*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

# MEMORANDUM

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:** | Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | March 20, 2023 |
| **Subject:** | Charter Schools – Eighteen Charters Renewed and Actions Taken with Respect to Conditions on Two Charters |

At its meeting in February 2013, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) authorized the Commissioner to act on its behalf in “(a) granting charter renewals that do not involve probation; (b) approving charter amendments that do not involve changes in grade span, maximum enrollment, or districts served; and (c) removing or continuing conditions imposed on charters of charter schools; provided that the Commissioner shall report to the Board on all charter renewals, charter amendments, and conditions that have been so approved; and provided further, that the Commissioner shall notify the Board in advance of all such intended actions, and a Board member may request that the Commissioner place the charter matter(s) on the agenda of the Board for discussion and action.”

On February 16, 2023, I notified the Board that I intended to renew the charters of 18 schools: 13 without conditions (Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School; Boston Collegiate Charter School; Boston Day and Evening Academy Horace Mann Charter School; Collegiate Charter School of Lowell; Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers Horace Mann Charter School; Excel Academy Charter School; Four Rivers Charter Public School; Foxborough Regional Charter School; Map Academy Charter School; Mystic Valley Regional Charter School; Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Lawrence; Rising Tide Charter Public School; and Sturgis Charter Public School) and 5 with conditions (Baystate Academy Charter Public School; Hampden Charter School of Science West; Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School; Pioneer Charter School of Science II; and UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester). Further, I stated that I intended to remove two conditions on the charter of Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School because the school met the conditions. No Board member requested that any of these matters be brought to the full Board for review.

I also notified the Board in a separate memo dated February 16, 2023, that I intended to remove the conditions imposed on the charter of Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Springfield, and to remove three of four conditions imposed on the charter of Roxbury Preparatory Charter School while maintaining one condition regarding improving the school climate. No Board member requested that any of these matters be brought to the full Board for review.

I am now notifying the Board that I have taken these actions. Summary information regarding all 20 charter schools is provided in this memorandum. All charters renewed run from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028. These charters are renewed for the maximum enrollment, grades served, and district(s) served indicated in this memorandum. All of the schools shall operate in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 71, § 89; 603 CMR 1.00; and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations and such additional conditions as the Commissioner or the Board may establish, all of which shall be deemed conditions of the relevant charters. Department staff will work with schools to address areas of concern identified during the renewal process.

**Charters Renewed**

| **Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Worcester |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Auburn, Leicester, Millbury, Oxford, Shrewsbury, Sutton, West Boylston, Worcester, and Wachusett Regional |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,426[[1]](#footnote-1) | **Current Enrollment** | 1,422 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 | **Current Grade Span** | K-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 603 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of the Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School is to assist parents in their role as primary educators of their children by providing a classical liberal arts education grounded in the great works of Western Civilization and aimed at academic excellence, musical competence and character formation. | | | |

| **Baystate Academy Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Springfield |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 2013 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 560 | **Current Enrollment** | 402[[2]](#footnote-2) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 6-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 0 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 10 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Baystate Academy Charter Public School is a college preparatory school that provides challenging academic standards in professional health career settings in order to prepare 6th -12th grade students in Springfield to be inspired leaders in the 21st century workforce. | | | |

The renewal of the charter of Baystate Academy Charter Public School is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition:** By December 31, 2025, the school must demonstrate that it is an academic success by providing evidence that the school has exhibited significant and sustained academic improvement in mathematics, English language arts, and science.

| **Boston Collegiate Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 700 | **Current Enrollment** | 698 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 5-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 5-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 1,323 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of Boston Collegiate Charter School is to prepare each student for college. | | | |

| **Boston Day and Evening Academy Horace Mann Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Horace Mann I | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 505 | **Current Enrollment** | 321[[3]](#footnote-3) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 53 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Boston Day and Evening Academy re-engages off-track students in their education preparing them for high school graduation, post-secondary success and meaningful participation in their community. | | | |

| **Collegiate Charter School of Lowell** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Lowell |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 2013 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,200 | **Current Enrollment** | 1,203[[4]](#footnote-4) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 | **Current Grade Span** | K-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 359 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 10 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of the Collegiate Charter School of Lowell is to provide an academically rigorous and successful world-class college preparatory public educational program that enables all students, regardless of their background, to achieve their full potential, to be prepared for success in college, equipped with the ability and desire for lifelong learning, and develop strong civic, ethical, and moral values in a safe, caring, and rigorous environment built on a school ethos that emphasizes high behavioral and academic expectations. | | | |

