

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814

- County Clerk-Recorder's Office
County of Sonoma
585 Fiscal Drive Room 103
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

From: (Public Agency)

Wright Elementary School District
4385 Price Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Project Title: Voluntary Closure of Wright Charter School

Project Location - Specific: Wright Charter School (4389 Price Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95407)

Project Location - City: Santa Rosa, California **Project Location - County:** Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Board of Trustees ("Board") for the Wright Elementary School District ("District") has taken action to close Wright Charter School ("Charter School"), a dependent charter school, at the end of the 2024-25 school year. At that time, the facilities will revert to a traditional school for the District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Wright Elementary School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Wright Elementary School District

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268;
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));


- **Categorical Exemption.** State type and section number: Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15314
- **Statutory Exemptions.** State code number: Public Resources Code § 21080.18
- **"Common Sense" Exemption:** Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061(b)(3)

Reasons why project is exempt: On December 19, 2024, the Board approved Resolution No. 12-02-24/25 approving the voluntary closure of the Charter School (the "Project"). The Project is exempt pursuant to Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 15314 and 15061(b)(3) and Public Resources Code section 21080.18. Since the Project involves closing a charter school and reverting its facility to a traditional school, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility of it having a significant effect on the environment. The Project is not located in a particularly sensitive environment and will not have cumulative impacts resulting from successive projects of the same type. There are no unusual circumstances associated with the Project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Lisa Saxon **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (707) 542-0550

Signature:  Date: 1/14, 2025
Title: Superintendent

■ Signed by Lead Agency
Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____
Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk
BY: 
Bryant Hill, Deputy Clerk

This notice was posted on 01/16/2025
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days
through 02/16/2025

Doc No.49-01162025-009



WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

4385 Price Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95407
Ph: (707) 542-0550 Fx: (707) 577-7962
www.wrightesd.org

Lisa Saxon
Superintendent
lsaxon@wrightesd.org

Via Email: charters@cde.ca.gov

January 10, 2025

California Department of Education
Charter Schools Division
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

**Re: Wright Charter School (Charter #1087)
Notification of Closure Action – Effective June 30, 2025**

Dear Charter Schools Division:

This letter is to notify you that on December 19, 2024, the Wright Elementary School District's ("District") Board of Trustees took action to approve the voluntary closure of the District-operated Wright Charter School ("Charter School"), after careful review and stakeholder and community engagement demonstrated that such action was in the best interests of the students and families. This closure will take effect on June 30, 2025. At that time, the school will revert to a traditional school, Wright Elementary School, operated by the District. As the responsible entity, the District will proceed with all required closure procedures after the closure date, including submission to CDE of the completed independent final audit by December 30, 2025.

The Designated Person for handling any inquiries regarding the closure is:

Lisa Saxon
Superintendent
Wright Elementary School District
707-542-0550 or lsaxon@wrightesd.org

The records of all personnel working at the Charter School will be maintained by the District. All Charter School student records, state assessment results, and any special education records will be maintained by the District or transferred to a different entity (e.g., student's district of residence) as applicable. Charter School students' districts of residence include: Wright Elementary School District, Bellevue Union Elementary, Bennett Valley Unified School District, Cotati Rohnert Park Unified, Healdsburg Unified, Mark West Union School District, Piner Olivet Union Elementary, Roseland School District, Santa Rosa City School District, Sebastopol Union Elementary, Sonoma Valley Unified Elementary, and Windsor Unified.

If needed, parents/guardians of Charter School students may obtain copies of their student's records by contacting the Charter School's main office at 707-542-0556.

Sincerely,

Lisa Saxon, Superintendent

Enclosures: Wright Elementary School District Resolution No. 12-02-24/25

Cc: Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools
Sonoma County SELPA
California School Directory
CalSTRS
CalPERS

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 12-02-24/25**

**RESOLUTION TO VOLUNTARILY CLOSE WRIGHT CHARTER SCHOOL AND REVERT
THE SCHOOL TO A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2009, the Board of Trustees (“Board”) for the Wright Elementary School District (“District”) approved the petition to establish (“Charter Petition”) Wright Charter School (“Charter School”), a dependent charter school; and

WHEREAS, the Board serves as the governing body of the Charter School, and the Board may, at its discretion, voluntarily rescind the Charter Petition and close the Charter School pursuant the Charter Petition, Element 16; and

WHEREAS, after careful review and stakeholder and community engagement, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Charter School students and families to voluntarily close the Charter School and revert it back to Wright Elementary School, a traditional district-operated TK-6th grade elementary school at the end of the 2024-2025 school year; and

WHEREAS, such community engagement, outreach, and request for input included meetings with staff, parents, teachers, as well as public town hall meetings on September 10, 2024, September 11, 2024, September 12, 2024, September 25, 2024, October 2, 2024, October 17, 2024, and November 21, 2024 to receive input; and

