Indian River County District School Board Discussion AGENDA June 18, 2013 9:00 a.m.

It is hereby advised that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

Review Board Policies with NEOLA

- I. Call Discussion to Order Chairman Johnson

 (Announcement: Please turn off all cell phones. Cell phones, even when set to a silent mode, can cause loud disturbances within the room's audio enhancement system.)
- II. Welcome Statement and Introductions Chairman Johnson
- III Purpose of the Discussion Dr. Adams
- IV. Presentation and Discussion of Policies Ms. Roberts/NEOLA Representatives

A. Policies to be Discussed

Various policies to be discussed are those that required research or additional staff review. The policies include those contained within the following Sections:

1000 Administration

2000 Program

3000 Instructional

5000 Students

6000 Finances

7000 Property

9000 Community Relations

- V. Open Discussion Chairman Johnson
- VI. ADJOURNMENT Chairman Johnson

Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this discussion may contact the School District's American Disabilities Act Coordinator, at 564-3060 (TTY 564-8507) at least 48 hours in advance of discussion date. NOTE: Changes and amendments to the agenda can occur 72 hours prior to the meeting. The agenda can be accessed by Internet at http://www.indianriverschools.org

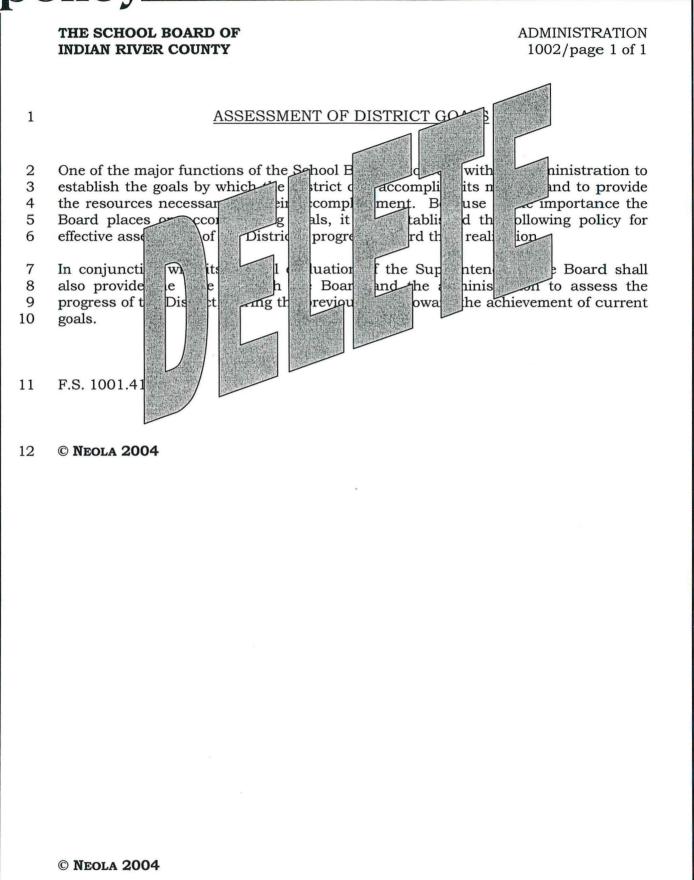
NEOLA POLICIES

for

JUNE 18, 2013

REVISED 6/14/13

policy



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INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

- 2 The School Board recognizes the value of interscholastic athletics and the positive
- 3 impact sports have on students. A program of interscholastic athletics for students
- 4 is an integral part of the total school experience and benefits the community as a
- 5 whole. The program should foster the growth of school loyalty within the student
- 6 body as a whole and stimulate community interest in athletics. Participation in the
- 7 District's interscholastic athletics programs by a student is a privilege, not a right.
- 8 The program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to
- 9 competitive sport contests, games, events, or sport exhibitions involving individual
- 10 students or teams of students from high schools in this District with those from a
- 11 high school in another district.
- 12 Competition involving middle schools (grades 6-8) shall be in accordance with
- 13 Florida High School Athletic Association's (FHSAA's) bylaws.
- 14 Since the primary purpose of the interscholastic athletics program is to enhance the
- 15 education of participating students as indicated in this policy, the Board places top
- 16 priority on maximum student participation and the values of good sportsmanship,
- 17 team play, and fair competition, rather than on winning, particularly at sub-varsity
- 18 levels. No student shall be excused from a class or supervised study for an extended
- 19 period of time to participate in interscholastic athletics.
- 20 An interscholastic contest is any competition between organized teams or
- 21 individuals of different schools in a sport recognized by the FHSAA, and therefore
- 22 shall be subject to all regulations pertaining to such contests. The interscholastic
- 23 athletics program shall be considered an essential part of the total school program
- 24 and shall be under the principal's direction and general supervision. The principal
- 25 shall select the personnel to direct and to act as coaches and advisors.
- 26 Interscholastic athletics should provide students the opportunity to exercise and test
- 27 their athletic abilities in a context greater and more varied than that which can be
- 28 offered by a school or the District alone. It should also offer an opportunity for
- 29 career and educational development. The game activities and practice sessions
- 30 should provide many opportunities to teach the values of competition and good
- 31 sportsmanship.
- 32 Appropriate adult supervision consistent with Florida law shall be provided to all
- 33 students.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

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Eligibility and Regulation

- 2 All middle schools and high schools shall be members of the FHSAA and governed
- 3 by its rules and regulations. All District students (including transfer students) shall
- 4 satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the FHSAA, Florida law, and Board
- 5 Policy 2431.01.
- 6 The Principal of each District school shall be responsible for determining each
- 7 participant's eligibility pursuant to State law, the rules of this Board, and the bylaws
- 8 of the FHSAA. Any school that allows an ineligible student to participate shall be
- 9 subject to the penalties set forth in Florida law and the bylaws of the FHSAA. (see
- 10 also Policy 2431.01)
- 11 The Superintendent shall develop appropriate administrative procedures for the
- 12 operation of the interscholastic athletics program. Such regulations should provide
- 13 for the following safeguards:
 - A. Prior to enrolling in the sport, each participant shall submit to a thorough physical examination by a District-approved physician and parents shall report any past or current health problems along with a physician's statement that any such problems have or are being treated and pose no threat to the student's participation. Physicals must be dated June 1st or later of the current school year.
 - B. Any student who is found to have a health condition which may be life-threatening to self or others shall not be allowed to participate until the situation has been analyzed by a medical review panel that has determined the conditions under which the student may participate. Pursuant to F.S. 1006.20(2)d, the District shall not be liable for any student with a health condition who has been authorized to play by the parent(s) if the parent(s) of the student objects in writing to the student undergoing a medical evaluation because such evaluation is contrary to his/her religious tenets or practices.
 - C. Any student who incurs an injury requiring a physician's care is to have the written approval of a physician prior to the student's return to participation.
 - D. In order to minimize health and safety risks to student-athletes and maintain ethical standards, school personnel, coaches, athletic trainers, and lay coaches should never dispense, supply, recommend, or permit the use of any drug, medication, or food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

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E. The Superintendent and District school principals will require that sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity characterize the manner in which the athletic program is conducted and the actions of students who participate.

Recruiting Prohibited/Penalties

- 6 The Board recognizes that the recruitment of student athletes is strictly prohibited
- 7 by F.S. 1006.20. The FHSAA, through its bylaws, has prescribed penalties,
- 8 sanctions and an appeals process for athletic recruiting violations. These penalties
- 9 and sanctions may be applied by the FHSAA against a member school, student
- 10 athletes and coaches. In addition to FHSAA penalties and sanctions, District
- 11 employees found to have engaged in the improper recruitment of a student athlete
- may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- 13 A student may not be declared ineligible based on violation of recruiting rules unless
- 14 the student or parent has falsified any enrollment or eligibility document or accepted
- any benefit or any promise of benefit if such benefit is not generally available to the
- 16 school's students or family members or is based in any way on athletic interest,
- 17 potential, or performance.

18 Eligibility Appeals

- 19 If the Principal determines that a transfer student is ineligible to participate in
- 20 interscholastic athletics, a student may submit an appeal in accordance with Florida
- 21 law and the FHSAA's Bylaws.
- 22 | See also Policy 5610.05 Prohibition from Extra-Curricular Activities
- 23 F.S. 1002.20, 1006.15, 1006.20
- 24 © NEOLA 2012

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5240 - CLASS INTERRUPTIONS Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Class interruptions, regardless of reasons, shall be kept to a minimum. If an interruption is absolutely necessary, prior approval of the principal shall be obtained.

Interruptions of the school day shall be kept to a minimum. Programs and assemblies, which take students out of the classroom should be, for the most part, for educational purpose es.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures regarding class interruptions. These standards shall be observed by each principal. These standards shall address the amount of time that classes may be interrupted for purposes relating to fundraising, pep rallies, FCAT announcements, other assembly of students for school related purposes, and any other activities identified by the Superintendent in his or her discretion.