| **Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers Horace Mann Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Horace Mann I | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 448 | **Current Enrollment** | 364[[5]](#footnote-5) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 400 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers is a college preparatory and vocational high school for Boston students exploring careers in health and health-related professions. The Academy provides a supportive learning environment that promotes respect and embraces diversity. Students will attain the life skills needed to become productive and positive members of society. | | | |

| **Excel Academy Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston and Chelsea |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Boston and Chelsea |
| **Year Opened** | 2003 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,400[[6]](#footnote-6) | **Current Enrollment** | 1,363 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 5-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 5-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 1,163 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 20 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Excel Academy’s mission is to prepare students to succeed in high school and college, apply their learning to solve relevant problems, and engage productively in their communities. | | | |

| **Four Rivers Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Greenfield |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Frontier, Gill-Montague, Greenfield, Mohawk Trail, Pioneer Valley, and Ralph C. Mahar Regional |
| **Year Opened** | 2003 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 220 | **Current Enrollment** | 219 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 7-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 7-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 58 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 20 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Four Rivers Charter Public School is dedicated to educating young people for lives of learning and service. The school offers a rigorous academic program aligned with the Massachusetts curriculum frameworks and an emphasis on character development for moral and social responsibility. Three central themes -- nature, technology and community -- guide teaching and learning at the school, engaging students and teachers in a fundamental question of our times: how do we find the healthy, sustainable interrelationship of the natural world, technology in its many forms, and the human community? The school works closely with parents and seeks both to serve and to learn from the many resources of Franklin County. | | | |

| **Foxborough Regional Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Foxborough |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Attleboro, Avon, Brockton, Canton, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Norfolk, North Attleboro, Norton, Norwood, Plainville, Sharon, Stoughton, Walpole, West Bridgewater, and Wrentham |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,700 | **Current Enrollment** | 1,569 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 | **Current Grade Span** | K-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 737 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Foxborough Regional Charter School will provide students a challenging academic program to prepare them for college by stressing achievement, discipline, hard work and accountability. We will continually challenge all of our students, regardless of ability, so that we will lead the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in all statewide standards and assessments.  Foxborough Regional Charter School will promote positive ethical, moral, and civic values and prepare students to serve their respective communities as leaders and good citizens. We will present students with projects and issues requiring critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and real-life applications of their academic studies through our Student Life and Community Service Learning programs which are integral components of the overall educational experience at Foxborough Regional Charter School.  Foxborough Regional Charter School will commit itself to providing a supportive, professional, and challenging environment for its teachers and staff which recognizes the value of professional development, creativity, and initiative. We will constantly seek new ways to allow our teachers and staff to perform to the best of their potential in a collegial atmosphere which recognizes unique talents and the commitment to excel. | | | |

| **Hampden Charter School of Science West** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | West Springfield |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Agawam, Holyoke, West Springfield, and Westfield |
| **Year Opened** | 2018 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 588 | **Current Enrollment** | 367[[7]](#footnote-7) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 6-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 153 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 5 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of Hampden Charter School of Science West is to provide a college preparatory-focused education to the youth of every race and ethnic group in Agawam, Holyoke, West Springfield, and Westfield in a safe, academically challenging, and caring educational environment. Our promise is to sustain small school size, to provide extended math and science curriculum, individualized attention, college guidance, and university outreach programs, and to encourage student-teacher-parent partnership. Fulfillment of our mission will empower our students with the support necessary to reach their highest intellectual, emotional, social, and physical potentials, building on the inherent promise to aid students’ preparation for college. | | | |

The renewal of the charter of Hampden Charter School of Science West is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition:** Beginning August 1, 2023, Hampden Charter School of Science West must submit for annual Department approval an enhanced Recruitment and Retention Plan that includes deliberate and specific recruitment strategies for residents of the school’s charter region. These strategies must be designed to increase enrollment from within the school’s charter region and to reduce enrollment from outside of its charter region to no more than 20 percent of the school’s total population. By October 1, 2024, HCSSW must enroll no more than 20 percent of its total student population from outside its chartered region. Alternatively, HCSSW may submit a charter amendment request no later than August 1, 2025, to amend its region to reflect the school’s actual enrollment pattern. Any amendment request submitted by HCSSW shall take into consideration all districts from which the school draws students, including those districts where limited seats are available and districts where a proven provider determination may be required.

