CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Board of Education for the Oklahoma City Public School District believes that providing students and families with a variety of education choices, representing a range of high quality instructional methodologies, is an important District goal. To accomplish this goal, the District strives to provide flexibility of programs that facilitate students achieving their academic and personal potential.

The Board of Education for the Oklahoma City Public School District recognizes that it is the intent of public charter legislation to create different, innovative, and more flexible ways of educating students within the public school system. In accordance with the provisions of 70 O.S. 3-130, the Oklahoma City Public School District may elect to sponsor charter schools which seek to accomplish one, or more, of the following goals:

1. Improve Student learning;
2. Increase learning opportunities for students;
3. Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods;
4. Provide additional academic choices for parents and students;
5. Require the measurement of student learning and create different and innovative forms of measuring student learning;
6. Establish new forms of accountability for students, teachers and administrators; and,
7. Create new professional opportunities for teachers and administrators including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.

Annual Review of Charter Schools

The District shall evaluate each charter school annually. The evaluation shall consist of:

1. A review of student performance and progress. For the purpose of evaluating student performance, each charter school shall be evaluated based upon the individual school’s mission and program. Consideration shall be given to the type of program (e.g. Student performance and progress for students in programs that are designed to meet the needs of at-risk students or to teach students in non-traditional settings will be evaluated differently than college preparatory academies);
2. A review of each school’s finances;
3. A review of compliance with the school’s student admissions and dismissal policies.

The evaluations will be completed by an evaluator that has been agreed upon by both the District and the charter school.

Annually, each charter school shall make a presentation to the Board at a mutually determined time. This presentation shall include an update on the school’s purpose as defined by 70 O.S. 3-131. This presentation shall include student academic performance as well as other pertinent information that the Board can use to effectively evaluate the school’s individual performance. During this presentation, the school may also submit requests to make changes to the original charter application in regard to the school’s performance measures, program target or focus, grade level span, student capacity or other pertinent information. Such requests for change will also be made a part of the application for renewal of the charter school contract.
Renewal/ Non-Renewal Process for Existing Charter Schools

Each charter school that wishes to have its contract renewed for subsequent fiscal years must apply for renewal by June 30th of the fiscal year prior to the final year of the contract. The school shall use an application that will be provided by the District.

The District will inform the charter school of its intent to renew, or non-renew, a charter school contract by October 1st of the year preceding the year in which the contract expires. The Board will use the grounds and procedures outlined in 70 O.S. 3-137 in non-renewing a charter school contract.

Termination of a charter school contract

A charter school contract can be terminated for cause during the term of the contract for the failure to meet the requirements of student performance contained within the charter school contract, for failure to meet standards of fiscal management, for violations of the law and for other good cause as outlined in 70 O.S. 3-137. The Board will follow the procedures outlined in this section of the statute in terminating such contract.

REFERENCE: 70 O.S. 3-134

OSSBA Policy EGAAA