**Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education**

**Tentative Schedule of Charter School Items   
September 2020 through June 2021   
(as of September 2020)**

**Note:** All items are tentatively scheduled and may be adjusted within the schedule as needed.   
Some items may not come before the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board)   
for discussion and vote because the Board has previously delegated authority to the Commissioner or because the Commissioner may not recommend granting a school’s request.

September 29, 2020

* *Charter Authorizing Overview and Tentative Schedule*

October 20, 2020

* *No items scheduled*

November 17, 2020

* *No items scheduled*

December 15, 2020

* *Possible Vote to Solicit Public Comment on Amendment to Charter School Regulations: Lowest 10 Percent Calculation*

January 26, 2021

* *Renewal Decisions or Recommendations (4)*

Alma del Mar Charter School; Learning First Charter Public School; Phoenix Academy Charter Public High School, Chelsea; and Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter School

February 23, 2021

* *Amendments of Charters (5)*
  + - Holyoke Community Charter School
    - Lawrence Family Development Charter School
    - Lowell Community Charter Public School
    - Marblehead Community Charter Public School
    - Prospect Hill Academy Charter School
* *Renewal Decisions or Recommendations (8)*

Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School; Bridge Boston Charter School; Innovation Academy Charter School; Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School; Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence; New Heights Charter School of Brockton; Prospect Hill Academy Charter School; UP Academy Charter School of Boston

* *Renewal Decisions and Report on Conditions (2)*
  + - Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School
    - Codman Academy Charter Public School
* *Report on Conditions (3)*
  + - Holyoke Community Charter School
    - Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School
    - Marblehead Community Charter Public School
* *Report on January Renewal Decisions by the Commissioner*

March 23, 2021

* *Possible Final Adoption of Amendment to Charter School Regulations: Lowest 10 Percent Calculation*
* *Report on February Renewal Decisions by the Commissioner*

April 27. 2021

* *No items scheduled*

May 25, 2021

* *No items scheduled*

June 22, 2021

* *Report on Conditions*
  + - Conservatory Lab Charter School
    - Hill View Montessori Charter Public School

## **Charter Amendment Requests Pending Board Action**

## **(Districts Specified in Charter Region and/or Maximum Enrollment)**

Pursuant to the Charter School Regulations, 603 CMR 1.10(1), the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) must approve certain changes in the material terms of a school's charter. This year (2020-2021), the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) received requests from five existing charter schools that involve changes to the districts specified in the school’s charter region or the maximum enrollment allowed. Please contact the Department at [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu) to obtain copies of any of the submitted amendment requests.

Section 1.10 of 603 CMR contains several criteria that the Commissioner and the Board may consider in reaching a determination regarding a school's request to amend its charter. First, "the Commissioner and the Board may consider a charter school's compliance with applicable state, federal, and local law." Second, the Commissioner and the Board may consider the evidence regarding the success of the school's academic program, the viability of the school as an organization, and the faithfulness of the school to the terms of its charter. Third, if seeking an increase in maximum enrollment in certain districts, the board of trustees must qualify as a "proven provider" based on the existing school and must meet the performance criteria described in 603 CMR 1.04(4). Fourth, schools must address additional criteria as outlined in the Department's guidelines on amendments.

We currently anticipate bringing these matters to the Board for consideration no earlier than its meeting scheduled for December 15, 2020 and anticipate completing the process by its meeting scheduled for February 23, 2021. Updates may be found on the Department’s website at [Board Meeting Schedule and Agendas](http://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/boedate.html).

The Department solicits comments from the superintendents in the school districts within each charter school's current/proposed district or region. Members of the public may submit written comments regarding a school's amendment request to: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, c/o Office of Charter Schools and School Redesign, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148 or by email to [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu). The Department requests that public comment be submitted by **December 1, 2020**.

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| **Name of Charter School** | **Current District or Region** | **Chartered Grade Span** | **Current Maximum Enrollment** | **Proposed Amendment to Charter** |
| Holyoke Community Charter School | Holyoke | K-8 | 702 | Amend charter region to include Chicopee |
| Lawrence Family Development Charter School | Lawrence | PK-8 | 800 | Increase enrollment by 200 seats |
| Lowell Community Charter Public School | Lowell | PK-8 | 800 | Increase enrollment by 15 seats |
| Marblehead Community Charter Public School | Marblehead | 4-8 | 230 | Amend charter region to include  Nahant and Swampscott |
| Prospect Hill Academy Charter School | Cambridge, Somerville | PK-12 | 1,200 | Amend charter region to include Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Waltham,  Watertown, and Woburn |

**FY21 Applications for Renewal of Charters**

This winter, the Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Commissioner) will make recommendations to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) regarding the renewal of the charters for 14 schools. Please contact the Department at [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu) to obtain copies of any of the Applications for Renewal.

Consistent with charter school regulations, the review of the school's application for renewal for another five-year term is guided by evidence regarding the success of the school's academic program, the viability of the school as an organization, and the faithfulness of the school to the terms of its charter. The Commissioner's recommendations will consider each school's performance at the time of the charter renewal as well as the progress it has made during the past four years of operation. The evaluation will include a review of evidence such as the school's academic performance, accountability plan performance, annual reports, financial record, and application for renewal, as well as assessments conducted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department).

We currently anticipate that these matters will be brought to the Board for consideration no earlier than its January 26, 2021 meeting and no later than its February 23, 2021 meeting. Please check [Board Meeting Schedule and Agendas](http://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/boedate.html) for updates.

The Department invites written comments from Superintendents in the school districts within each charter school's current/proposed district or region. Please see the table below for a list of charter schools that have submitted applications for renewal and the schools' associated districts. Comments may be submitted by **December 1, 2020** to: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, c/o Office of Charter Schools and School Redesign, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148 or by email to [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu).

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| **Charter School Name** | **Current District or Region** | **Chartered Maximum Enrollment** | **Chartered Grade Span** |
| Alma del Mar Charter School | New Bedford | 1,044 | K-8 |
| Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School | Cambridge | 350 | PK-6 |
| Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School | Boston | 595 | 6-12 |
| Bridge Boston Charter School | Boston | 335 | PK-8 |
| Codman Academy Charter Public School | Boston | 345 | PK-12 |
| Innovation Academy  Charter School | Tyngsborough, Chelmsford, Lowell, Billerica, Dracut, Tewksbury, Groton-Dunstable, Littleton, Westford | 800 | 5-12 |
| Learning First Charter  Public School | Worcester | 666 | K-8 |
| Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School | Up Island Regional, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown,  Martha’s Vineyard Regional | 180 | K-12 |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence | Springfield | 360 | K-5 |
| New Heights Charter School  of Brockton | Brockton, Randolph, Taunton | 735 | 6-12 |
| Phoenix Academy Charter Public High School, Chelsea | Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Lynn | 225 | 9-12 |
| Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter School | Agawam, Amherst-Pelham, Belchertown, Chicopee,  East Longmeadow, Easthampton, Erving, Frontier, Gateway, Gill-Montague, Granby, Greenfield, Hadley,  Hampden-Wilbraham, Hampshire, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Mohawk Trail, Monroe, Monson, Northampton, Palmer, Pioneer Valley, Ralph C. Mahar, Rowe, South Hadley, Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional, Springfield, Tantasqua, Ware, West Springfield, Westfield | 400 | 7-12 |
| Prospect Hill Academy  Charter School | Cambridge, Somerville | 1,200 | PK-12 |
| UP Academy Charter  School of Boston  (Horace Mann) | Boston | 540 | 6-8 |