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The Superintendent may eliminate a particular type of activity as a reason for class interruption. If a particular type of activity is eliminated as a basis for a class interruption, then such activity shall be eliminated as a reason for class interruption at all schools so that there is no opportunity for a content or viewpoint based discrimination.

120.536, 120.54, 120.81, 1001.41, 1001.42(17), 1001.43, 1001.49, 1001.51, F.S.

6550 - TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Authorized travel for officers and employees of the School Board shall be reimbursed as follows:

A. Authority to Incur Traveling Expenses

- 1. All travel by employees and authorized persons must be authorized and approved by the Superintendent or his/her designated representative. The Superintendent shall not authorize or approve such a request unless it is accompanied by a signed statement by the traveler's supervisor stating that such travel is on the official business of the School District and also stating the purpose of the travel.
- Traveling expenses of public officers shall be limited to those expenses necessarily
 incurred by them in the performance of a public purpose authorized by law and must be
 within the limitations prescribed by Florida Statutes. /
- 3. Reimbursement rates for per diem, subsistence, and mileage shall be established by the Board as described in state Statute.

B. In-District Travel

Employees assigned a car owned by the District will not be eligible for reimbursement for personal vehicle expenses. Employees using their personal cars for travel on school business may be paid for the use of their cars at the Board approved rate schedule.

C. Out-of-District Travel

1. One-Day Trips

Expenses for authorized travel by employees, authorized persons, or public officers, on school business which does not require an overnight stay shall be reimbursed at the rate.

2. Overnight Trips

Expenses for authorized travel by employees, authorized persons, or public officers on school business requiring absence in excess of one (1) day shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem at the rate.

- D. When more than one (1) employee is going to the same destination, travel shall be pooled when such is practical.
- E. Where a common carrier is used, reimbursement will be made only for the most economical class. The expense of common carrier travel may be processed through the District office on a purchase order or by copies of paid bill(s) attached to the employee's travel voucher.
- F. Reimbursement may be requested for tolls, taxis, registration fees, and limousine service, storage or parking, and communication expense when properly documented. No reimbur

sement may be authorized for gratuities. Reimbursement for registration fees shall be reduced by the value of any lodging or meals which are included if such items are claimed elsewhere for reimbursement.

G. Out-of-State Travel

Actual expenses for authorized travel by employees, authorized persons, or public officers not to exceed the single occupancy rate shall be reimbursed for lodging and the scheduled amount for meals.

- The Superintendent shall develop procedures which detail travel reimbursement claims and restrictions.
- Violations or abuse of District travel policies and/or procedures shall be a basis for employee discipline.

F.S. 112.061, 1001.39 F.A.C. 6A-1.056

COMMEMORATION OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

() Option 1

- 2 From time-to-time, the School Board may wish to commemorate a school or District
- 3 facility by means of a plaque or naming the facility after a person. Such
- 4 commemoration should be reserved only for those individuals who have made a
- 5 significant contribution to the enhancement of education generally or the District in
- 6 particular or to the well-being of the District, community, State, or nation.

Any employee of the District thus honored must be deceased or no longer employed by the District prior to the Board's selection of his/her name for a plaque or for the naming of a facility.

Each educational plant and ancillary plant owned by the School Board shall include a plaque installed on the exterior wall of the plant which identifies by name the School Board members and Superintendent in office who approved the financing for the plant, and the School Board members and Superintendent in office at the time of dedication or rededication of the plant.

School Memorials and Gifts

- A. No individual, group, or organization shall be permitted to erect an honor roll, memorial, or structure of any kind upon school grounds except by approval of the Superintendent and Board. Fixed items such as markers, plaques, etc., are inappropriate memorial gestures for placement at school sites. Generally, memorials, which are fixed to the building or grounds and require special attention or maintenance concerns in order to preserve their aesthetic quality, are prohibited at School Board facilities. A simple landscape project may be acceptable (i.e. planting of a tree, small flower garden), provided there is little or no maintenance and is consistent with the Board's master plan.
- B. Permanent structures shall have utilitarian value in the operation of the school or be erected in memory of a person who has been associated with the school either as a student or employee, or an organization which has made some outstanding contribution to the school or School District.

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- C. The Board shall not accept a gift of art unless the cost of installation, operation, and maintenance is consistent with the value of the gift to the school. This gift will require approval of a committee approved by the Superintendent and shall include at least one (1) person trained in the field of art.
- Articles of equipment donated to the schools by individuals, groups, D. or organizations may be accepted if they contribute to the operation of the school program. Donors shall be notified that the title of this gift shall be in the name of the Board.

School(s) - Naming and Renaming

- The Superintendent, with the assistance of individuals in the community and/or community organizations, if any, shall submit proposed name(s) for school(s) to the Superintendent for his/her subsequent recommendation to the Board for final approval. Names for schools shall be considered in accordance with the following procedures:
 - A. If the school(s) is to be named by its location in the community, the name(s) proposed should be descriptive and of reasonable length.
 - B. If the school(s) is to be named for an individual, the name(s) proposed should be that of an outstanding civic or educational leader, deceased, of local, State, or National prominence and, shall have left public office for a period of time not less than five (5) years.
 - CB. The name of a new or existing school(s) once adopted by the Board shall be considered permanent. However, should the Board subsequently initiate, or be called upon to consider, a name change of an existing previously named school(s), then in that event the Board shall allow a period of time of not less than eighteen (18) months from said date for community involvement, deliberation, discussion, and debate, prior to its taking action.

END OF OPTION 1

() Option 2

A. Commemoration of District Facilities

The School Board recognizes that the naming of schools and facilities is important to the public image of the school system and to the community it serves. The sole responsibility for the naming of any and all District facilities rests with the Board upon recommendation by the Superintendent. School buildings, outdoor facilities, and facilities within the school campus such as a stadium, media center, gymnasium, auditorium, and any other component part of a school, may be named for geographical locations, general features of the area, developments in which the school facilities are located, individuals, and such other names that in the judgment of the Board are deemed appropriate. New schools and facilities will not be named after an individual as a matter of general policy. Additionally, an existing school will not, as a matter of general policy, have its name changed to that of an individual. Notwithstanding, for exceptional circumstances the School Board reserves the right by a super majority vote to name a school after an individual who has been deceased for a minimum of three (3) years. And, for exceptional circumstances the School Board reserves the right by a super majority vote to name a facility within a school after an individual, deceased or living.

The exceptional circumstances which may result in a school or facility being named after an individual, will include a finding made by the School Board with a super majority vote that the individual was or is an outstanding civic, educational, or philanthropic leader of local, state, or

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national repute. For exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board, the name of a school or facility may be changed on a super majority vote of the Board. (As used in this policy, the term "super majority vote" shall mean one vote more than a simple majority vote of a quorum present. It is the Board's policy that on a super majority vote finding exceptional circumstances to exist, a school may be named after an individual deceased for a minimum of three (3) years, and, for exceptional circumstances a super majority of the Board may name a facility within a school after an individual, deceased or living).

B. New Schools

The naming of a new school shall involve a name selection team selected by the principal of the new school to include, but not be limited to, District employees, community members, parents, and students residing in the potential attendance area for the school. The selection team will recommend no more than three (3) names to the Superintendent who, with advice from the Superintendent's Leadership Council, will consider the determination of the committee and make a recommendation to the Board. The Superintendent may recommend other names to the Board as deemed appropriate.

C. Existing and New Facilities

The Board will consider requests to name or rename existing or new school facilities such as a stadium, media center, playground, theater, gymnasium, auditorium etc. Such requests must be reviewed by the name selection team in the same manner as outlined above with the selection team including, but not being limited to, the principal of the school, District employees, community members, parents, students, representatives of the School's Advisory Council, PTA, student government, and student council. The name selection team will recommend a name by majority vote of the team. The principal will then forward the name recommended by majority vote of the team to the Superintendent within 45 days of the decision of the team. The Superintendent will forward that recommended name to the Board along with his or her recommendation.

Each educational plant and ancillary plant owned by the School Board shall include a plaque installed on the exterior wall of the plant which identifies by name the School Board members and Superintendent in office who approved the financing for the plant, and the School Board members and Superintendent in office at the time of dedication or rededication of the plant.

