

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY 2 – LOW-INCOME DEMOGRAPHIC

Grimmway’s students are 85% SED, more than double the 40% threshold required under this Absolute Priority.³ Through this grant over the next five years, Grimmway will expand and replicate to create 1,630 new charter school seats in underserved communities of Kern County, with each location serving student populations that are 77-94% SED. Specifically, Charter Schools Program (CSP) grant funds will be used to: (1) Expand GAS to full K-8 capacity by adding 180 seats in 7th and 8th grades, with the same demographics as are currently enrolled at GAS (84% SED); (2) Replicate our model to 1,000 seats in grades 9-12 with Grimmway Academy High School (GAHS), planned in partnership with California State University Bakersfield (CSUB) and Bakersfield College (BC), the local community college, with Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways featuring dual enrollment college courses and work-based learning experiences with industry partners. We are in discussions with CSUB to co-located GAHS on their campus.⁴ While CSUB is located within the attendance boundaries of a high-performing and not-as-diverse public high school, Stockdale HS (SED 37%), CSUB is on the northwest corner of Stockdale’s attendance zone, bordering an area served by four low-performing HS’s: Bakersfield HS (75% SED), West HS (86% SED), South HS (96% SED) and Mira Monte HS (95%). (See CPP 3, below, for student outcome data.) Combined, these five

³ All student data is from cde.ca.gov/Dataquest unless otherwise noted.

⁴ This co-location plan is not yet finalized, though we have completed architectural drawings and discussions with CSUB are progressing. In the event the co-location does not come to fruition, GAHS will secure a nearby location in order to readily access CSUB and our CTE industry partners in Bakersfield, close to public transportation options so that students from across the County can access the school. Several viable options have been identified.

HS's have an average SED of 77%. We will focus outreach efforts in the attendance areas of the low-performing HS's to offer these students a high-quality alternative to the sole public high school option in the area. ;⁵ In 2024, we will open a K-8 school that will serve as a feeder to GAHS (see CPP 3 below). We anticipate that by Y3 of the grant (2022-23), approximately 50% of GAHS' enrollment will come from GAA and GAS (85% SED)

GA3 Target Area Average Enrollment (6 ES, 2 MS)	
SED	94%
EL	36%
SpEd	9%
Foster/Homeless	3%
Hispanic/Latino	87%
African American	6%
Asian	1%
White	5%

and 50% will come from the surrounding community (77% SED).⁶ We also plan to seek priority in our lottery for enrollment for SED students as well as those who will be first generation college enrollees. (3) Replicate with a new K-8 school, Grimmway Academy #3 (GA3), that will open with 450 students in K-4 during the grant term and ultimately serve 800 students. The target community for GA3 currently has no charter schools, and the existing six elementary and two middle schools have demographics that mirror our current K-8 schools (e.g., 94% SED, 36% EL, 87% H/L).

⁵ Two parochial school options are not feasible for most of the SED families we serve.

⁶ It is important to note that in CA, no funding is provided to charter schools for transportation of students, and thus charter schools typically do not provide transportation unless required by law (i.e., in an IEP). See, e.g., lao.ca.gov/reports/2014/education/school-transportation/school-transportation-022514.pdf. Nevertheless, GAHS' budget includes \$80k per year per feeder school site in contracted transportation expenses to support our students in getting to the HS; public transportation options (train/bus) into Bakersfield/the CSUB campus also are available.

Grimmway Schools Enrollment Roll-Out Chart

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total New Seats	Total Seats at Capacity
Grimmway Academy (K-8)	800							800
Grimmway Academy Shafter (K-8)	620 (K-6)	90 - 7th gr	90 - 8th gr				180	800
Grimmway Academy HS (9-12)		Planning	250 - 9th gr	250 - 10th gr	250 - 11th	250 - 12th gr	1,000	1,000
Grimmway Academy #3 (K-8)					Planning	450 - K-4th	450	800
Totals	1,420	90	340	250	250	700	1,630	3,400

Thus, all charter schools included in this CSP grant will serve student populations that are substantially similar to those currently enrolled at Grimmway, with well over 40% SED.