophies of life and what it means to walk my own journey. This school has never discriminated me.

More than that, this school provides easy access to education, whether from one of their main buildings or from your home on a provided computer.

I am proud to be a student of Another Choice Virtual Charter. As a former student and 2020 Highschool Graduate, I thank all the teachers and workers that have been there for me throughout the years; they have been a great part of my success and will continue to as long as they are around for all students. Thank you Another Choice, for giving us all Another Choice.

Thank you.

S [REDACTED] A A [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 21, 2022

E [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

I was going into eighth grade when I found out I was pregnant, & my counselor at my high school at the time helped me find Another Choice. Since then they've been nothing but excellent & resourceful to me. They allowed me to get my credits quicker & I was able to graduate a year earlier than my class. I was able to do all my required classes online at home while being pregnant & still come in if I needed it. I continued to finish school through them & will forever be grateful that this school was an option for me.

Thank you,

E [REDACTED] R [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

L [REDACTED] M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am a Former Student.

To whom it may concern,

My name is L [REDACTED] M [REDACTED] a graduate from ACVS. I first started off my freshman year at Ridgevue High, and got really bad grades my first semester. I found out about ACVS and decided to give it a try. I started there my second semester and it taught me so much to care about my education. I never would take education serious until I went to ACVS. I can proudly say I graduated ACVS with honor cord. They gave me all the help I needed and attended all my classmates well. All the teachers are wonderful and would be there for students when they needed them. They would always check up on me every week, which was one of my favorite things because in a regular school you don't get as much love and feel cared for how ACVS makes you feel.

I hope everything goes well, there's students who need Virtual schools. There's students out there who get bullied, who have disabilities, or are going through a tough time and this school gives so much help and makes students feel better than ever. I've gone to public schools where kids prefer to not go to school because they just go and get bullied. Virtual schools allow them to get their education without having to hear bad comments, without having to have bad days, ect. Not only that but ACVS allows students to have a lab where they can still make friends and go to school in person to not only be home all day online. ACVS is a great school. Thank you for taking your time to read my comment.

Thank you,

L [REDACTED] M [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2022

A [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Orofino, ID 83544

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

I graduated from another choice virtual charter school back in 2019 and if it wasn't for the school and for the teachers that I had, I would not have graduated. This school has not only worked with my hectic lifestyle from moving all over the state, but by allowing me the flexibility to be able to deal with my own personal and mental health issues as a teenager. The school and the teachers were with me every single step of the way they encouraged me and have brought out the best of me. I give all credit to my former teachers and to the school because of them I have since going to college I am close to graduating with my bachelors degree and mostly be working on my masters degree and it's because of the wonderful teachers in that I've had at the school. I struggled a lot and doing my homework doing assignments to the point where I was nearly expelled from other schools and another choice virtual charter school was my holy grail. They did something that no other online school had and I was allowing me to come into a building and to sit with the teacher and to work on my assignments to have that quiet safe space to do my homework without feeling overwhelmed or ostracized by my peers. It allows me to be able to talk to my teachers and work with them on a one-on-one basis that you can't get at a regular school. This school has changed my life not just academically but in every way you can imagine, they set me up for success, they how to encourage me to do nothing but my best, they pushed me to see the greatness that I could accomplish, and also allowed me the flexibility to focus on the environment around me will not giving up a good quality education. Since I graduated in 2019 I have been working towards my own teaching degree and have built my own desire to make a difference in students lives that the school and that these teachers have. To get rid of the school is saying that you don't care about your students you don't care about the education of the children in the state of Idaho because the school allows and the flexibility to be able to learn to get a quality education to be the best that they can be and approve that they can do it by graduating high school is achievable whatever your circumstance may be. The school has not just changed my life but I change the lives of many other students in the state of Idaho and taking that away from our children and from our future of this world is an absolute abomination.

Thank you,

A [REDACTED] S [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 27, 2022

Julianne C. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Former Student.

I truly feel this school is the only reason I was able to graduate and revive my high school diploma. I have several cousins that attend acvs and it would break my heart having them see them not be able to graduate. See many kids have different life situations and it makes it hard to attend public school. As much as public schools have there 504 plans and accommodations they were never fully put in place or really worked. Acvs has provided a not only a safe school but safe place for myself and many students. Having mental illness makes many everyday tasks impossible and sadly at a young age school was that for me. I didn't have good grades or attend school at all. I thought I was going to drop out until I went to another choice. At public school mental health is really silenced but there it was as if everyone had there own thing and understood mine. All the staff and teachers were extremely nice and friendly. Every time I went into the lab I was individually greeted an office lady, a teacher, and at least one student. Every time I went which is such a positive experience. If I had any questions there were 3-4 teachers ready to help, which was an extreme difference from public school. As asking for help is hard and sometimes the teacher won't have time. I love this school I attend 8th- 12 grades there and I wouldn't have been able to do it if there wasn't a school like this. I am extremely great full for all the staff and teachers at acvcs. Thank you for taking the time to read this. God bless and have an amazing day :)

Thank you,

J. [REDACTED] Ca [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 5

January 27, 2022



To:
Idaho Public Charter School Commission
C/O: Chairman Alan Reed

Re:
Another Choice Virtual Charter
1014 W. Hemingway Blvd
Nampa, ID 83651

Dear Chairman Reed and Commission Members,

This correspondence is to certify that Another Choice Virtual Charter School is fully accredited as a digital charter school through Cognia, formerly known as AdvancED. The school has been accredited in good standing since 2010.

The school's most recent accreditation onsite review was conducted March 20-21, 2018. A team of professional colleagues was led by Rich Webb, who is a certified Lead Evaluator for Cognia. The Accreditation Engagement Review Team comprehensively reviewed evidence, heard presentations and interviewed stakeholders to gain a broad understanding of institution quality to provide valuable feedback to help the institution focus and guide their improvement efforts. Following the onsite review, the team developed and submitted a comprehensive "Accreditation Engagement Review Report" that was provided to the institution.

The Accreditation Engagement Review Report is attached to this correspondence and includes a detailed evaluation of the institution's effectiveness based on a set of research-based Performance Standards constructed around three Domains: Leadership Capacity, Learning Capacity and Resource Capacity. Point values are established within the evaluation and an Index of Educational Quality (IEQ) rating is calculated. The average Cognia network average for the 32,000 accredited member institutions falls between 275-285 on a scale of 100 to 400. Another Choice Virtual Charter School IEQ rated at 325.75, which is well above the Cognia network average.

The Review Team noted that the institution demonstrated the ability to support non-engaged, highly discouraged and academically challenged students in a transformative culture that engaged students to develop a positive self-image, become more successful academically and endeavors to build a belief in their worth in the world beyond school. The Review Team also noted that conversations with students were filled with deep emotion and passion about their journey. Reports such as the ones witnessed by the Review Team are difficult to translate into measurable means, but do define a school culture that increases student self-worth and confidence in their abilities at the next level.

The full report is attached to this correspondence and it is our hope that the Commission take into consideration the value of the educational programming that is offered by Another Choice Virtual Charter School. The institution has many strengths that are identified in the Engagement Review Report including the creation of a culture through a structure of support that develops the student's beliefs in their ability to learn and succeed.

Another Choice Virtual Charter School is scheduled for their five-year cycle onsite review during the 22-23 school year. We look forward to supporting the institution's preparation and participation in the activities leading up to and including the Engagement Review activities.

Sincerely,

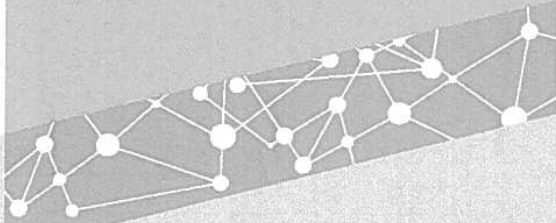
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Kleinert", written over a horizontal line.

Dale Kleinert, Cognia
Pacific Region Vice President

March 20-21, 2018



AdvancED® Engagement Review Report



AdvancED® Performance Accreditation

» **Results for:**

Another Choice Virtual Charter
1014 W Hemingway Blvd.
Nampa, ID 83651

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Introduction

AdvancED Performance Accreditation and the Engagement Review

Accreditation is pivotal to leveraging education quality and continuous improvement. Using a set of rigorous research based standards, the accreditation process examines the whole institution—the program, the cultural context and the community of stakeholders—to determine how well the parts work together to meet the needs of learners. Through the AdvancED Accreditation Process, highly skilled and trained Engagement Review Teams gather first-hand evidence and information pertinent to evaluating an institution’s performance against the research-based AdvancED Performance Standards. Using these Standards, Engagement Review Teams assess the quality of learning environments to gain valuable insights and target improvements in teaching and learning. AdvancED provides Standards that are tailored for all education providers so that the benefits of accreditation are universal across the education community.

Through a comprehensive review of evidence and information, our experts gain a broad understanding of institution quality. Using the Standards, the review team provides valuable feedback to institutions that helps to focus and guide each institution’s improvement journey. Valuable evidence and information from other stakeholders, including students, also is obtained through interviews, surveys and additional activities.

As a part of the Engagement Review, stakeholders were interviewed by members of the Engagement Review Team to gain their perspectives on topics relevant to the institution's learning environment and organizational effectiveness. The feedback gained through the stakeholder interviews was considered with other evidences and data to support the findings of the Engagement Review. The following chart depicts the numbers of persons interviewed representative of various stakeholder groups.

Stakeholder Groups	Number
Administrator	2
Support Staff	5
Teachers	10
Parents	6
Students	10
Other	1
Total	34

Once all of the information is compiled and reviewed, the team develops the Engagement Review Report and presents preliminary results to the institution. Results from the Engagement Review are reported in four ratings represented by colors. These ratings provide guidance and insight into an institution's continuous improvement efforts as described below:

Color	Rating	Description
Red	Needs Improvement	Identifies key areas that need more focused improvement efforts
Yellow	Emerging	Represents areas to enhance and extend current improvement efforts
Green	Meets Expectations	Pinpoints quality practices that meet the Standards
Blue	Exceeds Expectations	Demonstrates noteworthy practices producing clear results that exceed expectations

AdvancED Continuous Improvement System

The AdvancED Continuous Improvement System (CIS) provides a systemic fully integrated solution to help institutions map out and navigate a successful improvement journey. In the same manner that educators are expected to understand the unique needs of every learner and tailor the education experience to drive student success, every institution must be empowered to map out and embrace their unique improvement journey. AdvancED expects institutions to use the results and the analysis of data from various interwoven components for the implementation of improvement actions to drive education quality and improved student outcomes. While each improvement journey is unique, the journey is driven by key actions. AdvancED identifies three important components of a continuous improvement process and provides feedback on the components of the journey using a rubric that identifies the three areas to guide the improvement journey. The areas are as follows:

Commitment to Continuous Improvement	Rating
The institution has collected sufficient and quality data to identify school improvement needs.	Meets Expectations
Implications from the analysis of data have been identified and used for the development of key strategic goals.	Emerging
The institution demonstrates the capacity to implement their continuous improvement journey.	Emerging

Continuous Improvement Journey Narrative

The Another Choice Virtual Charter School has embraced the process of continuous improvement during its history. The school is chartered with a mission to address the needs of individuals with learning differences. The school provides an academic and socially supportive environment to address this mission. The hybrid teaching model of virtual-based learning with computer labs (face-to-face instruction) is designed to include regular tracked students, title one supported instruction and highly qualified teachers in a robust curriculum and delivery system. In interviews with students and feedback from parents, the school has demonstrated the ability to support non-engaged, highly discouraged and academically challenge students in a transformative culture that has those same students with a positive self-image, success academically and with a belief in their worth in the world beyond school. Those conversations were filled with deep emotion and passion about that journey. The school has remarkable stories with respect to their mission and work that may or may not translate easily into measurable means.

