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2023-2024

# CHARTER RENEWAL APPLICATION AND DECISION



## THE 2023-2024 CHARTER RENEWAL PROCESS

The 2023-2024 charter renewal process was developed to evaluate schools with charter agreements ending on June 30, 2024. The charter renewal process, as outlined in the sponsor evaluation, consists of two parts: the **High Stakes Review** and the **Renewal Application**. The overall score is calculated using the Renewal Application Rubric which shows a scoring combination between this Renewal Application and the High Stakes Review. The Renewal Application evaluates the Contract Performance Measures as outlined in section 11.6 of the school's charter contract. This evaluation is worth 30% and the High Stakes Review is worth 70% of the overall score. The School must receive 75% of the total combined points from the Renewal Application and High Stakes Review for charter renewal. All data collected during this process comes from the most recent local report card which was issued in September of 2023 and previous local report card data. Each school is assessed on multiple years of student achievement, multiple measures of student achievement, financial audits, performance on site visit and compliance reports and if applicable status of corrective action plans or other interventions.

The timeline for this application and renewal process is as follows:

<b>August 28, 2023 to September 22, 2023</b>	Charter School Specialists assembles applications, renewal rubrics and high stakes review data for renewal schools.
<b>October 3, 2023</b>	St. Aloysius approves applications, renewal rubrics, high stakes review data and Charter School Specialists' renewal recommendations.
<b>October 5, 2023</b>	Charter School Specialists releases applications, renewal rubrics and results of charter renewal process to schools.
<b>November 15, 2023</b>	Deadline for schools to approve all renewal applications and accept sponsorship renewal offers.
<b>November 30, 2023</b>	Notification to schools of contract process including: (a) Contract Template; (b) Contract Attachment Submission Timeline.

**<INSERT SCHOOL NAME>  
SCHOOL OVERVIEW**



**MISSION**

<Insert School Mission>

**APPLICATION SCORING**

The application gives each school an opportunity to show improvement in local report card measures and how the school is performing in comparison to local traditional public schools and community schools. The sponsor reviews this information and analyzes various measures to determine the effectiveness of these metrics in assessing the school’s improvement. When the metrics are determined to be less effective in providing an overall assessment of the school’s performance, they may be excluded from a school’s score.

Each school is initially assessed on one report card metric or how it performed based on its local comparison schools to determine its eligibility for renewal. Per the accountability section of the community school contract, if the School receives a rating of at least 2 Stars in at least one (1) applicable grade card component for the most recent school year or its overall report card score as calculated on the local report card is greater than three (3) of the five (5) comparison schools listed below, the School is eligible to be considered for renewal. This is the minimal eligibility threshold that all schools must meet regardless of the type of school or maturity level. These metrics are assigned a score per the rubric included with this application. Based on the information below, <insert school name> was awarded a score of <insert point total> points as evidenced in the renewal school rubric.

<b>&lt;Insert School Name&gt; - 2022-2023 Report Card Ratings</b>						
<b>Overall Grade</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Gap Closing</b>	<b>Graduation</b>	<b>Early Literacy</b>	<b>College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness</b>



## COMPARISON SCHOOL REPORT CARD DATA

Comparison schools are included in the School’s contract and used as an accepted means of measuring performance against schools as similar as possible in demographic characteristics (percentages of families with low income; racial/ethnic minority; students with disabilities; and English learners) as well as in close proximity to the School, if possible. When determining eligibility for renewal, while some schools may not perform as well as hoped against State tests, it is important to note how they perform against similar schools from similar neighborhoods..

For the 2022-2023 school year, schools are compared to each other based on the overall local report card score. The chart below demonstrates how <Insert School Name> compared to the schools provided in its charter contract. Based on this comparison, <Insert School Name> was awarded a score <Insert total points> points as evidenced on the renewal school rubric.

<u>Comparison Schools Academic Performance: 2022-2023 Report Card</u>					
	Overall School Grade	Achievement	Progress	Gap Closing	Early Literacy
	2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023
<Insert School Name>					
School A					
School B					
School C					
School D					
School E					



## IMPROVEMENT SCORE

For the current application cycle, the schools are provided an opportunity to show improvement by comparing the total number of stars earned across all report card components on the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 report cards. Based on this comparison, <Insert School Name> was awarded a score of <insert total points> points as evidenced on the renewal school rubric.

