

Charter School Renewal Application Template

Final

May 22, 2018

Use this template to fill out your Charter School Renewal Application. Review the Applicant's Guide prior to completing this template.



Vision for MMSD Charter Schools

In line with our improvement strategy, we look for our charter schools to be drivers of school-wide innovation for the rest of the school district, to expand academic and enrichment opportunities for students, and to accelerate outcomes, particularly for those students who we have not served well enough.

The MMSD defines [innovation](#) as the process of trying something new or different that has the potential to address an identified need and produce better outcomes for students. Where possible and appropriate, our goal would be to bring proven charter innovation to scale.

It is the policy of the School Board to consider the establishment of charter schools that support the District's mission and belief statements and as provided by law. The Board believes that the creation of charter schools can enhance the educational opportunities for Madison Metropolitan School District students by providing innovative and distinctive educational programs and by giving parents/students more educational options within the District. Only charter schools that are an instrumentality of the District will be considered by the Board.

Wisconsin Statute sec. 118.40(7)(a): "...If the school board determines that the charter school is an instrumentality of the school district, the school board shall employ all personnel for the charter school..."



The Board further believes that certain values and principles must be integrated into all work involving the conceptualization, development and implementation of a new charter school. These guiding principles are as follows:

1. All charter schools must meet high standards of student achievement while providing increased educational opportunities, including broadening existing opportunities for struggling populations of students;
2. All charter schools must have an underlying, research-based theory and history of successful practice that is likely to achieve academic success;
3. All charter schools will provide information to parents and students as to the quality of education provided by the charter school and the ongoing academic progress of the individual student;
4. All charter schools will ensure equitable access to all students regardless of gender, race and/or disability;
5. All charter schools must be financially accountable to the District and rely on sustainable funding models;
6. All charter schools must ensure the health and safety of all staff and students;
7. All externally-developed charter schools must be governed by a governance board that is registered as a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt charitable organization;
8. All charter schools must have a plan to hire, retain and recruit a highly-qualified, diverse staff;
9. All charter schools must have a clear code of student conduct that includes procedures for positive interventions and social emotional supports.



Charter School Renewal Application Process

Charter Schools must complete the Charter School Renewal Application using the available application template. All application sections must be completed. There is a maximum of 750 words allowed for each section, except for the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment section, for which each subsection – Curriculum, Instructional Design and Assessment- can be 750 words. Applicants are expected to complete each section using prose. Lists and/or bullet points without prose are not an appropriate means of responding.

Each section must contain information related to the prior charter contract term as well as a vision for the future. The [Charter School Renewal Applicant's Guide](#) provides Governance Councils with 'Look For' items in each application section. Responses must, minimally, contain information related to each of the "Look Fors" listed in each section. In addition, the Applicant's Guide provides "Set Parameters" for a few of the sections.

A "Set Parameter" means the item(s) listed is a parameter for which the charter school may not propose an alternative approach. Any flexibility proposed must be within the parameter stated. Our intent for this section is not meant to limit innovation; rather, it is to ensure that the District's beliefs and values are honored and that state and federal laws are followed. "Set Parameters" are items that are eligible for clarification within the consulting meetings described in the Applicant's Guide.

Exhibits and/or appendices may be attached to the Charter School Renewal Application; however, to the extent possible, data and/or other information should be embedded into the body of the application as supporting materials for any assertions made.

Charter schools must submit twelve (12) hard copies of the completed Charter School Renewal Application on or before the due date, October 11 to the Chief of Staff (unless otherwise indicated in the charter contract).

If the MMSD Charter Renewal Committee requests an early review to identify any written sections in the Renewal Application as "Fails to Meet Expectations," the Governance Council will have the opportunity to update their application prior to the final submission.



I. School Information

A. School's Vision, Mission and Goals

B. School's Core Beliefs, Values and Instructional Theory

C. Vision for the Future



III. Student Body/Demographics

- A.** Student Body/Demographics

- B.** Planned Changes to Recruitment Strategy and/or Student Selection Process for Renewal Term



IV. Student Data

- A.** Student Academic Achievement Data and Analysis
- B.** Student Attendance Data
- C.** Student Behavior Data
- D.** Climate Survey Data
- E.** Student Access to Opportunities
- F.** A Summary Document Providing an Overview of All Student Results Using the Accountability Measures Set Forth Specifically in the Charter School Contract
- G.** Data Summary Related to Progress Towards Goals Set Forth in the Charter School Contract



VI. Family Engagement

A. Family Engagement

B. Planned Changes to Family Engagement for Renewal Term



VII. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

A. Curriculum

I. Planned Changes to Curriculum for the Renewal Term



Instructional Design

B. Instructional Design

I. Planned Changes to Instructional Design for Renewal Term



Assessment

C. Assessment Plan

I. Planned Changes to Assessment Plan for Renewal Term



IX. Key Partnerships

A. Key Partnerships

B. Planned Changes to Key Partnerships for Renewal Term



XIII. Financial Operations

A. Financial Operations

B. Planned Changes to Financial Operations for Renewal Term

