

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Title:** Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2009

**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. Philip Price (Associate State Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

**Description:**

Based on GS115C-238.29D(d) and SBE Policy EEO-U-007, the following schools are requesting renewal of their charters:

- American Renaissance
- Crossnore
- Evergreen
- Forsyth Academies
- Greensboro Academy
- Guilford Preparatory Academy
- Mountain Community
- PreEminent
- Provisions
- Quest
- Raleigh Charter High School
- Research Triangle Charter Academy
- Sandhills Theatre Arts Renaissance School
- Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy
- Vance Charter
- Torchlight

The attachment lists the charter schools with charters expiring in June 2009. The performance and compliance of each school is outlined per the criteria of the renewal rubric. The process and timeline followed by the Office of Charter Schools are included in the materials.

**Resources:**

N/A

**Input Process:**

Office of Charter Schools, The Leadership for Innovation Committee, and DPI

**Stakeholders:**

Charter Schools, parents, students, and staff

**Timeline For Action:**

This item is presented for Discussion in January 2009 and for Action during the February 2009 SBE meeting.

**Recommendations:**

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

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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)

\_\_\_\_\_

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Motion By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Abstain \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Postponed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Janice Ham 807-3491

Data for Charter Schools Seeking Renewal in 2009

Blank Cells denote areas of full compliance

\*Denotes Data Not Available

School Name	ABCs Accountability								Financial	Governance	EC	Enrollment
	Performance				Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	First Month ADM
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
<b>American Renaissance 49B</b> (Iredell Co.) Consolidated to K – 8 in 07-08	Grades 07 - 08	(3-5) (6-8) 80.2 78.7	(3-5) (6-8) 88.9 89.5	(3-5) (6-8) 55.6 64.3		(3-8) No	07 - 08 9/13	No Sanction				08-09 503
	06 - 07	80.2 78.7	88.9 89.5	55.6 64.3		(6-8) Yes	06 - 07 Met					07-08 508
	05 - 06	75.5 75.2	88.0 90.3	65.4 57.1		(3-8) No	05 - 06 Met					06-07 509
	04 - 05	84.1 87.4	84.6 89.6	83.7 81.5		(3-8) Yes	04 - 05 Met					05-06 487
	03 - 04	80.2 85.2	76.0 88.0	84.3 77.7		(3-8) No	03 - 04 Met					04-05 480
	OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.									
<b>Crossnore 06B</b> (Avery County) Alternative School	Grades 07 - 08	(3-12) 48.1	(3-8) 35.6	(3-8) 60.0		Met *	07 - 08 5-6	No Sanction				08-09 71
	06 - 07	48.1	35.6	60.0		Met *	06 - 07 Met					07-08 82
	05 - 06	52.5	84.6	51.3		Met *	05 - 06 7-8					06-07 84
	04 - 05	50.0	73.8	24.4		Met *	04 - 05 Met					05-06 81
	03 - 04	68.5	79.1	72.1		Met *	03 - 04 Met					04-05 73
	OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 5 year renewal. SBE Policy EEO-U-006, 3 consecutive years below 60% performance composite, cannot receive a 10 year renewal. * Measured by Local Options.									
<b>Evergreen 11A</b> (Buncombe County)	Grades 07 - 08	(3-8) 76.4	(3-8) 79.0	(3-8) 74.6		Yes	07 - 08 10/13	No Sanction				08-09 384
	06 - 07	81.0	91.9	73.3		Yes	06 - 07 Met					07-08 381
	05 - 06	74.1	91.1	61.2		Yes	05 - 06 Met					06-07 372
	04 - 05	87.0	86.9	84.6		04 - 05	04 - 05 11/13					05-06 379
	03 - 04	92.1	91.5	92.5		03 - 04	03 - 04 Met					04-05 364
	OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.									