 END OF OPTION 2

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CHARTER SCHOOLS

2 3 4 5 6 7	F.S. 1002.33 gives the School Board oversight responsibility for all charter schools situated within Indian River County. The Board designates the Superintendent to receive and review all charter applications. The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board the approval or denial of each charter application and charter contract. The Board shall have final authority, by majority vote, to approve or deny any application and charter contract.								
8 9 10			harter schools are public schools and shall receive goods and services oard as required by law and/or specified through a contract with the						
11 12 13	If approved, the initial charter shall be for a term of four (4) or five (5) years. The Board may renew charters under the conditions and for terms as set forth in State law.								
14 15 16 17 18	In addition, a charter school that satisfied the requirements set forth in State law for designation as a high-performing charter school may receive a modification of its term to fifteen (15) years or a fifteen year (15-year) charter renewal. The charter may be modified or renewed for a shorter term at the option of the high-performing charter school.								
19 20 21 22	The Board shall enter into a charter with a charter operator and the focus is on three (3) areas of charter school operation: academic accountability, fiscal management, and governance. The Board, as sponsor, shall perform the duties provided in F.S. 1002.33.								
23	The Board has the right to non-renew or terminate any charter if the charter school:								
24 25 26	A		fails to participate in the State's education accountability system created in F.S. 1008.31, or fails to meet the requirement for student performance as specified in the charter;						
27	В		fails to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management;						
28	C		violates the law;						

for other good cause shown.

materially breaches the charter, as described in State law; and/or

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E.

Application Procedure

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- 2 Potential applicants should send letters notifying the Board of their intent to submit
- an application to sponsor a public charter school not later than July 1st. Such
- correspondence should be directed to the office of the Superintendent.
- 5 Failing to send the letter of intent will in no way negatively impact a potential
- sponsor's application. 6
- Applications for a public charter school will be accepted no later than 5:00 p.m. on
- the submission deadline of August 1st, or before. If the submission deadline falls on
- a non-business day, the deadline shall be postponed to 5:00 p.m. on the next 9
- business day. Applications may be mailed or hand delivered but receipt by the 10
- 11 Board must be on or before the deadline.
- The following pertains to the submission of an application: 12
- 13 A. An individual, teachers, parents, a group of individuals, a municipality, or a legal entity organized under the laws of this State 14 15 anticipating submission of an application are urged to contact the District assigned charter school liaison for assistance prior to 16 completion of an application. 17
- 18 B. Charter school applicants must participate in training provided by 19 the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) before filing an 20 application, unless they have participated in qualified training provided by the District.
 - C. The Board and/or any of its designees shall not take unlawful reprisal against another Board employee because that employee is either directly or indirectly involved with a charter school application.
- Applicants must submit an application on the FLDOE's Model 26 D. 27 Florida Charter School Application template and forms.
 - E. The Board shall not charge any fees for processing or consideration of a charter school application. The Board's approval of a charter shall not be predicated on the promise of any future pay of any kind.
- 31 F. The applicant and Board may mutually agree, in writing, to extend the statutory timeline to consider the charter application. Such 32 33 agreement shall detail the extension date or timeframe.

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1 2 3	G.	tradit	ter schools shall not use or bear the name of an existing cional public, charter, or private/parochial school in Indian County.
4	Applications s	hall be	submitted to:
5 6 7			The Superintendent of Schools 1990 25 th Street Vero Beach, Florida 32960
8 9	The Board shathe FLDOE.	all revie	w all applications using an evaluation instrument developed by
10	Application C	ontent	:s
11	A.	State	Application Form
12 13 14			cations must be submitted using the Model Charter School cation form developed and distributed by the FLDOE.
15 16		The ap	oplication must include all forms required by the FLDOE.
17	В.	State	ement of Assurances
18 19 20 21		State	cants are required to sign under the penalties of perjury the ment of Assurances form contained within the Model Charter of Application developed and distributed by the FLDOE, thereby ting to the following:
22 23		1.	The charter school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and operations.
24 25 26 27 28		2.	The charter school will enroll any eligible student who submits a timely application, unless the school receives a greater number of applications than there are spaces for students, in which case students will be admitted through a random selection process.
29 30 31		3.	The charter school will adhere to the antidiscrimination provisions of F.S. 1000.05, as well as the Federal Desegregation Order applicable to the School Board.
32 33	ā	4.	The charter school will adhere to all applicable provisions of State and Federal law relating to the education of students

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with disabilities, including the Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974;
and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

1 2 3 4		5.	The charter school will adhere to all applicable provisions of Federal law relating to students who are limited English proficient, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974.				
5 6		6.	The charter school will participate in the Statewide assessment program created under F.S. 1008.22.				
7 8 9 10		7.	The charter school will comply with Florida statutes relating to public records and public meetings, including F.S. Chapter 119 and F.S. 286.011 which are applicable to applicants even prior to being granted a charter.				
11 12 13		8.	The charter school will obtain and keep current all necessary permits, licenses, and certifications related to fire, health, and safety within the building and on school property.				
14 15		9.	The charter school will provide for an annual financial audit in accordance with F.S. 218.39.				
16	C.	Draft	Charter				
17 18 19 20 21		The application must include a draft of the proposed charter and all forms required by the FLDOE. The information contained in the proposed charter must be in substantially the same format as the Florida Model Charter Contract Format (Form IEPC-M3) prescribed by the FLDOE.					
22	<u>C</u> ₽.	Propo	osed Contracts for Services				
23 24 25		trans	cants anticipating a request for District services (i.e., portation, payroll services, use of facilities, etc.) must include a sed contract for <u>each</u> service desired.				
26	Application Ex	zaluati	on Process				
27 28	A.	The District shall receive and review all applications using an evaluation instrument developed by the FLDOE.					

- B. The Board shall evaluate all timely applications as submitted. During the evaluation process, 1) applications cannot be amended and 2) missing documentation and unsolicited information will not be accepted or considered. However, as required by law, the Board shall allow the applicant, upon receipt of written notification, seven (7) calendar days to make technical or nonsubstantive corrections and clarifications, including, but not limited to corrections of grammatical, typographical, and like errors or to add missing signatures, if such errors are identified as cause to deny the application.
 - C. The Board shall deny any application that does not comply with the statutory requirements and/or Board's instructions for charter school applications.

D. Additional Information

- 1. The Board may solicit information regarding 1) history and background of individual applicants and/or founding/governing boards and its individual members including, but not limited to, a demonstration of the professional experience or competence of those individuals or organizations applying to operate the charter school or those hired or retained to perform professional services; and 2) the description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter school. A description of internal audit procedures and establishment of controls to ensure that the financial resources are properly managed must be included. information may be used to evaluate the applicant's ability to operate a charter school.
- 2. The Board may solicit additional information during the review and evaluation of the charter school application such as whether the applicant currently operates charter schools in Florida and if the proposed school will be a replication of an existing school design. This information may be used to evaluate the applicant's ability to operate a charter school.
- 3. The applicant may provide evidence of prior experience in establishing and operating public charter schools. Evidence of prior experience and success in establishing and operating charter schools shall be weighed in making a determination to recommend approval or denial of an application.

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1	E.	Application Review Committee (ARC)						
2 3 4 5		writte evalu	The purpose of this committee is to identify deficiencies in the written application and/or areas that require clarification to full evaluate the quality of the application or the capacity of the group to properly implement the proposed plan.					
6 7 8		Leade	ARC shall be comprised of members of the Superintendent's ership Council or their appropriate designees, and other sentatives from the following areas of expertise:					
9		1.	District/School Operations;					
10		2.	Curriculum and Instruction;					
11		3.	Facilities;					
12		4.	Financial Operations;					
13		5.	Human Resources;					
14		6.	Exceptional Student Education;					
15		7.	Student Services					
16		8.	Risk Management					
17 18		A majority of the entire membership constitutes a quorum for votir purposes.						
19 20 21 22 23 24		Applicants shall be notified and given the opportunity to attend the review. The applicant will be encouraged to have at least one (1 governing board member present. The ARC may, at its sold discretion, evaluate the application without any additional input from the applicant if at least one (1) governing board member of the charter school is not available.						
25 26			najority vote, the ARC shall make a recommendation to the rintendent to approve or deny each application.					

All applications will be submitted to the Board by the 1 Superintendent with a recommendation for approval or denial no 2 later than sixty (60) calendar days after the application is received, 3 unless the applicant and the Board mutually agree, in writing, to 4 postpone the vote to a specific date, at which time the Board shall 5 6 approve or deny the application. 7 An application submitted by a high-performing charter school that has satisfied the requirements set forth in State law for such 8 designation may be denied by the Board only if the Superintendent 9 demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the application 10 failed to meet one (1) or more of the criteria set forth in 11 F.S. 1002.33(6)(b)(3)(b): 12 13 1. The application does not materially comply with the requirements set forth in F.S. 1002.33(3)(a). 14 2. The charter school proposed in the application does not 15 materially comply with the requirements in F.S. 1002.33(9). 16 The proposed charter school's educational program does not 17 3. substantially replicate that of the applicant's high-performing 18 charter school. 19 4. The applicant has made a material misrepresentation or false 20 statement or concealed an essential or material fact during 21 the application process. 22 5. 23 The proposed charter school's educational program and financial management practices do not materially comply 24 with the requirements of F.S. 1002.33. 25 26 If the Board denies an application submitted by a high-performing charter school, the specific reasons, based upon the criteria set forth 27 in F.S. 1002.33(3)(b), for the denial shall be provided in writing to 28 the applicant and the FLDOE within ten (10) calendar days after 29 such denial. 30

Pursuant to State law, an applicant may, no later thirty (30) calendar days after

receiving the Board's final order denying an application or upon the Board's failure to act on an application, appeal the Board's decision to the State Board of

Education. The applicanttion shall notify the Board of the appeal.

