

VARIANCES TO STANDARDS: CREATING A CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION Renewal Application (three years)

Purpose: ARM 10.55.608(1). A school district with the approval of the local board of trustees may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to form a charter school. (a) A charter school must provide an education that meets or exceeds the requirements of the Montana Constitution, state law, and student performance standards. (b) The Board of Public Education may only grant charters to publicly funded schools or programs under the supervision and control of a locally elected board of trustees in an existing school district. (c) The procedure by which a school district may apply to create a charter school and by which the Board of Public Education may approve, deny, evaluate, and renew a charter school shall be identical to that outlined in ARM 10.55.604.

DUE DATE: Second Monday in October

COUNTY:

DISTRICT:

SCHOOL(S):

- 1. A school district proposing a charter school shall, at a minimum, provide evidence that the district will continue to guarantee the following:**
 - (i) School district governance and control of the charter school;
 - (ii) Unrestricted, open student access;
 - (iii) Compliance with all health and safety laws;
 - (iv) Teacher licensure and endorsement to the same extent as required or provided by state law or accreditation standards;
 - (v) Employee collective bargaining to the same extent as required or provided by state law; and
 - (vi) A plan for consideration of input by community members and staff as to formation and implementation issues. Consideration of input may be identified by formation of advisory committees involving staff and/or community members, conduct of a properly noticed public meeting for purposes of comment on the formation or operation of the charter school, or any other reasonable means that result in an opportunity for input by staff and community members prior to a decision of significant interest to the public regarding the formation or operation of the charter school.

- 2. Attach evidence through official minutes of the board of trustees that local school community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the renewal of the charter school. Stakeholder groups include trustees, administrators, teachers, classified school staff, parents, community members, and students as applicable.**

- 3. Attach board of trustees' meeting minutes that show the trustees adopted the application for the renewal of the charter school at an official, properly noticed meeting.**

- 4. Reflection of the initial implementation of the charter school**
 - a. Describe the specific measurable objectives that were listed in the initial charter school application that demonstrated how the proposed charter school was to meet or exceed the results under the current standards.**

 - b. Provide a summary of the evidence or data gathered to demonstrate that the charter school meets or exceeds results that could have been achieved under the established standards.**

 - c. After reflection on the initial implementation of a charter school, describe adjustments that may need to be made to meet the specific needs of the students in the school.**

Use check boxes provided in items 5-10 if the information requested remains unchanged from the initial variance application.

- 5. Describe the renewal of the charter school requested.**

Renewal of the charter school is the same as the initial charter school proposal.

- 6. Provide a brief statement of the mission and goals of the proposed renewal of the charter school.**

Mission and goals remain the same as the initial charter school proposal.

- 7. List specific measurable objectives that demonstrate that the renewal of the charter school will meet or exceed the results under the current standards.**

Measurable objectives are the same as the initial charter school proposal.

- 8. What data or evidence will be gathered to document progress toward meeting the measurable objectives of the renewal of the charter school?**

Data or evidence gathered in the same manner as the initial charter school proposal.

9. In what way does the renewal of the charter school meet the specific needs of the students in your school(s)?

The renewal of the charter school will meet the specific needs of the students in the same manner as the initial charter school proposal.

10. Describe why and how the proposed charter school would be:

a. Workable.

Renewal of the charter school is the same as the initial charter school proposal.

b. Educationally sound.

Renewal of the charter school is the same as the initial charter school proposal.

c. Where applicable, aligned with program standards under ARM 10.55.1101 through 10.55.1901.

Renewal of the charter school is the same as the initial charter school proposal.

d. Where applicable, aligned with content standards under ARM Chapters 53 and 54.

Renewal of the charter school is the same as the initial charter school proposal.

Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: _____

Board Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

Superintendent Name: _____

Superintendent Signature: _____ Date _____

Email the signed application to:

OPIAccred@mt.gov
