



May 24, 2013

Ms. Leicester Johnson
Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School



Dear Ms. Johnson,

The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (“PCSB”) has completed the 2013 New Charter School Start Up Application Review process. I am pleased to inform you that at its public meeting held May 20, 2013, the PCSB Board approved your application to establish Academy of Hope as a public charter school in the District of Columbia. This approval is contingent on the satisfaction of all of the PCSB Board’s conditions and the successful negotiation of a mutually acceptable charter.

The PCSB Board’s decision was based on a thorough evaluation of the written application by the PCSB Board and staff; and information gathered from due diligence, the applicant interview, site visits as well as the public hearing.

Enclosed is a list of conditions that must be satisfied for full approval. PCSB staff will contact you to schedule an appointment to discuss these conditions. At this meeting, PCSB staff will coordinate with Academy of Hope to establish milestones for the completion of the conditions and discuss, in more detail, next steps in the process.

Thank you for your commitment to improving public education in the District and we look forward to having Academy of Hope join the DC charter school community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John H. McKoy", is written over a black rectangular redaction box.

John H. “Skip” McKoy
Board Chair

Enclosure

**Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School (Academy of Hope PCS)
Conditions for Full Approval**

By August 14, 2013

1. A detailed implementation plan that delineates activities and deadlines related to opening the charter school and incorporates the deadlines of the conditions established by PCSB.
2. Copies of the articulation agreements established with the University of the District of Columbia Community College (UDCCC) and the Graduate School USA.
3. A copy of the executed lease for the Ward 5 and 8 sites.
4. A timeline for hiring key personnel in the areas of curriculum-design and development, operations, and school leadership (e.g. principal, head of school, teachers, business manager and/or chief operating officer) tasked with meeting planning year requirements.

By December 13, 2013

5. Evidence that an independent Board of Trustees for the public charter school has been established and that this Board meets three requirements outlined in the DC School Reform Act (SRA), including two student members as discussed during the interview.
6. Final copies of incorporation documents (articles of incorporation and bylaws) approved by the Academy of Hope PCS Board of Trustees showing the nonprofit status of Academy of Hope PCS, as required by law.
7. The proposed rules and policies for governance and operation of the school.
8. An assurance to seek, obtain, and maintain accreditation that is approved by the Academy of Hope PCS Board of Trustees and signed by the board chair.
9. A certificate of insurance that includes general liability, property, and trustees and employees' liability coverage for both sites.

By March 14, 2014

10. Revised sections of the charter application, including:
 - a. Academic, non-academic, or organizational goals in addition to academic achievement expectations that are measureable and include a time element. One goal must commit to holding themselves accountable to employment outcomes for Academy of Hope PCS students.
 - b. Clear and transparent enrollment and matriculation processes that adhere to the requirements of the SRA, including the Academy of Hope's various academic partnerships with Goodwill, Graduate School USA, and UDCCC.

- c. A comprehensive special education plan that ensures compliance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations and meets the needs of students with varying disabilities.
 - d. A school emergency response plan that ensures the health and safety of the school community.
11. Completed curriculum maps for all core courses offered in the first year of operation. The curriculum must include: goals/objectives, standards, instructional strategies to be used, summative assessments, and resources (instructional materials).
 12. Document(s) (e.g. employee handbook) explaining how employees of Academy of Hope PCS will be treated including which positions will be “at will”, salaried or hourly, and the benefits the school will offer.
 13. Evidence that the school has purchased a SIF or Ed-Fi compliant student information system that can connect with PCSB's data system by the first day of school.
 14. Description of communication with and outreach to the ANCs in the neighborhoods of the facilities.

General

15. Participate in PCSB - facilitated training programs during the planning year.
16. Meet these mutually agreed upon implementation milestones and document submission deadlines.