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Appeal of a Decision to Deny an Application

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- 1 Such appeals shall be conducted in accordance with F.S. 1002.33(6) and applicable
- 2 State Board rules.
- 3 In accordance with State Board rule, the State Board of Education shall by majority
- 4 vote accept or reject the decision of the Board no later than ninety (90) calendar
- 5 days after the appeal is filed. The State Board of Education shall remand the
- 6 application to the Board with its written decision that the Board approve or deny the
- 7 application. The Board shall implement the decision of the State Board of
- 8 Education. The decision of the State Board of Education is not subject to the
- 9 provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.
- 10 If the Board denies an application submitted by a high-performing charter school,
- 11 the Board shall, within ten (10) calendar days after such denial, state in writing the
- 12 specific reasons, based upon the criteria of F.S. 1002.33 supporting its denial of the
- 13 application and must provide the letter of denial and supporting documentation to
- 14 the applicant and to the Department. The applicant may appeal the Board's denial
- of the application directly to the State Board of Education pursuant to F.S. 1002.33.

16 Appeal of a Proposed Termination or Nonrenewal of a Charter

- 17 At least ninety (90) days prior to renewing or terminating a charter, the Board shall
- 18 notify the charter school's governing board in writing of its proposed action. The
- 19 notice shall state in reasonable detail the grounds for the proposed action and
- 20 stipulate that the charter school's governing board may, within fourteen (14)
- 21 calendar days after receiving the notice, request a hearing. The hearing shall be
- 22 conducted at the Board's election by the Board within sixty (60) days after the
- 23 request for a hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with
- 24 F.S. 120.569 and 120.57. The Board shall decide the matter by majority vote. The
- outcome of the Board's vote shall be issued as a final order, and recorded as such.
- 26 The final order shall state the specific reasons for the Board's action and shall be
- 27 provided to the charter school's governing board and the FLDOE no later than
- 28 ten (10) calendar days after it is issued. The charter school's governing board may,
- 29 within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving the Board's final order, appeal the
- 30 decision pursuant to F.S. 120.68.

A charter may be terminated immediately if the Board sets forth in writing the particular facts and circumstances indicating that an immediate and serious danger 2 to the health, safety, or welfare of the charter school's students exists. The Board's 4 determination is subject to the procedures set forth in F.S. 1002.33(8)(b) and (c), except that the hearing may take place after the charter has been terminated. The 5 Board shall notify in writing the charter school's governing board, the charter school 6 principal, and FLDOE if a charter is terminated immediately. The Board shall 7 clearly identify the specific issues that resulted in the immediate termination and provide evidence of prior notification of issues resulting in the immediate 9 termination when appropriate. Upon receiving written notice from the board, the 10 charter school's governing board has ten (10) calendar days to request a hearing. A 11 requested hearing must be expedited and the final order must be issued within 12 13 sixty (60) days after the date of request. The Board shall assume operation of the charter school throughout the pendency of the hearing unless the continued 14 15 operation of the charter school would material threaten the health, safety, or welfare of the students. 16

Charter Contract and Contract Negotiation Process

A standard charter contract shall be consistent with this policy and approved by the Contract Review Committee to be used as the basis for all charters approved under this policy. All contracts and contract amendments, as approved by the CRC, must be presented to the Board for approval. The charter contract must contain all information set forth in the Florida Model Charter Contract Format (Form IEPC-M3) prescribed by the FLDOE.

A. Initial Charter Contract

- 1. Initial contract shall be for a term of four (4) or five (5) years unless a longer term is specifically required by law.
- 2. Before a recommendation regarding whether or not the Board should approve an initial contract, evidence of the following shall be provided:
 - a. Evidence of a proper legal structure (e.g., articles of incorporation, bylaws, municipal charter). The applicant shall be a not for profit organized pursuant to F.S. Chapter 617.

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1 2 3 4 5	b.	evidenthe cha facil	t for virtual charter schools, actual locations and ace that a facility has been secured for the term of parter, or a deadline for submitting evidence that ity has been secured. Evidence should include, not limited to:
6 7 8		1)	letter of intent from the landlord or mortgagee indicating property usage and term of occupancy;
9 10		2)	executed lease or certification of occupancy; and/or
11 12		3)	use or occupational license indicating proper use.
13 14			cilities must meet the requirements set forth in 002.33.

B. Charter Contract Negotiations

The Board shall have sixty (60) days to provide an initial proposed charter contract to the charter school. The applicant and the Board shall have seventy-five (75) days thereafter to negotiate and notice the charter contract for final approval by the Board unless both parties agree to an extension. The proposed charter contract shall be provided to the charter school at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the date of the meeting at which the charter is scheduled to be voted upon by the Board. The Department of Education shall provide mediation services for any dispute regarding this section subsequent to the approval of a charter application and for any dispute relating to the approved charter, except disputes regarding charter school application denials. If the Commission of Education determines that the dispute cannot be settled through mediation, the dispute may be appealed to an administrative law judge appointed by the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings. The administrative law judge may rule on issues of equitable treatment of the charter school as a public school, whether proposed provisions of the charter violate the intended flexibility granted charter schools by statute, or on any other matter regarding this section except a charter school application denial, a charter termination, or a charter nonrenewal and shall award the prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred to be paid by the losing party. The costs of the administrative hearing shall be paid by the party against whom the administrative law judge rules.

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1	C.	Reque	est to Extend Negotiations/School Opening
2 3 4 5 6 7 8		1.	The applicant and Board may mutually agree to extend the statutory timeline to negotiate and consider approval of the charter contract for a period not to exceed one (1) year from the approved opening date in the charter school application Requests shall be submitted to Charter School Operations, in writing, by an authorized agent of the charter school detailing the reason for the requested extension.
9 10 11 12 13		2.	In the event that the statutory timeline to negotiate and enterinto a charter contract is extended, the applicant shall update its charter school application prior to resuming negotiations with regard to: (1) updated budget; and (2) applicable application revisions necessitated by the delay.
14 15 16 17 18		3.	The application shall be automatically rescinded, without further action by the Board, if the applicant does not enter into contract negotiations or open the school within: (1) the timeframe specified by law, or (2) the date of extension which has been mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties.
19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32		4.	Unless extended pursuant to this policy, an approved applicant shall open its charter school at the beginning of the Board's next school year following the approval of the charter school application. At the written request of the applicant and at the Board's sole discretion, the Board may allow an applicant with an approved charter school application to defer the opening of its charter school for one (1) school year following the opening date specified in the approved approval of its charter school application. In the event that the opening of the approved applicant's charter school is deferred, the applicant shall update its charter school application prior to the opening of the charter school with regard to: (1) updated budget; and (2) applicable application revisions.
33 34 35		5.	An approved contract shall be automatically revoked, without further action by the Board, if the applicant does not open the school:
36 37			a. on the first day of school of the initial school year indicated in the contract; or

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1 2			b. on the first day of the school year indicated in the approved deferral.
3	D.	Char	ter Contract Amendments/Modifications
4 5		1.	A charter may be modified during its initial term or any renewal term upon the recommendation of the Board or the
6			charter school's governing board and the approval of both
7			parties to the agreement. All modifications must be mutual
8			and in writing. Unilateral modification made by the charter
9			school is grounds for termination or non-renewal.
10 11 12		2.	Modifications may be considered by the Board for a number of reasons, which may include, but is not limited to, protect the health, safety, or welfare of the students.
13 14		3.	All contract amendment requests shall be submitted in writing to Charter School Operations by an authorized agent
15			of the charter school. Additional information or
16			documentation may be requested for consideration of any
17			amendment requests.
18		4.	The charter school shall provide evidence of governing board
19 20			approval for all proposed amendments (e.g., governing board resolution, governing board meeting minutes).
21		5.	Requirements for Amendment Requests
22			a. <u>Education Program Amendments</u>
23			Significant changes in the curriculum or changes in
24			grade levels constitute a change in the educational
25			program and shall require an amendment that is
26			mutually acceptable and approved by both parties.
27			Requests for such amendments shall include the
28			following information and supporting documentation:
29			1) justification for change
30			2) effective date of the change

