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| ESE Logo |  | **Collegiate Charter School of Lowell** **COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW****REPORT OF FINDINGS****Dates of Onsite Visit:** **February 13-14, 2017****Date of Draft Report:** **April 14, 2017****Date of Final Report: June 2, 2017****Action Plan Due: June 30, 2017****Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Onsite Team Members:****Matthew Nixon, Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) Chair****Brian Cavanaugh, PSM** |
|  |  | **Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.** **Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education**  |
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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Collegiate Charter School of Lowell**

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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Collegiate Charter School of Lowell**

**SCOPE OF COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEWS**

As one part of its accountability system, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education oversees local compliance with education requirements through the Coordinated Program Review (CPR). All reviews cover selected requirements in the following areas:

Special Education (SE)

* selected requirements from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-2004); the federal regulations promulgated under that Act at 34 CFR Part 300; M.G.L. c. 71B, and the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Special Education regulations (603 CMR 28.00), as amended effective March 1, 2007. The 2016 - 2017 Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS) districts conducted self-assessments across all criteria.

Civil Rights Methods of Administration and Other General Education Requirements (CR)

* selected federal civil rights requirements, including requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, together with selected state requirements under M.G.L. c. 76, Section 5 as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 and M.G.L. c. 269 §§ 17 through 19.
* selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Physical Restraint regulations (603 CMR 46.00).
* selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Student Learning Time regulations (603 CMR 27.00).
* various requirements under other federal and state laws.
* The 2016 - 2017 Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS) districts conducted self-assessments across all criteria.

English Learner Education (ELE) in Public Schools

* selected requirements from M.G.L. c. 71A, the state law that governs the provision of education to limited English proficient students, and 603 CMR 14.00, as well as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. During the 2016 - 2017 school year, all districts that enroll limited English proficient students will be reviewed using a combination of updated standards and a self-assessment instrument overseen by the Department’s Office of Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement (OELAAA), including a request for information regarding ELE programs and staff qualifications.

Some reviews also cover selected requirements in:

College, Career and Technical Education (OCCTE)

* college, career and technical education programs under the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 and M.G.L. c. 74.

Districts providing Title I services participate in Title I program monitoring during the same year they are scheduled for a Coordinated Program Review. Details regarding the Title I program monitoring process are available at: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/titlei/monitoring>.

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW ELEMENTS**

**Team:** Depending upon the size of a school district and the number of programs to be reviewed, a team of one to eight Department staff members conducts onsite activities over two to five days in a school district or charter school.

**Timing:** Each school district and charter school in the Commonwealth is scheduled to receive a Coordinated Program Review every six years and a mid-cycle special education follow-up visit three years after the Coordinated Program Review; approximately 66 school districts and charter schools are scheduled for Coordinated Program Reviews in 2016 - 2017, of which all districts participated in the Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS). The Department’s

2016 - 2017 schedule of Coordinated Program Reviews is posted on the Department’s web site at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/schedule.html>>>.  The statewide six-year Program Review cycle, including the Department’s Mid-cycle follow-up monitoring schedule, is posted at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/6yrcycle.html>>>.

**Criteria:** The Program Review criteria for each WBMS review begins with the district/school conducting a self-assessment across all 56 special education criteria and 26 civil rights criteria. The Office of Public School Monitoring through its Desk Review procedures examines the district/school’s self-assessment submission and determines which criteria will be followed–up on through onsite verification activities. For more details, please see the section on **The Web-based Approach to** **Special Education and Civil Rights Monitoring** at the beginning of the School District Information Package for Special Education and Civil Rights.

The requirements selected for review in all of the regulated programs are those that are most closely aligned with the goals of the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 to promote student achievement and high standards for all students.

**WBMS Methods:** Methods used in reviewing special education and civil rights programs include:

Self-Assessment Phase:

* District/school review of special education and civil rights documentation for required elements including document uploads. Upon completion of this portion of the district/school’s self-assessment, it is submitted to the Department for review.
* District/school review of a sample of special education student records selected across grade levels, disability categories and level of need. Additional requirements for the appropriate selection of the student record sample can be found in **Appendix II: Student Record Review Procedures** of the School District Information Package for Special Education.

Upon completion of these two portions of the district/school’s self-assessment, it is submitted to the Department for review.

On-site Verification Phase: Includes activities selected from the following;

* Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff consistent with those criteria selected for onsite verification.
* Interviews of parent advisory council (PAC) representatives and other telephone interviews, as requested, by other parents or members of the general public.
* Review of student records for special education: The Department may select a sample of student records from those the district reviewed as part of its self-assessment, as well as records chosen by the Department from the special education student roster. The onsite team will conduct this review, using standard Department procedures, to determine whether procedural and programmatic requirements have been implemented.
* Surveys of parents of students with disabilities: Parents of students with disabilities whose files are selected for the record review, as well as the parents of an equal number of other students with disabilities, are sent a survey that solicits information regarding their experiences with the district’s implementation of special education programs, related services, and procedural requirements.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities: The onsite team visits a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.
* Review of additional documents for special education or civil rights.

