

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

Charter Actions Requiring a Vote

- Approve a Charter Application
- Approve a Charter Renewal (15 yrs.)
- Approve Charter Continuance (5 or 10 yrs.)
- Approve a Charter Amendment Request
- Approve a Charter Agreement
- Give a Charter Notice of Concern
- Lift the Charter Notice of Concern
- Commence Charter Revocation Proceedings
- Revoke a Charter
- Board Action, Other _____

Non-Voting Board Items

- Public Hearing Item
- Discussion Item
- Read into Record

Policies

- Open a New Policy or Changes to a Policy for Public Comment
- Approve a New Policy
- Approve Revisions to an Existing Policy

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SUBJECT: Open for Public Comment: COVID-19 Impact Policy Update for SY 2020-21

DATE: October 19, 2020

Proposal

The DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) staff recommends its Board open for public comment updates to the COVID-19 Impact Policy, which clarifies how DC PCSB staff will implement key policies and practices impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic for school year (SY) 2020-21. Public comment will remain open until November 19, 2020, with a public hearing on November 16, 2020. This policy will be voted on at DC PCSB's December 2020 board meeting.

Policy and Guidance Summary

In May 2020, DC PCSB adopted the [COVID-19 Impact Policy](#)¹ in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency that resulted in all DC public charter schools physically closing in March 2020 and implementing distance learning programs for the remainder of SY 2019-20. Given the ongoing pandemic and continued use of distance learning, staff is recommending additional adjustments to our policies and practices for SY 2020-21. Below is a summary of the most significant of these adjustments, followed later in this document by a comprehensive

¹ COVID-19 Impact Policy: <https://dcpcsb.org/covid-19-impact-policy>

overview of all proposed changes. A redlined version of the policy may be found at Attachment A.

- DC PCSB will not score or tier the 2020-21 Performance Management Framework (PMF).
 - DC PCSB will publish a School Quality Report that displays measures based on available data (e.g., PARCC, attendance, etc.).
 - Measures will include sector-level comparisons where available; floors and targets will not be included on the report.
 - Data points that have historically been display only on the PMF (e.g., PK and K-2 literacy and math measures, mission specific measures) will be optional for schools to both submit and display on the scorecards.
 - On the scorecard, there will be an opportunity for each local education agency to provide additional narrative about the school year.
- DC PCSB will collect data for goals and academic achievement expectations but will not use the data to evaluate goal attainment for the purposes of charter reviews and renewals for SY 2020-21.
 - In all charter review and renewal reports, goal outcomes will be displayed, but will indicate that goal attainment cannot be determined for this year due to disruptions caused by COVID-19.
 - Schools will not be penalized for failure to report on goals data that is unavailable or impractical due to public health conditions.

Background

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, District of Columbia Public Schools and public charter schools physically closed on or before March 16, 2020 in accordance with a directive from the Mayor, and remained in virtual status through the remainder of SY 2019-20. In coordination with public health officials and the Deputy Mayor of Education, all public charter schools started SY 2020-21 either 100% virtual or in a hybrid mode of instruction.

While all public charter schools developed and implemented distance learning plans for their students, student access to the material may not be equitable due to varying internet access, living situations, or other factors. Given these factors, DC PCSB staff concluded it would be inappropriate to score and tier the 2020-21 PMF.

Proposed Changes to DC PCSB Policies and Oversight

Note: The guidance in this document supersedes any conflicting guidance, contained in DC PCSB's existing policies or elsewhere, but only for the period of time indicated.

2020-21 PMF Policy & Technical Guide and School Quality Report

As noted above, DC PCSB will publish a School Quality Report scorecard with available display data (e.g., student achievement, attendance, etc.) and include sector-level comparisons when possible. In the spring of 2021, DC PCSB will engage schools and other stakeholders to determine which data will be used and how it will be displayed to finalize the SY 2020-21 PMF Policy and Technical Guide. The PMF will not display floor and target ranges for any measure.

