

Background

Rancho Cordova attracts young families looking for jobs and more affordable housing – but the public schools haven't kept up. Parents are frustrated with the lack of public school options: Rancho Cordova schools perform far below Folsom schools. There are very limited middle and high school options. The only magnet school in the area has a long waiting list.

"We have parents who are driving an hour each way to get to a middle school, because there is no middle school in our growth . . . And we have an excess of, I think it's approaching 20,000 people living in those growth areas. So it's not a reasonable option for them. But as I said, it's a challenging situation for Rancho Cordova".

Dr. David Sander, Council Member, City of Rancho Cordova, testifying at the Folsom-Cordova Unified School Board Meeting on November 18, 2021

In response to overwhelming demand, last year Pacific Charter Institute (PCI) submitted a charter petition to Folsom-Cordova Unified to open a new TK-12 school in Rancho Cordova. New Pacific School - Rancho Cordova would provide a unique approach to hands-on learning and college-and-career readiness in a small school environment. Unfortunately, the school board did not welcome the competition. Three of the five school board members voted against New Pacific School – Rancho Cordova last year.

"The opposition tonight to this petition talked a lot about a lot of things, but very rarely did I ever hear them talk about kids. Very rarely did I hear them talk about students."

Josh Hoover, Folsom-Cordova Unified School District Trustee, November 18, 2021

Since then PCI has engaged with families and business leaders to strengthen the proposal. Roseville Joint Union High School District unanimously approved New Pacific School - Roseville, which will open this August. The message has been clear: Parents want choices in Rancho Cordova too. PCI submitted an updated charter school petition to the Folsom-Cordova Unified School District on June 3, and the first of two public hearings will take place on June 23rd.

Call to Action

A few minutes makes a big difference! The Folsom-Cordova school board needs to hear from you today! Send one email to all five board members, and copy Superintendent Koligian and New Pacific School.

- Address your comments to the Board President, David Reid
- Add your own personal reasons for supporting another public school option in Rancho Cordova.
 - What are your hopes for students and families in Rancho Cordova?
 - How would having another public school option in Rancho Cordova have a positive impact on our region?
- Send it by Noon on June 23

Sample Email

TO: dreid@fcusd.org; jhoover@fcusd.org; cbclark@fcusd.org; eshort@fcusd.org; thooey@fcusd.org

CC: info@newpacificschool.org; skoligian@fcusd.org

RE: SUPPORT New Pacific School - Rancho Cordova Charter School

Dear President Reid, Folsom-Cordova Board of Education

I'm writing to share my support for New Pacific School - Rancho Cordova. Great schools build strong communities, and I'm proud to support another high-quality public school option in our region.

Students today have a wide range of needs and interests -- one size doesn't fit all. It's more urgent than ever to find new ways for students to be engaged in their education. Another public school choice in Rancho Cordova will ensure our youth are successful at the college or career of their choice.

Please work with the Pacific Charter Institute to approve the New Pacific School - Rancho Cordova charter petition.

Sincerely,