WHEREAS, students who reside in the Charter School’s attendance area will be assigned to Wright Elementary School, but will be eligible for the District’s intra-district transfer process, as any other resident of the District;

WHEREAS, students who reside outside of the District, will be reassigned to a school within their respective district of residence, but may apply to attend Wright Elementary School in accordance with the District’s inter-district transfer process and the District will take all reasonable steps to approve these requests;

WHEREAS, the District desires to use the Charter School site to operate the Wright Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the District anticipates most Charter School students reside within Wright Elementary School’s attendance boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the Charter School and its reversion to Wright Elementary School (the “Project”) is a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000, *et seq.*, (“CEQA”)) and its implementing regulations (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 14, §15000 *et seq.*; “CEQA Guidelines”), except that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.18, which provides that CEQA does “not apply to the closing of any public school in which kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12 is maintained or the transfer of students from that public school to another school if the only physical changes involved are categorically exempt”; and

WHEREAS, the Project will not result in any physical changes to facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Project is statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code section 21080.18 and CEQA Guideline 15282(i); and

WHEREAS, the Project does not increase original student capacity at any of District's existing schools by more than 25% or ten classrooms and therefore is categorically exempt under State CEQA Guidelines section 15314; and

WHEREAS, the Project does not involve any of the following and so is eligible for a categorical exemption as described above under State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2:

- a) The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, which over time are significant;
- b) An activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances;
- c) A project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway;
- d) A hazardous waste site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code; and
- e) A project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource; and

WHEREAS, the CEQA Guidelines also exempt from further CEQA review those activities that are covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA (the "Common Sense Exemption"); and

WHEREAS, upon a determination that the Project is exempt from CEQA, the District is entitled to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21152 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15062.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, based upon the above-referenced recitals, be it resolved that the Board hereby authorizes the following:

1. The Charter School, located at 4389 Price Avenue, Santa Rosa, California ("School Site"), shall voluntarily close on June 30, 2025, the end of the 2024-25 school year;
2. The School Site will continue to be utilized as a District school site;
3. Upon closure as a Charter School, the school will revert back to a traditional school, serving grades TK to 6th grade, and named Wright Elementary School.
4. The District is designated as the "responsible entity" to conduct closure-related activities pursuant to Title 5, section 11962, subdivision (a) of the California Code of Regulations;
5. The Superintendent and/or designee shall ensure that Charter School complies with all Charter School closure requirements, including all notice requirements, as provided in the charter petition and in Title 5, section 11962 of the California Code of Regulations;
6. The District shall issue written notification of the Charter School's closure as a District charter school, and reversion to Wright Elementary School, a District traditional school,

- to the parents/guardians/caregivers of all enrolled students of Charter School promptly following Board approval of this Resolution. Such notification must include, but is not limited to, notice of the effective date of closure as a District charter school and information regarding how to enroll or transfer the student to an appropriate school. The District shall provide a copy of the notice to the Sonoma County Office of Education, the SELPA and the retirement systems in which the Charter School's employees participate.
7. The District shall provide notice of Charter School's closure to any school districts that may be responsible for providing educational services to the Charter School's former students promptly following Board approval of this Resolution. This notice shall include a list of students returning to the recipient district and their home schools.
 8. All pupil records, state assessment results, special educational records, and personal records shall continue to be maintained by the District at 4385 Price Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95407, in accordance with applicable law (5 C.C.R. § 11962, subd. (d) and (e));
 9. The Superintendent and/or designee shall promptly prepare final financial records, ensure that a final audit of Charter School is conducted within six months of June 30, 2025, and ensure that the results of the audit are thereafter submitted to the California Department of Education;
 10. All assets of the Charter School including interests in real property, personal property, intellectual property, ADA apportionments and other revenues generated by students attending the Charter School shall belong to the District.
 11. The Project is hereby found to be exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to Public Resource Code section 21080.18, and State CEQA Guidelines sections 15282(i), 15300.2, and 15314, as set forth above, and is hereby approved. The District's Superintendent and/or designee is authorized and directed to prepare and file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk and State Clearinghouse; and
 12. The Superintendent and/or designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution, including to ensure continued funding for the District and its students who will attend Wright Elementary School.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted upon motion by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Mapoy, at a regular meeting held on December 19, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

I, LaDonna Moore, clerk of the governing board of the Wright Elementary School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted by said Board, at an official and public meeting thereof, this Thursday, December 19, 2024.

LaDonna Moore, Board Clerk

Certified to be a true and correct copy:

Lisa Saxon
Lisa Saxon, Superintendent