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1 2 3 4		3)	and s	nce that financial implications, feasibility, tudent access issues have been addressed, ling provisions for all required resources, and materials
5		4)	evider	nce of parental support
6 7 8 9 10		requir design enroll the in	rement nation ment l .crease	orming charter school that has met the set forth in State law for such shall notify the sponsor of any increase in by March 1st of the school year preceding. The written notice shall specify the grade ill be added.
12	b.	Locati	ion Am	endments
13 14 15 16		1)	reloca locati	ges in locations or addition of location (i.e., ation, secondary campus, satellite ons) shall include the following information upporting documentation:
17 18			(a)	description of location, including identification as permanent or temporary
19 20 21 22				If the relocation will be temporary, the request shall include the period of time during which the school will be at the temporary location.
23			(b)	effective date of the relocation
24 25 26			(c)	evidence that financial implications, feasibility, and student access issues have been addressed
27 28			(d)	evidence of parental support for the new facility
29 30			(e)	evidence of the school's property interest in the facility (owner or lessee)
31 32 33			(f)	a disclosure affidavit in accordance with F.S. 286.23, if the school leases the facility

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1 2 3 4		2)	Nothing in this policy or State law obligates the Board to agree to an increase the number of facilities, campuses, and/or locations associated with a charter school's operations.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11		3)	The charter school shall not change or add facilities or locations at any time during the term of the charter contract without prior approval of the Board through the contract amendment process. Violation of this provision constitutes a unilateral amendment or modification of this contract and good cause for termination.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20		4)	If the request for a location amendment involves a facility in which other schools are operating, the names of the school(s), the grade levels, number of classrooms, number of students in each class, and the number of students enrolled in each school shall be included in the request, in addition to the information and documentation described in paragraphs a and b above.
22 23 24 25 26 27 28		5)	No later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of schools or the initial use of the facility by the school, the school shall have an approved contract and evidence of all necessary permits, licenses, zoning, use approval, facility certification and other approvals required for use of the facility by the local government.
29	c.	Enroll	lment Capacity Amendments
30 31			ges to enrollment capacity shall include the ing information and supporting documentation:
32		1)	justification for change
33		2)	effective date of the change
34 35		3)	evidence of proper facility approvals and/or allowable facility capacity

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2			4)	and student access issues have been addressed
3			5)	evidence of parental support
4 5 6 7 8 9			required designation designati	gh-performing charter school that has met the rements set forth in State law for such nation shall be required to notify the Board in ag by March 1st of its intent to increase liment the following school year. The written is shall specify the amount of the enrollment ase.
11 12 13			nply w	tract is amended or renewed, it shall be updated with this policy and the current standard charter
14	Pre-Opening R	<u>equirements</u>		
15 16 17 18 19	school shall he permits, licensi required for use	ave an appring, zoning, e of the facilit	oved ouse ap y by th	to the initial use of the facility by the school, the contract and provide evidence of all necessary oproval, facility certification and other approvals he local government. Failure to comply may result ract, with no further action by the Board.
20	School Govern	ance/Manag	ement	
21 22 23	A.	organized pu	ırsuan	hall organize or be operated by a not for profit t to F.S. Chapter 617, a municipality, or another ovided by law.
24	В.	Charter Scho	ool's G	overning Board Requirements
25 26 27 28		respoi includ	nsible les, bı	r school's governing board shall be solely for the operation of the charter school which at is not limited to, school operational policies; countability; and financial accountability.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

As required by State law, each charter school's governing 1 board must appoint a representative to facilitate parental 2 involvement, provide access to information, assist parents 3 and others with questions and concerns, and resolve 4 5 disputes. Furthermore, this representative must reside in the 6 District in which the charter school is located. The individual 7 serving as the parental involvement representative may be a governing board member, charter school employee, or an 8 9 individual with whom the charter school contracts to represent the board in this capacity. If the governing board 10 oversees more than one charter school in the District, a 11 representative to facilitate parental involvement shall be 12 appointed for each school. The name and contact 13 information for the representative must be provided in writing 14 to parents of children enrolled in the charter school at least 15 annually and must also be prominently posted on the charter 16 school's website. 17 The charter school's governing board shall hold at least 18 19 two (2) public meetings per school year in the District. The meetings must be noticed, open, and accessible to the public 20 21 and attendees must be provided an opportunity to receive information and provide input regarding the charter school's 22 The appointed representative to facilitate 23 operations. parental involvement and the principal or director or his/her 24 equivalent must be physically present at each meeting. 25 2. Governing board members must: 26 27 notify the Board of changes in membership within a. forty-eight (48) hours of change; and 28 29 b. successfully fulfill a background check by the Board, as specified by law upon appointment to the governing 30 board. 31 Costs of background screening shall not be borne by the 32

Charter School the Indian River School District.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

1 3. Governing board members must develop and approve by-laws that govern the operations of the board and the charter 2 school prior to execution of the charter contract and annually 3 consult with charter school staff to refine overall policy 4 5 decision-making of the charter school as it regarding curriculum, financial management, and internal controls. 6 Governing board members must not be an employee of the 7 4. charter school or receive compensation, directly or indirectly. 8 from the charter school's operations, including but not 9 10 limited to: grant funds; lease/mortgage payments; or contracted service fees. 11 5. Governing board members must participate in FLDOE 12 sponsored charter school governance training to ensure that 13 each board member is aware of his/her duties and 14 15 responsibilities. pursuant State Board Rule to F.A.C. 6A-6.0784: 16 17 a. Each governing board member must complete a minimum of four (4) hours of instruction focusing on 18 Government in the Sunshine, conflicts of interest, 19 ethics, and financial responsibility as specified in 20 21 F.S. 1002.33(9)(k). After the initial four (4) hour 22 training, each member is required, within the subsequent three (3) years and for each three (3) year 23 24 period after that to complete a two (2) hour refresher training on the four (4) topics above in order to retain 25 his/her position on the charter school board. 26 member who fails to obtain the two (2) hour refresher 27 training within any three (3) year period must take the 28 four (4) hours of instruction again in order to remain 29 eligible as a charter school board member. 30 New members joining a charter school board must 31 b. complete the four (4) hour training with ninety (90) 32 days of appointment to the board. 33

1 2	6.	Dispu Board	ite Procedures (Board versus Charter School Governing l)
3 4 5 6 7 8		subject proce- contra charte	cation, nonrenewal, and termination decisions are not ct to this dispute resolution process and must follow the dures in F.S. 1002.33, Board policy, and the charter act. Nothing contained herein shall operate to limit a er school's rights to utilize the dispute resolution dures set forth in F.S. 1002.33.
9 10 11 12 13		a.	The Board and the charter school agree that the existence and the details of a dispute notwithstanding both parties shall continue without delay their performance under the charter contract, except for any performance, which may be directly affected by such dispute.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23		b.	Either party shall notify the other party that a dispute exists between them. The notification shall be in writing and shall identify the article and section of the contract that is in dispute and the grounds for the position that such article and section is in dispute. The matter shall be immediately submitted to the Superintendent Board and the charter school's director for further consideration and discussion to attempt to resolve the dispute.
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		c.	Should the representatives named in paragraph be above be unable to resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of receipt of written notification by one to the other of the existence of such dispute, then the matter may be submitted by either party to the School Board Chair Superintendent and to the school's governing board chair for further consideration and discussion to attempt to resolve the dispute.
32 33 34 35 36 37		d.	Should the parties still be unable to resolve their dispute within thirty (30) days of the date of receipt of written notification by one to the other of the existence of such dispute, then either party may proceed with utilizing the dispute resolution procedures set forth in F.S. 1002.33.

1 2		7.		ct Resolution (Charter School versus Parents/Legal lians, Employees, and Vendors)
3 4 5 6 7 8			a.	All conflicts between the charter school and the parents/legal guardians of the students enrolled at the charter school shall be handled by the charter school or its governing board. The procedures for handling such conflicts must be set forth in the charter contract.
9 10 11 12			b.	Evidence of each parent's acknowledgement of the charter school's Parent Conflict Resolution Process shall be available for review upon request by the Board.
13 14 15			c.	All conflicts between the charter school and the employees of the charter school shall be handled by the charter school or its governing board.
16 17 18			d.	All conflicts between the charter school and vendors of the charter school shall be handled by the charter school or its governing board.
19 20 21 22 23			e.	The Board shall be provided with the name and contact information of the parties involved in the charter school's conflict resolution process. The Board shall be notified immediately of any change in the contact information.
24	C.	Mana	gemen	t Companies
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33		1.	profess contra be su the ci these charte charte Board	management company or a combination of contracted ssionals will be managing the charter school, the act(s) between the charter school and company(ies) shall bmitted to the Board for review prior to the approval of harter school's contract. If a decision to hire any of entities occurs subsequent to the execution of the er contract or amendment, the contract(s) between the er school and company(ies) shall be submitted to the lat least ten (10) days before any payment is made to f the entities.