## OVERALL APPLICATION SCORE

Overall Application Score	Accountability Score	Comparison School Score	Improvement Score	Final

## HIGH STAKES REVIEW DATA

### Academic, Organizational and Operational, and Financial Performance Tables

The Academic Performance, Organizational and Operational Performance, and Financial Performance tables used for the High Stakes Review align to the indicators specified in the Performance Framework and are also used for the D.07 Annual Reports. For detailed indicator descriptions and information about scoring and weighting, please refer to the Performance Framework found [here](#). Here is information to note regarding the tables below:

- The Academic Performance table includes data from each year of the charter.
- The local report card changed several times over the past four years and the table reflects the grades/ratings as measured at the time. Points were assigned using the scale in the Performance Framework.
- Because the local report card did not include data in 2019-20 and 2020-21, the scores were calculated by averaging data from each year scores were reported.
- Total points for each category include years for which the data were reported. Several indicators on each table are weighted.
- **Weighting is not considered in the total points available, meaning the average score in weighted categories may exceed the total points.**
- Each table includes total points and the points received from each item.
- NR - Item not rated on the report card.
- TBD - To Be Determined. The School may submit additional information to clarify scoring.

## ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

The academic performance of the School is evaluated based on the following components on the local report card: *Overall Grade, Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Early Literacy, and College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness*. For indicators not calculated during 2022-2023 or if an indicator is not calculated because it does not pertain to the population served (e.g. the *Early Literacy* indicator for a high school), the indicator will not be factored into the total overall points. Points were also calculated for nationally normed assessment data as described in the Performance Framework. For a comprehensive explanation of performance indicators, scoring, and weighting, see the Performance Framework [here](#). You can access the School's report card [here](#):

## Academic Performance Data

Performance Area	Scores (Points)				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Average Total Points	Total Points Available
Overall Grade (Weighted)					
Overall Grade vs Comparison Schools Overall Grade (Weighted)					
Achievement (Weighted)					
Progress (Weighted)					
Gap Closing (Weighted)					
Early Literacy					
Overall Graduation Rate					
College, Career, Workforce, Military (previously referred to as Prepared for Success)					
Nationally Normed Assessment Data					
Additional Factor: Growth by Indicator					
Additional Factor: Improved Subgroup Suspensions and Expulsions					
Additional Factor: Improved Performance over Comparison Schools					
Additional Factor: Classroom Spending Indicator					

\*Weighting is not considered in the total points available.

\* Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020-2021 report card assigned no letter grades for any report card component or an overall letter grade.

Total Points	
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## ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

**Organizational and Operational Performance** shows how well the governing authority and School adhere to state and federal statutes and rules. Additionally, the governing authority is measured on how well it follows the charter contract. The *Timely Submission of Required Documentation* shows how timely assessment data, management company evaluations, school improvement plans, annual reports and five-year forecasts were submitted. A school will receive two (2) points if a majority of documents were submitted on time as requested. To receive a full two (2) points in *Compliance Onsite Visits including Spring Survey*, the School must be overall compliant by June 30th of each school year (96% or greater of applicable compliance items substantiated). If the governing authority is not placed on any corrective action plans or probation, it will receive two (2) full points in these sections. Finally, the governing authority must meet at least six (6) times per year to receive two (2) points in the *Board Meeting* section.

Schools receive an additional point if they hired an academic coach to support instruction. Additionally, a maximum of three (3) additional points are awarded in this section if the School meets any mission specific goal for any subgroup as provided in the school improvement plan. The School and governing authority will provide evidence starting in 2022-2023 that these mission-specific goals were met for subgroups. For a comprehensive explanation of scoring and weighting for this section, see the Performance Framework [here](#).

### Organizational and Operational Data

Performance Area	Scores (Points)				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Average Total Points	Total Points Available
Current Contract Term: 7/1/2020-6/30/2024					
Timely submission of required documentation.					
Compliance Onsite Visits including Spring Survey					
Corrective Action Plans					
Probation					
Board Meetings					
Additional Factor: Academic Coach					
Additional Factor: Mission-Specific Goal Accomplishment					

<b>Total Points</b>	
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## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The School’s financial performance is rated by using the information provided in the financial reports, monthly financial reviews, five-year forecasts, and annual audits. These items provide the information needed to determine if the School receives a maximum of two (2) points in each section. *Net Income/Change in Net Position* is a weighted measure, meaning the School can earn up to four (4) points in this section. *Average FTE Change* is measured from the beginning of the year to the end of the year, starting in October and ending in June. To receive two (2) points in the *Current Ratio* section, the current asset to debt ratio must be greater than 1.5:1. In order to earn two (2) points in the *Days of Operating Cash on Hand* section, the School must maintain greater than sixty (60) days of operating cash. The governing authority must submit a five-year forecast on time with no projected deficits to receive the maximum points in this section. The governing authority should not receive any findings for recovery on audit reports.

