

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Title:** Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2008**Type of Executive Summary:**
 Action
 Action on First Reading
 Discussion
 Information
Policy Implications:

-
- Constitution _____
-
-
- General Statute #
- 115C-238.29D(d)
-
-
- SBE Policy #
- EEO-U-007
-
-
- SBE Policy Amendment
-
-
- SBE Policy (New)
-
-
- APA # _____
-
-
- APA Amendment
-
-
- APA (New)
-
-
- Other _____

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert L. Logan (Assistant State Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

Based on, GS 115C-238.29D(d) and SBE Policy EEO-U-007, the following schools are requesting renewal of their charters.

- Brevard Academy
- Cape Lookout Marine Science High School
- Dillard Academy
- East Wake Academy
- Franklin Academy
- Kennedy School
- Kestrel Heights School
- Lake Norman Charter School
- Lincoln Charter School
- The Hawbridge School (Formerly New Century Charter)
- River Mill Academy
- SPARC Academy
- Tiller School
- The Woods Charter School

The attachment lists the charter schools with charters expiring in June, 2008. The performance and compliance of each school is outlined per the criteria of the renewal rubric.

Resources:

N/A

Input Process:

Charter schools, The Leadership for Innovation Committee, and DPI

Stakeholders:

Charter schools, parents, students, and staff

Timeline for Action:

Presented for discussion during the December 2007 SBE meeting with Action during the January 2008, SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the renewal recommendations of the Leadership for Innovation committee.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
Specify: _____

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Vote: Yes _____ No _____

Abstain _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Sandy Lilly 807-3491

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Policy Manual

Policy Identification

Priority: Effective and Efficient Operations

Category: Charter Schools Administration

Policy ID Number: EEO-U-007

Policy Title: Policy regarding charter schools renewal process

Current Policy Date: 10/05/2006

Other Historical Information: Previous board dates: 06/01/2000, 09/13/2001, 12/04/2003

Statutory Reference: GS 115C-238.29G

Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Reference Number and Category:

General Information

It is stated in G.S. 115C-238.29D that the original charter with the NC State Board of Education may be granted for up to ten years. It is also stated that the charter may be extended or renewed for up to ten years. Therefore, a process for the exercising the renewal option is needed. The North Carolina Charter Schools Renewal Report (NCCSRR) is intended to be such as document.

The North Carolina Charter Schools Renewal Report (RR)

The NC Charter Schools Renewal Report (NCCSRR) is intended to permit the North Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) the time to review the information needed to evaluate the progress of the submitting charter school. The renewal process should also be one that will guide charter schools through a self-assessment that becomes an update to the original application and a “roadmap” to future improvement. Furthermore, as a public document, the NCCSRR shall be made available to federal, state, and local educators, policy makers, parents, and the community. It should be constructed with this in mind.

Process for Renewal

A completed charter schools renewal report will consist of at least two sections.

Section 1: THE CHARTER SCHOOLS SELF-STUDY (completed by the school). This section contains questions related to the viability of the charter school’s academic program, governance structure, and business operations. It will be suggested that this portion be undertaken by a team of people having the ability to look objectively at the entire school and identify ways to further strengthen and align the existing program to its mission and the desires of the community that it serves.

- THE RENEWAL SELF-STUDY PROCESS

Each charter school seeking renewal *shall* complete the Renewal Self-study first. Summaries should be written in a concise manner and free of jargon. Charter schools' administrators will be encouraged to seek outside assistance.

The self-study *shall* contain the following in this order:

1. COVER PAGE. Each report will begin with a one-page fact sheet that contains the name and contact information for the school, the name of the principal including phone/fax /E-mail, contact information for the board chairperson, and the date of submission of the report.
2. LETTER OF INTENT. Following the cover page is a formal letter signed by the Board Chairperson stating the Board's intent to seek renewal.
3. TABLE OF CONTENTS. All pages of the NCCSRR will be numbered consecutively. The Table of Contents will allow easy access to the various sections. No font smaller than 12 point should be used and all reports should be typed or computer prepared (the report may be downloaded in word format from the DPI website).
4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. An executive summary of the self-study is next. This begins with the school's mission statement and consists of no more than two typed pages.
5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION. The body of the self-study contains various evidence of the success of the students and the progress towards the charter school's goals as outlined in the charter application.

- **Section 2: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION REPORT** (submitted by offices of DPI). This section will consist of responses from the Office of Charter Schools, Financial Services, Accountability, Exceptional Children, and any other office or service of the Department that may have information pertinent to the evaluation of the school. All reports from DPI will be submitted to the Office of Charter Schools.
 - **NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHARTER SCHOOLS RENEWAL**

The NC Department of Public Instruction, coordinating its efforts through the Office of Charter Schools, will collect information relative to the renewal of the charter. The following chart is an overview of possible sources of documentation and resources for this information. This is, in no way, an exhaustive list and is not meant to, in any way, limit the resources employed by the schools seeking renewal or the State Board of Education as they prepare for the future of charter schools. Any or all of these offices may be asked to submit written or oral reports to the SBE or its designated agent.

