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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

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2018 Charter School Renewal – Middle College High School

PED RECOMMENDATION

The PED recommends a **renewal term of five (5) years with the following conditions:**

- Implement a continuous improvement plan such as NM DASH to improve *lowest performing Q1 student achievement* resulting in a letter grade of at least a “C” in the category currently titled ‘Student Improvement of Lowest Performing Students’ on the A-F School Grading Report during each year of the contract term

Summary of Performance

Academic. The school earned an Overall Grade of **A** in the A-F School Grading Report in 2018, which was an improvement from a C in 2017. In addition, the school improved the letter grade in all subcategories from 2017 to 2018. However, low achievement in *improvement of lowest performing students (Q1)*, particularly in reading, was observed.

For 2018, the mission specific goal of utilizing the college placement assessment (Accuplacer) as both pre- and post-tests to determine students’ annual growth in reading and mathematics was met, earning a **“Meets Standard”**.

The two optional supplemental indicators were rated as follows:

#1 - Concurrent enrollment to expand opportunities for postsecondary advancement earned a **“Meets Standard”** rating because the actual average (52.67) was higher than the projected average (50.5).

#2 - Survey to measure student retention results in the year following their graduation from the program earned a **“Meets Standard”**. The Performance Framework indicates that a “Meets Standard” rating is earned when more than 80% of the graduates enter a 4-year college program and 70% remain enrolled a year later. 81.1% of the 2017 Middle College graduates enrolled in a 4-year college program and surveys conducted in the spring of 2018 (via phone and email) indicated that all (81.1%) were still enrolled.

Financial. The school had zero (0) audit findings in the 2018 report for FY2017.

Organizational. According to the school and confirmed by the local school district, annual site visits were not conducted by the local authorizer and site visit reports were not provided. The latest performance framework evaluation provided to CSD (from FY2017) indicated that all indicators in the Organizational Performance Framework were rated “Meets Standard”. During the renewal site visit, the CSD staff provided technical assistance regarding the Performance Framework indicators and how they would be evaluated annually, if approved by the PEC to become a state-authorized charter school.

Renewal Application – Middle College High School

PART A: Data analysis provided by CSD

Please see Part A - Summary Data Report based on data from Current Charter Contract term

PART B: Progress Report provided by the School

Please see Part B for the school’s self-report on the progress of meeting the academic performance, financial compliance and governance responsibilities of the charter school, including achieving the goals, objectives, student performance outcomes, state standards of excellence and other terms of the charter contract, including the accountability requirements set forth in the Assessment and Accountability Act during the Current Charter Term.

Chart 1. Evaluation Ratings of the School’s Progress Report, as confirmed at the renewal site visit		
Section	Indicator	Final Rating
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE		
1.a	Department’s Standards of Excellence— A-F Letter Grades	<i>Demonstrates Substantial Progress</i>
1.b	Specific Charter Goals	<i>Meets the Standard</i>
FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE		
2.a	Audit	<i>Meets the Standard</i>
2.b	Board of Finance	<i>Not applicable; prepared to do so if approved</i>
CONTRACTUAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, AND GOVERNANCE		
3.a	Material Terms	<i>Meets the Standard</i>
3.b	Organizational Performance Framework	<i>Demonstrates Substantial Progress</i>
3.c	Governance Responsibilities	<i>Demonstrates Substantial Progress</i>

The ratings above, based on the rubric in the renewal kit, are also listed in the margin below.

1) Academic Performance

a) Department’s Standards of Excellence - A-F Letter Grades

Schools that have maintained a C or better letter grade over the term of the contract AND have not earned a D or F in any indicator of the letter grade in the past two years do NOT complete this Section.

Academic Performance Framework 1a: Overall NM School Grades: A.

*Demonstrates
Substantial
Progress*

Meets the Standard

b) **School Specific Charter Goals**

Schools that have met all of their school specific goals in each year of the contract term do NOT provide a narrative.

Academic Performance Framework 1b and 1c:

Mission Specific Goals, Optional Supplemental Indicators, & any School Specific Terms

- Accuplacer goals in reading and math: *Meets Standard*
- Average number of dual credits earned: *Meets Standard*
- Student retention in college in the year following their graduation: *Meets Standard*

2) **Financial Compliance**

Meets the Standard

a) **Audit**

Schools that have received no material weakness, significant deficiency, or repeat audit findings in each of the annual audits during the term of the contract do NOT complete this Section.

Organizational Performance Framework 2a and 2b

b) **Board of Finance**

Schools that have maintained all Board of Finance authority during the entire term of the contract do NOT complete this Section. If required to complete this section, provide a narrative explaining the actions taken (improved practices and outcomes).

Not applicable for locally authorized charters; The Governing Board is prepared to be designated as Board of Finance.

3) **Contractual, Organizational, and Governance Responsibilities**

Meets the Standard

a) **Charter Material Terms**

All schools must provide a response for this section of the application.

Organizational Performance Framework 1a: Material Terms

- **Stand-alone high school with robust concurrent enrollment program**
- **Effective habits of study including weekly seminar and tutoring**
- **Academically-focused clubs (National Honor Society and Student Senate)**
- **4.5 additional high school credits in service learning, job shadowing, and arts and science electives**
- **Teachers occupy multiple roles, participate in weekly staff meetings, and attend Friday afternoon professional development training**
- **Multiple avenues of communication with parents**

b) **Organizational Performance Framework**

Schools that do not have any repeated “working to meet” ratings or any “falls far below” ratings on the most recent organizational performance framework evaluation do NOT complete this Section.

