



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

Charter and/or Charter Agreement Amendment Application

Part I: General Information

All applicants must complete this section

SUBMITTED BY: **John Pinkney, Board Chair – Eagle Academy PCS**

SUBJECT: **Charter Amendment Request for:** (Mark all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrollment Ceiling Increase | <input type="checkbox"/> Name Change – Campus or Facility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program Replication of Grades Served | <input type="checkbox"/> Campus Reconfiguration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade Level Expansion (Single Grade) | <input type="checkbox"/> LEA Status for Special Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade Level Expansion (Grade Band) | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Education Enrollment Preference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Facility or New Location | <input type="checkbox"/> Governance Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goals and Achievement Expectations | (Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation or Management) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission or Education Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduation Requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum, Standards or Assessments | <input type="checkbox"/> Competency-Based Learning Application |

SUBMISSION DATE: **11/3/2017**

SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Please address the following questions in their entirety. This information provides helpful background to the DC PCSB Board as it reviews these requests.

Overview of School Performance

- Provide the following information about your Local Education Agency (LEA) by campus:
 - Campus name(s) and location(s): **Eagle Academy PCS at Congress Heights located at 3400 Wheeler Road SE, and Eagle Academy PCS at Capitol Riverfront located at 1017 New Jersey Avenue SE (which will become Eagle Academy PCS at Fairlawn, located at 2345 R Street SE, in Ward 8, in the 2018-2019SY).**
 - Year opened: **2003**
 - Grade levels served (Currently and at maturation of charter agreement, if applicable): **PreK3 – Grade 3**
 - Date that charter will be eligible for possible renewal: **2017: 15-Year Renewal**
- Please select the performance indicators below that describe the school's current performance*: (Mark all that apply)

- ☒ Currently rated Tier 1, or met at least 2/3 of targets on the most recent PK-only PMF or Alternative Accountability Framework.
- ☒ School is not currently under corrective action.
- ☒ Has historically met enrollment projections w/in 80% of target.
- ☒ School has been in operation for 3+ years.
- ☒ School is currently accredited. **Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools through December 2024**

*If the school has multiple campuses or varying PMFs, please describe the

Disclaimer: While processing this application, DC PCSB staff may contact you later to request additional information for the Board's consideration. By submitting this application, you agree to cooperate with DC PCSB staff to ensure your application is processed in a timely manner. For questions, please contact DC PCSB staff person Laterica (Teri) Quinn at (202) 328-2660.

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academic performance of each campus here: **For the 2016-2017 school year, Eagle Academy PCS met its goals and academic achievement expectations as follows:**

EAGLE ACADEMY PCS AT CONGRESS HEIGHTS

Grade Levels	Eagle Academy Goals and Academic Achievement Expectations	Evidence: Points Earned
K – 3 (NWEA)	Growth – Reading	55.0
K – 3 (NWEA)	Growth - Math	58.5
Grade 3	Approaching College and Career Ready and Above – Reading	52.1
Grade 3	College and Career Ready - Reading	19.2
Grade 3	Approaching College and Career Ready and Above – Math	53.4
Grade 3	College and Career Ready - Reading	24.7
PK3 - 3	Attendance	91.3
PK3 – 3	Re-Enrollment	79.3
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Emotional Support	6.1
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Classroom Organization	5.9
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Instructional Support	3.2

EAGLE ACADEMY PCS AT CAPITOL RIVERFRONT – TIER 1

Grade Levels	Eagle Academy Goals and Academic Achievement Expectations	Evidence: Points Earned
K-3	Growth – Reading (NWEA)	53.0
K-3	Growth – Math (NWEA)	65.0
Grade 3	Approaching College and Career Ready and Above – Reading	71.4

Grade 3	College and Career Ready - Reading	42.9
Grade 3	Approaching College and Career Ready and Above – Math	50.0
Grade 3	College and Career Ready - Reading	42.9
PK3 - 3	Attendance	90.8
PK3 – 3	Re-Enrollment	68.4
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Emotional Support	6.3
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Classroom Organization	6.0
PK3 – PK4	CLASS Instructional Support	3.1

PROPOSAL

Eagle Academy PCS submits to the DC Public Charter School Board this application to amend its charter agreement by changing the item(s) selected above. If approved, this amendment will be effective on **2018-2019 School Year**, (leave blank if this has not been determined).

1. Please provide details on the selected amendment(s) above and describe the requested change(s), including the school's rationale for the proposed changes. Describe any planning that is already underway to prepare for the proposed amendment.