As a result of data analysis and leadership input, Another Choice Virtual Charter School has implemented recently the following:

- Interventions - Increase student skill sets, placement, and course offerings with assessments
- Student placement decisions based upon a MAP, BASI, Program testing, and Easy CBMs
- Board Policy update and review in board meetings via input from stakeholders
- Curriculum alignment - vertical and horizontal alignment of curriculum to state standards
- Cleaner data to better inform decisions by identifying appropriate data and report it in meaningful ways
- Communications is an improvement focus by the leadership and staff
- Professional Development has focused on Stats class, Power School, CPR, and intruder training
- Teacher committee has been formed to look at academic honesty policy that includes a clear definition of plagiarism, consequences for plagiarizing, and training to teach students tactics to avoid plagiarism
- Each teacher has an advisory class - students set goals for themselves
- Ongoing planning to provide an impressive number of options for students to be involved outside of their class time
- Teachers focusing on an orientation model to include a second wave orientation for secondary kids after they begin school
- Teachers have become experts and trainers in Video, Universal Design for Learning, "Super Users" of Power School and a variety of useful computer tools.

The Another Choice Virtual Charter School Virtual High School is using internal data including course progress

reports, completion rate and to include a MAP, BASI, Program testing, and Easy CBMs to analyze and evaluate programmatic and student progress/placement. This effort on the part of Another Choice VCS is impressive as the Engagement Review Team (ERT) interviewed teachers that are using these assessment tools to make changes in their lessons based on this data analysis. The teachers at Another Choice VCS are developing specific and usable reports to pinpoint student issues that make the role of the teacher as an advocate and content specialist increasingly effective. The school has hired a specialist whose job is to build relationships with difficult students that have demonstrated engagement issues.

The Review Team was given a presentation by the Another Choice VCS leadership about the professional development Fridays. The school has a weekly meeting where all staff are required being on site. These Friday meetings are for staff to together providing an opportunity to work on the needs of the school's learning model, professional tools, and student needs. The school has been through a great deal of growth from a required Continuous Improvement Plan, Idaho Public Charter School Commission reporting, Federal programs audit for Title I and AdvancED's review. Each organization has requirements for the school to demonstrate data analysis and a structure to implement learning and learner improvement. The Review Team looked at documents that demonstrated the efforts of these processes in the google drive (internal) and external sources to include a website, stakeholder interviews/surveys, as well as, interviews with the school's Leadership Team and onsite staff.

The Another Choice Virtual Charter School's Learning Management System (LMS) is used very effectively by the teachers, students, and parents for lessons, and curriculum. Teachers are developing LMS reports that provide opportunities in content areas to determine academic growth and needs for students. The LMS (GradPoint) has to be manually connected to the Student Information System (Power School), however, this procedure seems to provide stakeholders with appropriate information in a timely fashion. Teachers are required to be at a computer lab (Nampa, Meridian, and Boise sites) once a week. Teacher interviews indicated the required lab setting is used to build personalized teaching opportunities with students. The institution does use a process in the evaluation and supervision model that "walks" lessons for effectiveness. It would be helpful to determine the students' side of the lesson that using an eleot™ tool for observation and how that might give information to be used as collaborative feedback and as a professional development tool. The Review Team understands the barriers that occur in an online environment with respect to systematically doing classroom observations.

The Another Choice Virtual Charter School has many strengths and the report will indicate those positive areas. For example, the Review Team found that the school has developed an instruction model that develops a personalized education for each student. The Review Team heard that message from parents and students. The use of teachers in advisory roles and support from counselor and interventionist is the basis for building those relationships. These relationships are used to formalize the culture in which the school wants to build positive inroads to how a student feels towards self and academics.

The practices of the school system are in place, and there are attempts to coordinate efforts to support improvement priorities. There are monitoring processes in place to inform and enhance the improvement efforts. The analysis, planning, and implementation actions are very evident.

AdvancED Standards Diagnostic Results

The AdvancED Performance Standards Diagnostic is used by the Engagement Review Team to evaluate the institution's effectiveness based on AdvancED's Performance Standards. The diagnostic consists of three components built around each of the three Domains: **Leadership Capacity**, **Learning Capacity** and **Resource Capacity**. Point values are established within the diagnostic and a percentage of the points earned by the institution for each Standard is calculated from the point values for each Standard. Results are reported within four ranges identified by the colors representing Needs Improvement (Red), Emerging (Yellow), Meets Expectations

(Green), and Exceeds Expectations (Blue). The results for the three Domains are presented in the tables that follow.

Leadership Capacity Domain

The capacity of leadership to ensure an institution's progress toward its stated objectives is an essential element of organizational effectiveness. An institution's leadership capacity includes the fidelity and commitment to its institutional purpose and direction, the effectiveness of governance and leadership to enable the institution to realize its stated objectives, the ability to engage and involve stakeholders in meaningful and productive ways, and the capacity to implement strategies that improve learner and educator performance.

Leadership Capacity Standards		Rating
1.1	The institution commits to a purpose statement that defines beliefs about teaching and learning, including the expectations for learners.	Emerging
1.2	Stakeholders collectively demonstrate actions to ensure the achievement of the institution's purpose and desired outcomes for learners.	Meets Expectations
1.3	The institution engages in a continuous improvement process that produces evidence, including measurable results of improving student learning and professional practice.	Emerging
1.4	The governing authority establishes and ensures adherence to policies that are designed to support institutional effectiveness.	Exceeds Expectations
1.5	The governing authority adheres to a code of ethics and functions within defined roles and responsibilities.	Exceeds Expectations
1.6	Leaders implement staff supervision and evaluation processes to improve professional practice and organizational effectiveness.	Meets Expectations
1.7	Leaders implement operational processes and procedures to ensure organizational effectiveness in support of teaching and learning.	Exceeds Expectations
1.8	Leaders engage stakeholders to support the achievement of the institution's purpose and direction.	Meets Expectations
1.9	The institution provides experiences that cultivate and improve leadership effectiveness.	Meets Expectations
1.10	Leaders collect and analyze a range of feedback data from multiple stakeholder groups to inform decision-making that results in improvement.	Emerging
1.11	Leaders utilize ethical marketing and communication practices.	Emerging

Learning Capacity Domain

The impact of teaching and learning on student achievement and success is the primary expectation of every institution. An effective learning culture is characterized by positive and productive teacher/learner relationships, high expectations and standards, a challenging and engaging curriculum, quality instruction and comprehensive support that enable all learners to be successful, and assessment practices (formative and summative) that monitor and measure learner progress and achievement. Moreover, a quality institution evaluates the impact of its learning culture, including all programs and support services, and adjusts accordingly.

Learning Capacity Standards	Rating
-----------------------------	--------

Learning Capacity Standards		Rating
2.1	Learners have equitable opportunities to develop skills and achieve the content and learning priorities established by the institution.	Exceeds Expectations
2.2	The learning culture promotes creativity, innovation and collaborative problem-solving.	Emerging
2.3	The learning culture develops learners' attitudes, beliefs and skills needed for success.	Exceeds Expectations
2.4	The institution has a formal structure to ensure learners are supported during their educational experiences.	Meets Expectations
2.5	Educators implement a curriculum that is based on high expectations and prepares learners for their next levels.	Meets Expectations
2.6	The institution implements a process to ensure the curriculum is aligned to standards and best practices.	Meets Expectations
2.7	Instruction is monitored and adjusted to meet individual learners' needs and the institution's learning expectations.	Meets Expectations
2.8	The institution provides programs and services for learners' educational future and career planning.	Emerging
2.9	The institution implements, evaluates, and monitors processes to identify and address the specialized social, emotional, developmental, and academic needs of students.	Exceeds Expectations
2.10	Learning progress is reliably assessed and consistently and clearly communicated.	Exceeds Expectations
2.11	Educators gather, analyze, and use formative and summative data that lead to demonstrable improvement of student learning.	Exceeds Expectations
2.12	The institution implements a process to continuously assess its programs and organizational conditions to improve student learning.	Emerging
2.13	The institution ensures authenticity in student learning in a digital learning environment.	Emerging

Resource Capacity Domain

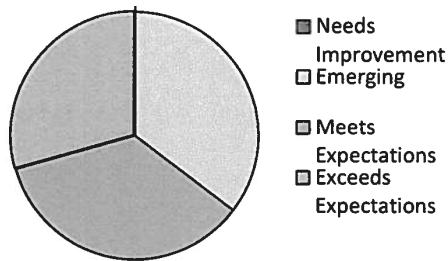
The use and distribution of resources support the stated mission of the institution. Institutions ensure that resources are distributed and utilized equitably so that the needs of all learners are adequately and effectively addressed. The utilization of resources includes support for professional learning for all staff. The institution examines the allocation and use of resources to ensure appropriate levels of funding, sustainability, organizational effectiveness, and increased student learning.

Resource Capacity Standards		Rating
3.1	The institution plans and delivers professional learning to improve the learning environment, learner achievement, and the institution's effectiveness.	Meets Expectations
3.2	The institution's professional learning structure and expectations promote collaboration and collegiality to improve learner performance and organizational effectiveness.	Exceeds Expectations
3.3	The institution provides induction, mentoring, and coaching programs that ensure all staff members have the knowledge and skills to improve student performance and organizational effectiveness.	Meets Expectations
3.4	The institution attracts and retains qualified personnel who support the institution's purpose and direction.	Emerging

Resource Capacity Standards		Rating
3.5	The institution integrates digital resources into teaching, learning, and operations to improve professional practice, student performance, and organizational effectiveness.	Meets Expectations
3.6	The institution provides access to information resources and materials to support the curriculum, programs, and needs of students, staff, and the institution.	Meets Expectations
3.7	The institution demonstrates strategic resource management that includes long-range planning and use of resources in support of the institution's purpose and direction.	Emerging
3.8	The institution allocates human, material, and fiscal resources in alignment with the institution's identified needs and priorities to improve student performance and organizational effectiveness.	Emerging
3.9	The institution provides an effective Learning Management System.	Exceeds Expectations
3.10	The institution's technology infrastructure supports teaching, learning and operational effectiveness.	Emerging

Findings

The chart below provides an overview of the institution ratings across the three Domains.



Rating	Number of Standards
Needs Improvement	0
Emerging	12
Meets Expectations	12
Exceeds Expectations	10

Powerful Practices

Powerful Practices reflect noteworthy observations and actions that have yielded clear results in student achievement or organizational effectiveness and are actions that exceed what is typically observed or expected in an institution.

Powerful Practice #1	Primary Standard: 2.3
Statement: Another Choice Virtual Charter School has created a culture of student success through a structure of support that develops the student's beliefs in their ability to learn.	
Evidence: The Review Team's interviews with stakeholders revealed that Another Choice Virtual Charter School has strong academic counseling services that effectively meet the individual needs of a wide variety of learners. It is evident through student and parent interviews that the school provides a supportive and caring culture which is demonstrated by all staff members. The school provided evidence in surveys, SIS review, teacher handbooks and	

the learning management system demonstrating an effective communication network between school and stakeholder needs.

Opportunities for Improvement

Opportunities for Improvement are those actions that will guide and direct institutions to specific areas that are worthy of additional attention.

Opportunity for Improvement #1 Primary Standard: 2.12

Statement:

Compile existing practices for data analysis of programs and organizational conditions into a written action plan to include specific goals with evaluation timelines.