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School Name	ABCs Accountability					Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment			
	Performance				First Month ADM											
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math												
<b>Forsyth Academy 34F (Forsyth Co.)</b>	Grades 07 - 08	(3-8) 60.7	(3-8) 50.3	(3-8) 67.6		No	07 - 08 23/25	No Sanction					08-09	672		
	06 - 07	74.8	85.0	62.0									Yes	06 - 07 23/25	07-08	676
	05 - 06	70.8	85.3	58.2									Yes	05 - 06 22/25	06-07	689
	04 - 05	86.5	84.1	88.2									Yes	04 - 05 Met	05-06	673
	03 - 04	86.3	85.7	86.8									Yes	03 - 04 Met	04-05	558
	OCS Recommendation												OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.			
<b>Greensboro Academy 41B (Guilford Co.)</b>	Grades 07 - 08	(3-12) 92.1	(3-8) 86.8	(3-8) >95		Yes	07 - 08 Met	No Sanction	Teacher % Noncompliance based on Annual Independent Audit 2007-08. Corrected for 2008-09				08-09	722		
	06 - 07	92.6	>95	87.8									Yes	06 - 07 Met	07-08	718
	05 - 06	90.5	>95	84.4									Yes	05 - 06 Met	06-07	709
	04 - 05	94.9	94.6	>95									Yes	04 - 05 Met	05-06	718
	03 - 04	94.5	92.9	95.0									Yes	03 - 04 Met	04-05	724
	OCS Recommendation												OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.			
<b>Guilford Prep. Academy 31C (Guilford Co.)</b>	Grades 07 - 08	(3-8) 52.1	(3-8) 47.1	(3-8) 51.0		Yes	07 - 08 11/13	No Sanction					08-09	274		
	06 - 07	60.3	82.9	46.9									No	06 - 07 10/13	07-08	273
	05 - 06	61.7	78.0	52.0									Yes	05 - 06 Met	06-07	248
	04 - 05	72.5	69.9	76.4									No	04 - 05 8/13	05-06	240
	03 - 04	76.6	73.0	80.1									No	03 - 04 Met	04-05	274
	OCS Recommendation												OCS recommends a 5 year renewal. Guilford Prep. Academy has not met expected growth three of the last five years and has not met AYP three of the last five years. Performance composite has a downward trend for the last three years.			

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	ABCs Accountability					Financial	Governance	EC	Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	First Month ADM
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
<b>Mountain Community 45A (Henderson Co.)</b>	Grades	(3-8)	(3-8)	(3-8)				Not Title 1				08-09 168
	07 - 08	78.2	74.5	78.3		Yes	07 - 08 Met					07-08 162
	06 - 07	85.2	88.9	79.6		Yes	06 - 07 Met					06-07 162
	05 - 06	88.1	94.4	80.0		No	05 - 06 Met					05-06 159
	04 - 05	93.6	90.7	>95		Yes	04 - 05 Met					04-05 159
	03 - 04	94.2	>95	92.2		Yes	03 - 04 Met					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.										
<b>PreEminent 92M (Wake Co.)</b>	Grades	(3-12)	(3-8)	(3-8)				Sanction Level 2				08-09 560
	07 - 08	33.0	23.5	31.8	L. P.	No	07 - 08 7/13					07-08 548
	06 - 07	50.0	69.3	26.2		No	06 - 07 7/13					06-07 531
	05 - 06	46.6	75.5	24.5	L. P.	No	05 - 06 12/17					05-06 594
	04 - 05	79.2	78.0	80.3		Yes	04 - 05 Met					04-05 553
	03 - 04	76.1	72.6	79.7		Yes	03 - 04 Met					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends no action – charter will expire 6/30/09. Preeminent performance composite has been 50 or below for the last three years and low performing two of the three. They have not made expected growth and AYP for three years in a row and Title I Sanction is Level 2.										
<b>Provisions 53A (Lee Co.) Alternative School</b>	Grades	(6-12)	(6-8)	(6-8)				Sanction Level 6	12-16-08 noncompliant in NC WISE student enrollment.*(1)	Ongoing investigation by the Child Nutrition Services section. See explanation below.*(2)		08-09 75
	07 - 08	31.0	26.1	13.0		Met 2 – 3	07 - 08 1 - 2					07-08 92
	06 - 07	25.3	63.6	<5		Met 2 – 3	06 - 07 1 - 2					06-07 65
	05 - 06	18.1	58.6	10.3		Met 2 - 3	05 - 06 1 - 2					05-06 66
	04 - 05	39.0	58.1	48.4			04 - 05 1 - 3					04-05 75
	03 - 04	44.2	64.7	58.8			03 - 04 2 - 3					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends no action – charter will expire 6/30/09. *(1) An onsite visit was conducted by DPI to check student enrollment December 16, 2008. Total enrollment was 92 students, students present during DPI count was 33, suspended 12, Homebound 14, reported absent verbally 10, signed out for the day 3, afternoon only student 1, number of students whereabouts unknown 17. The school’s interpretation of the SBE Homebound Policy is not in line with the text of the policy. Students report to school to get assignments and then do the assignments outside of school. There is no “face-to-face” instruction being delivered.  *(2) Child Nutrition Services section is conducting and audit based on a letter, alleging inflated claims for Federal reimbursement. The reviewers were unable to obtain the required documentation, validation of school enrollment, to substantiate the school’s claim for Federal reimbursement. They also found several other areas of noncompliance in the Child Nutrition Program. The school has been given one month to produce the required documentation to substantiate the claim for reimbursement.										