### Financial Data

	<u>6/30/2021</u>	<u>6/30/2022</u>	<u>6/30/2023</u>	Average Total Points	Total Points Available
Net Income (Change in Net Position) Net of GASB 68, 75					
Average FTE Change from beginning of year to end of year (calculated from October to June)					
Current Ratio					
Days of Operating Cash on Hand					
Five Year Forecast					
Audit Reports, Findings for Recovery (FFR)					
Additional Factor: EMO/CMO Start-Up Support					

Total Points	
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# CONCLUSION

## Results of the Renewal Process for <Insert School Name>

St. Aloysius and Charter School Specialists have evaluated the completed renewal application and high stakes review for <Insert School Name>. The high stakes review included an assessment of academic, compliance and operations and financial data. Academic data included a side by side look at comparison school report card data and analysis of both the 2022-2023 local report card data and historical academic data. Compliance and Operations data comprising 2022-2023 and historical information on the school's timely submission of required documentation, onsite visits including the spring survey, corrective action plans, probation and the number of board meetings held per school year was factored into the renewal results. Financial data, which included a review of 2022-2023 and historical information pertaining to the school's net income, average FTE change from October to June per school year, current ratio, days of operating cash on hand, five year forecast, and audit reports (findings for recovery), was also taken into account.

### Areas of Strength and Improvement for the 2022-2023 School Year

The areas of strength are elements that the school performs well. The school should continue to focus on the areas of improvement listed below to ensure further development in all areas. Below are areas of strength and improvements for the 2022-2023 school year from the School Improvement, Compliance, and Fiscal teams for <Insert School Name>.

#### Areas of Strength

- <Insert areas of strength>

#### Areas of Improvement

- <Insert areas of improvement>

## Summary

For the 2022-2023 school year, <Insert School Name> received a rating of 2 Stars in at least one (1) applicable grade card component. The School must receive 75% of the total combined points from the Renewal Application and High Stakes Review for charter renewal. For the 2022-2023 school year, the school scored a total of greater than 100% which was comprised of a score of greater than 100% on the organizational/operational data and financial data combined and a score of greater than 100% on the academic section.

Each year, our schools are faced with unique challenges in achieving the prescribed metrics. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated these challenges. According to the Department of Education and Workforce, urban areas still lag behind in local report card scores as they struggle to recover from this pandemic. A summary of the report card results and existing challenges can be found on the Department’s website here: [2022-2023 State Report Card | School and District Results](#). To that end, the sponsorship mission of St. Aloysius and Charter School Specialists is to provide access to a high-quality education for all students in Ohio, especially during a time when our students struggle to make up for lost ground following the pandemic. Our team is dedicated to increasing access to high-performing schools by expanding educational opportunities, improving school performance and ultimately lifting student achievement. As students and schools continue to struggle in the aftermath of the pandemic, we believe that closing schools who are improving in the areas of progress or gap closing, are in the midst of implementing a turn-a-round model within the school, or that are outperforming other local traditional public schools or community schools is contrary to this vision and mission. Should a school meet one or more of these criteria, we believe additional considerations for renewal are necessary and justified.

Points earned in Academic, Organizational and Operational, and Financial	Academic	Organizational and Operational	Financial	Application Score

Overall Renewal Score	Score (Points)	Renewal Year

Based on the overall score received, <Insert renewal or nonrenewal information>.



## AFFIRMATION

I hereby certify that all information provided in this application and high stakes review process is true and correct and accurately reflects the school's performance. I acknowledge that this application has been reviewed and approved by a majority of the <Insert School Name>. Additionally, I certify that I am legally authorized to sign this and submit this information to the Charter School Specialists and St. Aloysius on behalf of the <Insert School Name>.

Furthermore, I certify that I am legally authorized to accept the offer <Insert offer and School Name> and will work diligently with Charter School Specialists to execute a new contract to begin on July 1, 2024.

Governing Authority of <Insert School Name>

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_