



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
From: Pedro Martinez, Commissioner
Date: February 18, 2026
Subject: Charter School Conditions – Notification of Intended Actions for Marblehead Community Charter Public School, Pioneer Charter School of Science II, and Roxbury Preparatory Charter School

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.” The Charter School Regulations also allow the Commissioner to impose conditions, and to remove the conditions imposed, on a school’s charter.¹

Under this authority, I intend to remove the conditions currently imposed on the charters of Marblehead Community Charter Public School and Pioneer Charter School of Science II and impose a revised condition on each charter related to the requirements of G.L. c. 71, § 89(n).² I also intend to remove the condition currently imposed on the charter of Roxbury Preparatory Charter School.

¹ Pursuant to 603 CMR 1.12(1), the Commissioner may “impose conditions on a school's charter for violations of law or failure to make progress with student achievement, failure to adhere to and enhance its recruitment and retention plan, failure to comply with the terms of its charter, or failure to remain viable.”

² “In any instance where a charter school approved after January 1, 2011 enrolls more than 20 per cent of its total enrollment from school districts not included in its original charter pursuant to subsection (h) for 2 consecutive years, the charter school shall submit an application to the board for an amendment to its charter that reflects its actual enrollment patterns; provided further that upon renewal of a charter school approved prior to January 1, 2011, the board shall establish a timeline of not less than 5 years for the charter to comply with this requirement.” G.L. c. 71, § 89(n)

Please let me know by the close of business **Tuesday, February 24, 2026**, if you wish to have any of these proposed actions brought to the full Board for review and vote.

Marblehead Community Charter Public School (MCCPS)

Mission Statement: “MCCPS fosters a community that empowers children to become capable, self-determining, fully engaged individuals who are critical and creative thinkers committed to achieving their highest intellectual, artistic, social, emotional, and physical potential. We are dedicated to involving, learning from, participating in, and serving our school community and the community at large.”

MCCPS School Facts

School Fact Type	School Facts
Type of Charter	Commonwealth
Location	Marblehead
Regional or Non-Regional	Regional
Districts in Region	Marblehead, Nahant, Swampscott
Years Renewed	2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025
Maximum Enrollment	230
Enrollment (2025-26)	226 (October 2025)
Grade Span	4-8
Students on Waitlist	179 (March 2025)
Age of School (2025-26)	31

Marblehead Community Charter Public School has enrolled more than 20 percent of its total population from outside of its charter region for the past two charter terms. The charter school statute, G.L. c. 71, § 89(n), requires a school enrolling more than 20 percent of its total enrollment from school districts not included in its original charter for two consecutive years to request an amendment to its charter to reflect its actual enrollment pattern. At the time of its 2020 renewal, the commissioner placed a condition on the school’s charter to address the statutory requirement. The school addressed the 2020 condition with the submission of a charter amendment to add two districts (Nahant and Swampscott) to its charter region. The amendment was subsequently approved by the Board. The change in region approved in 2021, however, did not sufficiently change the school’s enrollment patterns; enrollment of students residing outside the school’s region remained more than 20 percent. In 2025, the school’s charter was renewed with two conditions related to the enrollment requirement.

Report on Conditions

A summary of the school's progress toward meeting the two conditions follows.

Condition 1: By June 1, 2025, MCCPS must submit to the Department a comprehensive evaluation of student enrollment including, but not limited to, an assessment of: admission, attendance, and attrition data; programmatic and operational factors; the school's recruitment and retention plan; school policies; and the school's efforts to recruit and retain students.

Status: Met

MCCPS submitted a detailed evaluation of the school's student enrollment as described in the condition by the deadline.

Condition 2: By August 1, 2025, MCCPS will submit for Department approval a plan that ensures enrollment from outside the school's charter region does not exceed 20 percent of the school's total population for two consecutive years during the charter term ending June 30, 2030. The school's board of trustees must approve the plan. The plan may include charter amendment requests that may relate to the school's maximum enrollment, grade span, charter region, and any other relevant material terms in order to meet the statutory requirements and to address the school's other enrollment challenges.

Status: Met

MCCPS submitted a plan to address the statutory requirement of Chapter 71 Section 89(n), including five strategies to increase student recruitment within its charter region. The plan indicates that the school will submit a charter amendment for changes to the charter region and/or grade span if implementation of the five strategies is not effective in addressing the statutory requirement.

