**Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education**

**Schedule of Charter School Items**   
**September 2023 through June 2024**   
**(as of September 2023)**

**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 new charter or a school’s request.

September 19, 2023

* *Charter Authorizing Overview and Schedule of Board Items*
* *Report on Approval of Loans Beyond the Charter Duration*

October 24, 2023

* *Report on Contract Approvals Delegated to the Commissioner*

November 21, 2023

* *No items scheduled*

December 19, 2023

* *Amendments of Charters*

Community Charter School of Cambridge

Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School

Mystic Valley Regional Charter School

Prospect Hill Academy Charter School

* *Report on Conditions*

Community Charter School of Cambridge

Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School

Prospect Hill Academy Charter School

January 23, 2024

* *Application for New Charter School: Overview of Process*

February 13, 2024

* *New Charter School Proposed for Board Vote*
* *Amendments of Charters*

Hampden Charter School of Science East

Hampden Charter School of Science West

* *Renewal Decisions or Recommendations*

Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School

Boston Preparatory Charter Public School

Conservatory Lab Charter School

Hampden Charter School of Science East

Hill View Montessori Charter Public School

KIPP Academy Lynn Charter School

Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Springfield

River Valley Charter School

Salem Academy Charter School

* *Renewal Decisions and Report on Conditions*

Argosy Collegiate Charter School

Roxbury Preparatory Charter School

* *Report on Conditions*

Hampden Charter School of Science West

Phoenix Academy Charter Public High School, Chelsea

March 26, 2024

* *Report on February Renewal Decisions by the Commissioner*
* *Delegation of Authority to Approve Management Contract*

April 30, 2024

* *No items scheduled*

May 21, 2024

* *No items scheduled*

June 18, 2024

* *No items scheduled*

**Charter Amendment Requests Pending Board Action**

**(Districts Specified in Charter Region, Grades Served, and a Charter Consolidation)**

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 (2023-2024), the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) received requests from 6 existing charter schools that involve changes to the districts specified in the school’s charter region, the grades served, and a request to consolidate two charters within a charter school network. Please see the table below for a list of charter schools that have submitted charter amendment requests. 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 of Elementary and Secondary Education (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 student enrollment from 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](https://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/governance/board-amendment-guidelines.docx) on amendments.

The Department currently anticipates bringing these matters to the Board for consideration at a meeting no earlier than December 19, 2023 and completing the process by February 13, 2024, if requests are recommended by the Commissioner for approval. Updates on this process may be found on the Department’s [Board Meeting Schedule and Agendas](https://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/boedate.html) website.

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). Email is preferred. The deadlines for public comment vary; please see below for additional information. Each deadline is guided by the Board's anticipated schedule regarding charter school matters, including proposed charter amendments and charter renewals.

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| **Charter School Name** | **Location** | **Grades** | **Max Enrollment** | **Current District or Region** | **Proposed Amendment to Charter** | **Public Comment Deadline** |
| Community Charter School of Cambridge | Cambridge | 6-12 | 420 | Cambridge | Amend charter region to include Chelsea, Everett, Revere, and Somerville | November 8, 2023 |
| Hampden Charter School of Science East[[1]](#footnote-2) | Chicopee | 6-12 | 560 | Chicopee, Ludlow, Springfield, and West Springfield | Consolidate two charters[[2]](#footnote-3) | December 1, 2023 |
| Hampden Charter School of Science West | West Springfield | 6-12 | 588 | Agawam, Holyoke, West Springfield, and Westfield |
| Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy Charter Public School | Boston | 6-8 | 216 | Boston | Add grades 9-12; Remove grade 6 | November 8, 2023 |
| Mystic Valley Regional Charter School | Malden | K-12 | 1,900 | Malden, Everett, Medford, Wakefield, Melrose, and Stoneham | Amend charter region to include Woburn | November 8, 2023 |
| Prospect Hill Academy Charter School | Cambridge, Somerville | PK-12 | 1,200 | Cambridge and Somerville | Amend charter region to include Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Revere, Waltham, Watertown, and Woburn | November 8, 2023 |

**FY24 Applications for Renewal of Charters**

This winter, the Commissioner 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 11 schools. Please contact the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (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.

We currently anticipate that these matters will be brought to the Board for consideration prior to the February 13, 2024 meeting. Please check [Board Meeting Schedule and Agendas](https://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 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, 2023** 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** |
| Argosy Collegiate Charter School | Fall River | 644 | 6-12 |
| Berkshire Arts and Technology  Charter Public School | Clarksburg, Florida, Hancock,  Hoosac Valley Regional, Lanesborough, Mount Greylock, North Adams, Pittsfield, Savoy, Williamstown | 363 | 6-12 |
| Boston Preparatory Charter Public School | Boston | 700 | 6-12 |
| Conservatory Lab Charter School | Boston | 444 | PK-8 |
| Hampden Charter School of Science East | Chicopee, Ludlow, Springfield,  West Springfield | 560 | 6-12 |
| Hill View Montessori Charter Public School | Haverhill | 306 | K-8 |
| KIPP Academy Lynn Charter School | Lynn | 1,586 | K-12 |
| Phoenix Academy Public Charter  High School, Springfield | Chicopee, Holyoke, Springfield | 250 | 9-12 |
| River Valley Charter School | Amesbury, Newburyport,  Pentucket, Triton | 288 | K-8 |
| Roxbury Preparatory Charter School | Boston | 1,800 | 5-12 |
| Salem Academy Charter School | Salem | 480 | 6-12 |

1. Hampden Charter School of Science East has also submitted an application for renewal. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Consolidation permits two or more separate charter schools within a network of charter schools to operate as a single charter school under one charter with multiple campuses. The Board has previously granted the consolidation requests of six former networks of charter schools. A charter school network exists when multiple charter schools operate under individual charters and a single board of trustees oversees all of the schools. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)