

## **FINGERPRINTING AND BACKGROUND CHECKS**

### Fingerprinting

Westlake Charter School ("Charter School") shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Education Code, including Sections 44237, 44803.1 and 45125.1.

It is the policy of the Charter School to require fingerprinting and background checks for its employees as required by law prior to employment at the Charter School. All prospective employees must abide by all applicable laws and agree to abide by the policies of the Charter School, including the submission of fingerprints and the approval for the Charter School or its designee to perform background checks. This requirement is a condition of employment.

The Charter School shall also require a fingerprint and background check for school volunteers who will come into contact with students outside of the supervision of a Westlake Charter School employee or who work with students in excess of ten (10) hours per week, or who will travel with students for an overnight field trip or a field trip without direct teacher/staff supervisor, prior to volunteering at the Charter School. A school volunteer is defined as an individual working under the direction of a paid Charter School employee to provide a service without compensation on campus while working with or around children. Campus volunteers must abide by all applicable laws and agree to abide by the policies of the Charter School, including the submission of fingerprints and the approval for the Charter School or its designee to perform background checks. The fingerprints will be sent to the Department of Justice for the purpose of obtaining a criminal record summary. School volunteers are financially responsible for the cost of fingerprinting/background checks.

Additionally, the Charter School may on a case-by-case basis require an entity providing contract services require the entity's employees to comply with the requirements for fingerprinting, unless the Charter School determines that the employees of the entity will have limited contact with pupils. In determining whether a contract employee will have limited contact with pupils, the Charter School must consider the totality of the circumstances, including factors such as the length of time the contractors will be on school grounds, whether pupils will be in proximity with the site where the contractors will be working, and whether the contractors will be working by themselves or under the supervision of Charter School personnel.

### Procedures for Background Checks

The Principal shall review Department of Justice reports on prospective employees/contractors; volunteers to determine whether an employee may be employed in accordance with Education Code Section 44237, 44803.1 or 45125.1, except with respect to her or himself, in which case the President of the Charter School Board of Directors will review. The Principal shall monitor compliance with this policy and report to the Board of Directors on a yearly basis.