Proposal

The DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) staff recommends that the Board open for public comment revisions to the Elect to Adopt the Performance Management Framework as Charter Goals Policy (PMF as Goals Policy). This revision clarifies how the policy applies if a school is not awarded a PMF score in a given year, and clarifies the circumstances under which the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) may, at its sole discretion, determine that a school undergoing review or renewal has met its goals through the improvement provision. The revision also cleans up expired policy language.

DC PCSB notified all school leaders regarding the proposed changes on April 6, 2020 and is scheduled to hold a public hearing on this matter on May 19, 2020, at which point the public comment period will close. The Board will also vote on the proposed policy, the same night as the public hearing unless the Board requests more time to address public comment received.

Written comments may be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on May 19, 2020 by mail or email to:
Policy Revision
The PMF as Goals Policy currently includes an “improvement provision.” If a school has not met its goals and student academic achievement expectations by meeting the required PMF threshold under the policy, this provision allows the DC PCSB Board, at its sole discretion, to determine that a school has met its goals if the school has demonstrated “consistent improvement on overall PMF scores over the five-year\(^1\) period”.

The revised policy would reflect the DC PCSB Board’s current practice of considering consistent improvement over the most recent three years preceding the school year in which the review or renewal takes place in determining whether to apply the improvement provision.

In other words, if a school undergoing a charter review in the fall of 2023 did not meet its goal of achieving a certain average PMF score, the board could, in its discretion, find that the school had met its goals if there was growth from the school’s 2020-21 PMF score to its 2021-22 PMF score, and there was growth from its 2021-22 PMF score to its 2022-23 PMF score.

The revised policy would also remove outdated language referencing prior review cycles and clarify how this policy applies in the event a school is not awarded a PMF score in a given year due to hold-harmless provisions in the PMF Policy & Technical Guide, or a decision by DC PCSB not to issue PMF scores or tiers in a given year. These revisions are intended to provide added clarity to school leaders and stakeholders.

A redlined version of the policy may be found at this attachment.

Background
Currently 43 out of the 62 charter local education agencies (LEAs) have elected to adopt the PMF as their charter goals.\(^2\) In doing so, they have agreed to the

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\(^1\) Four-year period in cases of newly approved charter schools undergoing a five-year review.

\(^2\) The School Reform Act refers to “goals and student academic achievement expectations,” which are shortened to “goals” in this memo for brevity.
specific performance targets and provisions that the Board may, at its sole discretion, apply when determining whether a school meets its goals.

Should the Board vote to approve the revisions to the PMF as Goals Policy, any school may amend its charter goals to adopt the updated language. Such an amendment would apply at the next charter review for all five years covered by the review. Schools that have adopted the PMF as goals may request to amend their goals consistent with the Charter Amendments for Revised Goals and Academic Achievement Expectations Policy.

Date: __________
DC PCSB Action: _____Approved _____Approved with Changes _____Rejected

Changes to the Original Proposal:

_____________________________________________________________

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Signature: ________________________________________________

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3 Schools are not required to amend their charter goals. A school with a charter agreement containing goals based on the original “PMF As Goals Policy,” or any previous iteration of the policy, may keep these goals or change them to those of the new policy, at its discretion.