Evidence:

Peripheral evidence exists through staff, student, and parent interviews that data is used to improve student learning; however there is no written documented evidence of evaluation practices that indicate whether or not specific plans have been developed to meet the goals stated in the continuous improvement plan. In interviews, the Review Team heard that the school programs are generally adjusted based on need rather than a formalized procedure. This continuous improvement plan, when formalized in a written form, will indicate a timeline of program needs identification, data gathering and analysis, implementation, and evaluation.

Improvement Priorities

Improvement priorities are developed to enhance the capacity of the institution to reach a higher level of performance and reflect the areas identified by the Engagement Review Team to have the greatest impact on improving student performance and organizational effectiveness.

Improvement Priority #1 Primary Standard: 3.10

Statement:

Develop and implement a written technology plan and crisis management plan, including a systematic evaluation process.

Evidence:

Interviews with staff indicated procedures for some components are in place, but no written plan is evident. The plan given to the Review Team addressed technology acquisition needs for the facility and/or Learning Management System only. The Review Team did not see, even in isolation, evidence of procedures for outages, data security, protection for confidentiality, system protection, and help desk procedures.

Accreditation Recommendation and Index of Educational Quality™ (IEQ™)

The Engagement Review Team recommends to the AdvancED Accreditation Commission that the institution earns the distinction of accreditation for a five-year term. AdvancED will review the results of the Engagement Review to make a final determination, including the appropriate next steps for the institution in response to these findings.

AdvancED provides the Index of Education Quality™ (IEQ™) as a holistic measure of overall performance based on a comprehensive set of standards and review criteria. A formative tool for improvement, it identifies areas of success as well as areas in need of focus. The IEQ is comprised of the Standards Diagnostic ratings from the three Domains: 1) Leadership Capacity; 2) Learning Capacity; and 3) Resource Capacity and the results of elite classroom observations. The IEQ results are reported on a scale of 100 to 400 and provides information about how the institution is performing compared to expected criteria.

Institution IEQ**325.75**

Conclusion Narrative

The Another Choice Virtual Charter School is in the process of an effort to formalize a cycle that will result in continuous improvement. They are evolving their educational program to not only meet the needs of specialized students to include more online education for more traditional students. The Review Team heard from stakeholders and school personnel about the use of effective protocols in a focused education of the “learning differences” population (which will have positive benefits for all students). The model of continuous improvement will be critical in moving forward. Their current structure of improvement has many elements of strength. The school has an improvement cycle that has access to appropriate data and has been used to fine-tune student learning and professional practice. The evolution of defining a problem, generating appropriate data, clear reporting, and analysis, implementing strategies and evaluation of the journey will support improvement in professional practices and institutional effectiveness. The institution has a structure that will support such a journey with time (Fridays), staff committed to the mission and vision and an informal initiative cycle already in place. Those existing elements can be expanded to transform the cycle of improvement to a more formal process. This process will support all efforts use in meeting the requirements by outside agencies that keep knocking at the door. Individual student’s needs are met through an effective use in the advocate and content interventions and ongoing adjustments (formal and informal learning plans).

The road to the AdvancED visit has been described as good learning journey for Another Choice VCS as an institution and leadership group. The challenge to evolve and maintain the purpose of the school has been met through first, a self-study of procedures and protocols of improvement that not only provided “requirements” for outside agencies, but second, a look at the school’s improvement cycle that needs to be a spiral of effective growth rather than a hamster wheel leading nowhere. The Review Team can say Another Choice Virtual Charter School has processes that are emerging and certainly can be used to develop continuous improvement practices as outlined in the AdvancED model.

The school system now must not only pay close attention to the Improvement Priority outlined in this report but also must pay attention to the areas that are in the category of Emerging or Meets. Maintaining the momentum established through a continuous improvement model will be the challenge for Another Choice VCS. Research has shown that the change from a model that sets a focus on specific sets of outcomes to a continuous improvement model is a mindset challenge. The energy needed to create this model will soon be replaced by the energy gained through connections and momentum. The new culture based upon continuous improvement will take an institution through achievements more powerful than one individual or “leadership team” could imagine. The Engagement Review Team appreciates the opportunity to join the Improvement Journey of Another Choice Virtual Charter School, though briefly, and acknowledges the efforts of all stakeholders in providing quality opportunities for all learners to achieve academic success.

Next Steps

The results of the Engagement Review provide the next step to guide the improvement journey of the institution in their efforts to improve the quality of educational opportunities for all learners. The findings are aligned to research-based criteria designed to improve student learning and organizational effectiveness. The feedback provided in the Accreditation Engagement Review Report will assist the institution in reflecting on their current improvement efforts and to adapt and adjust their plans to continuously strive for improvement.

Upon receiving the Accreditation Engagement Review Report the institution is encouraged to implement the following steps:

- Review and share the findings with stakeholders.
- Develop plans to address the Improvement Priorities identified by the Engagement Review Team.
- Use the findings and data from the report to guide and strengthen the institution's continuous improvement efforts.
- Celebrate the successes noted in the report
- Continue your Improvement Journey

Team Roster

The Engagement Review Teams are comprised of professionals with varied backgrounds and professional experiences. All Lead Evaluators and Engagement Review Team members complete AdvancED training and elect® certification to provide knowledge and understanding of the AdvancED tools and processes. The following professionals served on the Engagement Review Team:

Team Member Name	Brief Biography
Rich Webb	Richard Webb recently retired as a principal of a 10-12 high school in Boise, Idaho. Rich has a B.S. degree in Math; secondary education from Boise State and an M. Ed. in Educational Leadership from the University of Idaho. Rich's 34-year career in education included 8 years as a secondary math teacher and 10 years as a high school assistant principal, 8 ½ years as 7-9 junior high principal and 7 ½ years as principal of the 10-12 high school. Rich has served on several AdvancED Engagement Reviews in Idaho and recently a systems review in South Carolina. Rich will be a lead for AdvancED Leadership Teams in Idaho.
Kathleen Allison	Kathleen McLane Allison is Executive Director for iSucceed Virtual High School. The Executive Director position administers all district and charter roles and responsibilities, is a liaison between the Board, accountability agencies, and staff, as well as top-level management of all school/district personnel. Ms. Allison holds an MS in Education and is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Idaho. She also holds a BA in Social Science/Sociology with a minor in Theatre. She has been with iSucceed since its opening as a Teacher, Department Chair, Operations Manager, Principal and now as a Charter Administrator. Ms. Allison has given several presentations at national/international conferences and has a completed thesis with the University of Idaho, "Obstacles and Opportunities: Online instruction with incarcerated youth" (2009, University of Idaho). Prior to iSucceed, she worked for 10 years for the State of Idaho, Department of Juvenile Corrections as a teacher and later as an Education Program Supervisor (Principal). During her time at IDJC, she underwent a successful accreditation review as a special purpose school and will be undergoing a review for iSVHS for 2017-2018.

Team Member Name	Brief Biography
Bryan Cox	Bryon Cox has served individuals with disabilities as a special education teacher in public schools for 10 years. During his time as a special educator, Bryon has primarily served students with behavioral and emotional disorders and has assisted fellow educators in developing their capacities as managers of student crisis as a Right Response trainer. He is currently a 9th-grade resource room teacher at a junior high school in the Boise School District. Bryon has served two terms as a board member of the Idaho Council for Children with Behavior Disorders and currently serves as the website and publications manager for the Idaho Council for Exceptional Children. Bryon holds a Masters of Education in Special Education and is in the process of obtaining a Masters of Educational Leadership.
Lora Seabaugh	Lora Seabaugh is the principal of Initial Point High School in Kuna, Idaho. She has been with Initial Point since it opened eight years ago. Prior to Initial Point, Lora worked within the alternative programs in the Nampa School District. Lora has been involved in secondary education over the past 20 years as a classroom teacher, dean of students, assistant principal, and principal. Her passion really is serving those who are at-risk and need that extra time and attention to find success. Lora has served on three engagement review teams over the past four years.
Jeff Simmons	Jeff Simmons is the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for Idaho Digital Learning. In this position, he oversees the Content Team, and all curriculum revision and development activities. He also serves as the principal for Idaho Digital Learning's Full-Time Teachers, collaborates with other teams, and serves on the Leadership Team. Jeff holds an MA in Educational Leadership from the University of Idaho, and a BA in Social Studies and English Education from Northwest Nazarene University. He has experience as a classroom teacher, both online and face-to-face, and as an administrator for Idaho Digital Learning. He has served on several accreditation review teams and on the accreditation team for Idaho Digital Learning.
Dennis Wilson	Dennis Wilson is in his 30th year of being an educator. Currently he is serving in his first year as the Superintendent of Richard McKenna Charter Schools in Mountain Home ID. This is his first year in a Charter School environment. Dennis served as a Spanish/Computer Science teacher for six years in Michigan before entering the realm of administration. His career has taken him from Michigan to Wyoming and now in Idaho. His previous district was Bruneau/Grand View located in Owyhee County, Idaho. He has his BS in Secondary Education, and a Master and Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership. Dennis has served on several accreditation review teams and enjoys the experience. He likes to see how other schools serve their students and has always taken away at least one item to help improve his school or district



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About AdvancED

AdvancED is a non-profit, non-partisan organization serving the largest community of education professionals in the world. Founded on more than 100 years of work in continuous improvement, AdvancED combines the knowledge and expertise of a research institute, the skills of a management consulting firm and the passion of a grassroots movement for educational change to empower Pre-K-12 schools and school systems to ensure that all learners realize their full potential.

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ANOTHER CHOICE VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

LEA # 476 / School # 1247
1014 W. Hemingway Blvd.
Nampa, Idaho 83651

Laura Sandidge, Ph.D.
Administrator / Head of School
208-475-4255
lsandidge@anotherchoicecharter.org

John Kelleher, Ph.D.
Board Chair
208-475-4255
jkelleher@anotherchoicecharter.org

Mission Statement: *Another Choice Virtual Charter School seeks to provide a safe, individualized education experience for children with and without disabilities to enable them to meet their full potential both intellectually and socially. Another Choice Virtual School is a charter school that is built on academic achievement, the development of social competence, with a primary focus of assisting individuals with learning differences to become full and active members of their school and community.*

<i>K = 7</i>	<i>7th = 31</i>
<i>1st = 19</i>	<i>8th = 40</i>
<i>2nd = 8</i>	<i>9th = 45</i>
<i>3rd = 11</i>	<i>10th = 56</i>
<i>4th = 12</i>	<i>11th = 69</i>
<i>5th = 17</i>	<i>12th = 76</i>
<i>6th = 24</i>	<i>Total = 415</i>

REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

On behalf of ANOTHER CHOICE VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. ("ACVS"), the undersigned authorized representative acknowledges the receipt of the Notice and Acknowledgment of Commission Director's Recommendation for Nonrenewal of Charter dated November 15, 2021 ("Notice"). ACVS does not agree with the Director's recommendation as stated in the Notice, and is hereby exercising its right to an administrative hearing before the Idaho Public Charter School Commission ("Commission").

The hearing will be held at the date and place to be set forth in a Notice of Hearing, which will be issued by the Commission by no later than January 15, 2022. ACVS will proceed to the hearing under the terms and requirements set forth in the Notice of Hearing. ACVS acknowledges that, at the conclusion of the hearing and after a reasonable period for deliberation, the Commission will vote to either renew ACVS's charter with no conditions, renew ACVS's charter with conditions, or nonrenew ACVS's charter.

Dated: 12-9-21.



Authorized Representative
Board Chair/President
ANOTHER CHOICE VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL,
INC.

REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING - 1

Executive Summary

Pursuant to Idaho Code section 33-5209B the Director of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission recommended that Another Choice Virtual Charter School, ACVS, not be renewed. The following document outlines and addresses the changes that have been implemented, and are proposed by ACVS to be implemented, to address the concerns outlined by the Commission. As always, ACVS is willing to accept additional suggestions on how to make improvements to resolve the cited concerns.

