



APLUS+ Member Schools Reaffirm Commitment to Accountability

The Association of Personalized Learning Schools and Services (APLUS+) represents 119 Flex-Based, Personalized Learning public charter schools that collectively serve 128,300+ students throughout the state. Our schools serve some of the most challenged and disadvantaged students in our state's public education system. The TK-12th grade students enrolled in our member schools have found great success in a flexible learning environment.

For over 20 years, APLUS+ member schools have upheld an unwavering commitment to integrity, transparency, accountability, and academic excellence. We support efforts to strengthen the entire public charter school sector and ensure that all schools provide a high quality education and are morally and fiscally responsible. We support many of the recommendations in the LAO/FCMAT, State Controller's Task Force, State Auditor, and CA Charter Authorizing Professionals reports, specifically reforms to improve the audit guide process, the funding determination process, enhance auditor training requirements, and adopt stronger authorizer oversight requirements. We look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature and Governor to strengthen financial safeguards, prevent fraud, enhance the public trust, and ensure student success in public charter schools.

Importantly, we also believe in holding APLUS+ member schools accountable and have voluntarily put into place policies and procedures to strengthen internal school controls and improve fiscal accountability. Many of these proactive measures go beyond existing statutory requirements and demonstrate our leadership and commitment to increasing transparency and accountability, ensuring student educational value, and safeguarding public funds. Some examples include:

- ✓ Requiring school board approved policies for establishing, reviewing, and approving contracts with academic community partners, including the requirement that their services and materials are nonsectarian.
- ✓ Prohibiting financial payments or gifts to a student or prospective student or their family for enrollment, referral, or retention.
- ✓ Ensuring that when public funds are allocated to individualized student accounts they are appropriately monitored and used for school approved resources and for teacher assigned learning activities that align with providing educational value.
- ✓ Prohibiting school public funds from being given directly to parents, guardians, or students for purchasing instructional resources independently.
- ✓ Barring the purchase of season passes to amusement parks, theme parks, zoos, or family entertainment activities, other than one-time admissions that are aligned to teacher assignments, graduation, or cocurricular activities.
- ✓ Adopting school fraud prevention and fraud reporting systems.



Learn more about APLUS+ and our commitment to integrity, academic excellence, and public stewardship at theaplus.org