| **Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 2003 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 216 | **Current Enrollment** | 114[[8]](#footnote-8) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-8 | **Current Grade Span** | 6-8 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 0 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 20 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Our school develops develop high-achieving students of good character who use problem solving, communication, and interpersonal skills to inspire others and to catalyze educational, economic, and political advancement within their communities and the broader nation. | | | |

The renewal of the charter of Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet these conditions may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition 1:** By December 31, 2024, the school must demonstrate that it is an academic success by providing evidence that the school has exhibited significant and sustained academic improvement in mathematics, English language arts, and science.

**Condition 2:** By August 1, 2023, the school must submit a plan approved by the board of trustees to address enrollment concerns which may include, but is not limited to, the submission of an amendment request to modify the grade levels served.

| **Map Academy Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Plymouth |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Carver, Plymouth, and Wareham |
| **Year Opened** | 2018 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 300 | **Current Enrollment** | 251[[9]](#footnote-9) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 0 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 5 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Map Academy helps youth find their way with individualized roadmaps designed to promote success in students for whom traditional school has not worked. Student-centered academics, a highly supportive culture, and career development opportunities equip students with the knowledge, mindsets, and skills to meet the high standards necessary for postsecondary education and meaningful employment. | | | |

| **Mystic Valley Regional Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Malden |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham, and Wakefield |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,900[[10]](#footnote-10) | **Current Enrollment** | 1,608[[11]](#footnote-11) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 | **Current Grade Span** | K-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 1,609 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of the Mystic Valley Regional Charter School is to provide the opportunity of a world class education characterized by a well-mannered, disciplined and structured academic climate. Central to Mystic Valley’s academic environment is the incorporation of selected core virtues and the fundamental ideals of our American Culture, which are embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. | | | |

| **Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Lawrence** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Lawrence |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen |
| **Year Opened** | 2018 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 250 | **Current Enrollment** | 125[[12]](#footnote-12) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 0 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 5 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School Lawrence challenges resilient, disconnected students with rigorous academics and relentless supports, so they take ownership of their futures and succeed in high school, college, and as self-sufficient adults. | | | |

| **Pioneer Charter School of Science II** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Beverly[[13]](#footnote-13) and Saugus |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Danvers, Lynn, Peabody, Salem, and Saugus |
| **Year Opened** | 2013 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 858[[14]](#footnote-14) | **Current Enrollment** | 462 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 | **Current Grade Span** | K-2, 7-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 568 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 10 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of Pioneer Charter School of Science II is to prepare educationally under-resourced students for today’s competitive world. PCSS-II will help students to develop the academic and social skills necessary to become successful professionals and exemplary members of their community. This goal will be achieved by providing the students with a rigorous academic curriculum with emphasis on math and science, balanced by a strong foundation in the humanities, a character education program, career-oriented college preparation, and strong student–teacher–parent collaboration. | | | |

The renewal of the charter of Pioneer Charter School of Science II is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition:** Beginning August 1, 2023, Pioneer Charter School of Science II must submit for annual Department approval an enhanced Recruitment and Retention Plan that includes deliberate and specific recruitment strategies for residents of the school’s charter region. These strategies must be designed to increase enrollment from within the school’s charter region and to reduce enrollment from outside of its charter region to no more than 20 percent of the school’s total population. By October 1, 2024, PCSS II must enroll no more than 20 percent of its total student population from outside its chartered region. Alternatively, PCSS II may submit a charter amendment request no later than August 1, 2025, to amend its region to reflect the school’s actual enrollment pattern. Any amendment request submitted by PCSS II shall take into consideration all districts from which the school draws students, including those districts where limited seats are available and districts where a proven provider determination may be required.