Narrative

ACVS did not meet standard on “Operational Measure 3a: Governance Requirements” of the Commission’s Performance Framework. This Reason pertained to a Board Member who obtained a pecuniary benefit from a contract entered into with the ACVS; and when notified of the issue, failed to take prompt steps to address the concern. Several steps have been taken, and additional steps will be taken to address these concerns.

The improvements planned for Another Choice Virtual Charter School’s certificate term in the area of governance are as follows:

- To begin, the Director involved has resigned and no longer is affiliated with the school.
- The Board will be increasing its membership from 5 members to 7 members, and is actively seeking applicants who have previous, successful experience as a charter school director. These additional board members will possess and apply their extensive experience with charter school governance to our organization.
- In addition, the Board has received, and will continue to receive, training through the Idaho School Board Association (ISBA) regarding Board ethics and Board governance. During meetings held on November 19, 2021 and December 9, 2021 the Board firmly established its two priorities for ongoing training in multiple areas of governance as an effort to actively increase their knowledge of governance procedures.
- Dr. Kelleher, who has been the Chairman of the Board since 2013, will be transitioning from the Chairman of the Board to a Board Director when an individual has been secured to take on his position.
- ACVS is ready and willing to accept additional suggested improvements to resolve the cited concerns.

Operational Outcomes Board Stewardship: Another Choice Virtual Charter School, ACVS, has worked with the Idaho School Boards Association, ISBA, for several years and modeled our structure and policies per its School District Policy manuals, which we initially purchased in 2010. We have kept our membership intact and purchased the policy update option for our

Charter several years ago. This calendar year, ACVS purchased the newer Charter School Policy manual through ISBA and are in the process of converting to the new manual.

As requested, ACVS submitted our policies to the Idaho Public Charter School Commission. Policy documents were requested from the Program Manager of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission on March 12, 2021. ACVS submitted all the policies to the commission on May 16, 2021. It is acknowledged that, due to formatting issues as well as end-of- the year responsibilities surrounding graduation and academic needs during an especially trying year with the myriad number of restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, that Dr. Sandidge was not timely in this submission to the Commission. Dr. Sandidge did ultimately seek out technological assistance in order to submit the policies in the proper format to the Commission. ACVS has not been informed prior to the proposed Annual Performance Report 2021 received in November 2021 that our policies may be incomplete, as indicated by the words, “Based on IPCSC review, the board’s policies appear to be incomplete.” We look forward to continuing our work with the Idaho Public Charter School Commission to fully understand what that means and ensure we are in compliance.

Our Board arranged for an individualized training through ISBA for Ethical Practices, as well as having representatives attend the ISBA annual convention. We are continuing to work with ISBA for additional training and have worked with Anderson, Julian, & Hull, LLP for additional training on Board practices. Our Board is open and actively seeking training and will continue in this endeavor.

Kevin McLaren was a member on ACVS’s Board. He was a co-owner of a corporation that provided services to ACVS. While he worked diligently to abstain from any voting that could have been perceived as a conflict of interest, it was still an area of concern that we have since addressed on several levels. Mr. McLaren resigned from the board to ensure there was no conflict or possible mismanagement. After an initial investigation from the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, there was a referral from Idaho Public Charter School Commission to the Canyon County Prosecutor for serving on the board while being connected to businesses affiliated with ACVS. No charges were ever issued and no action was ever taken against Mr. McLaren from the Canyon County Prosecutor nor anyone else affiliated with our organization.

The improvements planned for Another Choice Virtual Charter School’s certificate term in the area of governance oversight and operational compliance are as follows:

- At the December 9, 2021 meeting Dr. Sandidge submitted her resignation that will go into effect at the end of the 2021 / 2022 school year. This move will ensure that there is no possibility of a conflict of interest between Dr. Sandidge and any locations or contractors ACVS works with going forward.

- At the December 9, 2021 meeting ACVS Board of Directors determined that two full time administrative positions will be created and recruited for to replace the role Dr. Sandidge will vacate. These roles will be what is typically viewed as a school superintendent and a school principal. The search for the administrative positions will be conducted by a search committee and will be advertised through ISBA early in 2022.
- Starting in April and May of 2021, ACVS restructured two positions which included updating job structure and hiring to take on the responsibilities of Human Resources and the Clerk of the Board, as well as ISEE Reporting.

ACVS did not meet standard on “Operational Measure 3b: Board Oversight” of the Commission’s Performance Framework, which required ACVS’s governing board to practice consistent and effective oversight over the school and its administrator. Dr. Sandidge has been an administrator with ACVS since 2010. She is also a co-owner of a corporation that provided services to ACVS. The relationship was documented with the initial charter authorization within the resume and physical initial location of operation. It was the interpretation that this information was known by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission initially in 2010 as it was documented within the charter documents. Additionally, this was public information. However, as the school grew and as time progressed this public information was not continuously documented adequately. As a result, Dr. Sandidge received a letter of reprimand by the Professional Standards Commission. A requirement for that letter of reprimand is, prior to recertification in 2025, Dr. Sandidge must complete an ethics training. It is acknowledged that to date, while that training has been personally purchased by Dr. Sandidge it has not been completed. Dr. Sandidge did confirm with the Professional Standards Commission when that needed to be completed and that information was verbally discussed with the Idaho Public Charter School Commission staff. Dr. Sandidge was not told by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission this needed to be completed earlier than what was specified by the Professional Standards Commission, therefore the standard on “Operational Measure 5a: Additional Obligations” is still in progress within the timeframes outlined by the Professional Standards Commission.

Additionally, as a result of the investigation from the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, there was a referral from Idaho Public Charter School Commission to the Canyon County Prosecutor for being connected to businesses affiliated with ACVS. No charges were ever issued and no action was ever taken against Dr. Sandidge from the Canyon County Prosecutor. That has additionally been made public information.

Dr. Sandidge acknowledges that she did not guide the school well in regards to procurement procedures when establishing financial contacts. Once she was made aware of expected procurement structures and policies, Dr. Sandidge sought out extensive legal guidance to ensure that these procedures were addressed as needed. Upon the completion of their extensive review she fully adhered to their advice. Requests for bids were posted in July and subsequently

awarded in the fall of 2021. The entire process was fully overseen by legal counsel to ensure it was done appropriately.

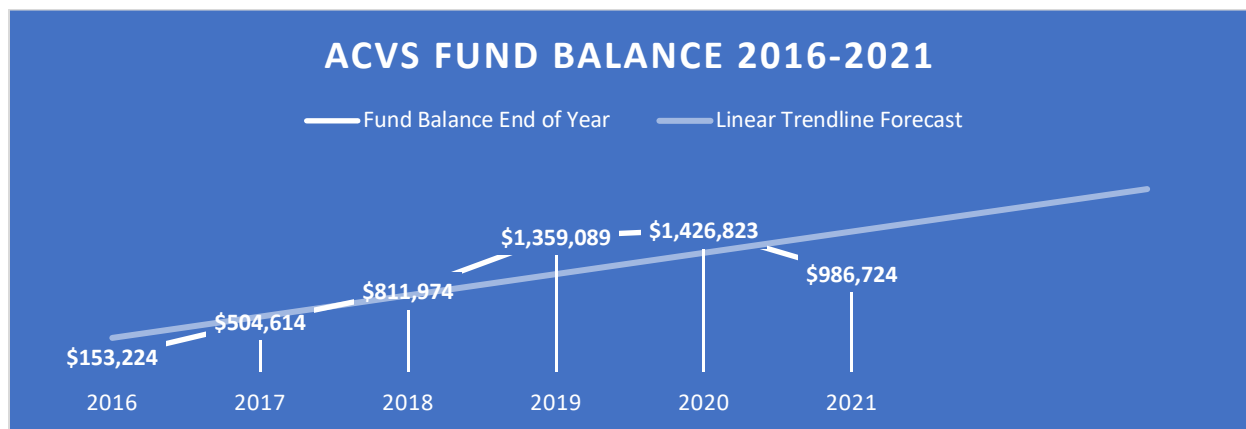
As is often the case in schools, staff are responsible for a variety of areas. As adjustments to the pandemic made clear in 2020, our overall staff responsibilities had grown enough beyond capacity that positions would need to be adjusted in order to ensure that tasks were completed appropriately and in a timely manner. This process is still an ongoing. Our school continues to work on balancing the tasks and roles of staff to ensure they have the time and the training to be equipped to do their tasks well. As part of this goal of continuing to improve our school, four individuals took over key roles within our organization in April and May of 2021. This restructuring has enabled the administrator to delegate key responsibilities to further ensure work on tasks would be addressed in a comprehensive and timely fashion.

These functional leaders began the arduous task of learning these new tasks as of April of 2021. Human Resources and Clerk of the Board were placed into one position and a new staff member was hired for that position. Two highly experienced special educators took on the role of coordination of our extensive special education and 504 accommodation program. Additionally, we fully changed over our ISEE reporter. All of those positions have undergone significant training both inside and outside of ACVS and have worked collaboratively with the Idaho Department of Education, the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, and various outside training entities to ensure they are equipped for the positions they hold. All are key in helping to ensure that operational compliance is addressed. To date these changes have proven very beneficial to address the standard “Operational Measure 3c: Reporting Requirements” of the Commission’s Performance Framework.

The improvements planned for Another Choice Virtual Charter School’s certificate term in the area of Fiscal Accountability are as follows:

- ACVS has zero debt and enough reserves to sustain school operations for 3.2 months (96 days) without revenue. As you can see in the following table, within the past five years we have significantly improved our Fund Balance each year with the exception of last year during the height of the COVID19 pandemic.

ACVS Fiscal Year	Fund Balance End of Year	Fund Balance Improvement End of Year
2016	\$153,224	
2017	\$504,614	\$351,390
2018	\$811,974	\$307,360
2019	\$1,359,089	\$543,006
2020	\$1,426,823	\$67,734
2021	\$986,724	-\$440,099



We have a good history of financial success and improvement demonstrated by real numbers confirmed by our auditor. ACVS did not take any loans during the Covid-19 pandemic and has never taken out a loan for any reason. We work hard to manage resources to the end that our diverse student population is well served. Our distinct student population remains at the forefront of our planning as we strategically spend each dollar for their sole benefit. Not unlike other schools our enrollment numbers dropped during the pandemic. However, we are currently experiencing a return to normal enrollment figures, and expect to continue in this direction in the near future. Regardless, with no debt and significant reserves we anticipate being able to weather occasional downturns.

In the Idaho Public Charter School Commission Annual Performance Reports of 2017 / 2018, 2018 / 2019, and 2019 / 2020 ACVS was provided with the “Accountability Designation” of “Honor” in the “Financial Outcome” component. In 2020 / 2021 the “Accountability Designation” was determined to be “N/A”. According to the performance reports prepared and distributed by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, ACVS’s Fiscal Accountability was considered exemplary and was provided with a designation of “Honor”, which is above and beyond the designation of “Good Standing”.

