



Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea
59 Nichols Street
Chelsea, MA 02150

May, 19th, 2017

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
75 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Commissioner Chester,

On behalf of the Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Chelsea's Board of Trustees, I respectfully request a temporary waiver for regulation 603 CMR 1.05(9), which requires that charter schools provide public notice of an upcoming lottery at least one week in advance of the lottery.

This waiver request, is for Phoenix Academy Public Charter School, Chelsea's principal lottery date for the upcoming school year, 2017-2018. Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Chelsea had planned to host its lottery on March 15th, 2017. However, due to an impending blizzard, forecasted for Tuesday, March 14th 2017, on Friday, March 10th 2017, Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Chelsea reached out to the Department of Elementary of Education to request guidance on how to comply with all components of 603 CMR 1.05, given the anticipated school closure. Based on the guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Chelsea moved the date of the lottery to Monday, March 13th, ensuring that the lottery would occur on or prior to March 15th, which is required under 603 CMR 1.05. However, due to the timing of the weather forecast, this decision was made 4 days in advance of the rescheduled lottery date, thus only providing the public with 4 days of notice.

The Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea Board of Trustees certifies that Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School made a good faith effort to comply with provision 603 CMR 1.05 and had initially provided the public with the full 7 days notice, prior to the forecasted storm. This waiver request only pertains to the March 2017 enrollment process. In all subsequent enrollment processes Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea will provide public notice of an upcoming lottery at least one week in advance. In accordance with Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Chelsea's enrollment policy, the rescheduled lottery date information was posted on Phoenix's website: <http://phoenixcharteracademy.org/enroll/>.

The Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea Board of Trustees voted to approve this waiver request on May, 19th 2017 at a meeting held in compliance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25.

The Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea Board of Trustees requests your approval of this waiver as soon as possible.

Please contact Beth Anderson at banderson@phoenixcharteracademy.org or (617) 276-4670 if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

Jeff Meaney
Board Chair, Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Chelsea