AREAS OF COMPLIANCE	SOURCES OF DOCUMENTATION	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
FINANCIAL	Audit report, financial records, reporting schedule, etc.	Division of Financial Services, Office of Charter Schools
GOVERNANCE	Concerns brought to the Office of Charter Schools, board agendas and minutes, review of policy making committees, interviews	Office of Charter Schools
INSTRUCTION	School site visits by the Office of Charter Schools educational consultants	Office of Charter Schools
ACCOUNTABILITY	ABC accountability results, EC compliance records, SIMS/NC WISE records	Division of Accountability Services, Division of Ex. Children Services

Note: Reports from the above DPI departments will be sent to the Office of Charter Schools.

TIMELINE FOR RENEWAL

DATE	ACTION
<i>August</i>	Renewal Packet emailed to eligible schools.
<i>September</i>	DPI staff returns Compliance Sheets to the Office of Charter Schools and the OCS begins the charter renewal application process through an informational conference call with the eligible schools.
<i>September</i>	The Office of Charter Schools submits non-compliance reports from DPI to appropriate schools for inclusion and explanation in their final Renewal Report.
<i>October</i>	Emailed Renewal Self-Study due to the Office of Charter Schools. Mail a signed, hard copy of the Cover Page to the “Office of Charter Schools.” Also, enclose the following information with this letter – (1) copy of your board’s by-laws including any amendments or changes from the original document (2) copy of your current student handbook and (3) copy of the most recent board policy and procedures manual.
<i>October</i>	Office of Charter Schools’ review team completes the initial screening.
<i>November</i>	Areas of concern are identified by the Office of Charter Schools with areas of concern. Schools will be notified by the Office of Charter Schools to create Corrective Action Plans.
<i>December</i> (of next to last charter year) <i>to November</i> (of final charter year)	Corrective Action Plans due to the Office of Charter Schools from schools that were identified with areas of concern.
<i>December</i> (of next to last charter year) <i>to November</i> (of final charter year)	Schools will implement Corrective Action Plans which will be monitored by the Office of Charter Schools and appropriate divisions of the Department of Public Instruction.
<i>December</i>	Leadership for Innovation receives renewal information and recommendations from the Office of Charter Schools (no action; discussion item).
<i>January</i>	Leadership for Innovation receives information and recommendations from the Office of Charter Schools. SBE takes action on Renewal recommendations from Leadership for Innovation.

1. RENEWAL RUBRIC

Charter School Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Lead Administrator: _____

Period of Initial Charter: _____

Recommendation by the Office of Charter Schools:

10Year Renewal

Renewal less than 10 years. The number of years recommended _____.

Non-renewal

2. Charter School Renewal Rubric

To receive a recommendation for renewal, the school must meet the ten-year renewal criteria set forth in each of the following rubrics or complete implementation of a corrective action plan as set forth in section B.

A. REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL

1. ABC Accountability

Ten-Year Renewal	The school has must not attain a performance composite at or above 60% proficiency. If a school performs less than 60% proficiency for three consecutive years, they will not be allowed to receive a 10 year renewal. A K-2 school must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Office of Charter Schools (OCS) that the school has achieved academic growth during the term of the current charter.
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2. Financial Compliance

Ten-Year Renewal	The school has met all financial criteria set forth by G.S.115C.238.29F(f) and in SBE policies, or has previously corrected any deficiencies in meeting those requirements to the satisfaction of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).
Action Plan Required	Any school that does not meet the foregoing ten-year renewal criteria shall be subject to the correction of deficiencies provision set forth below.

3. Governance Compliance

Ten-Year Renewal	The school has met all governance criteria set forth by G.S. 115C-
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	238.29E and in SBE policies, or has previously corrected any deficiencies in meeting those requirements to the satisfaction of the DPI.
Action Plan Required	Any school that does not meet the foregoing ten-year renewal criteria shall be subject to the correction of deficiencies provision set forth below.

4. *Exceptional Children Compliance*

Ten-Year Renewal	The school has met all Special Education criteria set forth by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act, the North Carolina statutes covering Special Education, and SBE policies, or previously corrected any deficiencies in meeting those requirements to the satisfaction of the DPI.
Action Plan Required	Any school that does not meet the foregoing ten-year renewal criteria shall be subject to the correction of deficiencies provision set forth below.

5. *Enrollment Compliance*

Ten-Year Renewal	The school meets the enrollment requirements set forth by G.S. 115C-238.29B(b)(12) and SBE policy.
	Any school that does not meet the foregoing ten-year renewal criteria shall be subject to the correction of deficiencies provision set forth below.