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School Name	ABCs Accountability					Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	Enrollment	
	Performance				First Month ADM									
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math										
<b>Quest 92N</b> (Wake Co.)	Grades 07 - 08	(3-8) 98.7	(3-8) >95	(3-8) >95		Yes	07 - 08 Met	Not Title I				08-09	130	
	06 - 07	99.1	>95	>95		Yes	06 - 07 Met		07-08	134				
	05 - 06	99.1	>95	>95		Yes	05 - 06 Met		06-07	134				
	04 - 05	100	>95	>95		Yes	04 - 05 Met		05-06	132				
	03 - 04	100	>95	>95		Yes	03 - 04 Met		04-05	126				
	OCS Recommendation					OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.								
<b>Raleigh Charter High 92K</b> (Wake Co.)	Grades 07 - 08	(9-12) 97.2	(9-12) N.A.	(9-12) N.A.		Yes	07 - 08 Met	Not Title I				08-09	526	
	06 - 07	96.9				Yes	06 - 07 Met		07-08	528				
	05 - 06	97.6				Yes	05 - 06 Met		06-07	518				
	04 - 05	95.4				Yes	04 - 05 Met		05-06	504				
	03 - 04	96.9				Yes	03 - 04 Met		04-05	496				
	OCS Recommendation					OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.								
<b>Research Triangle Charter Academy 32H</b> (Durham Co.)	Grades 07 - 08	(3-8) 47.2	(3-8) 38.4	(3-8) 48.1		Yes	07 - 08 14/17	Sanction Level I				08-09	674	
	06 - 07	58.4	76.5	40.1		No	06 - 07 13/17		07-08	642				
	05 - 06	67.1	84.4	50.2		Yes	05 - 06 Met		06-07	703				
	04 - 05	81.2	84.5	79.0		Yes	04 - 05 17/21		05-06	720				
	03 - 04	82.9	81.6	82.1		No	03 - 04 Met		04-05	676				
	OCS Recommendation					OCS recommends a 5 year renewal. Declining 3 year trend in performance composite, expected growth not met in two of the last five years, AYP not met in 3 of last five years, Title I Sanction Level I.								