Our auditor, Dan Coleman, CPA of Quest CPAs PLLC, has confirmed and agrees with our perspective of the numbers and data I am providing here. I am unsure as to why the Idaho Public

Charter School Commission's recent report recommending non-renewal, characterized "ACVS's financial audit for fiscal year 2021" as reflecting or being "indicative of financial distress". In our auditors' own words, he addressed the "Net Change in Fund Balance" as follows:

Large decrease due to a reduction in state funding for prior year ISEE reporting discrepancies. The School has made adjustments to make sure those discrepancies don't happen in the future. Although we showed a big loss for FY21, we did have prior year fund balance carryforward that was able to absorb the loss. **The ending fund balance / carryover is about a 3-month operating reserve which is still on the high-end of our 11/2 - 3-month recommendation.**

Throughout the past five years ACVS has consistently improved its financial position. As evidenced by our improving fund balance seen above, ACVS is in a much stronger financial position today than we were five years ago. In fact, we are in a much stronger financial position today than we were three years ago when we earned the Financial Outcome accountability designation of "Honor" from the Idaho Public Charter School Commission in annual performance reports mentioned above.

Fiscal year 2021 was challenging on a number of levels for our school, and all schools, due in large part to the pandemic which started at the beginning of 2020 (end of fiscal year 2020). Prior to the pandemic we enjoyed the privilege of having a waitlist of students who wanted to enroll at ACVS because we were at maximum capacity with enrollment numbers. The privilege of having a waitlist and maximum enrollment waned throughout the pandemic. However, despite diminishing enrollment numbers in addition to a state-wide reduction in state funding due to the pandemic, ACVS did not experience financial hardship. We did not experience financial hardship because we were responsible with our budget and accumulated sufficient funds to withstand potential hardship. We currently remain prepared to weather potential hardship, should the need present itself.

The improvements planned for Another Choice Virtual Charter School's certificate term in the area of Data Security and Transparency are as follows:

- ACVS has made great efforts at working towards increasing data security and transparency on our website. ACVS has worked with our website developer to further enhance the ease of accessing information from our site. This is a matter of great importance to us and we will continue to work with our website developer and the Idaho Public Charter School Commission to keep our site accessible to all.

ACVS did not meet standard on "Operational Measure 3d: Public Transparency" of the Commission's Performance Framework. As required by PCSC policy an ACVS Board Meeting was observed by Mr. Dawson. While Mr. Dawson has attended multiple board meetings and

Director Thompson attended one board meeting we were provided one observation form written below which was addressed according to a follow up email from Mr. Dawson.

School: ACVS

PCSC Board Meeting Observation Summary

Observation Date: 2/17/2021

Observer: Jared Dawson

ACVS Board of Directors-

Below you will find the summary of the PCSC board meeting observation required by PCSC Policies & Procedures (updated on August 13th,2020). The intent of this observation is to follow PCSC standard and serves as documentation of the fulfillment of your annual requirements. If you have any questions/comments/concerns regarding the summary below, please feel free to reach out to the Program Managers or PCSC Director. You have 5 days from the date of receipt of this summary to provide any follow-up as needed.

Director's Name	Office (if applicable)	Present/Remote/Absent
John Kelleher	Chair	Remote
Misty Puckett	Secretary/Treasurer	Remote
Ruth Kropp	Director	Remote
Laura Shoemaker	Director	Remote
School Leadership	Title	Present/Remote/Absent
Laura Sandidge	Administrator	Remote
Ross Jones	Business Manager	Remote

ACVS Observation Summary

Observation Category	Status	Date
Open Meeting Law	Concern	2/17/2021
Public Participation	No Concern	2/17/2021
Operational Efficacy	No Concern	2/17/2021
Academic Achievement	No Concern	2/17/2021
Financial Health	No Concern	2/17/2021



Laura Shoemaker <lshoemaker@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Meeting

Jared Dawson <Jared.Dawson@osbe.idaho.gov>

Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 1:51 PM

To: Laura Shoemaker <lshoemaker@anotherchoicecharter.org>

Absolutely, Laura. I'm including the formal meeting observation from March, as that is really the only meeting that I took notes on, and it is a required part of the renewal packet. There was a concern about an open meeting law violation with the agenda not being posted in the summary, and that was eventually resolved as it was tied to the new/old website changes, etc.

I don't know if I took notes for the other meetings, as I was mainly there just to keep tabs on where you were in the process (ethics training, contracts, etc.). I can go back and look through my notepads just to make sure, and send that information over to you, but there's nothing in a word doc or formal observation or anything like that. A lot of my contact and follow-up communication was done with Laura via either phone or email.

I'm just fine with working with you as the liaison, and I hope from your perspective you can trust that I'll be transparent and work with you as best I can through this process. Thank you for the heads up on the meeting tomorrow – I know I've been attending all of your meetings – however, with this one, I don't plan on attending unless you recommend that I be there. I know this is difficult and an emotional situation, and I don't want to add any unnecessary pressure and give your team a chance to breathe a little as you begin working through this. If you disagree with this thinking and think it would be a good idea for me to attend instead let me know (with the agenda specifically set for mostly executive session, I also don't have anything to observe, really, although I could be mistaken).

As soon as your board and legal counsel decide how they want to go, I can be as involved in the process to whatever extent or capacity you wish, and will be available to answer whatever questions you have. I appreciate how difficult this situation is and how everyone on your team must be feeling right now. I also want to say thank you for coming to the Renewal presentation yesterday – hopefully that conversation was productive, answered some of your questions, and helped you see how the process should look moving forward. Let me know if you have any questions, and thank you.

JARED DAWSON

Program Manager, Idaho Public Charter School Commission

(208) 332-1585

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[Quoted text hidden]

Laura Shoemaker

ACVS Board Clerk / HR

lshoemaker@anotherchoicecharter.org

The improvements planned for Another Choice Virtual Charter School's certificate term in the area of Academic Outcomes are as follows:

- ACVS has made great efforts at increasing Academic Outcomes for all students at ACVS. Our school was identified to be involved with the Department of Education School Improvement project beginning with the 2018 / 2019 school year for a three-year cycle. All schools identified were continued for a fourth year due to the impacts of the pandemic. This has been a major activity for all staff at ACVS. We have fully adjusted multiple key elements of our school's academic program in an effort to increase academic outcomes for all students. While schools have not been identified as yet for school improvement in the 2022 / 2023 school year at this point all meetings with the Department of Education School Improvement project team have indicated that ACVS has sufficiently progressed to the extent that we will no longer be eligible for that supportive and empowering program.
- ACVS plans to continue to develop our staff's capacity in understanding how to better work with students that have experienced trauma. Our school is moving towards a trauma informed model of serving students that stresses academic success and increased mental health.

Since ACVS did have academic concerns according to our last renewal ACVS expected there would be a team site visit as per PCSC policy for the purpose of observing the school's Key Design Elements. This visit has not been scheduled or discussed with ACVS administration prior to this report, most likely due to the pandemic. Therefore key design elements along with data that supports positive academic change is occurring at ACVS will be provided.

ACVS clearly serves a wonderfully diverse population as was the goal of our original charter. This has been discussed with Director Thompson recently when discussing what schools would provide appropriate data comparables to ACVS. Director Thompson and Dr. Sandidge both agreed that while there is no true comparable due to the unique demographics of our students, our school would most likely best be compare to an alternative school. This was consistent with a condition that was placed on ACVS at the last reauthorization.

ACVS's 2019 five (5) year cohort graduation rate will be at least thirty-five percent (35%). Five (5) year cohort graduation rate data for 2019 will be available in early 2020. This condition is based on a rate of increase sufficient to promote ACVS's ability to achieve a five (5) year cohort graduation rate of at least forty-eight percent (48%) by the end of the next performance certificate term. Forty-eight percent (48%) is the 2014 median five (5) year cohort graduation rate for Idaho alternative schools. Although ACVS is not an alternative school, the Commission recognizes that its student population faces similar challenges.

That condition, while dropped due to the Covid-19 pandemic was met due to the changes our school has made. The 2019 / 2020 4 Year Graduation rate was 49.5% and our 5 Year Graduation rate was 52.2%. While the graduation rate for 2020-2021 school year has not been fully compiled from the State our initial data indicates that our rate will continue to move forward by being closer to 55%.

The student demographics for Another Choice Virtual Charter School is as follows: ACVS currently has 415 students. That population is approximately 50% females and 50% males. Those students further go on to be 36% non-white; 29% on an Individualized Education Plan, 10% on a 504 Accommodation Plan; and 69% of all our students qualify for At-Risk according to Idaho's definition of At-Risk, which means that 69% of our student population is at risk for academic failure or dropping out of school. Additionally, .01% of that population is three or more years behind grade, .07% are two or more years behind grade level, and .38% of the population is approximately one year behind grade level. While this doesn't always impact the graduation rate, it does impact motivation for students to continue with their education. .10% of our current population are already 18 or older. While many students have been consistent with ACVS for many years, there is significant mobility which is as indicative of a high at-risk population.

Additionally, the pandemic exacerbated the mobility rate during the 2020 / 2021 school year considerably. The mobility rate is determined by calculating the total number of new student entries and withdrawals during the year divided by the total opening day enrollment. Therefore, the mobility rate for the 2020 / 2021 school year was 118%. The mobility rate is still being determined for the 2021 / 2022 school year, however, to date it is 72%. This data could include students that entered and withdrew from ACVS multiple times throughout the year due to various circumstances. The population of mobile students require staff that continually work extensively to help students connect with their environment, their curriculum, teachers, as well as other students. Our teachers and staff are continually being taught better ways to engage their students. This has been a successful school improvement goal.

While ACVS's academic performance has been consistently low throughout the current Performance Certificate term we have consistently worked individually with every student that attends ACVS to ameliorate the situation. Given the demographics of our student population the school improvement focus has been on growth in ELA, Math, and Informational Reading, for all students. We have specifically focused on students in grades 6, 7, and 8 as those grades have typically proven to be the population that has experienced the slowest amount of growth. They also represent the key transition grades from elementary to high school. ACVS has utilized the Interims as a tool within the State ISAT portal extensively in order to facilitate student growth. Growth is monitored continuously. The data in Interims and in NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress, MAPs, have been specifically individualized and reviewed continually for students in 7th and 8th grade to measure growth at the student level, as demonstrated below.

Number System	Opportunity #1	Opportunity #2	Opportunity #3	Analyze & Solve Linear Equations	Opportunity #1	Opportunity #2	Opportunity #3	Proportional Relationships	Opportunity #1	Opportunity #2	Opportunity #3
Student A	6/13 At/Near Standard	8/13 Above Standard		Student A	6/12 At/Near Standard	8/12 Above Standard	9/12 Above Standard	Student A	2/10 Below Standard	8/10 Above Standard	
Student B	7/13 At/Near Standard	9/13 Above Standard		Student B	2/12 Below Standard	6/12 At/Near Standard	6/12 At/Near Standard	Student B	2/10 Below Standard	6/10 At/Near Standard	
Student C	3/13 At/Near Standard	2/13 Below Standard		Student C	1/12 Below Standard	3/12 At/Near Standard	4/12 At/Near Standard	Student C	1/10 Below Standard	2/10 Below Standard	

During the pandemic, and even with an extremely high student mobility rate, ACVS actually outperformed the state on the ISAT in scale growth for math for our students in 6th grade and in both ELA and math for our students in 10th grade when comparing the growth rate for all students in ACVS in comparison to all students across the state. Additionally, it bears noting that students with special needs are a major focus for our school, therefore we cannot neglect the fact that there is a population of students that need to be celebrated for their growth even though more standardized testing may not reflect it as pronounced as we would like. Progress can and should be measured in a variety of ways. We have seen it as our students blossom and grow in an environment that allows for their differences and focuses on taking the student where they are at while encouraging them to fully realize their academic and personal goals. It is incredibly difficult to statistically measure the growth of a student that literally growled at those that came too close when she initially enrolled at ACVS to her joyful and demonstrative participation with teachers and peers upon her graduation day a few short years later. We fully celebrate the growth of our students and can see that through many forms of data, including IEP goal progress data. In spite of struggles with mental and physical health issues, over 82% of our students with disabilities have made growth on their IEP goals. It is also important to note that over 50% of our students qualifying for special education have shown an upward trend on their grade level MAPs testing scores.