1 2. Any proposed amendments to the contract with the 2 management company shall be submitted to the Board for approval prior to execution of that amended contract with the 3 4 management company by the charter school. A copy of all 5 executed contracts must be provided to the Board within the timeframe provided by the charter contract. 6 7 3. All management company contracts with the charter school must make it clear that the charter governing body shall 8 retain and exercise continuing oversight over all charter 9 school operations and must contain provisions specifying the 10 ability for the charter school to terminate the contract and 11 must comply with terms as stated in the charter contract 12 between the charter school and the Board. Any default or 13 breach of the terms of the charter contract by the 14 management company(ies) shall constitute a default or 15 breach of the charter contract by the charter school. 16 Neither employees of the management company nor 17 4. "relatives" of the management company's employees as 18 defined in F.S. 1002.33 shall serve on the charter school's 19 20 governing board or serve as officers of the Corporation.

Employees of Charter Schools

- A charter school shall employ or contract with employees who have undergone background screening as provided in F.S. 1012.32. Members of the governing board of the charter school shall also undergo background screening in a manner similar to that provided in F.S. 1012.32 upon appointment to the governing board.
- A charter school shall disqualify instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in F.S. 1012.01, from employment in any position that requires direct contact with students if the personnel or administrators are ineligible for such employment under F.S. 1012.315.

- 1 Charter school personnel may not appoint, employ, promote, or advance any relative, or advocate for appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement of
- 3 any relative to a position in the charter school in which the personnel are serving or
- 4 over which the personnel exercises jurisdiction or control. An individual may not be
- 5 appointed, employed, promoted, or advanced in or to a position in a charter school if
- 6 such appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement has been advocated by
- 7 charter school personnel who serve in or exercise jurisdiction or control over the
- 8 charter school and who is a relative of the individual or if such appointment,
- 9 employment, promotion, or advancement is made by the governing board of which a
- 10 relative of the individual is a member. For purposes of this policy, the definition of
- relative shall be as it is defined in F.S. 1002.33(24)(a)(2).
- 12 Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives employed by the charter school shall be
- in accordance with F.S. 1002.33.
- 14 The governing board of a charter school shall adopt policies establishing standards
- of ethical conduct for instructional personnel and school administrators.
- 16 The policies must require all instructional personnel and school administrators, as
- defined in F.S. 1012.01, to complete training on the standards of ethical conduct;
- 18 establish the duty of instructional personnel and school administrators to report,
- 19 and procedures for reporting, alleged misconduct by other instructional personnel
- and school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student;
- and include an explanation of the liability protections provided under F.S. 39.203
- 22 and 768.095. A charter school, or any of its employees, may not enter into a
- 23 confidentiality agreement regarding terminated or dismissed instructional personnel
- 24 or school administrators, or personnel or administrators who resign in lieu of
- 25 termination, based in whole or in part on misconduct that affects the health, safety,
- or welfare of a student, and may not provide instructional personnel or school
- 27 administrators with employment references or discuss the personnel's or
- 28 administrators' performance with prospective employers in another educational
- 29 setting, without disclosing the personnel's or administrators' misconduct. Any part
- 30 of an agreement or contract that has the purpose or effect of concealing misconduct
- 31 by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety,
- or welfare of a student is void, is contrary to public policy, and may not be enforced.
- 33 Before employing instructional personnel or school administrators in any position
- 34 that requires direct contact with students, a charter school shall conduct
- 35 employment history checks of each of the personnel's or administrators' previous
- 36 employer(s), screen the instructional personnel or school administrators through use
- of the educator screening tools described in F.S. 1001.10(5), and document the
- 38 findings. If unable to contact a previous employer, the charter school must
- 39 document efforts to contact the employer.

The Board shall terminate a sponsor's charter if the operator sponsor knowingly fails to comply with F.S. 1002.33(12)(g).

School Operations

- A. The Board shall not impose any policies or practices to limit charter school enrollment except as may be permitted in accordance with State law.
 - B. The Board may document, in writing, any discrepancies or deficiencies--whether fiscal, educational, or related to school climate--and the steps and timelines for correction and additional monitoring. At a minimum, copies will be provided to the charter school's governing board chair, charter school principal and appropriate Board staff.
 - C. The charter school shall obtain the appropriate facility capacity approvals from the jurisdictional authority where the facility is located (i.e., county, municipality, or both). The Board, at its discretion, may accept a letter from the architect of record specifying the capacity if the capacity is not provided by the facility's jurisdictional authority. The Board may withhold monthly payments for FTE that exceed capacity specified by the charter contract or approved facility capacity.
 - D. The charter school's calendar will be consistent with the beginning of the Board's calendar for the first school year and must provide instruction for the minimum number of days and minutes required by law for other public schools. Should the charter school elect to provide a summer program or year-round school, the charter school shall notify the Board, in writing, each year to ensure appropriate record keeping.
 - E. <u>Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbooks, and Parent</u> Contracts
 - Only the Board may expel a student.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7		2.	The charter school may follow the Board's Student Code of Conduct or an alternate code of conduct approved by the Board. The charter school shall provide the Board with a copy of an approved alternate student code of conduct annually. Any amendments must be approved by the Board prior to implementation. Evidence of governing board approval is required for amendments.				
8 9 10 11 12		3.	Any student/parent handbooks and parent contracts shall also be submitted to the Board for approval prior to implementation. Any amendments must be approved by the Board, prior to implementation. Evidence of governing board approval is required for amendments.				
13 14 15		4.	The charter school may be required to provide proof of parent/guardian's receipt of student code of conduct, handbook, or parent contract.				
16 17 18 19 20		5.	Violations of parent contracts shall not result in involuntary withdrawal of a student in the same school year of the violations. Violations of the parent contract may result in the student not being re-enrolled or loss of enrollment preference for the following school year.				
21	F.	Charter School Student Transfers					
22 23			process for student transfers can be found in Policy 015131.				
24	G.	Food S	Service and Transportation				
25 26 27		schoo	portation and food services are the responsibility of the charter l. These services must be provided according to District, State, ederal laws, rules, and regulations.				
28	H.	Facilit	ty Leases				
29 30 31 32		1.	If a charter school will be leasing or subleasing a facility, the contract(s) between the charter school and landlord or sub-lessor shall be submitted to the Board for review and approval.				
33 34		2.	Any amendments to the lease shall be submitted to the Board for review prior to execution, by the charter school				

1 3. A copy of all executed contracts must be provided to the Board within the timeframe provided by the charter contract. 2 Any default or breach of the terms of the charter contract by 3 4. the lessor/sub-lessor may constitute a default or breach of 4 the charter contract by the charter school. 5 I. **Academic Accountability** 6 7 1. The Superintendent or designee shall have ongoing responsibility for monitoring all approved charter schools 8 with regard to the charter school's progress towards achieving 9 the goals established in the charter. The Superintendent 10 shall have access to the charter school at all times. 11 The Board shall monitor adherence to the educational and 2. 12 related programs as specified in the approved application, 13 charter, curriculum, instructional methods, any distinctive 14 instructional techniques to be used, reading programs and 15 specialized instruction for students who are reading below 16 grade level, compliance with State standards, assessment 17 accountability, and achievement of long- and short-term 18 An analysis comparing the charter school's goals. 19 standardized test scores to those of similar student 20 populations attending other public schools in the District will 21 also be conducted. 22 In the event a charter school earns a grade of "D" or "F" 23 a. in the grading system set forth in State law, the 24 director and a representative of the governing board of 25 the charter school shall appear before the Board to 26 information concerning 27 each component having noted deficiencies and shall prepare 28 and submit to the Board for approval a proposed 29 Improvement Plan to raise 30 achievement. The proposed School Improvement Plan 31 must meet the requirements set forth in State law. 32

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The charter school shall implement the proposed

School Improvement Plan once approved by the Board.

b.

- If a charter school earns three (3) consecutive grades of "D", two (2) consecutive grades of "D" followed by a grade of "F", or two (2) nonconsecutive grades of "F" within a three (3) year period, the charter school governing board shall take corrective action as set forth in F.S. 1002.33. The corrective action must be implemented in the school year following receipt of a third consecutive grade of "D", a grade of "F" following two (2) consecutive grades of "D", or a second nonconsecutive grade of "F" within a three (3) year period. If the charter school does not improve by at least one (1) letter grade after two (2) full school years of implementing the corrective action, the charter school must select and implement a different corrective action in accordance with F.S. 1002.33. If the charter school does improve by at least one (1) letter grade, it is no longer required to implement the corrective action; however, the charter school must continue to implement strategies identified in the School Improvement Plan.
- c. Upon publication by the FLDOE of the list of charter schools that meet the criteria set forth in paragraphs I.2.a. and b. above, the Board shall notify, in writing, each charter school in the District that appears on the list that it is required to submit a School Improvement Plan and to appear before the Board. Pursuant to State Board rule, such notification may be delivered electronically, provided there is proof of receipt.

The notification shall include the following:

1) The date, time, and location of the publicly noticed meeting at which the director and a representative of the charter school governing board shall appear before the Board. purposes of this requirement, "director" shall mean charter school director, principal, chief other executive officer. or management personnel with similar authority. appearance shall be no earlier than thirty (30) calendar days and no later than ninety (90) calendar days after the Board's notification is received by the charter school.

