October 9,2024

Karla Haas-Moskowitz

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Steve Stauss

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The MASTERS Program

Dear Ms. Haas-Moskowitz and Mr. Strauss:

Thank you for submitting your renewal application for the MASTERS Program 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 for a five-year term without conditions.

CSD 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.

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 | | Rating |
|  | 1.b. Mission-Specific Goals | Failing to Demonstrate Progress |
| Organizational Framework | | Rating |
|  | 2.b. Financial Compliance | Failing to Demonstrate Progress |
|  | 2.c. Governance Responsibilities | Demonstrates Substantial Progress |
|  | 2.f. Other Performance Framework Indicators | Demonstrates Substantial Progress |
| Areas of Interest for additional information requested by PEC Commissioners | | |
|  | In the renewal application it is mentioned that a staff member will oversee IEPs. The school did not meet standard on the special education indicator, and several complaints were filed with the Office of Special Education. Was the person hired before or after the complaints were filed? How is this person meeting the needs of the students with IEPs? How is the support for IEPs working? | |

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

Sincerely,

*e/Patricia Gipson*

Chair, Public Education Commission

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