Data points that have historically been display only on the PMF (e.g., PK and K-2 literacy and math measures, mission specific measures) will be optional for schools to both submit and display on the scorecards.

2020-21 Charter Goals

DC PCSB will collect data for a school's SY 2020-21 charter goals and academic achievement expectations but will not use the data to evaluate goal attainment (e.g. met/not met). DC PCSB will display the data for school's goals in the review and renewal reports for SY 2020-21 and the data may be used by the Board as discretionary evidence, but only if it helps the school.

Other Policies and Practices

The revisions to the COVID-19 Impact Policy – SY 2020-21 detail all adjustments to DC PCSB's policies and practices. Many of these oversight and monitoring tasks are returning to normal implementation.

Oversight/Monitoring Task	SY 2020-21 Status Update
Charter Conditions	No change from the current language in the COVID-19 Impact Policy approved May 2020 ² .
Academic Achievement Expectations/Goals Amendments	Returning to normal implementation
Annual Report	Returning to normal implementation
Attendance	Following OSSE's Attendance Guidance ³
Discipline	Returning to normal implementation
Attendance and Truancy Policy	DC PCSB will monitor these data points but will not issue a Notice of Concern
Criteria for Determining Schools in Good Standing Policy	Academic good standing will continue to be based on the 2018-19 PMF score

² Chart of current conditions can be viewed in attachment B.

³ OSSE's [Guidance: Collecting Attendance for the 2020-21 School Year](#)

Data and Document Submission and Verification Policy	Returning to normal implementation
Enrollment Ceiling Increase (ECI) Policy	Current policy addressed Sy 2020-21 ECI requests. DC PCSB will release SY 2021-22 guidance in spring 2021
Financial Analysis Report	Staff will open for public comment the FY 2021 FAR Technical Guide this winter after consulting with school finance managers
High School Graduation Requirement Approval Process Policy	No changes to the policy
LEA Document Submission	Return to normal implementation
Open Enrollment Policy	Return to normal implementation
Qualitative Site Reviews (QSR)	During remote and hybrid instruction, QSRs will be conducted remotely following the SY 2020-21 QSR protocol

Attachments

Attachment A: COVID-19 Impact Policy

Attachment B: Chart of Conditions (internal attachment)

Attachment B:

Current conditions as approved in the May 2020 COVID-19 Impact Policy:

Schools with Conditions	Current Condition⁴
Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS Elementary School (Effective 20-21, the campus name changed to Achievement Prep PCS – Wahler Place)	SY 2020-21: Must earn a 45 on the PMF *Board may exercise discretion for SY 2020-21
Harmony DC PCS	SY 2020-21: Must earn a 45 on the PMF *Board may exercise discretion for SY 2020-21
IDEA PCS	SY 2020-21: The school must either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Earn a 47 on the PMF or ▪ Earn a 3-STAR rating SY 2021-22: The school must either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Earn a 49 on the PMF or ▪ Earn a 3-STAR rating *Board may exercise discretion in both SY 2020-21 and SY 2021-22
Maya Angelou PCS	SY 2020-21: Both campuses must meet at least 50% of goals *Board may exercise discretion for SY 2020-21
Monument Academy PCS	SY 2020-21 through SY 2023-24 (annually): School must meet two of the following three: Earn 50 or higher on NWEA MAP Math Growth, earn 50 or higher on NWEA MAP Reading growth, earn ISA rate of 88.0 or higher * Board may exercise discretion in both SY 2020-21 and SY 2021-22
Paul PCS – Middle School	SY 2020-21: The school must either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Earn a 47 on the PMF or ▪ Earn a 3-STAR rating SY 2021-22: The school must either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Earn a 49 on the PMF or ▪ Earn a 3-STAR rating

⁴ Conditions updated upon the approval of the [COVID-19 Impact Policy](#) in May 2020.

	*Board may exercise discretion in both SY 2020-21 and SY 2021-22
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