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1 2 3 4		2)	The date by which the charter school must submit its proposed School Improvement Plan to the Board for review by staff, which shall be no earlier than thirty (30) calendar
5 6		3)	Whether the charter school is required to select a corrective action.
7 8 9	d.	withi	Board shall notify the charter school, in writing, n ten (10) calendar days of its decision to approve ny the School Improvement Plan.
10 11 12 13 14		1)	The Board may deny a School Improvement Plan if it does not meet the requirements of State law. If denied, the Board shall provide the charter school, in writing, the specific reasons for denial and the timeline for its resubmission.
15 16 17 18		2)	Either the charter school or the Board may request mediation pursuant to State law if the parties cannot agree on a School Improvement Plan.
19 20 21	e.	Scho	equired by State law, the Board will review the ol Improvement Plan annually to monitor the ter school's continued improvement.
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1)	The director and a representative of the governing board of the charter school shall appear before the Board at least once per year to present information regarding the progress of intervention and support strategies implemented by the charter school pursuant to the School Improvement Plan and, if applicable, to review the corrective actions taken pursuant to I.2.c above.
31 32 33 34 35 36		2)	At the meeting, the Board will identify the services that the District will provide to the charter school to assist the charter school in addressing its deficiencies, and following the meeting, these services will be communicated, in writing, to the director.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15		f.	A charter school that improves at least one (1) letter grade is not required to submit a new School Improvement Plan but must continue to implement the strategies identified in the approved School Improvement Plan and continue to report annually to the Board. The Board shall notify, in writing, each charter school implementing a School Improvement Plan of the requirement to appear before the Board to present information regarding the progress of the approved School Improvement Plan. The notification shall include the date, time, and location of the publicly noticed meeting at which the director and a representative of the charter school shall appear. The Board shall terminate the charter if the charter
17			school earns two (2) consecutive grades of "F", unless
18			one of the exceptions set forth in State law is
19			applicable.
20		g.	The laws applicable to School Improvement Plans and
21		Ü	corrective actions do not limit the Board's authority to
22			terminate the charter at any time in accordance with
23			State law.
24	3.	The c	harter school shall make annual progress reports to the
25		Board	
26	4.	Excep	otional Student Education (ESE)
27		a.	The Board is the Local Educational Agency (LEA) for all
28			Board-approved charter schools and will serve ESE
29			students in the same manner as students attending
30			other public schools in the District. ESE students
31			attending Board-approved charter schools shall be
32			provided supplementary and related services on site at
33			the charter school to the same extent to which the
34			Board has a policy or practice of providing such
35			services on site to its other public schools. The Board
36			shall provide programs, services or funds under Part B
37			of the IDEIA to Board-approved charter schools on the
38			same basis as the School District provides programs,
39			services or funds to the Board's other public schools.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		b.	ESE students will be educated in the least restrictive environment. The charter school shall ensure that ESE students are provided with programs and services implemented in accordance with Federal, State, and local policies and procedures and specifically the IDEIA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other related statutes and State Board of Education rules. If an IEP team determines that the charter school cannot meet the needs of an ESE student, the charter school and the Board agree to provide the ESE student with the appropriate placement as determined by the IEP team in accordance with State and Federal law.
14 15 16		c.	The Board shall provide ESE administration services to charter schools which shall be set forth in more detail in the charter.
17 18 19 20		d.	With respect to the provision of special education and related services, the charter shall set forth the specific roles and responsibilities of the charter school and the Board with respect to exceptional student education.
21 22 23 24 25		e.	Non-compliance may result in the Board's withholding of subsequent payments to the charter school without penalty of interest (including State capital payments), and may result in non-renewal or termination for good cause.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	5.	limite person under the ed servin implement reflect provide demonstration of the control of the	sh Language Learners (ELL) Students who are of d proficiency in English will be served by ESOL certified nnel. The charter school shall demonstrate an estanding of State and Federal requirements regarding ducation of English language learners, be committed to ag the full range of needs of ELL students, create and ment sound plans for educating ELL students that the full range of programs and services required to de all students with a high quality education, and instrate capacity to meet the school's obligations under and Federal law regarding the education of ELL

students.

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30 31 6. The Board may, in accordance with State law, require all charter schools to submit to the Board a school improvement plan to ensure a plan to maintain or raise student academic achievement within the timelines specified by the Board and the FLDOE.

L. Financial Accountability

1. In order to provide comparable financial information to that reported for other public schools, charter schools shall maintain all financial records in accordance with the accounts and codes prescribed in the most recent issuance of the publication titled, Financial and Program Cost Accounting and Reporting for Florida Schools. Charter school governing boards shall also annually adopt and maintain an operating budget as required by F.S. 1002.33(9)(h). Charter schools shall provide annual financial reports and program cost report information by the deadlines specified in the charter contract, in the State-required formats for inclusion in the Board's reporting in compliance with F.S. 1011.60(1) and 1002.33(9)(g). The financial statements are to be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles using governmental accounting, regardless of corporate structure F.S. 1002.33(9)(g). The annual financial audit must be in the State-required format.

At the discretion of the charter school's governing board, a charter school may elect to follow generally accepted accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, but must reformat this information for reporting according to the requirement set forth in the paragraph above.

High-performing charter schools are required to submit financial statements in accordance with and within the timeframes stated in F.S. 1002.33.

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1 2 3	2.	Board	year charter schools may be required to provide the any of the following, which may be in addition to nation otherwise required by law:
4 5 6		a.	A sensitivity analysis and financial plan based on enrollment of fifty percent (50%), seventy-five percent (75%), and 100% of projected capacity.
7 8 9		b.	Cash flow projections for the first year, displayed by month, and a plan to fund any cash flow shortfalls, updated monthly.
10 11		c.	Contingency plans to replace any loss of State funds for both operation and capital expenditures.
12 13 14 15		d.	Within forty-five (45) days of month end, reconciliations of all bank accounts, which must include a copy of the entire bank statement of each account, must be attached to the bank reconciliation.
16 17 18 19 20	3.	shall three Failur	: A charter school that is eligible to receive Title I funds submit an approved Title I Schoolwide Plan within (3) months of becoming a designated Title I school. re to submit an approved plan will result in withholding e I funds.
21 22 23 24 25	4.	imple practi expen	cial Policies: The charter school shall establish and ment accounting and reporting policies, procedures, and ces for maintaining complete records of all receipts and ditures. The charter school shall provide a copy of policies to the Board annually.

1	5.	Paymo	ents to charter schools by Board
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15		a.	The Board shall make timely and efficient payment and reimbursement to charter schools, including processing paperwork required to access special State and Federal funding for which they may be eligible. The Board may distribute funds to a charter school for up to three (3) months based on the projected full-time equivalent student membership of the charter school. Thereafter, the results of full-time equivalent student membership surveys shall be used in adjusting the amount of funds distributed monthly to the charter school for the remainder of the fiscal year. The payment shall be issued no later than ten (10) working days after the Board receives a distribution of State of Federal funds.
16 17 18 19		b.	Capital Outlay Payments – The Board shall make payments to the school upon receipt of all required supporting documentation as referenced in section 8.h. – Capital Outlay Payment Process.
20 21 22 23 24 25 26		c.	Miscellaneous Payments – The Board shall make timely miscellaneous payments to the charter school upon receipt of funding from FLDOE for various programs including Title I and MAP. The Board's payment is subject to the charter school's fulfillment of its responsibilities under the applicable State and Federal laws.
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38		d.	Conditions for Non-payment – The Board may withhold payment, without penalty of interest, for violation of law or as specified in the charter school contractual agreement. This includes, but is not limited to: failure to comply with financial requirements, failure to provide proper banking wiring instructions, exceeding contracted enrollment capacity or allowable facility capacity, insufficient instructional minutes and/or days, inappropriate facility licenses, approvals and/or permits, and failure to obtain successful background clearance for potential employees, contractors, and/or governing board members.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	6.	Financial Reports: As specified by the Charter School Benchmarks, the charter school shall provide to the Board all required financial statements including a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. These reports must be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles using governmental accounting. A high-performing charter school that has satisfied the requirements set forth in State law for such designation may provide quarterly financial statements.
10	7.	Annual Financial Statements
11 12 13 14		a. Unaudited June 30th year-end financial statements shall be submitted to the Board within the timelines specified by the charter contract. These financial statements must be prepared in accordance with
15		Generally Accepted Accounting Principles using

governmental accounting.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

b.

