



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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October 13, 2014

**Via Certified Mail
& E-Mail**

Dr. Christopher T. Curry, Board Chair
Maurice J. Moyer Academic Institute
610 East 17th Street
Wilmington, DE 19802

This letter serves to notify you that the charter held by the New Maurice J. Moyer Academy, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "charter holder") has been revoked effective June 30, 2015. At the October 9, 2014 meeting of the Delaware State Board of Education, the State Board assented to the Delaware Department of Education's (DDOE) decision to revoke the charter. That decision was based on the Charter School Accountability Committee's (CSAC) formal review and recommendation which found that, pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 516 (2), the school has failed to comply with its charter and to satisfy, in its operation of the school, criteria set forth in 14 Del. C. § 512. Listed below are the specific areas the CSAC found to be out of compliance.

Academic Performance (pursuant to Performance Agreement)

- 2013-14 Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS) test scores are the lowest for any charter school in the state.
- For the 2013-14 school year, only 23.1% of all students demonstrated proficiency in ELA on state testing; only 10.2% of students demonstrated proficiency in Math; only 6.2% of students demonstrated proficiency in science; and no students demonstrated proficiency in social studies.
- For the 2012-13 school year, only 49.6% of all students demonstrated proficiency in ELA on state testing; only 40.3% of students demonstrated proficiency in Math; only 12.1% of students demonstrated proficiency in science; and only 39.3% of students demonstrated proficiency in social studies. The Academic Framework overall rating was "Does Not Meet Standard."

Appropriate Strategies to Accommodate the Needs of At-Risk Students and Those Needing Special Education Services (pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 512(7))

- Monitoring visits by the Department determined that, as of January 8, 2014, nearly all Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) did not meet federal and state legal requirements. The deadline for corrective action was extended twice, but the requirements were still not met. Follow-up monitoring visits by the Department determined that, as of June 2, 2014, almost half of the IEPs previously identified as noncompliant had not been sufficiently corrected.
- Monitoring visits by the Department found violations of state and federal law with respect to procedural safeguards, eligibility determination, secondary transition, and students being served in the Least Restrictive Environment.
- Monitoring visits by the Department determined that Moyer did not have sufficient staff capacity to serve students with special needs effectively.
- Monitoring visits by the Department found violations of Response to Intervention (RTI) regulations.
- Monitoring visits by the Department determined that staff members did not fully understand RTI regulations.

Educational Program (pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 512(6))

- Monitoring visits by the Department and materials submitted by the charter school determined that the curriculum in use by Moyer during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years was not aligned to meet the Delaware Content Standards, Common Core State Standards, state program requirements, or state graduation requirements. Monitoring visits by the Department determined that staff members did not fully understand Common Core State Standards.
- Monitoring visits by the Department determined that curriculum content and implemented instructional strategies were not supported by research.
- Moyer adopted new curricula from SpringBoard for math and English Language Arts for implementation in the 2014-15 school year. The Department approved English Language Arts but not Math. Moyer did not submit documentation aligning the Geometry, Algebra II and Pre-calculus courses to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematical Practice.

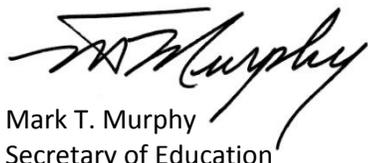
School Discipline & Attendance Procedures (pursuant to 14 Del. C. § 512(11))

- Out of school suspension rate of students was 61% for the 2013-14 school year.
- During the 2013-14 school year, Moyer did not provide the Department with required written decisions regarding five expelled students who were not placed in a Consortium Discipline Alternative Program (CDAP), as required by 14 DE Admin. Code § 611.
- There were nine unsafe incidents, as defined by 14 DE Admin. Code § 608, that occurred during the 2013-14 school year.
- During monitoring visits by the Department, students reported that they do not feel safe at Moyer because of fights and unsecured entryways.

The Department expects that the school will make every effort to provide Moyer students with a quality education and maintain an environment conducive to learning and instruction for students and staff for the remainder of the school year. Please find enclosed a copy of the DDOE's Charter School Closure Protocol, which includes responsibilities of the Charter School's Board and Leader.

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Jennifer Nagourney, at 302-735-4020 or at Jennifer.nagourney@doe.k12.de.us.

Sincerely,



Mark T. Murphy
Secretary of Education

cc: David Blowman, Deputy Secretary, Delaware Department of Education
Mary Kate McLaughlin, Chief of Staff, Delaware Department of Education
Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary, Delaware Department of Education
Susan Haberstroh, Associate Secretary, Delaware Department of Education
Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director, Charter School Office, Delaware Department of Education

Enclosure