



SCOTT PEARSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 22, 2015

Keith Whitescarver
125 Whiting Lane
West Hartford, CT 06119

Dear Mr. Whitescarver:

Congratulations on receiving conditional approval for Breakthrough Montessori to operate a public charter school in Washington, D.C. beginning in school year 2016-17!

On May 18, 2015, the DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB) determined that Breakthrough Montessori's application substantially satisfied the petition requirements of the School Reform Act, and that the school has the ability to meet the educational objectives outlined in its application. Specifically, PCSB approved Breakthrough Montessori's petition to establish a public charter school provided that it agree to satisfy all of the conditions listed in Attachment 1. [*D.C. Code § 38-1802.03(d)(1)(B).*] **Please sign and return Attachment 1 by June 5, 2015.**

Once again, Congratulations!

Warmly,



Scott Pearson
Executive Director
DC Public Charter School Board

Attachments:

- Attachment 1: Conditions of Charter Approval
- Attachment 2: Charter Agreement Template

ATTACHMENT 1

Breakthrough Montessori agrees to satisfy the following conditions:

- By October 1, 2015, the founding group will identify at least three members of its local board of trustees, who will elect an interim board chair. The school's board of trustees will identify the school's interim executive director by January 2, 2016, and subsequently support him/her in developing a strong leadership team and staff, including staff member(s) with background in special education.
- By September 8, 2015, the school will revise the target population section of the application to include an analysis of the District's students with disabilities, along with a more accurate estimation of the numbers of students and types of disabilities the school may serve. In response to this revised analysis, the school will append to the application a section about how it will ensure that all students will be properly served, including those with higher needs. The section will include the way that the school will build its human resource capacity to serve a higher percentage of students with disabilities, should they enroll.
- The school is approved only for grades prekindergarten through kindergarten, with an adjusted enrollment ceiling of 135 students. PCSB may entertain, during the school's planning year, an application to amend the charter to extend through grade five or six.
 - Should the school wish to amend the charter to extend through a higher grade, by October 1, 2015, the school will revise all pertinent sections of its charter application to reflect the higher grade, and submit curriculum maps for the higher grades.
 - Should the school choose to operate with the reduced grade span, by October 1, 2015, the school will revise its budget and staffing plan to reflect the new grade span, enrollment ceiling, and revised numbers of students with disabilities.
- By August 3, 2015, the school will apply for 501(c)3 status.
- By February 1, 2016, the school shall submit appropriate documentation evidencing that it has acquired title to, or otherwise secured a sufficient school facility (e.g., a lease or letter of intent) to PCSB.
- By February 1, 2016, the school will submit to PCSB a draft charter agreement that is consistent with PCSB's charter school agreement template, including all attachments. Please note that pursuant to D.C. Code § 38-1802.03(h)(2), the following sections of the charter application comprise the School's Charter and may require revision and are subject to Board approval, per D.C. Code § 38-1802.03(d)(1)(B):
 - The School's statement regarding the mission and goals of the School and the manner in which the school will conduct any district-wide assessments;
 - Proposed Rules and Policies for Governance and Operation of School Corporation;
 - Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws;
 - Procedures to Ensure Health and Safety of Students and Employees, including the school's proposed discipline policy;
 - Enrollment Ceilings;

- Assurance to Seek, Obtain, and Maintain Accreditation; and
- Relationship between School and Employees.
- By March 15, 2016, the school will develop and submit curriculum maps for each subject/content area taught in year one of operation that include: goals/objectives, standards, instructional strategies, summative assessments, and resources (instructional materials).
- By April 1, 2016, the school's founding board will complete PCSB-provided background check release forms to undergo thorough background checks, and based on the results of those background checks, the school will resolve any substantial concerns raised by PCSB.
- Within seven days of the PCSB Board voting to approve the charter agreement, and no later than June 1, 2016, the school will submit a signed charter agreement, with all attachments.

Should the school anticipate being incapable of meeting any deadline listed above, the school shall submit a request for an extension in writing to PCSB's Deputy Director at least ten business days before the deadline. The request shall include, at minimum, a timeline for meeting the condition's deadline.

Nonetheless, if PCSB staff determines that an on-time opening is at jeopardy due to lack of progress in meeting conditions, and especially if the charter agreement is not on track to be signed by June 1, 2016, PCSB staff may propose to the Board that it vote to deny full approval of the school's charter.

The school also commits to working with PCSB during the planning year and attend workshops and scheduled meetings with PCSB staff to ensure an on-time and successful opening.

Lead Founder

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Designated Representative responsible for ensuring all conditions are met
(can be the same as the lead founder)

Name: _____



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

SCOTT PEARSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____