Eagle Academy PCS hereby requests an enrollment increase of 90 students for its Tier 1, Capitol Riverfront campus for the 2018-2019 school year. The Capitol Riverfront campus has been approved by DC PCSB to be relocated to 2345 R Street SE, in Ward 8. In accordance with Eagle Academy's policy to name its campuses after the neighborhood where they are located, the Capitol Riverfront campus will be renamed as Eagle Academy PCS at Fairlawn. The enrollment increase of 90 students will bring the total number to 240 students at the Fairlawn campus.

2. How will the proposed amendment(s) support or enhance the school's mission?

Eagle Academy Public Charter School's mission is to build the foundation for a promising future for all students in a rich, robust learning environment that fosters creativity, problem-solving abilities, emphasizing cognitive, social and emotional growth by engaging children as active learners, in an inclusive learning environment.

Eagle Academy PCS has grown from one school with 114 students in August of 2003 to two schools with a total enrollment of 920 students. During this strategically planned growth, Eagle Academy has kept true to its mission, as outlined in its charter application, to serve students during their early childhood years (PreK3 – Grade 3). The demand for Eagle Academy's seats has been consistent and the school reaches its enrollment cap every year (except for the 2016-2017SY). Current families bring in their friends and family members seeking a high-quality program for their young children. Those who reside in the immediate communities are also interested in having their children attend a high-quality school near where they live.

The impact of high-quality early learning experiences is well established, particularly for children at risk for underachievement (the majority of the students Eagle Academy serves). Eagle Academy's commitment to early childhood is based on the fact that the first eight years of life are crucial in setting children on a path to success. A comprehensive, high-quality PreK3 – Grade 3 approach is critical to ensuring that children develop a solid foundation in literacy, math, social-emotional skills, as well as strong engagement in learning. In fact, Eagle Academy has met the challenge to unite early childhood and special education in PreK3 – Grade 3 classrooms so the power to transform all young lives is fully realized.

3. While considering this amendment request, DC PCSB staff may review the school's history of board actions, DC PCSB audits, community complaints, enrollment trends, and any relevant data used by DC PCSB to monitor equity in schools. Please describe any DC PCSB audits, notices of concern or other board actions issued against your school in the past 3 years. What was the outcome? Please explain what steps, if any, you've taken to address the concerns that prompted a DC PCSB audit, board action, or community complaint.

On December 19, 2016, the DC PCSB approved Eagle Academy's request to relocate its existing Capitol Riverfront campus from 1017 New Jersey Avenue, SE in Ward 6, to a new location at 2345 R Street, SE in Ward 8.

On April 24, 2017, the DC PCSB issued a Notice of Concern to Eagle Academy PCS at Congress Heights for passing the truancy threshold by 3.7%. On May 22, 2017, we received a letter from DC PCSB indicating that the Notice of Concern has been lifted because we met all of the requirements. Specifically, we demonstrated a significant improvement in: (1) the percentage of in-seat attendance for the whole school; (2) the attendance for the majority of students who were defined as chronically truant in the baseline period; and (3) maintaining a chronic truancy rate lower than 30% excluding those already counted as chronically truant in the baseline period.

In the summer of 2017, DC PCSB asked Eagle Academy to submit monthly financial statements because the end-of-year (2016-2017) balance was too low. As of today, Eagle Academy continues to submit the monthly financial statements, but now they contain very strong balance sheets.

4. DC PCSB will review the school's Financial Audit Reviews (FAR) and current financials to determine the fiscal health of the organization. If applicable, describe how the proposed amendment will impact the school's finances. Explain any anticipated expenses for the proposed changes and how the school will finance them. *[EXCLUDES the following amendments: Governance, Goals, Mission, Curriculum, Name Changes and Graduation Requirements. If not applicable, write N/A.]*

Note: If applicable, in addition to your narrative please attach a proposed [5-year Operating Budget](#).

There are two significant financial adjustments within the Charter Amendment Application. First, Eagle Academy PCS is requesting to increase enrollment by 90 students. Second, Eagle Academy PCS will accommodate these 90 extra students plus the 150 students at Eagle Academy PCS at Capitol Riverfront Campus by constructing a new school in Ward 8 (to be renamed Eagle Academy PCS at Fairlawn). Both have financial impact on Eagle's operating budget. (See attachment: [Five-Year Estimated Budget Worksheet](#)).

