

MCSO Application: Review and Findings

Expect great things.





Multiple Charter School Organization

Propel Charter Schools Application

Expect great things. 

Background

Act 55, November 2017

- Two (2) or more charter schools may consolidate into a multiple charter school organization (MCSO) if:
 - PA Department of Education approves the consolidation
 - Each school district that granted the initial charter of any charter school included in the proposed consolidation approves a resolution approving the consolidation (taking no action is a deemed approval)
- May operate two (2) or more individual charter schools
- Does not affect or change the terms of existing charter agreements

What schools can consolidate?

Requirements:

- Meet requirements for student performance set forth in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4
- Accepted standards of fiscal management or audit requirements
- School Performance Profile score among the top twenty-fifth (25th) percentile of PA charter schools
- *A charter school that has failed to meet any of the requirements of paragraph (1) may consolidate if the consolidation includes a charter school demonstrating that it has satisfied such requirements for the most recent two (2) school years.*

Required Application Information

1. Name of MCSO
2. Names of charter schools seeking consolidation
3. Copy of approved charter for each charter school seeking consolidation
4. Organizational chart clearly presenting the proposed governance structure
5. Clear description of roles and responsibilities for the board of trustees, chief administrator, administrators and any other entities
6. Clear description of method for appointment or election of members of the board of trustees

Required Application Information, cont.

7. Standards for board of trustees performance, including compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and terms of the charter
8. Enrollment procedures for each individual charter school included in its charter
9. Any other information deemed necessary by the department

An Multiple Charter School Organization may:

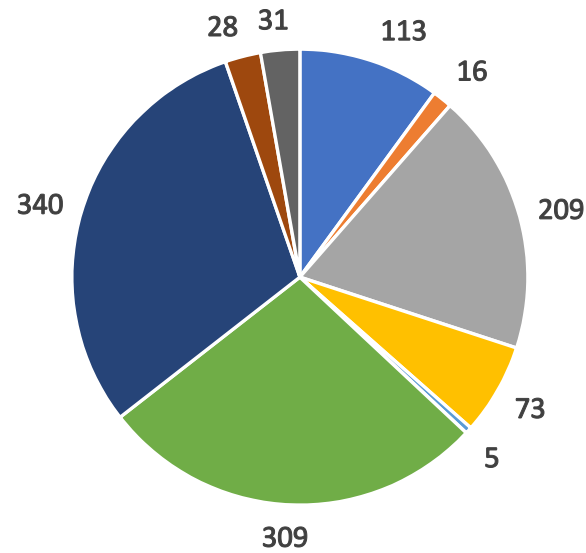
1. Participate in the assessment system in the same manner in which a school district participates
2. Add existing charter schools to its organization by obtaining the approval of the department and of the local board of school directors that granted the initial charter
3. Allow students enrolled in an individual charter school to matriculate to another individual charter school under its oversight

Propel Application

Consolidate Eight schools into 1 Multiple Charter School Organization– two will continue to be located in Pittsburgh

- Propel Schools (Homestead)
- Propel Charter School-East
- Propel Charter School-McKeesport
- **Propel Charter School-Hazelwood**
- Propel Charter School-Sunrise (Braddock Hills)
- Propel Charter School-Pitcairn
- **Propel Charter School-Northside**
- Propel Charter School-Montour

PPS Enrollment at Propel Schools



- Propel - Braddock Hills
- Propel Charter - Hazelwood
- Propel Charter - McKeesport
- Propel Charter - Northside
- Propel-Andrew Street High
- Propel Charter - East
- Propel Charter - Homestead
- Propel Charter - Montour/Middle-High
- Propel Charter - Pitcairn

Findings: Student Performance

Only one school meets the requirements of student performance
Propel Mckeesport

CHARTER SCHOOLS MEETING MULTIPLE CHARTER SCHOOL ORGANIZATION
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA – 24 P.S. § 17-1729.1-A

County	Charter	2016 Quartile	2017 Quartile
Allegheny	City CHS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Allegheny	Propel CS-Mckeesport	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Beaver	Baden Academy CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Beaver	Lincoln Park Performing Arts CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Bucks	Bucks County Montessori CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Centre	Centre Learning Community CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Centre	Wonderland CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Centre	Young Scholars of Central PA CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Chester	Avon Grove CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Chester	Renaissance Academy CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Dauphin	Capital Area School for the Arts Charter	Top Quartile	Top Quartile
Dauphin	Infinity CS	Top Quartile	Top Quartile



Fiscal Overview

- Prior Years' Budgets and Audit Findings
 - No noted deficiencies
- Policies
 - Required policies submitted
- 5-Year Projected Consolidated Budget
 - Viable 5-Year projected budget reasonable with exceptions
 - No change in revenue or expenditures in 2021-2022, contradicting assumptions based on prior independent audits

Governance

Proposed combined Board of Trustees will have eleven members (six of the eleven members reportedly reside in the City of Pittsburgh)

- Kristin Hughes – District Resident
- Heidi Bartholomew – District Resident
- Roland Criswell – District Resident
- Thomas Canfield – District Resident
- William Axtman – District Resident
- Stewart Barmen – District Resident
- David Fair
- Don Huber
- Patrick Kenny
- Brendan Surma
- Evon Walters

Next Steps

- Board Discussion/Questions
- Vote to consider the application
(if the Board takes no action, it is a deemed approval)