

CHARTER CONTRACT
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
& CURRICULUM
2015-2016

SCHEDULES 7d AND 7c OF THE CHARTER CONTRACT

Educational Program Requirements

In accordance with applicable law and the Charter Contract Terms and Conditions of, including Article VI, Section 6.3, the Academy shall implement, deliver, and support the Educational Program identified in Schedule 7c. The Educational Program is a narrative description of the Academy's unique approach to delivering the Curriculum in order to fulfill the Academy's mission and vision. Throughout the description of the Educational Program it is expected that, where applicable, a citation of the underlying research will be provided. The Educational Program shall include all of the following:

1. The Academy's mission statement, the Academy's vision statement and a statement of the Academy's values.
2. An explanation of how the Educational Program is delivered to ensure that all students are provided the opportunity to attain the knowledge and skills as indicated in the written curriculum and described by state and national standards, both in core and non-core subject areas.
3. A description of the approach(es) used to deliver the Educational Program in order to engage students in learning.
4. A description of how the program allows for adaption and modification to meet the needs of all learners, e.g., gifted and talented students, students below grade level, students who qualify for special education services, English Language Learners.

***Note:** The Center has prepared, and will provide the Academy with, standard language that describes the legal requirements to service students who qualify for special education. The Academy may expand on this standard description to the extent it deems necessary to appropriately describe the program.*

5. A description of the assessments utilized by the Academy to ensure progress toward the Educational Goal stated in the Charter Contract. This should include not only the summative assessments required by law and the Charter Contract, but also other formative and summative assessments that are essential to measuring successful implementation of the Academy's curriculum.
6. If applicable, a description of how the middle school and/or high school Educational Program addresses the skills necessary to prepare students academically for a successful transition.
7. A statement regarding the development of Educational Development Plans for all middle school students (http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/MDE_EDP_10-2-09_296459_7.pdf).
8. If applicable, describe explicit graduation requirements that, at a minimum, comply with the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
9. A description of the method of evaluation used to determine the effectiveness of the implementation, delivery and support of the Educational Program.

Curriculum Requirements

In accordance with applicable law and the Charter Contract Terms and Conditions, including Article VI, Section 6.4, the Academy shall implement, deliver, and support the Curriculum identified in Schedule 7d. The submission is required to include a detailed written curriculum by grade or level covering each subject/course to be taught and represent a focused, coherent and rigorous learning agenda. At a minimum, the subjects to be taught shall include English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education and health for kindergarten through grade eight, as required by law. High school programs are required to offer a course of study that meets the Michigan Merit Curriculum (*MCL 380.1278a, MCL 380.1278b*).

The Academy's curricular submission must meet the following requirements. The curriculum will:

- demonstrate a logical sequence of learning objectives aligned to state and national standards;
- outline instructional resources and tools;
- provide the essential vocabulary for each content area; and
- provide a variety of assessment methods.

Specific Health requirements including, but not limited to:

- *Health education (Public Act 451 of 1976 being MCL 380.1169, 380.1502, and 380.1170, Revised School Code);*
- *Dangerous communicable diseases, including, but not limited to HIV/AIDS (MCL 380.1169, Revised School Code); and*
- *Sex education, if it is part of the Academy's curriculum (Public Act 451 of 1976 being MCL 380.1506 and 380.1507, Revised School Code and Public Act 94 of 1979 being MCL 388.1766a, State School Aid Act).*

Other considerations:

- If the curriculum is web-based, provide all necessary login and password information such that a representative of the Center may review the curriculum in its entirety.
- Within the curricular document, include a citation to the specific standard(s) to which the curriculum is aligned.
- Complete the course matrix, listing all the courses offered per grade or level. Additionally, include the academy contact person for all curriculum-related questions (template available on the Center's website, Administrator tab, www.TheCenterForCharters.org).
- Submission of curricular documents must be in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel.
- Submit the written curriculum in a consistent format and as separate course documents clearly identified by academy name, course title, and grade or level. All submissions must follow the submission timeline.

Non-Core Curriculum Requirements

Non-core curriculum is to be submitted in the same format as core curriculum. The same template must be used, with a curricular document submitted for each grade, level, and subject offered. As with core curriculum, all non-core courses must be explicitly aligned with the state or national standards, representing a focused, coherent and rigorous learning agenda.

Non-Core Guidance

Health & Physical Education

Health curriculum must address the Michigan health education requirements (Public Act 451 of 1976, MCL 380.1170 and 380.1502 Revised School Code) including the teaching of dangerous communicable diseases (MCL 380.1169 and 380.1170). If the Board adopts the Michigan Model for Health, only a module checklist will be required. PE curriculum is required for each grade or level. Participation in extracurricular athletics at the high school level may constitute successful completion of this requirement (MCL 380.1502).

Visual, Performing and Applied Arts

A written curriculum must be submitted for each visual art, music, dance or theater course offered for each grade or level. Curriculum must align with Michigan Standards, Benchmarks, and the Grade Level Content Expectations for Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Theater. This document, approved by State Board of Education in June 2011, includes standards and benchmarks for elementary, middle and high school levels. The standards can be accessed at www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Complete_VPAA_Expectations_June_2011_356110_7.pdf

World Languages

A written curriculum must be submitted for each world language course offered for each grade or level. World language is required for high school graduation beginning with the class of 2016. Students can meet this requirement by completing two years of a world language in grades 9-12 or by completing an equivalent learning experience in grades K-8, meeting all state proficiency requirements. The Michigan World Language Standards and Benchmarks can be accessed at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/WLSB_206824_7.pdf

Technology & Online Learning Experience

A written curriculum must be submitted for each technology course offered for each grade or level. Technology curriculum must align to the Michigan Educational Technology Standards for Students (METS-S) - 2009. These standards can be accessed at <http://techplan.edzone.net/METS/> If the online learning experience requirement for high school graduation is integrated into courses, submit documentation showing fulfillment of the online learning experience.

Additional Resources

- Michigan Department of Education Curriculum & Instruction: www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-28753---,00.html
- Common Core State Standards Initiative: www.corestandards.org/
- The Center for Charter Schools, Administrator Tab: www.TheCenterForCharters.org

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