Given all the evidence, I intend to impose a new condition to ensure that the school complies with the statutory requirement prior to its next renewal decision. The condition follows.

Condition: By October 1, 2028, Marblehead Community Charter Public School must enroll no more than 20 percent of its total student population from outside Marblehead, Nahant, and Swampscott. Alternatively, the school may submit a charter amendment request no later than August 1, 2029, to amend the school's charter to address the statutory requirement of G.L. c. 71, § 89(n).

Pioneer Charter School of Science II (PCSS II)

Mission Statement: "The mission of Pioneer Charter School of Science II (PCSS 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.”

PCSS II School Facts

School Fact Type	School Facts
Type of Charter	Commonwealth
Location	Saugus, Beverly ³
Regional or Non-Regional	Regional
Districts in Region	Danvers, Lynn, Peabody, Salem, Saugus
Years Renewed	2018, 2023
Maximum Enrollment	858 (with a limit of 8 from Salem and a limit of 130 from Saugus)
Enrollment (2025-26)	684 (October 2025)
Grade Span	K-12
Students on Waitlist	1,394 (March 2025)
Age of School (2025-26)	13

In 2023, the commissioner renewed the charter of PCSS II with a condition related to G.L. c. 71, § 89(n), which specifies that a school enrolling more than 20 percent of its total enrollment from school districts not included in its charter for two consecutive years shall submit an amendment to its charter that reflects its actual enrollment patterns. Since 2023, enrollment of students residing outside the school’s region remained more than 20 percent. In August 2025, the school requested an extension of the deadline for meeting the condition.

Report on Condition

A summary of the school’s progress toward meeting the condition follows.

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

³ PCSS II 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. Beginning in August 2022, the commissioner approved annual requests to temporarily locate the school’s elementary grades in Beverly, which is outside the school’s charter region.

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 charter 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.

Status: Not Met

PCSS II has received annual approval of its enhanced recruitment and retention plan. The school has reported additional targeted recruitment strategies within its region and additional staffing.

PCSS II has decreased enrollment from outside of its charter region to 24.3 percent as of October 1, 2025.

PCSS II has requested an extension of the timeline to meet the condition due to several factors. The school will relocate its elementary campus from Beverly (a temporary site) to Peabody for the 2026-27 school year. Further, PCSS II is still adding elementary grades and students under its current growth plan. The school seeks an extension for at least one year after the occupancy of the new Peabody facility, when the school will implement its full elementary school program.

Given all the evidence, I intend to impose a new condition to ensure that the school complies with the statutory requirement prior to its next renewal decision. The condition follows.

Condition: By October 1, 2027, Pioneer Charter School of Science II must enroll no more than 20 percent of its total student population from outside Danvers, Lynn, Peabody, Salem, and Saugus. Alternatively, the school may submit a charter amendment request no later than November 1, 2027, to amend the school's charter to address the statutory requirement of G.L. c. 71, § 89(n).

Roxbury Preparatory Charter School (RPCS)

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."

RPCS School Facts

School Fact Type	School Facts
Type of Charter	Commonwealth
Location	Boston
Regional or Non-Regional	Non-Regional
Years Renewed	2004, 2009, 2014, 2019, 2024
Maximum Enrollment	1,800
Enrollment (2025-26)	1,225 (October 2025)
Grade Span	5-12
Students on Waitlist	106 (March 2025)
Age of School (2025-26)	27

In 2024, the commissioner renewed the charter of RPCS with the condition that follows. The school's condition was the result of significant under-enrollment and limited evidence of demand for the school.

Report on Condition

A summary of the school's progress toward meeting the condition follows.

Condition: By August 1, 2025, the school must submit a charter amendment that aligns the school's maximum enrollment with the school's enrollment trends.

Status: Met

The school submitted a charter amendment by the August deadline. The school sought to become a PK-12 school by adding pre-kindergarten through grade 4 without altering the school's maximum enrollment of 1,800 students. Based upon the criteria for approval, I am not recommending the school's request.

Given all the evidence, I intend to remove the condition. The school will notify the Department regarding any future plans to submit an amendment.

Conclusion

If you have any questions regarding my intended actions, or require additional information, please contact Lauren Woo, Deputy Commissioner, at Lauren.Woo@mass.gov, or me.