Year 1 is Eagle's current budget for 920 students. Eagle has a documented enrollment of 936 students in Year 1, but Eagle will only be paid for the authorized 920. Federal Entitlements and Income from Grants and Donations is also already documented. Eagle's history in both of these areas supports their inclusion at the figures shown for each year. The Activity Fee and Other Income is based on previous years' revenue for both of these programs. The Before and After School programs are growing and therefore this line works accurately for all five years of projections.

Years 2 through 5 represent the additional resources added to Eagle's Operating Budget based on the known increase in funding for public charter schools and the increases that can be anticipated five years out based on the District's history in financing public charter schools. The only decrease is in Other Income and Income from Grants and Donations. Eagle Academy will no longer receive Real Property Tax rebate (Other Income) for the Capitol Riverfront campus after the opening of the new Fairlawn campus. The decrease in Income from Grants and Donations in Year 2 – 5 relates to the \$571,696.84 SOAR Facilities Grant the school received this school year for the construction of the new campus.

The surpluses noted in the budget are significant.

There is a significant cost in opening a new school. Eagle has managed those costs so that the effect on the budget is still a positive one. The new school that will be open in August of 2018 is at 2345 R Street SE.

- 1. Eagle has already purchased the land.**
- 2. Eagle has received \$3,500,000 from John Marshall Bank and an additional \$2,000,000 from the District's Chartered School Credit Enhancement Fund for this project. Of the \$2,000,000, a balance of \$455,000 remains.**
- 3. Eagle has also been awarded an additional OSSE SOAR Facilities Grant construction grant of \$571,696.84. This is a grant and does not have to be repaid.**
- 4. Eagle is also working with the PACE Program which should generate an additional \$750,000 in funding.**
- 5. This is a total of \$5,277,000 in funds.**
- 6. That leaves a balance of \$4,705,000 that must be repaid.**
 - a. The \$3,500,000 is based on a 26-year bond (3.65%).**
 - b. The OSSE Loan (4.5%) must be repaid within 5 years and may be refinanced.**
 - c. The PACE Funds must be repaid over 20 years.**
 - d. The annual cost of the lease at the Capitol Riverfront Campus will no longer be paid nor will the property taxes which will give Eagle a financial surplus for this school community.**

Personnel Salaries and Benefits include the cost of additional instructional staff (3 teachers, 1 SPED teacher, and 2 aides) to teach the additional 90 students plus a basic 3% increase in salaries. Direct Student Costs will remain relatively stagnant from Year 1 to Year 2 because the school's furniture, playground, instructional materials, technology, and related equipment will be moved from the New Jersey Avenue location to the R Street location.

Occupancy Expenses decrease because Eagle is no longer paying a lease nor paying property taxes. The cost of the three loans (26 Year Mortgage, 5 Year Credit Enhancement OSSE, and PACE) is included in Occupancy Expense.

The Net Operating Income increases each year. These funds are placed in reserve and are not carried forward into the following year's budget.

Eagle will provide students with a much better educational facility and educational experience while increasing its Net Operating Income.

5. How has the school informed its external stakeholders (e.g. local ANC commissioners, neighbors) and internal stakeholders (e.g. staff, parents) of the proposed amendment(s)? Please attach any written communication (e.g., meeting minutes). Describe any notable support for or opposition to the proposed amendment(s). If concerns have been brought to your attention, how do you plan to address them? *[EXCLUDES the following amendments: Governance, Goals, Mission, Curriculum, Graduation Requirements and Competency-Based Learning Credits. If not applicable, write N/A.]*

Eagle Academy sent a letter in September 2016 to ANC8A and to Councilmember Trayon White requesting a meeting (letters attached). Since then, we have participated in five meetings of the ANC8A Executive Committee and the general ANC8A, and has discussed our relocation with Councilmember White.

Eagle's CEO and principal informed all staff about the plan at the recent pre-service orientation session held in August 2017. Eagle will notify parents at the Capitol Riverfront campus as soon as this Enrollment Increase request is approved.

6. When did your school's board approve the proposed amendment(s)? Please attach minutes from the meeting and vote results.

Eagle Academy's Board of Trustees has been discussing the need to request an enrollment increase for two years now in the context of high demand and a new location that will accommodate up to 250 students. They took an official vote at their June 10, 2015 meeting (minutes and vote results attached). At that time, they approved an increase by 200 students for the 2016-17 school year. We believe an increase by 90 students for the 2018-2019 school year is appropriate given the new circumstances.