Since the last reauthorization for ACVS three major changes have occurred academically that have had a significant impact on students and staff.

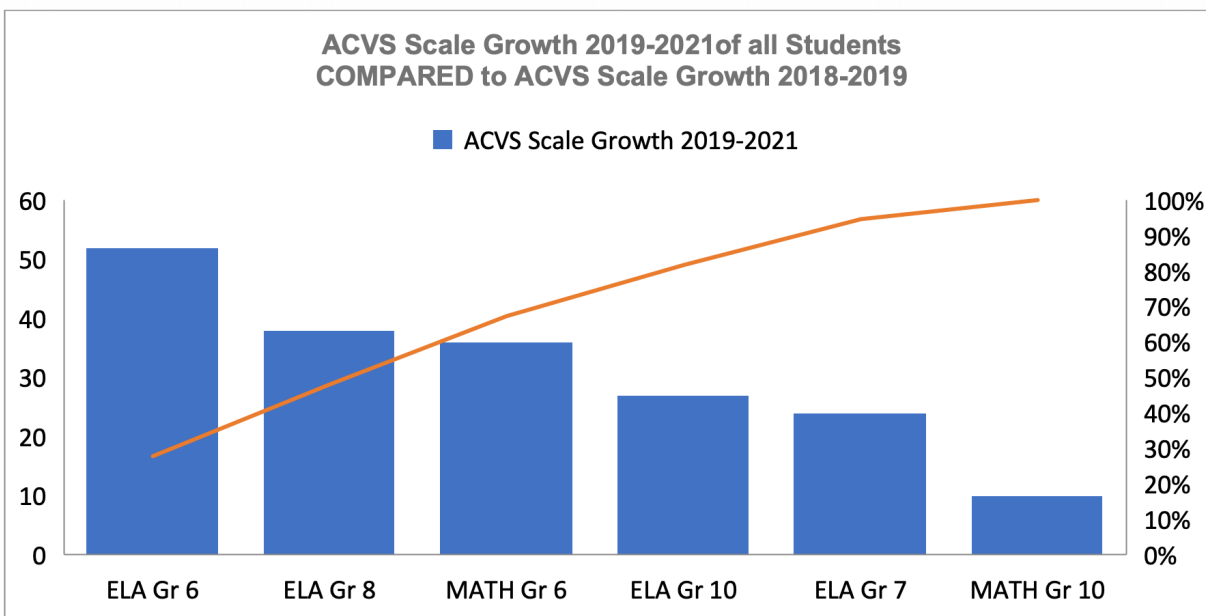
First, all students in grades K through 12 are required to take NWEA Measuring Academic Performance, MAPs, three times a year; prior to entry or at the beginning of the school year, again mid-year, and at the end of the year. Growth is significantly monitored through the MAPs program as well as with the State's Interims. The Interims typically close in February or early March so MAPs have been key to understanding the full year's growth.

A second change that ACVS has implemented is based on the results of the MAPs test and how it correlates to the assigned classes students in grades 7 through 12 are placed. ACVS has used the NWEA skills program, as well as other researched-based programs, to work on building key skills for our students. Therefore, if a student scores 75% or below grade level on their ELA or math MAPs test they get their regular subject grade level course that is required and appropriate for their grade level plus another full class designed to build the student's skill level in the subject area. If the student scores below 50% they are placed in one class and if they score

between 50 and 75% they are placed in more of an accelerated program that still builds their academic skills in the subject area. This has required students who are below grade level to have two class periods in either the ELA or math subject area, one working on grade level skills and the other working on below grade level skills. This has proven very successful for our students. Likewise, students who score 75% or below grade level on their reading MAPs test are assigned a reading class that using research and evidence-based programming to increase their reading level. This program is very individualized and time intensive both for students and staff, but it has been very important for our growth.

Lastly, we have fully revamped our curriculum in grades K through grade 12 for all students over the past five years to ensure that our curriculum is fully aligned with the state standards and embeds progress monitoring to ensure students are achieving. Our academic program is rigorous and time intensive for student and teacher alike. Our students often do not get to have electives that other students would be able to have because their electives are working on skill building. However, our students and families are encouraged by the growth they have seen individually in their specific skill levels.

While ACVS has not met the growth measures we are seeking to. The chart below indicates that the changes we have instituted for all students are impacting our trend towards achieving the growth we hope to achieve. This work is intensive and all staff are fully involved in this endeavor at ACVS. The standard of Academic Progress is paramount to ACVS and is still in progress.



Outline of Additional Evidence

- 1) Exhibit 1: Comparison of ACVS Scale Growth to State Wide Average Scale Growth through the Pandemic.
 - a) This data is a comparison of all students against all students. It does not extract students on an IEP or any other student demographic areas.
- 2) Exhibit 2: Comparison of ISAT proficiency level change between ACVS to the State through the Pandemic in ELA and math.
 - a) This data is a comparison of all students against all students. It does not extract students on an IEP or any other student demographic areas. I provides us with data that says we are comparable with the state in overall proficiency change.
- 3) Exhibit 3: Growth Resiliency Measure Organizational Report.
 - a) Resiliency, or the ability for an individual to overcome a major crises, tragedy, or trauma is extremely important for all students. In a school that has 69% of the student population qualifying as At-Risk for academic failure or dropping out of school requires that all staff are equipped to help our students develop their resiliency skills. Dr. Jonathan Locust from Winona State University in Minnesota has worked with ACVS to help us quantify how well our staff are helping our students build resiliency. This report is not a final report as it will not be complete until the end of the year.

Exhibit 1: Comparison of ACVS Scale Growth to State Wide Average Scale Growth through the Pandemic.

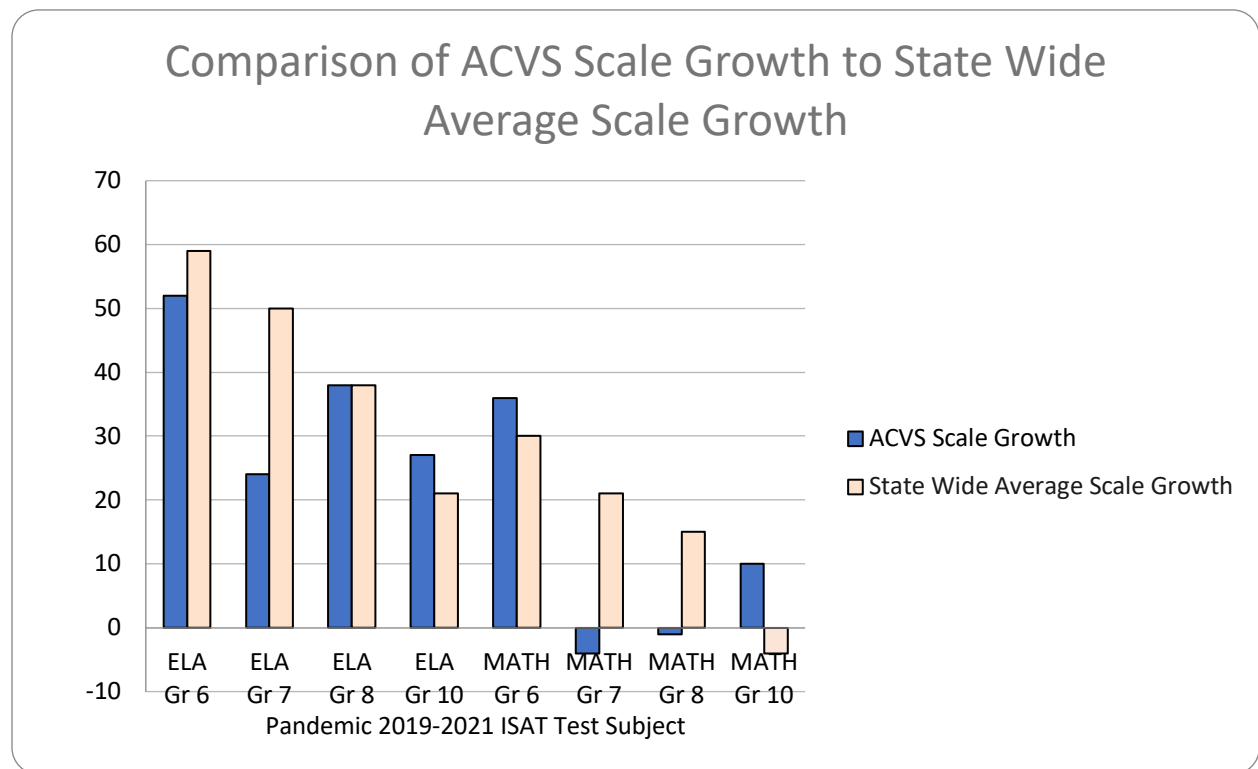
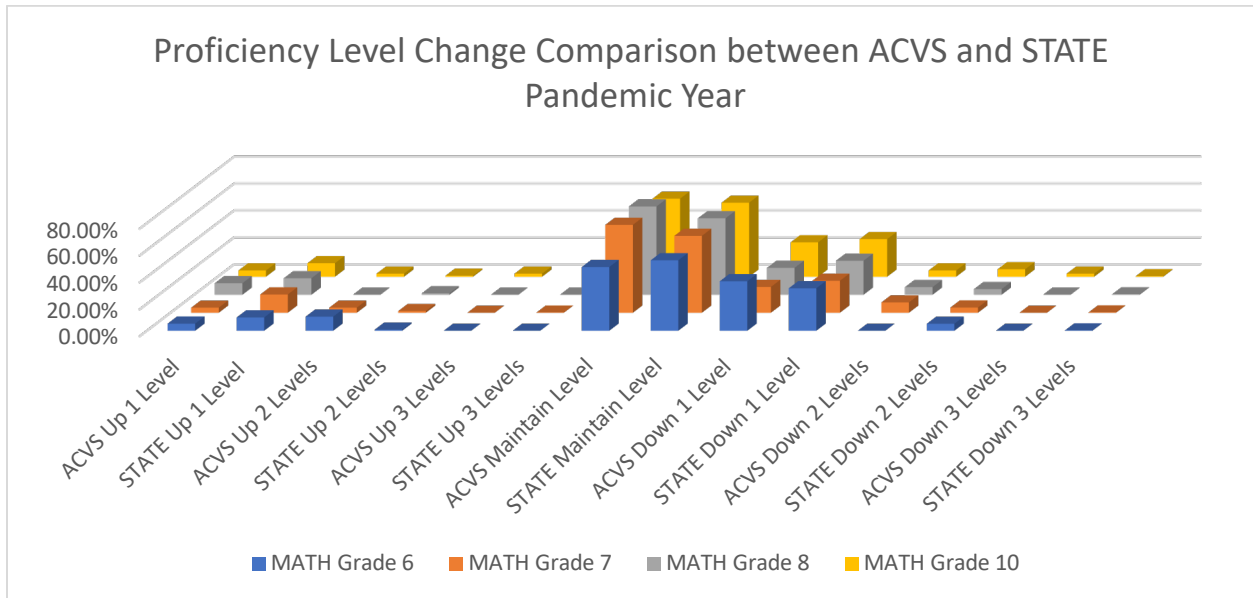
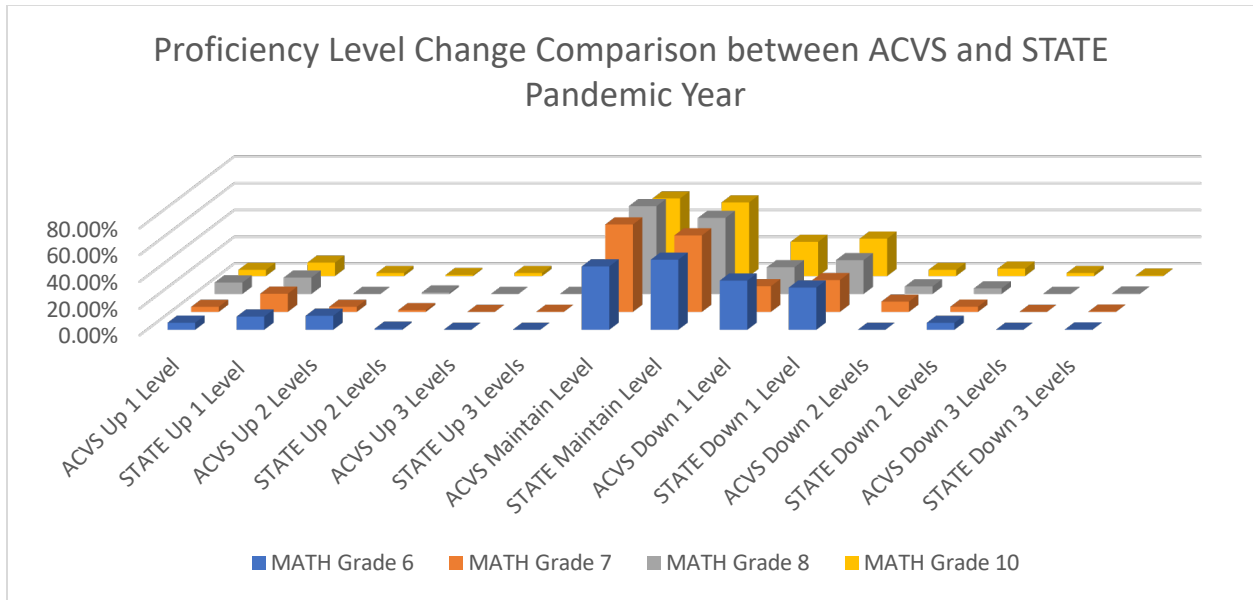


