

CHARTER SCHOOLS - REGULATIONS

A. Establishment of a Review Committee

Prior to consideration by the School Board, all charter school applications shall be examined by a Review Committee consisting of appropriate school personnel, a local business representative and a resident charter school proponent.

B. Review of Charter Applications

1. The Division Superintendent shall distribute copies of each application to the Chairman of the Review Committee. The Chairman of the Review Committee will distribute copies of the application to the Review Committee.
2. Each component of the application shall be rated by the committee member.
3. The Review Committee will make copies of the applications available to interested employee organizations, parent-teacher associations, and other interested persons in the proposed affected areas for their review and written comments.
4. The Review Committee will make their recommendations to the board based on the results of their application ratings, community input, and interviews.

C. Judgement of Applications by the School Board

1. In considering applications, the board will use the following criteria:
 - a. What are the recommendations of the Review Committee?
 - b. Have the scheduled deadlines been met?
 - c. Would establishment or operation of the proposed charter school be on the interests of the pupils and residents of Bristol City?
2. After giving reasonable public notice, the board will hold a public hearing to rule on charter applications.
3. The board shall hold a hearing within 60 calendar days of the Review Committee recommendation.
4. The board may take any of the following actions with each application:
 - a. Accept without conditions
 - b. Accept with conditions

- c. Reject
 - d. Place on a waiting list
 - e. Return with request for additional information
5. If an application is rejected, the board shall document and present to the applicant the reason for denial.
 6. A charter may be approved for a period not to exceed three academic years.

D. Renewal Procedures

An existing charter school seeking renewal must provide the following information to the board:

1. A written request for renewal submitted during the last academic year of the charter term, but no later than 90 days prior to the expiration of the charter.
2. A report on the progress of the school in achieving the goals, objectives, pupil performance standards, content standards, and other terms of the charter contract.
3. A financial statement that discloses the costs of administration, instruction, and other spending categories for the charter school that is understandable to the general public and that will allow comparisons of such costs to other schools or other comparable organizations.
4. Any additional information the board may request to assist in the determination of the renewal application.

E. Revocation of a Charter

1. A charter may be revoked or not renewed if the board determines that it is no longer in the interest of the pupils residing within the Bristol Virginia Public Schools Division to continue the operation of the charter school.
2. In addition, a charter may be revoked or not renewed if the board determines the school did any of the following:
 - a. Committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in the charter contract.

- b. Failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward achievement of the content standards or pupil performance standards identified in the charter application.
- c. Failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management.
- d. Violated any provision of law from which the charter school was not specifically exempted.

F. All decisions of the School Board to grant, revoke, or not renew a charter shall be final and not subject to appeal.

ADOPTED: by the Bristol Virginia School Board on April 15, 2024.