- Annual Financial Audit The charter school agrees to submit to and pay for an annual financial audit, in compliance with Federal, State and Board regulations, showing all revenue received, from all sources, and all expenditures for services rendered. The audit shall be conducted by an independent certified accountant or auditor selected by the governing board of the charter school, and shall be delivered to the Board in compliance with the charter contract. If the charter school's audit reveals a deficit financial position, the auditors are required to notify the charter school's governing board, the Board and the Florida Department of Education in the manner defined in the charter contract. No later than May 1st of each year, the charter school must formally notify the Board of the name, address, and phone number of the auditor engaged to perform the year end audit.
 - 1) Selection Procedures -- Charter schools shall use auditor selection procedures when selecting an auditor to conduct the annual financial audit pursuant to the processes described in F.S. 218.39 and 218.391, which includes, but is not limited to: the establishment of an audit committee and request for proposal (RFP) for audit services, public advertisement of RFP, and development of evaluation and selection criteria.
 - 2) Requirements -- Pursuant to F.S. 218.391, the procurement of audit services shall be evidenced by a written contract embodying all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services. An engagement letter signed and executed by both parties shall constitute a written contract. The written contract shall, at a minimum, include the following:
 - (a) a provision specifying the services to be provided and fees or other compensation for such services

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

1 2 3 4		(b)	or other compensation be submitted in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the terms of the contract
5 6 7 8		(c)	a provision specifying the contract period, including renewals, and conditions under which the contract may be terminated or renewed
9 10 11 12 13 14 15		financial state the Board, so charter con withholding school with capital payn	omply with the timely submission of all tements in the required format specified by shall constitute a material breach of the tract and may result in the Board's of subsequent payments to the charter out penalty of interest, (including state nents), and may result in non-renewal or for good cause.
17	8.	Capital Outlay Fun	ding
18 19 20 21		and process for school capital outl	013.62(4), the application for, approval of, documenting expenditures from charter ay funds shall be in accordance with the d by the Commissioner of Education.
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29		governing board me Board. Such agree unencumbered fu purchased with pu the Board, as prov school terminates	capital outlay funds the charter school ust enter into a written agreement with the ment must provide for the reversion of any nds and all equipment and property ablic education funds to the ownership of rided for in F.S. 1013.62(3), if the charter operations. Any funds recovered by the sited in the General Revenue Fund.
30 31 32		_	te law, the Board shall remit capital outlay school within ten (10) business days of the s.

1	9.	Revie	w and Audit
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		a.	The Board has the right at any time to review and audit all financial records of the charter school to ensure fiscal accountability and sound financial management pursuant to F.S. 1002.33. The charter school shall provide the Board with a copy of the management letter from any audits as well as any responses to the auditor's findings with a corrective plan that shall be prepared and submitted within thirty (30) days from the date of the management letter.
12 13		b.	Deteriorating Financial Condition and Financial Emergencies (F.S. 1002.345)
14 15 16 17 18 19 20			1) Deteriorating Financial Condition — "Deteriorating financial condition" means a circumstance that significantly impairs the ability of a charter school or a charter technical career center to generate enough revenues to meet its expenditures without causing the occurrence of a condition described in F.S. 218.503(1).
22 23 24 25			a) A charter school shall be subject to an expedited review by the Board upon the occurrence of any of the conditions specified in F.S. 1002.345(1)(a)(1)-(4).
26 27 28 29			b) The Board shall notify the governing board within seven (7) business days after one or more of the conditions set forth in F.S. 1002.345(1)(a)(1)-(4) are identified or occur.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11		c) The governing board and the Board shall develop a corrective action plan and file the plan with the Commissioner of Education within thirty (30) business days after notification is received as provided in paragraph 9(b)(1)(b) herein. If the governing board and the Board are unable to agree on a corrective action plan, the Commissioner of Education shall determine the components of the plan. The governing board shall implement such plan.
13 14 15 16 17 18		d) Failure to implement the corrective action plan within one (1) year shall result in additional action prescribed by the State Board of Education, including the appearance of the chair of the governing board before the State Board of Education.
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	2)	Financial Emergency – If a financial audit conducted by a CPA in accordance with F.S. 218.39 reveals that one (1) or more of the conditions in F.S. 218.503(1) have occurred or will occur if action is not taken to assist the charter school, the auditor shall notify the governing board of the charter school, as appropriate, the Board, and the Commissioner of Education within seven (7) business days after the finding is made. If the charter school is found to be in a state of financial emergency pursuant to F.S. 218.503(4), the charter school shall file a financial recovery plan pursuant to F.S. 218.503 with the Board and the Commissioner of Education within thirty (30) days after being notified by the Commissioner of Education that a financial recovery plan is needed.
38 39 40 41	3)	Annual progress of the corrective action plans and/or financial recovery plans shall be included in an annual progress report to the Board.

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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

1 2 3		4) The Board may require periodic appearances of governing board members and charter school representative.
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	c.	A Financial Recovery Plan Staff Group (FRSG) shall be appointed by the Board and convened to review and monitor financial statements, corrective action plans and financial recovery plan(s) submitted by the charter school(s). The FRSG shall report progress and when applicable, make recommendations to the Chief Auditor. At least one (1) representative of the charter school must be available to answer questions.
12 13 14 15		1) The FRSG shall be comprised of staff members from Financial Operations, Charter School Operations, and, when appropriate, the Office of Management and Compliance Audits.
16 17 18 19		2) The Chief Auditor will present the FRSG's recommendation to the Board's independent Audit Committee for review and recommendation to the Board.
20 21 22 23		 Inability to cure a deteriorating financial condition and/or status of financial emergency may result in termination of the charter school contract.
24 10.	Gran	ts
25 26 27	a.	If the Board is required to be the fiscal agent for a grant, the charter school shall comply with the Board's grant procedures as indicated in the charter contract.
28 29 30 31 32	b.	The Board shall receive written approval from the charter school to include the charter school in a District-wide grant. The appropriate pro-rata share of grants will be allocated to the charter school, as defined by the grant awarded.
33 34 35 36	c.	The charter school is required to maintain adequate records to support grant-funded programs for the minimum years prescribed by the law. The Board may review these records, upon reasonable notice.

11. Health, Safety and Welfare of Staff and Students

Carefully planned and executed fire exit drills shall be conducted at the beginning of each semester, at times designated by the principal, following instruction of all classes regarding exits to be used in case of fire. At least one (1) fire exit drill shall be conducted every month school is in session. Any emergency evacuation drill (e.g., "crisis event"), completely performed, may be substituted for a required fire exit drill in a given month. All drills and all deficiencies affecting egress shall be documented in writing.

Inspections of all buildings including educational facilities, ancillary plants, and auxiliary facilities for casualty safety, and sanitation shall be conducted at least once during each fiscal year. Conditions that may affect environmental health and safety or impair operation of the plant will be reported, with recommendations for corrective action.

Each school cafeteria must post in a visible location and on the school website the school's semiannual sanitation certificate and a copy of its most recent sanitation inspection report.

Under the direction of the fire official appointed by the Board, fire-safety inspections of each educational and ancillary plant located on property owned or leased by the charter school's governing board, or other educational facilities operated by the charter school's governing board, shall be made no sooner than one (1) year after issuance of a certificate of occupancy and annually thereafter. Such inspections shall be made by persons properly certified by the Division of State Fire Marshal to conduct fire-safety inspections in public educational and ancillary plants.

A copy of the fire safety inspection report shall be submitted to the Board and the county, municipality, or independent special fire control district providing fire protection services to the school facility within ten (10) business days after the date of the inspection, in accordance with Florida statute.

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1 Alternate schedules for delivery of reports may be agreed 2 upon between the charter school's governing board, the 3 Board, and the county, municipality, or independent special 4 fire control district providing fire protection services to the 5 site in cases in which delivery is impossible due to hurricanes 6 or other natural disasters. Regardless, if immediate life-7 threatening deficiencies are noted in the report, the report 8 shall be delivered to the Board and to the county. 9 municipality, or independent special fire control district providing fire protection services immediately. 10

11 Interpretation

- 12 If a court or agency of competent jurisdiction invalidates any provision of this policy
- or finds a specific provision to be in conflict with the Florida Constitution, Florida
- 14 statutes, the Florida Administrative Code, or any rule or policy prescribed by
- 15 FLDOE, then all of the remaining provisions of this policy shall continue unabated
- 16 and in full force and effect.
- 17 In the event that an existing charter school contract provision is found to be
- 18 inconsistent with this policy, the charter contract provision prevails. Any charter
- 19 approved after the adoption of this policy is required to be fully consistent with this
- 20 policy.
- 21 F.S. 39.203, Chapter 120, 218.39, 218.391, 218.503, 286.23, 768.095
- 22 F.S. 1001.10(5), 1001.41, 1002.33, 1002.345, 1008.31, 1008.34
- 23 F.S. 1011.60, 1012.01, 1012.315, 1012.32, 1013.12
- 24 Chapter 96-186(1) Laws of Florida
- 25 F.A.C. 6A-1.0081, 6A-1.099827, 6A-2.0020, 6A-6.0781 through 6A-6.0788
- 26 FLDOE Forms IEPC-M1, IEPC-M2, IEPC-M3
- 27 © NEOLA 2012