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	ABCs Accountability					Financial	Governance	EC	Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	First Month ADM
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
<b>STARS 63B</b>  (Moore Co.)	Grades	(3-8)	(3-8)	(3-8)				Sanction Level 3				08-09 266
	07 - 08	50.0	44.2	54.6		No	07 - 08 11-13					07-08 322
	06 - 07	61.9	82.0	41.4		Yes	06 - 07 12-13					06-07 240
	05 - 06	50.0	72.0	28.0		Yes	05 - 06 7-9					05-06 162
	04 - 05	64.8	62.0	67.6		No	04 - 05 12-13					04-05 145
	03 - 04	74.0	73.1	75.0		Yes	03 - 04 Met					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 3 year renewal. Performance composite for two out of three years was 50.0, 07-08 missed Low Performing only because of the confidence band. Did not make AYP 4 of the last five years and are Sanction Level 3 in Title I.										
<b>Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy 81A</b> (Rutherford Co.)	Grades	(6-12)	(6-8)	(6-8)				Not Title I				08-09 945
	07 - 08	82.7	80.5	83.0		No	07 - 08 Met					07-08 851
	06 - 07	84.3	>95	76.0		No	06 - 07 Met					06-07 459
	05 - 06	84.3	>95	82.0		Yes	05 - 06 Met					05-06 399
	04 - 05	90.6	>95	>95		No	04 - 05 Met					04-05 365
	03 - 04	86.8	>95	>95		No	03 - 04 Met					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.										
<b>Vance Charter 91A</b>  (Vance Co.)	Grades	(3-8)	(3-8)	(3-8)				Not Title I				08-09 481
	07 - 08	84.0	75.2	88.7		Yes	07 - 08 Met					07-08 419
	06 - 07	88.6	>95	91.9		Yes	06 - 07 Met					06-07 404
	05 - 06	82.9	90.0	79.1		Yes	05 - 06 Met					05-06 383
	04 - 05	93.6	92.9	93.9		Yes	04 - 05 Met					04-05 342
	03 - 04	93.5	91.2	>95		Yes	03 - 04 Met					
OCS Recommendation		OCS recommends a 10 year renewal.										

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	ABCs Accountability					Financial	Governance	EC	Enrollment			
School Name	Performance				Low Performance	Expected Growth Met	AYP Targets Met	Title I Sanction Level (08/09)	Financial Non-compliance Including SIMS and NC WISE Reporting	Governance Noncompliance	EC Non-compliance	First Month ADM
	Year	Composite	Reading	Math								
Torchlight 92L  (Wake Co.)	Grades	(3-8)	(3-8)	(3-8)	L. P.	Yes	07 - 08 7-9	Sanction Level 5	*School Business Services Recommendation  **Monitoring and Compliance Findings	07-08 & 08-09 Food Service Health Dept. Violations  07-08 & 08-09 Testing Procedure Noncompliance  06-07 School Lunch Program Noncompliance	08-09 378 07-08 322 06-07 296 05-06 213 04-05 143	
	07 - 08	37.4	26.9	43.3								
	06 - 07	47.0	60.3	31.1								
	05 - 06	38.0	61.7	16.0								
	04 - 05	58.8	58.8	57.4								
	03 - 04	63.3	63.3	69.4								
OCS Recommendation		<p>OCS recommends no action – charter will expire 6/30/09. Academic Performance Composite below 50% for 3 of the last five years, Title I Sanction Level 5 in 2008-09, AYP not met 4 of the last 5 years. 07-08 &amp; 08-09 Testing procedure non-compliance. 07-08 &amp; 08-09 Health Department Food Service Violations. 06-07 School Lunch Program non-compliance.</p> <p>* We cannot recommend renewal. They have had many audit findings over the past years that are listed below. We have not had the opportunity to review the FY 2007-08 audit (due in October). The LGC received the audit December 10, 2008. They will expedite their review and forward to DPI when complete. As of January 21, 2009, DPI has not received the audit and we do not know if they have made any corrections to their problems.</p> <p>** Monitoring and Compliance findings: (1) Failure to have fiscally sound budget and finances. {G.S. 115C-238.29F (f)} Torchlight had expenditures over revenues in the General Fund of \$72,447 in FY 2005-06 and \$90,009 in FY 2006-07. They also had a combined deficit in Child Nutrition and their General Fund of \$30448 for FY 2006-07. (2) The auditors reported Questioned Cost of \$111,137 for either not having contracts or not having proper contracts. (3) Fuel disbursements were not properly supported Questioned Cost \$13,298. (4) The school did not meet the number of certified teachers. (5) Related members of the family have been employed without proper disclosure. (6) Failure to comply with Federal Procurement Regulations governing free and open competition of foods/services in the Child Nutrition Program. {7 CFR 3016.36} (7) Child Nutrition Agreement is not approved by the Child Nutrition Section for FY 2007-08.</p>										