| **Rising Tide Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Plymouth |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Barnstable, Bourne, Carver, Duxbury, Falmouth, Freetown-Lakeville, Halifax, Kingston, Marion, Marshfield, Mashpee, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Old Rochester, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester, Sandwich, Silver Lake, and Wareham |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 700 | **Current Enrollment** | 634 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 5-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 5-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 212 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The Rising Tide Charter Public School will provide a strong academic program rooted in the history of Plymouth, Massachusetts. Our students will harvest opportunity from the practice of language, the reasoning of mathematics, the analysis of science and the reflection of history. We want children to hone skills through rigorous studies, but skills alone do not make a whole education. The Rising Tide Charter Public School will also cultivate within its students a sense of belonging to our community, a tie with those who have come before them and a seed of continuity between the Plymouth of today and the Plymouth of tomorrow. The Rising Tide Charter Public School will graduate capable and prepared young adults who have already sown within themselves a sense of place and belonging that will be the bounty of the future, whether they remain among us or venture from our harbor. | | | |

| **Sturgis Charter Public School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Hyannis |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Barnstable, Bourne, Carver, Dennis-Yarmouth, Falmouth, Mashpee, Monomoy Regional, Nauset, Plymouth, Provincetown, Sandwich, and Wareham |
| **Year Opened** | 1998 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 850 | **Current Enrollment** | 830 (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 292 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 25 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Sturgis Charter Public School is dedicated to an “International Baccalaureate (IB) for All” philosophy, preparing high school students for higher education in a supportive learning environment. Sturgis provides each student a rigorous world-class educational program, encouraging academic achievement, intellectual confidence, and personal growth. | | | |

| **UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Horace Mann III | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 2013 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2018, 2023 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 750 | **Current Enrollment** | 615[[15]](#footnote-15) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | PK-8 | **Current Grade Span** | PK-8 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 38 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 10 |
| **Mission Statement:**  UP Academy will ensure that its students acquire the knowledge, skills, and strength of character necessary to succeed on the path to college and to achieve their full potential. | | | |

The renewal of the charter of UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition:** By December 31, 2024, the school must demonstrate that it is an academic success by providing evidence that the school has exhibited significant and sustained academic improvement in mathematics, English language arts, and science.

**Conditions Removed or Maintained**

| **Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Springfield** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Springfield |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Chicopee, Holyoke, and Springfield |
| **Year Opened** | 2014 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2019 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 250 | **Current Enrollment** | 166[[16]](#footnote-16) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 9-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 9-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 0 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 9 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Springfield challenges resilient, disconnected students with rigorous academics and relentless supports, so they take ownership of their futures and succeed in high school, college and as self-sufficient adults. | | | |

No conditions remain on this charter.

| **Roxbury Preparatory Charter School** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 1999 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2004, 2009, 2014, 2019 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,800 | **Current Enrollment** | 1,295[[17]](#footnote-17) (October 2022) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 5-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 5-12  Mission Hill: 5-8  Lucy Stone: 5-8  Dorchester: 5-8  Hyde Park: 9-10  Nubian Square: 11-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 14 (March 2022) | **Current Age of School** | 24 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The mission of Roxbury Preparatory Charter School (Roxbury Prep) is to prepare students to enter, succeed in, and graduate from college. Roxbury Prep is founded on the philosophy that all students are entitled to and can succeed in college preparatory programs when: 1) the curriculum is rigorous, engaging, and well-planned; 2) the school emphasizes student character, community responsibility, and exposure to life’s possibilities; and 3) a community network supports student academic, social, and physical well-being. | | | |

The charter of Roxbury Preparatory Charter School is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board imposing additional conditions on the school’s charter, placing it on probation, or revoking its charter.

**Condition:** Until further notice, Roxbury Preparatory Charter School must submit to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) at [charterschools@mass.gov](mailto:charterschools@mass.gov) or 75 Pleasant St., Malden, MA 02148, monthly updates on efforts to improve school climate, discipline policies, and school culture practices for all student groups.

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Alison Bagg, Director (781-338-3218); Cliff Chuang, Senior Associate Commissioner (781-338-3222); or me.

