



December 9, 2014

**Secretary of Education**

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Dr. Stephen H. Godowsky  
Secretary of Education  
Delaware Department of Education  
The Townsend Building  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901-3639

Dear Dr. Godowsky:

The purpose of this letter is to express Charter School Development Corporation's ("CSDC") continued commitment to supporting The Delaware Met.

CSDC, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), promotes innovation and excellence in education by financing and developing facilities for public charter schools nationally with a goal of improving student achievement by increasing school choice within the K-12 public education system. CSDC provided financing and facility assistance to Innovative Schools and The Delaware Met through acquiring and leasing the educational facility at 920 N French Street, with the intent of providing a permanent home for The Delaware Met to thrive in.

CSDC has been closely monitoring the course of events leading up to the Charter School Accountability Committee's recommendation to revoke The Delaware Met's charter. In its 18 years of operation, CSDC has provided financing and technical assistance to over 250 schools nationally and specializes in working with newly formed and early stage public charter schools. Over one-third of all of CSDC's client schools have had no operating history prior to receiving CSDC assistance, and none of these schools have had a charter revoked in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of an opening school year.

CSDC anticipates its new schools to have their share of challenges in an opening year, and, in lieu of a charter revocation, CSDC would support a decision by the Delaware Department of Education to place The Delaware Met on probation for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year. In our opinion, a probationary period with clearly defined standards and benchmarks would afford The Delaware Met a reasonable opportunity to shore up its leadership team, address instability and lack of leadership at the Board level and correct the other noted deficiencies. It would also go a long way to providing CSDC and other stakeholders with assurance that any future charter schools that seek outside assistance in the State of Delaware will be granted a fair opportunity to address and correct early start-up challenges that may impair its ability to fulfill the terms of its charter.

CSDC is available to discuss this matter further and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Al Dubin

CEO

Charter Schools Development Corporation