

Summary Sheet for School Leaders and Board Chairs From H3241

Note: This is just a brief summary of the changes you need to understand as a charter school leader or board chair. We will go over things in further detail in the coming week.

Keep fixed asset inventory.

Note: Now clear that public charter schools must maintain the same fixed asset inventory – should have been doing this already.

(e) is subject to the same fixed asset inventory requirements as are traditional public schools.

Enrollment Preference: Siblings no longer counted as part of the 20%. May include siblings of students who attended within the past 6 years.

(8) not limit or deny admission or show preference in admission decisions to any individual or group of individuals, except in the case of an application to create a single gender charter school, in which case gender may be the only reason to show preference or deny admission to the school; however, a charter school may give enrollment priority to a sibling of a pupil already currently enrolled or previously enrolled, and attending, or who, within the last six years, attended the school for at least one complete academic year. A charter school also may give priority to children of a charter school employee, and children of the charter committee, if such priority enrollment for children of employees and of the charter committee does not constitute more than twenty percent of the enrollment of the charter school;

Board Composition: Board consists of at least 7 or members, all members are residents of the state of SC, 50% have a background in k-12 education or business, and at least 50% are elected. May have 2 year terms.

Note: We will cover this more in the coming week via webinar. Some schools will amend their bylaws.

(9) elect its consist of a board of directors annually of seven or more individuals with the exact number specified in or fixed in accordance with the bylaws. Members of a board of directors may serve a term of two years, and may serve additional terms. A choice of the membership of the board must take place every two years. Fifty percent of the members of the board as specified by the bylaws must be individuals who have a background in K-12 education or in business, and the bylaws of the charter school also must provide for the manner of selection of these members. In addition, at least fifty percent of the members of the board as specified by the bylaws must be elected by the employees and the parents or guardians of students enrolled in the charter school. Parents or guardians shall have one vote for each student enrolled in the charter school. All members must be residents of the State of South Carolina. All employees of the charter school and all parents or guardians of students enrolled in the charter school are eligible to participate in the election. Parents or guardians of a student shall have one vote for each student enrolled in the

~~charter school.~~ A person who has been convicted of a felony must not be elected to a board of directors. If the board of directors consists of an odd number of members, the extra member must be an individual who has a background in K-12 education or in business;

Notify sponsor of any regular board meetings at least 48 hours ahead.

Note: This impacts existing schools and existing planning groups pending approval - Just send your annual schedule to the sponsor annually then you are covered. Remember if you move a date to notify them.

A board of directors of a charter school shall notify its sponsor of any regular meeting of the board at least forty-eight hours prior to the date on which it is to occur.

Student Access to Extracurricular and Athletics at resident school if not offered by public charter attending.

Note: Please work with your local schools to make this a positive change in South Carolina. If there are grade requirements or other requirements please ensure date is properly released to the resident school in a timely manner.

(b) A charter school student is eligible to compete for, and if selected, participate in any extracurricular activities not offered by the student's charter school which are offered at the resident public school he would otherwise attend. A charter school student is eligible to compete for, and if selected, participate in an activity governed by the South Carolina High School League offered at the resident public school he would otherwise attend if the league governed activity is not offered at the student's charter school.

(c) A charter school student is eligible for extracurricular activities at the student's resident public school consistent with eligibility standards as applied to full-time students of the resident public school.

(d) A school district or resident public school may not impose additional requirements on a charter school student to participate in extracurricular activities that are not imposed on full-time students of the resident public school.

(e) Charter school students shall pay the same fees as other students to participate in extracurricular activities.

(f) Charter school students shall be eligible for the same fee waivers for which other students are eligible.

Distribution of Categorical Funds from Sponsor within 10 days.

Note: Please politely notify your sponsor's CFO of this change. Please let us know if there are any issues in the implementation of this change.

After receipt of federal or state categorical aid funds, sponsors shall, within ten business days, supply to the charter school the proportional share of each categorical fund for which the charter school qualifies. If the sponsor fails to do so, the Department of Education may fine the sponsor an amount equivalent to the withheld amounts. Fines imposed must be remitted to the charter school from which the amounts were withheld.

Annual Reporting Requirements

Note: We believe this reporting should be in the fall after student achievement data and financial audit data is available for the schools. We understand some currently do this at the end of the school year. We will discuss this further with the school leaders and submit recommendations to SCDE.

(H) A charter school shall report to its sponsor and the Department of Education any change to information provided under its application. In addition, a charter school shall report at least annually to its sponsor and the sponsor shall compile those reports into a single document which must be submitted to the department. The Department of Education shall develop a template to be used by charter schools for this annual report. The report shall provide all information required by the sponsor or the department and shall include including, at a minimum;

- (1) the number of students enrolled in the charter school from year to year;
- (2) the success of students in achieving the specific educational goals for which the charter school was established;
- (3) an analysis of achievement gaps among major groupings of students in both proficiency and growth; and
- (4) the identity and certification status of the teaching staff;
- (5) the financial performance and sustainability of the sponsor's charter schools; and
- (6) board performance and stewardship including compliance with applicable laws.

Renewal - If up for renewal – sponsor and school will sign a contract - template being developed by the SCDE.

Note: For existing schools we believe your charter still serves as the contract from your approval. When up for renewal, a new contract should be agreed on.

(B) ~~The~~ A contract between the charter school and the sponsor shall must be executed and must reflect all provisions outlined in the application as well as the roles, powers, responsibilities, and performance expectations for each party to the contract. A contract must include the proposed enrollment procedures and dates of the enrollment period of the charter school. All agreements regarding the release of the charter school from school district policies must be contained in the contract. The Department of Education shall develop a contract template to be used by charter schools and the sponsor. The template must serve as a foundation for the development of a contract between the charter school and the sponsor.