October 9, 2024

Mary Tarango

[mtarango@21stcenturypa.com](mailto:mtarango@21stcenturypa.com)

Art Silva

[art\_silva@hotmail.com](mailto:art_silva@hotmail.com)

21st Century Public Academy

Dear Ms. Tarango and Mr. Silva:

Thank you for submitting your renewal application for 21st Century Public Academy to the Public Education Commission. We appreciate the tremendous effort that went into the application. As you know the application will be on the Public Education Commission’s (PEC) agenda the week of November 11, 2024 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The PEC may renew, renew with conditions, or non-renew the school based on the performance in the charter term and the renewal application. The PEC is following the procedures set forth in the PEC rule, NMAC 6.2.9.16.

The Charter School Division (CSD) has provided you with an initial recommendation indicating that the school should be renewed without conditions for a five-year term. They will finalize their recommendation prior to the renewal hearing and include final Vistas data from the New Mexico Public Education Department for 2023-2024 if available. The application looks very strong.

To assist you in your team’s preparation for the PEC meeting, the PEC wanted to outline questions or concerns that have arisen in the review of your application by CSD and PEC Commissioner review. While the PEC may ask questions regarding any part of the school’s performance during the charter contract, the renewal application and assessment, and recommendations provided, in particular please be prepared to address the areas listed below. The PEC is incorporating “Results-Based Accountability” into its new performance framework. While the renewal application is not being assessed under the new performance framework, you might gear your presentation and answers to issues set for below by addressing the following questions: How much did the school do? How well did you do it? Who is better off as a result?

Please note that the PEC is not requesting, nor will accept, new information at this point in the process.

Areas of specific focus are:

| School Performance:  Please see Renewal Application Subpart A and  CSD recommendation | | Rating |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Academic Framework | | No areas of concern |
| Organizational Framework | | Rating |
|  | 2.b. Financial Compliance | Demonstrates Substantial Progress |
|  | 2.d. Equity and Identity | Demonstrates Substantial Progress |
|  | 2.f. Other Performance Framework Indicators | Demonstrates Substantial Progress |
| Areas of Interest for Additional Information provided by PEC Commissioners | | |
|  | No additional questions |  |
| Areas of Interest for Additional Information provided by CSD | | |
|  | No additional questions |  |

On behalf of the Commission, I thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

*e/Patricia Gipson*

Chair, Public Education Commission

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