Exhibit 2: Comparison of ISAT proficiency level change between ACVS to the State through the Pandemic in ELA and math.



Additional Evidence

Exhibit Three Growth Resiliency Measure



GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure

Organizational Report

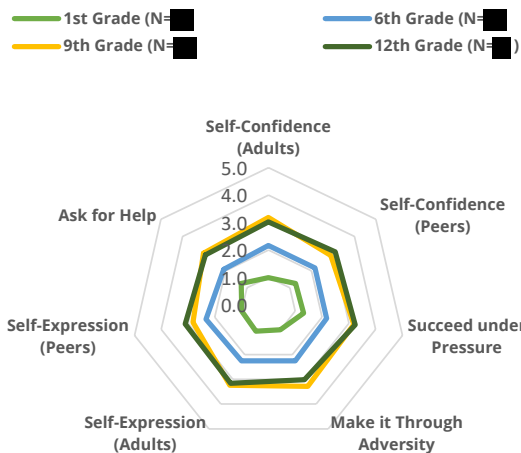
Another Choice Virtual Charter School

Grades: K-12 # Students: 413 Students of Color: 36% Male: 50%
 Female: 49% Transgender: █ At-Risk: 69% IEP: 29% 504 Plan: 10%
 Avg. Per Pupil Spending: \$1,554 Free/Discount Lunch: 36.8%

Fall 2021

Average Scores for Selected Grades

Start of the Academic Year



Data Insights

Organizationally, students showed the highest gain in *Self-Confidence w/ Adults* on average.

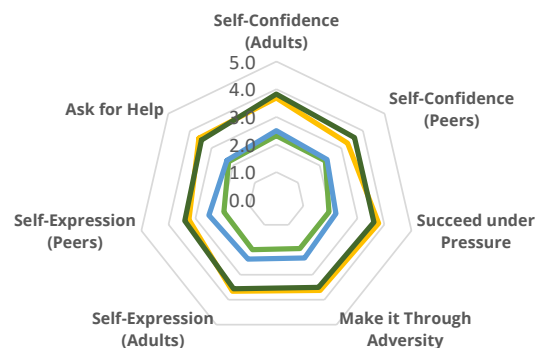
Below is the highest gain components for each grade.

- 1st Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults* and *Self-Confidence w/ Peers*
- 2nd Grade – *Self Expression w/ Adults*
- 3rd Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Peers* and *Self Expression w/ Adults*
- 4th Grade – *Asking for help*
- 5th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults*
- 6th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults*

Data Insights (cont'd)

- 7th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults* and *Self Expression w/ Adults*
- 8th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults*, *Succeeding Under Pressure* and *Making it Through Adversity*
- 9th Grade – *Succeeding Under Pressure* and *Asking for help*
- 10th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults*
- 11th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults* and *Asking for help*
- 12th Grade – *Self-Confidence w/ Adults* and *Succeeding Under Pressure*

At the time of Assessment



GRM scores were reported by teachers for individual students in their classes at any point in the fall term of 2021. The scores for each category range from 1 through 5, w/ 1 as the lowest and 5 as the highest.



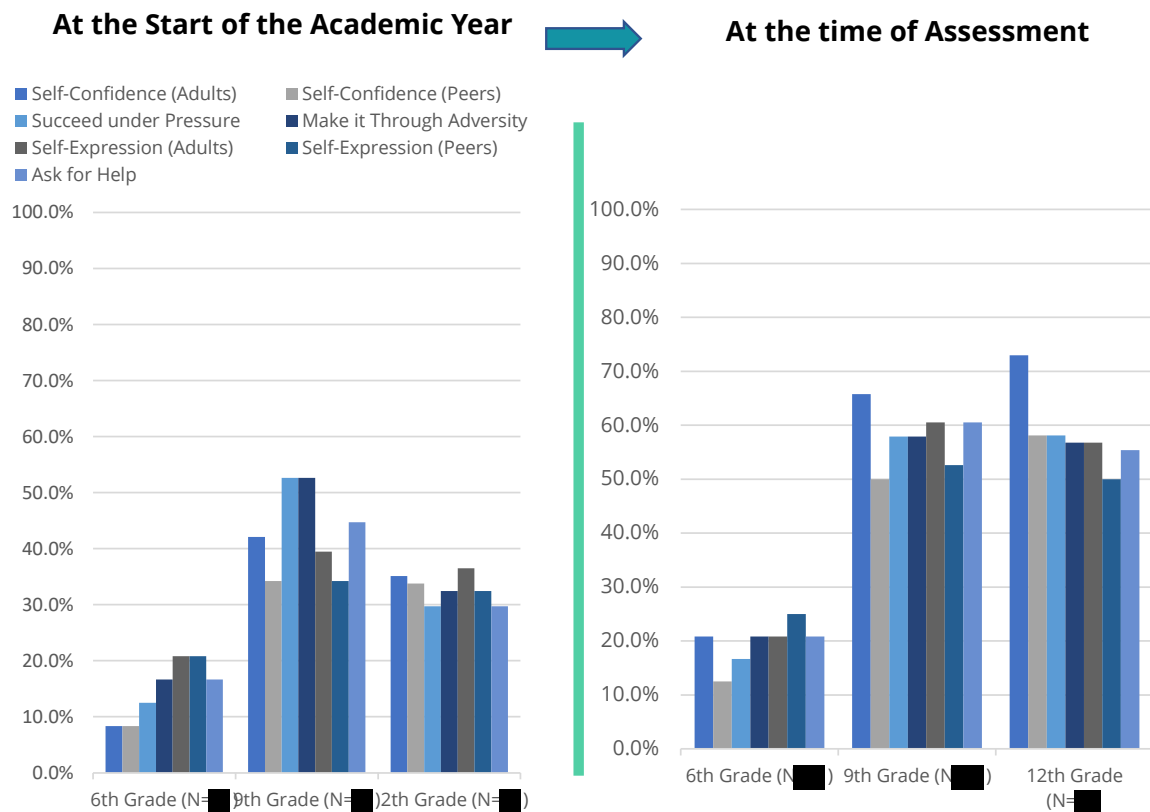
GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure

Organizational Report

Fall 2021

Percent of Students w/ High Scores (4 or 5)



Data Insights

Below are the grades that had the largest percentage of students w/ high scores (4 or 5) for each resilience component. Components are not included if there was no growth.

Self-confidence w/ Adults – 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 11th, and 12th Grades

Success under pressure – 8th Grade

Ask for help – 10th Grade

Self-expression w/ Adults – 3rd Grade

Self-expression w/ Peers – 3rd Grade

GRM scores were reported by teachers for individual students in their classes at any point in the fall term of 2021. The scores for each category range from 1 through 5, w/ 1 as the lowest and 5 as the highest.



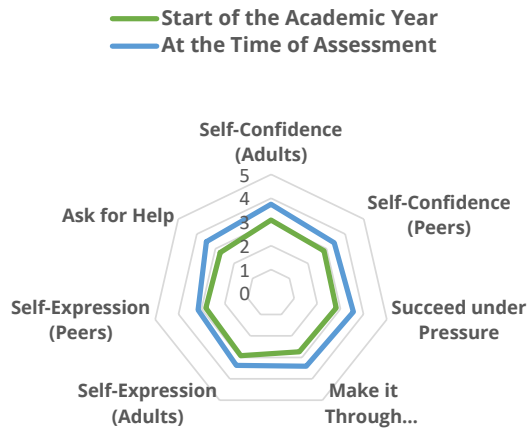
GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure Organizational Report

Fall 2021

Students of Color

Change in GRM Average (12th Grade)



Overall, students of color were most represented in *Self-confidence w/ Adults*, followed by *Self Expression w/ Adults*.

Self-expression w/ Adults had the highest percentage of 11th grade students of color.

Success under pressure had the highest percentage of 8th grade students of color.

Self-Confidence w/ Adults and *Peers* showed the highest percentage of students of color in the 3rd, 4th, and 10th grades.

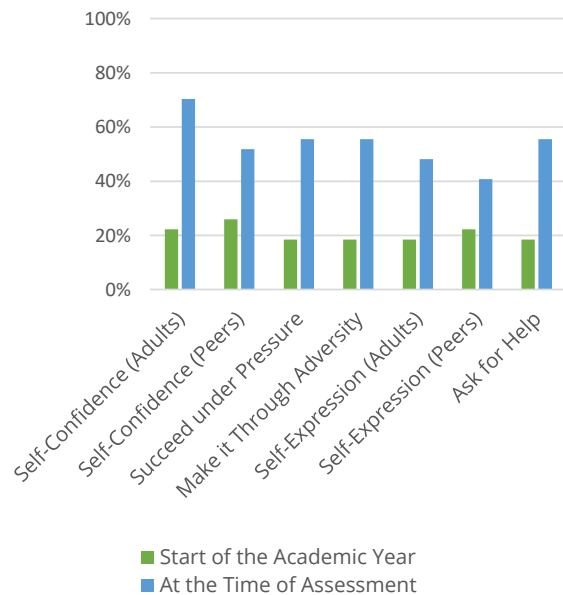
Note: 2nd Grade was evenly distributed amongst all components.

Data Insights

For each component of resilience, find the highest gain areas made by students of color for each grade.

- *Self-confidence w/ Adults* – 7th grade
- *Self-confidence w/ Peers* – 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades
- *Success under pressure* – 8th and 9th and 11th grades
- *Ask for help* – 8th and 11th Grade
- *Self-expression w/ Adults* – 3rd Grade

Change in Percentage of Students w/ Score 4 or 5 (12th Grade)



GRM scores were reported by teachers for individual students in their classes at any point in the fall term of 2021. The scores for each category range from 1 through 5, w/ 1 as the lowest and 5 as the highest.



