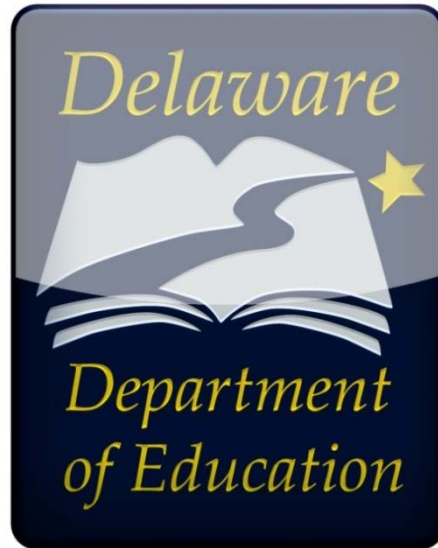


# CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



## Campus Community School

**RENEWAL APPLICATION  
FINAL REPORT**

CSAC Final Meeting: November 10, 2015  
CSAC Final Report Published: November 13, 2015

By September 30, 2014, Campus Community School submitted an application to renew its charter. Consideration of this application is in accordance with the applicable provisions of 14 *Del. C.* § 514A and 14 DE Admin. Code § 275. Written renewal application guidance is provided by the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) on its website. The renewal application template developed by DDOE is aligned to measures and targets within the Performance Framework, which outlines the academic, organizational and fiscal standards by which all Delaware charter schools are evaluated. The evaluation of the school's performance as measured by the Framework is a major component of the decision on the renewal application. The decision on the renewal application is based on a comprehensive review, guided, in part, by the following three questions:

1. Is the academic program a success?
2. Is the school financially viable?
3. Is the school organizationally sound?

This report serves as a summary of the strengths, areas of follow-up, and/or concerns identified by members of the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) during their individual reviews of the charter applicant's renewal application, Performance Review Reports, Annual Reports and Performance Agreements and during the CSAC meetings.

The following were in attendance at the Final Meeting of the CSAC on November 10, 2015:

**Voting Committee Members of the Charter School Accountability Committee**

- David Blowman, Chairperson of the Charter School Accountability Committee and Deputy Secretary, DDOE
- Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary for Adult Education and School Supports, DDOE
- Barbara Mazza, Education Associate, Exceptional Children Resources, DDOE
- April McCrae, Education Associate, Science Assessment and STEM, DDOE
- Atnre Alleyne, Director, Talent Management & Educator Effectiveness, Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit (TLEU), DDOE
- Deborah Wilson, Community Member

**Staff to the Committee (Non-voting)**

- Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General, Counsel to the Committee
- Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director, Charter School Office, DDOE
- John Carwell, Education Associate, Charter School Office, DDOE
- Michelle Whalen, Education Associate, Charter School Office, DDOE
- Brook Hughes, Education Associate, Financial Reform and Resource Management, DDOE

**Ex-Officio Members (Non-voting)**

- Kendall Massett, Executive Director, Delaware Charter School Network
- Donna Johnson, Executive Director, Delaware State Board of Education

**Representatives of Charter School**

- Harry Papaleo, Board President
- Catherine Balsley, Head of School
- Leroy Travers, Principal
- Carolin Lyon, Business Manager

## Discussion

Mr. Blowman noted for the record that, at the Initial CSAC Meeting on October 13, 2015, the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) indicated that the school's science submission did not meet standard.

Mr. Blowman noted that the CSAC had requested the following information in order to inform its decision-making:

- New science unit that is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards; and
- Special education corrective action plan.

Mr. Blowman noted that the school submitted its response to the initial report on November 4, 2015.

Mr. Blowman noted that the school's 2014-15 Organizational Framework Report and 2014-15 Financial Framework Report had been added to the record. Both reports received an overall rating of "Meets Standard."

Mr. Blowman asked the CSAC members to indicate whether there were any questions, comments or feedback related to the supplemental information that the school submitted.

Ms. McCrae stated that the school's revised science submission was not necessarily aligned to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). However, she noted that the State of Delaware is currently working to get all of its materials into alignment with the NGSS. She added that the school has a teacher enrolled in the Next Generation Leader Program and, as a result, it would not be appropriate to hold up the school's renewal on this basis. She acknowledged that the school's submission, while not perfect, was much better than what had been originally submitted. She recommended that the school work closely with the DDOE to ensure that the school is doing well with its science curriculum and have a check-in by August 2016 to make sure that the school continues to improve in this regard. Dr. Balsley noted that the school's November 4<sup>th</sup> submission outlines the contact that has been made and the school's initiative for next year. She added that science will be the school's focus in its Professional Learning Communities for the 2016-17 school year and that the school has budgeted for obtaining NGSS resources. Ms. McCrae responded that she did see that and emphasized that the DDOE is there to help.

Ms. Mazza asked whether the special education Corrective Action Plan resulting from the school's annual determination letter rating of "Needs Assistance" had been submitted. Mr. Travers responded that it had been submitted on time. Ms. Mazza asked whether the plan had been approved and Mr. Travers replied that it had been. Ms. Mazza asked whether there were any questions and Mr. Travers responded that the format was very self-explanatory. Dr. Balsley added that the school's November 4<sup>th</sup> letter included information about the school's plan to re-connect with its original consultant in order to have her come and assess the school's progress after a two-year period.

## Conclusion

Mr. Blowman asked the CSAC whether there were any areas of the application that warranted a “Does Not Meet Standard” rating based upon a review of the application, supplemental materials, and discussions at the CSAC meetings. Each member of the CSAC responded that there were no sections of the application that warranted a “Does Not Meet Standard” rating.

Mr. Blowman requested a motion to recommend renewal of the charter of Campus Community School. The motion was made to approve the recommendation and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Blowman reminded the applicant that the CSAC’s recommendation was just that; a recommendation to the Secretary of Education on the renewal application.

Ms. Nagourney commended the school on its proactive approach to renewal and the hard work that it put into the renewal process.

## Next Steps:

- A second public hearing will be held on December 8, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. in the 2nd floor Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building at 401 Federal Street, Dover DE.
- The public comment period ends on December 11, 2015.
- The State Board of Education will hold a meeting on December 17, 2015, in the 2nd floor Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building at 401 Federal Street, Dover DE, at which time the Secretary will announce his decision on the renewal application and, if required, the State Board will act on that decision.