B. CORRECTION OF DEFICIENCIES

If a charter school does not meet any one or more of the ten-year renewal criteria, the Office of Charter Schools (OCS) **may** grant a school time to create and implement a corrective action plan. The action plan shall address what the deficiencies are, how the school will proceed in correcting the deficiencies, which parties will be responsible for implementation of the plan, and when implementation will take place. The OCS and the appropriate division(s) of DPI shall set the parameters for completion of the action plan and its implementation. The period for completion of the action plan and its implementation may not extend beyond the end of the first semester of the final year of the school’s current charter. If the OSC and DPI determine that implementation of the action plan has corrected the school’s deficiencies the OSC **may** recommend renewal of the school’s charter.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the OSC **may** at any time recommend that the SBE begin revocation proceedings of the charter of any school in accordance with G.S. 115C-238.29G.

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

Blank Cells denote areas of full compliance

*Denotes Data Not Available

	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment (First Month ADM)
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
Brevard (Transylvania County) Gr. K-8	06/07 05/06 04/05 03/04 02/03	(3-8) 67.5 68.4 89.2 89.9 85.8	(3-8) 87.7 92.6 89.8 86.5 80.7	(3-8) 53.7 55.9 88.3 92.8 87.7		06/07	06/07 (8/9) 05/06 (8/9)	Sanction Level 1				07/08 171 06/07 175 05/06 214 04/05 198 03/04 199
Brevard OCS Recommendation		10 Year Renewal										
Cape Lookout (Carteret County) Gr. 9-12	06/07 05/06 04/05 03/04 02/03	(9-12) 39.0 53.3 * 49.4 44.7					06/07 (1/2) 04/05 (2/5) 03/04 (2/5) 02/03 (0/3)		Deficit 03/04 and 04/05 Corrected	Losing Facility (5 acres donated 11/10/2007)		07/08 101 06/07 138 05/06 129 04/05 117 03/04 103
Cape Lookout OCS Recommendation		3 Year Renewal – Per SBE Policy EEO-U-007										
Dillard (Wayne County) Gr. K-4	06/07 05/06 04/05 03/04 02/03	(3-4) 49.4 50.0 57.1 78.6 52.9	(3-4) 63.6 50.0 57.1 76.2 47.1	(3-4) 48.5 33.3 57.1 81.0 58.8			05/06 (1/2) 04/05 (1/3) 02/03 (1/3)	Sanction Level 5				07/08 131 06/07 111 05/06 110 04/05 83 03/04 72
Dillard OCS Recommendation		3 Year Renewal – Per SBE Policy EEO-U-007										

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

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	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment				
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment	
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								(First Month ADM)	
East Wake (Wake County) Gr. K-12		(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08	846
	06/07	73.3	94.1	68.1			06/07 (19/21)					06/07	777
	05/06	71.2	92.0	59.5		05/06	05/06 (16/17)					05/06	713
	04/05	83.0	89.0	86.9		04/05						04/05	602
	03/04	49.4	85.1	89.3		03/04						03/04	478
	02/03	79.9	79.9	88.5			02/03 (14/15)						
East Wake OCS Recommendation			10 Year Renewal										
Franklin Academy (Wake County) Gr. K-12		(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08	1138
	06/07	87.0	>95	82.7			06/07 (20/21)					06/07	1068
	05/06	84.9	>95	79.8								05/06	998
	04/05	92.9	>95	>95								04/05	882
	03/04	91.0	93.7	94.9								03/04	785
	02/03	91.1	92.9	>95									
Franklin Academy OCS Recommendation			10 Year Renewal										
Kennedy (Designated Alternative School 2004 – present) Mecklenburg Gr. 6-12		(6-12)	(6-8)	(6-8)								07/08	278
	06/07	14.4	56.8	29.5			06/07 (3/5)	Sanction Level 5				06/07	244
	05/06	21.4	65.2	30.4								05/06	98
	04/05	28.1	40.7	37.0			04/05 (1/3)					04/05	93
	03/04	18.6	45.0	30.0			03/04 (1/3)					03/04	61
	02/03	27.0	71.4	16.7	02/03	02/03	02/03 (2/5)						
Kennedy OCS Recommendation			5 Year Renewal – Based on Alternative Status and Performance Composite										

