

ATTACHMENT “A”

IDEA seeks to amend its charter goals and student academic achievement expectations by modifying the use of the High School PMF (“PMF”) to measure goal attainment in two respects:

IDEA seeks to include a performance measure for student growth in calculating IDEA’s PMF score. When IDEA signed its renewed charter agreement in July 2015 adopting the PMF as the statement of its goals, it reasonably assumed that student growth data would be included by PCSB in calculating its PMF scores. Due to the lack of OSSE data, PCSB has not, for SY 2015-16 and 2016-17 included any points for student progress in calculating our PMF scores. IDEA’s proposed charter amendment will rectify this omission.

Beginning in 2018-19 IDEA proposes to use either the expected PARCC-approved SGPs or the NWEA’s Measures of Academic Progress (“MAP”) to measure student growth in English Language Arts and mathematics. The NWEA describes MAP as follows:

Developed by researchers, educators, and psychometricians, MAP is a computer-based adaptive assessment that provides precise and immediate feedback so teachers can pinpoint current student learning needs, personalize instructional planning and promote student engagement. For hundreds of thousands of teachers, MAP is a trusted resource for measuring individual student achievement, calculating student growth, projecting proficiency on high-stakes assessments, and comparing a student’s growth to that of students across the country.

NWEA’s Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) (Jan. 2013)

<https://www.edweek.org/media/nweamyths-blog.pdf>. IDEA is happy to provide PCSB with documentation showing the reliability and accuracy of MAP as a measure of student progress.

By incorporating student growth as an indicator of student academic performance, all of IDEA’s stakeholders – students, parents, faculty and PCSB -- will have a more accurate measure of our academic performance. Conversely, the continuing failure to include growth in calculating our PMF scores presents an incomplete and inaccurate picture of our academic performance.

If PCSB approves this amendment, IDEA will be able to quickly implement using MAP to measure growth starting SY 2018-19. We will monitor and report progress on our use of MAP as an assessment tool for student growth by annually reporting fall and spring scores of all test takers in ninth and spring scores of tenth graders to PCSB by June 30 of each school year.

We are not seeking to amend any other component of IDEA’s goals and student academic achievement expectations. If PCSB approves IDEA’s proposed charter amendment, we will continue to use all of the performance indicators in the PMF.

We recognize that our proposed charter amendment raises important issues for both PCSB and IDEA and look forward to working collaboratively with PCSB to reach agreement on the methodologies and text of the amendments.