



Book	Policy Manual
Section	9000 Relations
Title	CHARTER SCHOOLS
Code	po9550
Status	Active
Adopted	January 12, 1995
Last Revised	June 27, 2018

9550 - CHARTER SCHOOLS

Purposes

The Board of Education (the "Board") for the Manistee Area Public Schools (the "District") believes that the establishment of Charter Schools (defined for purposes of this policy to include public school academies, schools of excellence including cyber schools, and strict discipline academies), as authorized by the Michigan Legislature under Part 6A Part 6E and sections 1311b – 1311m of the Revised School Code, may offer a means of furthering the mission and goals of the district by:

- A. Cultivating and piloting innovative teaching and learning methods;
- B. Providing parents/guardians and pupils with greater choices among public schools; and
- C. Strengthening partnerships with the community to improve student achievement.

Delegation of Authority

For any application to be considered, it must include the following:

- A. The Superintendent shall be responsible to the Board to develop, recommend to the Board, and administer such processes as necessary for the Board to fulfill its statutory responsibilities to:
 1. Execute Charter School contracts that comply with controlling law;
 2. Oversee, or contract with an authorized body to oversee, each Charter School operating under a contract issued by the Board in a manner sufficient to ensure that the Charter School is in compliance with the contract and applicable law; and
 3. Serve as fiscal agent for each Charter School operating under a contract issued by the Board to receive state school aid payments for the Charter School, which shall then be forwarded to the Charter School, subject to authorized deductions.
- B. The Superintendent also shall be responsible to the District's Board of Education to develop and administer an academy board selection and appointment process, consistent with the Resolution adopted by the District's Board pursuant to the Revised School Code, establishing the method of selection, length of term, and number of members of the board of directors of each Charter School subject to its jurisdiction. The board selection and appointment process shall include an application or questionnaire for Charter Schoolboard appointment, criminal background checks, reference checks, and conflicts of interest disclosure.

Competitive Basis

In compliance with Part 6A, Part 6E, or sections 1311b-1311m, of the Revised School Code, as applicable, the District will issue contracts to organize and operate one or more Charter Schools on a competitive basis taking into consideration at least the statutorily- prescribed criteria set forth in Part 6A, Part 6E, or sections 1311b-1311m of the Revised School Code, as applicable.

Guidelines

To achieve the purposes of this policy, the District will authorize Charter Schools which best meet the following guidelines:

- A. Further a mission and goals consistent with the mission and goals of the District;

- B. Fill an identified and substantiated educational need or provide an opportunity for new learning experiences at a facility located within the boundaries of the District;
- C. Meet the identified and substantiated needs of students within the allowable boundaries through the use of an innovative instructional plan; and
- D. Comply with applicable State and Federal law.

Operational Boundaries

The District shall not issue a contract for a Charter School to operate outside the District's boundaries, and a Charter School authorized by the District shall not operate outside the District's boundaries. Provided, however, that the District is expressly authorized under subsection 552(2) of the Code to act as the authorizing body for not more than one (1) school of excellence that is a cyber school.

Enrollment Boundaries

- A. Shall be open to all pupils who reside within the geographic boundaries of the District (and, if a cyber school, shall be open to all pupils who reside within the state of Michigan);
- B. School of Excellence will be open to all pupils within the grades/age levels offered by the Academy who reside in the state of Michigan.
- C. Except for a foreign exchange student who is not a United States citizen, shall not be open to a pupil who is not a resident of the state of Michigan and the Manistee Intermediate School District.

Contract Terms and Conditions

The District's Board of Education shall include in any contract that it executes authorizing or re-authorizing a Charter School to operate, at least such terms and conditions as required by law, as may be amended from time to time.

Supplemental Agreements

The District's Board of Education may require execution or inclusion of such companion agreements or schedules to the charter contract, as it deems necessary or appropriate, including, by way of example:

- A. Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Requirements/Agreement; and
- B. Fiscal Agency Agreement.

Submission of Contract to MDE

Within ten (10) days after issuing a Charter Contract, the Board of Education (or its designee) shall submit to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction a copy of the contract and the Charter School application required under the Revised School Code.

Legal

M.C.L. 380.501 et seq

Last Modified by Valerie Lukens on November 5, 2018