

BOARD POLICY

MM

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES

June 21, 2010

The Board believes that public school academies can serve an important function in the education of students as permitted by applicable law. In an effort to foster diversity of educational opportunity without sacrificing quality of education or unnecessarily duplicating existing educational opportunities, it shall be the policy of the Board to review or cause to be reviewed applications for contractual authorization of public school academies and to review the prospective applications of members proposed for the boards of directors thereof in accordance with Board Policy.

An entity interested in pursuing authorization of a public school academy through the District must submit an application in a form approved by the Superintendent's office.

All approved programs must have clearly defined educational goals, competent administration and staff to carry out those goals, and means and methods for ongoing evaluation of the program, sufficient financial resources, and will not be in conflict with the operation of the regular K-12 program.

The Superintendent or his designee shall review proposed applications and recommend approval, modification, amendment or rejection of the application to the Board for action.

The recommendation shall include as an information item the complete application. In reviewing whether to recommend the issuance of a contract to a proposed public school academy and whether to issue said contract, the Superintendent and Board, respectively, shall consider:

- The resources available for the proposed public school academy;
- The population to be served by the proposed public school academy;
- The educational goals to be achieved by the proposed public school academy;
- ~~The impact any such academy will have on the regular K-12 program; and~~
- The applicant's track record, if any, in organizing public school academies or other public schools;
- The graduation rate of a school district in which the proposed public school academy is proposed to be located;
- The population of a county in which the proposed public school academy is proposed to be located;

- The number of schools in the proximity of a proposed location of the proposed public school academy that are on the list under section 1080c(1) of the public schools in this state that the Michigan Department of Education has determined to be among the lowest achieving 5% of all public schools in this state;
- The number of pupils on waiting lists of public school academies in proximity of a proposed location of the proposed public school academy; and
- The authorizer may give priority to a public school academy intended to replace a closed public school academy

The Superintendent shall be the Board's designee for purposes of effecting the purposes of this Policy and shall implement such guidelines as he deems necessary hereunder.

To the extent permitted by law, the Superintendent and Board reserve the right to waive any irregularities in the application or any other document related to the purposes of this policy.