Organizational Performance Framework 1b-1g, 4a-4c, and 5a-5c

Any OCR complaints or formal special education complaints, identify those, provide all communication related to those, and describe the current status in Appendix, referenced in narrative by name. List complaints: none known

Demonstrates Substantial Progress

c) **Governance Responsibilities**

All schools must provide a response for this section of the application.

Organizational Performance Framework 3a and 3b

Demonstrates Substantial Progress

X **PART C: Financial Statement**

A financial statement that discloses the costs of administration, instruction and other spending categories for the charter school that is understandable to the general public that allows comparison of costs to other schools or comparable organizations and that is in a format required by the department.

PART D: Petitions of Support

 X 1) A petition in support of the charter school renewing its charter status signed by not less than sixty-five percent of the **employees** in the charter school, with certified affidavit.
Number: 9 out of 9 Percentage: 100 %

 X 2) A petition in support of the charter school renewing its charter status signed by at least seventy-five percent of the **households** whose children are enrolled in the charter school, with certified affidavit.
Number: 70 Percentage: 75 %

PART E: Description of the Charter School Facilities and Assurances

A description of the charter school facilities and assurances that the facilities are in compliance with the requirements of Section 22-8B-4.2 NMSA 1978.

 X 1) A narrative description of its facilities

 X 2) Attach x facility plans or ___ the school’s Facility Master Plan as Appendix D

3) Attach a copy of the following

a) Copy of the building E Occupancy certificate(s)
from _____ number _____

 X b) Letter from PSFA (dated 2017) with the facility NMCI Score 14.2% indicating that the school meets the requirements of Subsection C of 22-8B-4.2 NMSA 1978 (if the charter school is relocating or expanding to accommodate more students).

 X 3) Provide assurances that the facilities are in compliance with the requirements of Section 22-8B-4.2 NMSA 1978, including subsections A, C, and D. A template is available from the PEC’s website.

 x Public (Cert A) ___ Private (Cert B) ___ Foundation (Cert C)
School provided a copy of the lease agreement with UNM for the land

 X **PART F: Amendment Requests**

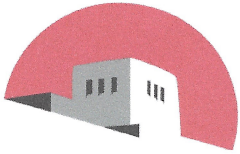
OPTIONAL: Identify any amendments the school would like to have considered as part of the renewal process to be considered by the PEC as changes to the material terms that would become effective as part of the new contract.

Number of proposed amendments submitted by school for new contract: 0

School did provide a list of allowable waivers pertaining to early college high schools per NMAC 6.30.13.13

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middle College High School		
	Category I. Academic Performance Framework		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I-A.00 (1a) NM A-F School Grading System		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I-A.01 (1b) Mission Specific Indicators		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I-A.02 Optional Supplemental Indicators (school specific items in charter)		
	Category II. Financial Performance Framework		
<input type="checkbox"/>	II-A.00-06 (#1-8) Operating Budget/Audits/PeriodicReports/Expenditures/Reimbursements/AuditReviews/Meals		
	Category III. Organizational Performance Framework		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.00 (1a) Educational Plan: material terms of the approved charter application		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.01 (1b) Education Plan: applicable education requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.02 (1c) Education Plan: protecting the rights of all students		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.03 (1d) Educational Plan: protecting the rights of students with special needs (IDEA, 504, gifted)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.04 (1e) Educational Plan: protecting the rights of English Language Learners (Title III)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.05 (1f) Educational Plan: complying with the compulsory attendance laws		
<input type="checkbox"/>	III-A.06 (1g) Educational Plan: meet their recurrent enrollment goals		
<input type="checkbox"/>	IV-A.00 (2a) Business Management & Oversight: meeting financial reporting & compliance requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	IV-A.01 (2b) Business Management & Oversight: following generally accepted accounting principles		
<input type="checkbox"/>	V-A.00 (3a) Governance and Reporting: complying with governance requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	V-A.01 (3b) Governance and Reporting: holding management accountable		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VI-A.00 (4a) Employees: meeting teacher and other staff credentialing requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VI-A.01 (4b) Employees: respecting employee rights		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VI-A.02 (4c) Employees: completing required background checks		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VII-A.00 (5a) School Environment: complying with facilities requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VII-A.01 (5b) School Environment: complying with health and safety requirements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	VII-A.02 (5c) School Environment: handling information appropriately		
	Category: Organizational Performance Framework		
<input type="checkbox"/>	School Specific Terms: data on any terms specified in the school's Performance Framework		

No Data Available
from local authorizer



MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

MCHS RESPONSE TO CSD RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION

Middle College High School is grateful to the Public Education Commission and the Charter Schools Division for its willingness to conduct site visits, both formally and informally, during the month of September. We realize the Commission and the Division's schedule is full and appreciate its understanding of the urgency of our needs.

In looking at the renewal report, the School's response will be brief. In short, we find the report to be both thorough and accurate. MCHS has a sixteen-year history in which for the past several years its students have demonstrated much higher rates of proficiency in mathematics, reading, and science than any other area high school. Nonetheless, we recognize the need for improvement and are up for the challenge of achieving it.

In looking at the conditions for a five-year renewal, we concur with the need to focus on the growth of Q1 student achievement, particularly as it relates to reading. An early college high school's curriculum is heavily based on reading and is writing intensive. If we do not improve our students' growth in these areas, they will have difficulty accessing the college level material we are mission bound to prepare them for. To this end, we are supplementing our lower division English courses with an online diagnostic and intervention component.

In closing, the School concurs with the CSD's recommendations in its Renewal Report and genuinely welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership.

Respectfully,

Robert D. Hunter, PhD