Attachments: Renewal of Charters – Notification of Intended Actions for Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School; Baystate Academy Charter Public School; Boston Collegiate Charter School; Boston Day and Evening Academy Horace Mann Charter School; Collegiate Charter School of Lowell; Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers Horace Mann Charter School; Excel Academy Charter School; Four Rivers Charter Public School; Foxborough Regional Charter School; Hampden Charter School of Science West; Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School; Map Academy Charter School; Mystic Valley Regional Charter School; Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Lawrence; Pioneer Charter School of Science II; Rising Tide Charter Public School; Sturgis Charter Public School; and UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester (February 16, 2023)

Charter Schools – Notification of Intended Actions and Report on Conditions for Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Springfield, and Roxbury Preparatory Charter School (February 16, 2023)

1. The terms of the school’s charter limit enrollment to 40 students from Wachusett Regional. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Student enrollment declined during the charter term. The school enrolled 500 students in 2018-19, 463 students in 2019-20, 469 students in 2020-21, 456 students in 2021-22, and 402 students 2022-23. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. In January 2020, the Board approved an amendment to increase the school’s maximum enrollment from 405 to 505 students. Since then, enrollment has declined each year. The school enrolled 414 students in 2019-20, 356 students in 2020-21, 348 students in 2021-22, and 321 students during the current school year. According to the school, this is due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The school hired a marketing company in June 2022 to help recruit new students and added a part-time position to the admissions team to help with outreach and recruitment. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. As of October 1, 2023, the school was overenrolled by three students and as a result is out of compliance with the terms of its charter. Charter schools do not receive tuition for students enrolled above the school’s maximum enrollment. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The school was under-enrolled throughout the charter term. The school enrolled 383 students in 2018-19, 388 students in 2019-20, 385 students in 2020-21, 395 students in 2021-22, and 364 students in 2022-23. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The terms of the school’s charter limit enrollment to 748 students from Boston. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. In May 2019, the commissioner granted a charter amendment to change the school’s growth plan to temporarily lower student enrollment during the first charter term. The school adhered to its growth plan with respect to adding grades, but enrolled fewer students each year than anticipated. The school enrolled 262 students in 2019-20, 320 students in 2020-21, 368 students in 2021-22, and 367 students during the current school year. The school reported that lower than anticipated enrollment may be attributed to families leaving the state during the COVID-19 pandemic and parents choosing other options, including homeschooling and sending students to schools with more established athletic programs. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Student enrollment declined during the charter term. The school enrolled 207 students in 2019-20, 193 students in 2020-21, 138 students in 2021-22, and 114 students during the current school year. The school reported that declines in enrollment may be attributed to parents choosing other options, including homeschooling, sending their students to schools that opted for in-person learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, and sending students to schools that include high school grades. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. The school adhered to its growth plan and plans to continue adding 30 students each year until it reaches its maximum enrollment. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The terms of the school’s charter currently set a limit of 300 students from Everett and 835 students from Malden. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. The school is implementing a growth plan. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. The school is implementing a growth plan but has enrolled fewer students than anticipated. The school opened in fall 2018, serving 119 students, and planned to steadily increase enrollment until reaching the school’s maximum enrollment of 250 in Year 4. Enrollment increased to a high of 159 students during the 2020-21 school year and has declined since then. The school enrolled 138 students in 2021-22 and 125 students during the current school year. The school reports that declines in enrollment may be attributed to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges faced by the Lawrence community. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. The school experienced challenges in obtaining an adequate facility in its region for the initial implementation of its elementary grades, delaying its expansion until the 2022-23 school year. In August 2022, the commissioner approved a request to temporarily locate the school’s elementary grades in Beverly, which is outside the school’s chartered region. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. The terms of the school’s charter limit enrollment to 8 students from Salem and 130 students from Saugus. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Student enrollment declined during the charter term. The school enrolled 724 students in 2018-19, 711 students in 2019-20, 685 students in 2020-21, 653 students in 2021-22, and 615 students during the current school year. The school reported that lower enrollment figures in recent years may be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Student enrollment has declined since the 2020-21 school year, when the school enrolled 208 students. The school enrolled 175 students in 2021-22 and 166 students during the current school year. The school reported that declines in enrollment are likely because of the COVID-19 pandemic. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Student enrollment has declined since the 2020-21 school year, when the school enrolled 1,596 students. The school enrolled 1,521 students in 2021-22 and 1,295 students during the current school year. The school reported that declines in enrollment may be attributed to facilities challenges and the challenge of recruiting students for grade 5 because of changes in grade configurations within Boston Public Schools. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)