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

Blank Cells denote areas of full compliance

*Denotes Data Not Available

	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment				
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment (First Month ADM)	
	Year	Comp-osite	Reading	Math									
Kestrel Heights (Durham County) Gr. 6-12		(6-12)	(6-8)	(6-8)							Grievance received 12/12/07 and currently being investigated	07/08	391
	06/07	52.1	75.3	51.4		06/07	06/07 (12/17)					06/07	373
	05/06	67.8	88.3	60.8		05/06						05/06	183
	04/05	70.3	81.4	78.0		04/05						04/05	150
	03/04	72.6	72.3	71.5			03/04 (8/9)					03/04	165
	02/03	70.7	82.6	86.8		02/03	02/03 (9/11)						
Kestrel Heights OCS Recommendation			3 Year Renewal – ABCs Accountability (3 successive years of declining performance composite and expected growth not met the last 3 years) and EC Grievance currently being investigated										
Lake Norman (Mecklenburg County) Gr. 5-12		(5-12)	(5-8)	(5-8)								07/08	863
	06/07	93.3	>95	87.1								06/07	632
	05/06	92.4	>95	88.0								05/06	635
	04/05	98.6	>95	>95								04/05	630
	03/04	98.9	>95	>95		03/04						03/04	628
	02/03	99.6	>95	>95									
Lake Norman OCS Recommendation			10 Year Renewal										

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

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*Denotes Data Not Available

	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment (First Month ADM)
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
Lincoln		(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08 910
(Lincoln County)	06/07	82.1	>95	77.6					State language missing on contracts - <u>corrected</u>	Noncompliant in Teacher Licensure 04/05, 03/04, 02/03 <u>Compliant in teacher Licensure 05/06 and 06/07</u>		06/07 722
	05/06	78.8	94.0	74.1				05/06 674				
	04/05	85.6	93.7	94.1				04/05 538				
Gr. K-12	03/04	84.3	93.3	>95				03/04 467				
	02/03	86.7	93.4	>95		2/03 (10/11)						
Lincoln OCS Recommendation		10 Year Renewal										
Hawbridge		(9-12)										07/08 89
(Formerly New Century)	06/07	62.6					06/07 (1/2)					06/07 79
	05/06	44.7					05/06 (1/2)					05/06 78
	04/05	40.2					04/05 (1/3)					04/05 88
(Alamance County)	03/04	37.2					03/04 *					03/04 101
	02/03	39.4			02/03	02/03	02/03 *					
Gr. 9-12												
Hawbridge OCS Recommendation		3 Year Renewal – ABCs Accountability and AYP										

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

Blank Cells denote areas of full compliance

*Denotes Data Not Available

	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment (First Month ADM)
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
River Mill		(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08 573
(Alamance County)	06/07	74.1	91.7	71.3								06/07 515
	05/06	88.1	>95	70.0		05/06	05/06 (12/13)					05/06 467
Gr. K-12	04/05	92.6	94.6	>95								04/05 406
	03/04	91.8	92.5	93.2		03/04						03/04 313
	02/03	88.0	94.9	91.2								
River Mill OCS Recommendation		10 Year Renewal										
SPARC		(3-8)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08 134
(Wake County)	06/07	40.3	66.3	17.4	06/07	06/07	06/07 (5/9)	Sanction Level I	State Language missing on contracts	Governance Probationary Status for teacher licensure 2007		06/07 138
	05/06	42.7	68.8	24.1			05/06 (5/9)					05/06 228
Gr. K-8	04/05	70.8	68.9	69.7								04/05 215
	03/04	63.0	62.1	62.9								03/04 173
	02/03	57.3	57.6	54.4			02/03 (5/9)			Non-compliant in teacher licensure 06/07, 05/06, 04/05, 03/04, 02/03		
SPARC OCS Recommendation		No Recommendation										
Tiller		(3-5)	(3-5)	(3-5)								07/08 152
(Carteret County)	06/07	67.9	86.6	52.1		06/07	06/07 (8/9)					06/07 196
	05/06	69.9	86.4	53.6		05/06	05/06 (7/9)					05/06 197
Gr. K-5	04/05	92.3	94.2	90.4								04/05 176
	03/04	84.9	81.0	88.0		03/04						03/04 113
	02/03	90.0	83.3	>95								
Tiller OCS Recommendation		5 Year Renewal – ABCs Accountability and AYP										

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2008

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*Denotes Data Not Available

	1. ABCs Accountability					2. Financial	3. Governance	4. EC	5. Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performing	Expected Growth Not Met	Did not meet AYP (targets met/ total targets)	Title I Sanction Level (07/08)	Financial non-compliance Includes SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Non-compliance Includes Insurance, Bonding, Tax Exempt and Criminal History Checks	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment (First Month ADM)
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
Woods (Chatham County) Gr. 1-12		(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)								07/08 350
	06/07	86.9	>95	82.4						Governance Probationary Status for teacher licensure 2007 <u>Cleared 11/07</u>		06/07 280
	05/06	88.3	>95	84.3					05/06 223			
	04/05	93.1	94.8	94.8					04/05 198			
	03/04	86.7	92.3	94.5					03/04 171			
	02/03	88.6	90.8	90.8		02/03						
Woods OCS Recommendation		10 Year Renewal										

Updated 12/13/07 jk