

OAKLAND SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Self-Study & Charter Planning

WASC Self-Study + Charter Renewal · 2026–27

Focus Group Kickoff Overview

August 2026

What Is WASC?

Western Association of Schools and Colleges — the accreditation our program and our diplomas rest on.



An accrediting body for K–12

WASC accredits K–12 schools across California and the western U.S. — the recognized mark of a quality program.



It stands behind our diplomas

Accreditation validates the integrity of our program and transcripts, so an OSA diploma is recognized by colleges everywhere.



Renewed every one, three or six years

We keep it through a full self-study each cycle — an honest review that culminates in our March 15–17, 2027 visit. We are coming off 7 year renewal with mid cycle visit that was in 2024.

Why We Need an OUSD Charter

OSA is a charter school — our authorization to operate comes from Oakland Unified, and it must be renewed.



Authorized by OUSD

OSA operates under a charter granted and overseen by the Oakland Unified School District — our authorizer.



Independent, by charter

That charter lets us run our own program, staffing, and budget — the autonomy behind OSA's arts-integrated model.



Renewal isn't automatic

OUSD's board reviews our academic, financial, and operational record and votes to renew — so we show we've kept our commitments.

Two Big Outcomes, One Process

We are renewing our WASC accreditation and our OUSD charter in the same cycle — so we do the work once, deeply, and use it twice.



WASC Accreditation

Integrated self-study submitted

January 2027

Visiting committee on campus

March 2027

WASC accreditation for grades 9–12 — what our diplomas stand on.



OUSD Charter Renewal

Renewal petition due to OUSD

September 2027

Built on evidence + findings from **this self-study**

Our authorization to exist — a refreshed mission and vision for the next term.

Same evidence. Same reflection. Two renewals.

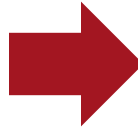
Purpose: Intentional Reflection & Actions

Every focus group looks backward and forward — honest reflection & opportunity



REFLECTION ON THE PAST

- What did our 2020 charter promise?
- What does the data actually show?
- **Where did we deliver — and where are the gaps?**



NEW ACTIONS FORWARD

- Improvements grounded in what we learned
- A sharpened mission + vision for OSA
- **Commitments we write into the OUSD charter application**

Your group's honest look back becomes the strongest argument for our next 7 year accreditation

Seven Teacher & Staff Focus Groups



Academic Achievement

Outcomes, A–G, CCI, Graduation, SPED, SBAC targets



Arts Integration

Subpathways, capstones, career pipeline



DEI & Belonging

Equity data, affinity groups, student experience



Admissions & Enrollment

Lottery access, Step It Up, enrollment



Wellness & Climate

Discipline, mental health, access, safety



Governance & Finance

Board, audits, compliance, LCAP

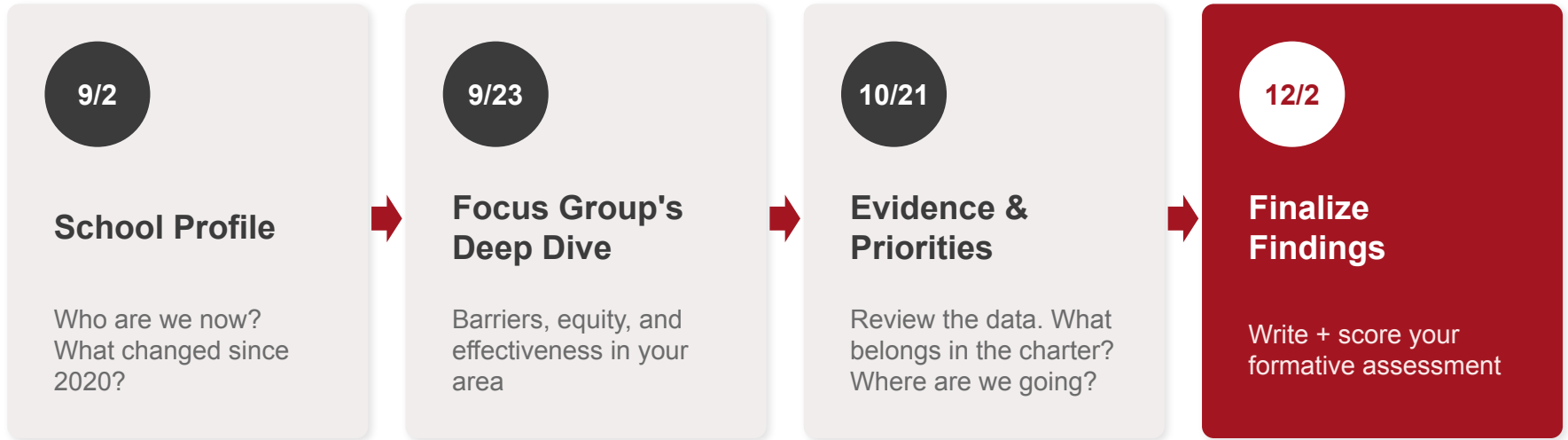


Staffing & Prof. Learning

Credentials, training, PD, retention

The Session Arc · Aug-Dec 2026

4 Total Working Sessions



Board Responsibility & Engagement

The board's engagement ensures strategic alignment, fiduciary oversight, and accountability to the school's mission and vision as OSA charts its path forward.

- Staying **informed** on the process and progress through regular updates
- Reviewing and **reflecting** on the self-study findings and improvement themes
- Providing **input** on charter renewal priorities and petition drafts
- Confirming the timeline for board **approval** and submission of the final charter petition to OUSD

- **August 2026:** Receive an overview of the renewal process and timeline..
- **December 2026:** Review the draft charter petition.
- **January 2027:** Confirm the charter approval timeline.
- **February 2027:** Participate in Workshop #1 to review and set charter priorities.
- **June 2027:** Participate in Workshop #2 to review the full charter draft.
- **September 2027:** Charter petition submitted to OUSD.

Thank you!

OSA STAFF MILESTONES

Dec 2026

FG findings & Scoring

Jan 2027

Self-study submitted

Spring 2027

WASC visit

Sept 2027

Charter petition to OUSD