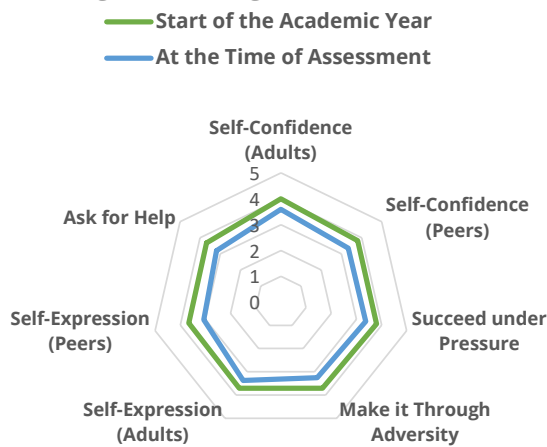
GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure Organizational Report

Fall 2021

IEP Students

Change in Average GRM (12th Grade)



Data Insights

For each component of resilience, find the highest gains areas made by students of color for each grade.

- *Self-confidence w/ Adults* – 1st and 5th grade
- *Self-confidence w/ Peers* – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades
- *Success under pressure* – 8th, 9th and 11th grades
- *Make it through Adversity* – 11th grades
- *Ask for help* – 4th, 6th and 11th grades
- *Self-expression w/ Adults* – 7th grade

Note: K had 0 IEP students.

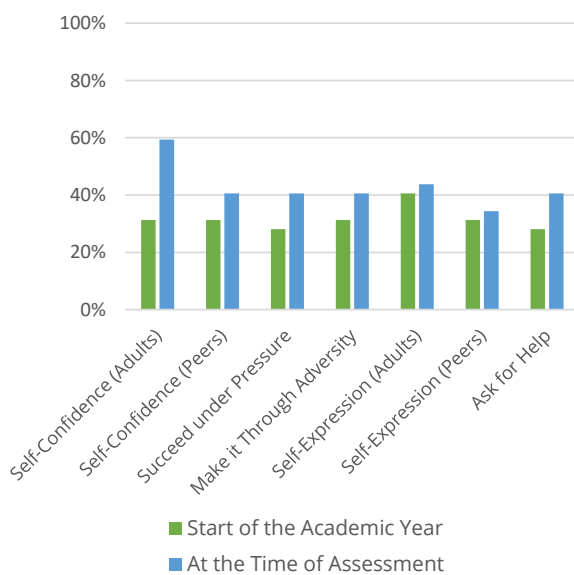
Overall, IEP students were most represented in Self-confidence w/ adults, followed by Success Under Pressure.

Self-Confidence w/ Adults showed the highest percentage of IEP students in the 11th and 12th grades, and was one of several for grades 4, 6, 7 and 10.

Self-expression w/ Adults had the highest percentage of 9th grade IEP students. gm

Success under pressure had the highest percentage of 8th grade students of color.

Change in the Percentage of Students w/ Score 4 or 5 (12th Grade)



GRM scores were reported by teachers for individual students in their classes at any point in the fall term of 2021. The scores for each category range from 1 through 5, w/ 1 as the lowest and 5 as the highest.



GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure Organizational Report

Data Tables – Fall 2021

1. GRM Submitted by Student Characteristics

Excludes students w/out information on their grade level or complete GRM scores

	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade	Grand Total
Student Count		19	8	13	11	12	24	19	39	38	48	74	73	382
Boy %														
Girl %														
Transgender %														
Students of Color %				46%			33%		28%	37%	33%	36%	37%	34%
IEP %							50%	63%	46%	42%	46%	45%	44%	41%

2. Baseline GRM Averages (at the start of the semester)

Grade	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.3
1st Grade	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.3
2nd Grade	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5
3rd Grade	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.0
4th Grade	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.0
5th Grade	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.8
6th Grade	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1
7th Grade	2.9	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.1
8th Grade	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.7
9th Grade	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.8	3.0
10th Grade	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.8
11th Grade	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6
12th Grade	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	2.9
Grand Total	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6

3. Current GRM Averages (at the time of data entry)

Grade	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten	2.3	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.3
1st Grade	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.2
2nd Grade	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.6
3rd Grade	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.5
4th Grade	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
5th Grade	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.8
6th Grade	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.3
7th Grade	3.3	2.9	2.1	2.2	2.8	2.7	2.2
8th Grade	3.2	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.8	3.1
9th Grade	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.6
10th Grade	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9
11th Grade	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.4
12th Grade	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.5
Grand Total	3.30	3.07	3.00	3.01	3.07	2.95	3.07



GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure

Organizational Report

Data Tables – Fall 2021

4. Baseline GRM High Scores (4 or 5) - *at the start of the semester*

Grade	Student Count	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten	■							
1st Grade	19							
2nd Grade	8							
3rd Grade	13							
4th Grade	11							
5th Grade	12							
6th Grade	24					5	5	■
7th Grade	19	7				5		
8th Grade	39	10	10	6	8	10	8	13
9th Grade	38	16	13	20	20	15	13	17
10th Grade	49	7	7	■	5	5	6	6
11th Grade	74	17	19	12	16	16	20	24
12th Grade	74	26	25	22	24	27	24	22
Grand Total	384	94	86	73	84	88	85	96

5. Current GRM High Scores (4 or 5) - *at the time of data entry*

Grade	Student Count	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten	■							
1st Grade	19							
2nd Grade	8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
3rd Grade	13					5	5	■
4th Grade	11							
5th Grade	12	5	■					
6th Grade	24	5			5	5	6	5
7th Grade	19	9	■			6		
8th Grade	39	18	14	17	17	14	12	16
9th Grade	38	25	19	22	22	23	20	23
10th Grade	49	14	15	8	9	10	11	15
11th Grade	74	37	33	31	30	34	31	41
12th Grade	74	54	43	43	42	42	37	41
Grand Total	384	179	142	136	137	146	133	156



GRM

Growth Resiliency Measure Organizational Report

Data Tables – Fall 2021

6. Percent of GRM High Scores (4 or 5) - *at the start of the semester*

Grade	Total Student Count	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten								
1st Grade	19							
2nd Grade	8							
3rd Grade	13							
4th Grade	11							
5th Grade	12							
6th Grade	24					21%	21%	
7th Grade	19	37%						
8th Grade	39	26%	26%		21%	26%	21%	33%
9th Grade	38	42%	34%	53%	53%	39%	34%	45%
10th Grade	49	14%	14%				12%	12%
11th Grade	74	23%	26%	16%	22%	22%	27%	32%
12th Grade	74	35%	34%	30%	32%	36%	32%	30%
Grand Total	384	24%	22%	19%	22%	23%	22%	25%

7. Percent of GRM High Scores (4 or 5) - *at the time of data entry*

Grade	Student Count	Self-Confidence (Adults)	Self-Confidence (Peers)	Succeed under Pressure	Make it Through Adversity	Self-Expression (Adults)	Self-Expression (Peers)	Ask for Help
Kindergarten								
1st Grade	19							
2nd Grade	8	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%
3rd Grade	13							
4th Grade	11							
5th Grade	12	42%	25%					25%
6th Grade	24	21%			21%	21%	25%	21%
7th Grade	19	47%				32%		
8th Grade	39	46%	36%	44%	44%	36%	31%	41%
9th Grade	38	66%	50%	58%	58%	61%	53%	61%
10th Grade	49	29%	31%	16%	18%	20%	22%	31%
11th Grade	74	50%	45%	42%	41%	46%	42%	55%
12th Grade	74	73%	58%	58%	57%	57%	50%	55%
Grand Total	384	47%	37%	35%	36%	38%	35%	41%

8. GRM Definitions (referred as “components”)

Self-confidence: trust in one’s abilities, capacities, and judgment.

Self-expression: free expression of one’s feelings, impulses, thoughts, attitudes, and talents.

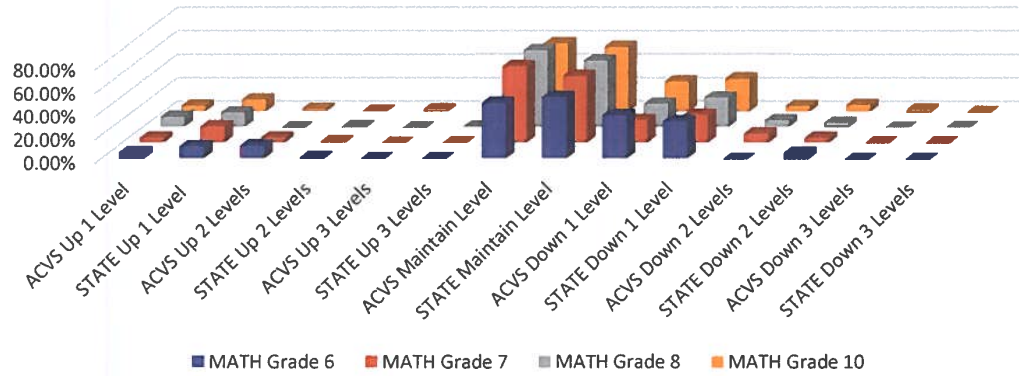
Perseverance: persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Success under pressure: accomplishment through an opposing situation/obstacle.

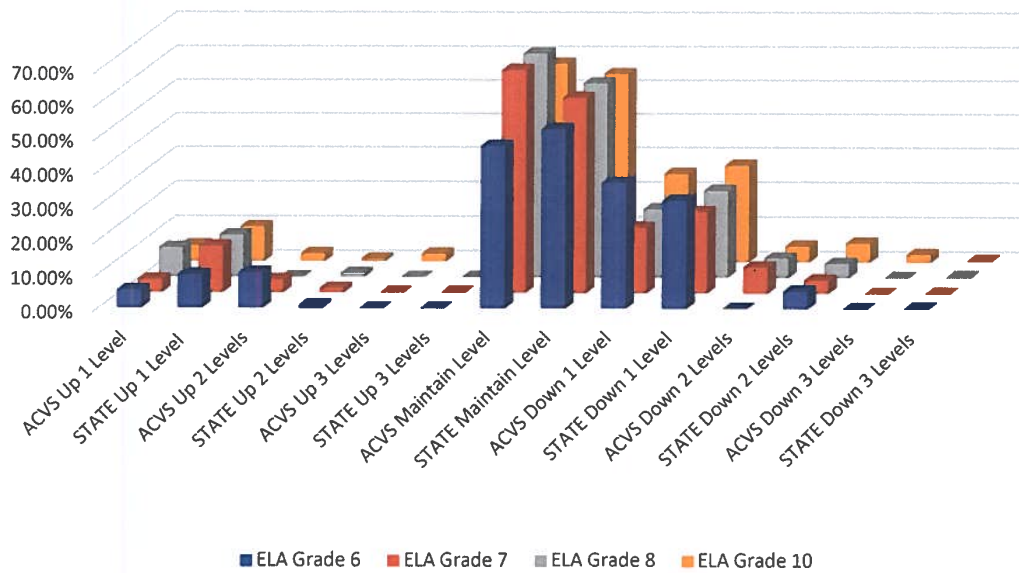
Ask for help: request to see/talk to someone for help.

ANOTHER CHOICE CHARTER - EXHIBIT 7

Proficiency Level Change Comparison between ACVS and STATE
Pandemic Year



Proficiency Level Change Comparison between ACVS and STATE
Pandemic Year



This Exhibit was objected to by the opposing party.

If not resolved by the parties beforehand, the decision to include or exclude this exhibit will be made by the Commission at the hearing.

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