**Methods for all other programs in the Coordinated Program Review:**

* Review of documentation about the operation of the charter school or district's programs.
* Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff across all grade levels.
* Telephone interviews as requested by other parents or members of the general public.
* Review of student records for English learner education and career/vocational technical education:  The Department selects a representative sample of student records for the onsite team to review, using standard Department procedures, to determine whether procedural and programmatic requirements have been implemented.
* Surveys of parents of English learners whose files are selected for the record review are sent a survey of their experiences with the district's implementation of the English learner education program and related procedural requirements.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities: The onsite team visits a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

**Report:** **Preparation:**

At the end of the onsite visit, the onsite team will hold an informal exit meeting to summarize its comments for the superintendent or charter school leader and anyone else he or she chooses. Within approximately 45 business days of the onsite visit, the onsite chairperson will forward to the superintendent or charter school leader (and collaborative director where applicable) a Draft Report containing comments from the Program Review. The Draft Report comments for special education and civil rights are provided to the district/school on-line through the Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS). These comments will, once the district has had a chance to respond, form the basis for any findings by the Department. The district (and collaborative) will then have 10 business days to review the report for accuracy before the publication of a Final Report with ratings and findings (see below). The Final Report will be issued within approximately 60 business days of the conclusion of the onsite visit and posted on the Department’s website at <<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>>.

**Content of Final Report:**

*Ratings.* In the Final Report, the onsite team gives a rating for each compliance criterion it has reviewed; those ratings are “Commendable,” “Implemented,” “Implementation in Progress,” “Partially Implemented,” Not Implemented,” and “Not Applicable.” “Implementation in Progress,” used for criteria containing new or updated legal requirements, means that the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year.

*Findings.* The onsite team includes a finding in the Final Report for each criterion that it rates “Commendable,” “Partially Implemented,” “Not Implemented,” or “Implementation in Progress,” explaining the basis for the rating. It may also include findings for other related criteria.

**Response:** Where criteria are found “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” the district or charter school must propose corrective action to bring those areas into compliance with the relevant statutes and regulations.  This corrective action plan (CAP) will be due to the Department within 20 business days after the issuance of the Final Report and is subject to the Department’s review and approval. Department staff will offer districts and charter schools technical assistance on the content and requirements for developing an approvable CAP.

Department staff will also provide ongoing technical assistance as the school or district is implementing the approved corrective action plan. **School districts and charter schools must demonstrate effective resolution of noncompliance identified by the Department as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from the issuance of the Department’s Final Program Review Report.**

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE FINAL REPORT**

#

A two-member Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education team visited Collegiate Charter School of Lowell during the week of February 13, 2017 to evaluate the implementation of selected criteria in the program areas of special education, civil rights and other related general education requirements, and English learner education. The team appreciated the opportunity to interview staff and parents, to observe classroom facilities and to review the programs underway in the district.

The Department is submitting the following Coordinated Program Review Report containing findings made pursuant to this onsite visit. In preparing this report, the team reviewed extensive written documentation regarding the operation of the district's programs, together with information gathered by means of the following Department program review methods:

* Interviews of four administrative staff.
* Interviews of 14 teaching and support services staff across all levels.
* Interviews of one parent advisory council (PAC) representative and one ELE parent.
* Student record reviews: Samples of 28 special education student records and 21 English learner education student records.
* Surveys of parents of students with disabilities: 50 parents of students with disabilities were sent surveys that solicited information about their experiences with the district’s implementation of special education programs, related services and procedural requirements. Seven of these parent surveys were returned to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for review.
* Surveys of parents of ELE students: 26 parents of ELE students were sent surveys that solicited information about their experiences with the district’s implementation of English learner education programs, services, and procedural requirements. None of these parent surveys were returned to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for review.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities. A sample of five instructional classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services was visited to examine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

The report includes findings in the program areas reviewed organized under nine components. These components are:

**Component I: Assessment of Students**

**Component II: Student Identification and Program Placement**

**Component III: Parent and Community Involvement**

**Component IV: Curriculum and Instruction**

**Component V: Student Support Services**

**Component VI: Faculty, Staff and Administration**

**Component VII: Facilities**

**Component VIII: Program Evaluation**

**Component IX: Recordkeeping and Fund Use**

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| The district conducted a self-assessment and the Department reviewed all of the criteria in the specific program areas. The Coordinated Program Review Report includes those criteria that were found by the team to be implemented in a “Commendable” manner, as well as criteria receiving a rating of "Partially Implemented," "Not Implemented," or “Implementation in Progress.” (Refer to the “Definition of Compliance Ratings” section of the report.) **Program Review Reports no longer include criteria receiving a rating of “Implemented” or “Not Applicable.”** This change will allow the district and the Department to focus their efforts on those areas requiring corrective action. For those criteria receiving a rating of “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” the district or charter school must propose to the Department corrective actions to bring those areas into compliance with the controlling statute or regulation. For any criteria receiving a rating of “Implementation in Progress,” the district must indicate the steps the district will continue to take in order to fulfill the regulatory requirements. Districts are expected to incorporate the corrective actions into their district and school improvement plans, including their professional development plans. |

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| **DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS** |
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| **Commendable** | Any requirement or aspect of a requirement implemented in an exemplary manner significantly beyond the requirements of law or regulation. |
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| **Implemented** | The requirement is substantially met in all important aspects. |
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| **Implementation in Progress** | This rating is used for criteria containing new or updated legal requirements and means that the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year. |
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| **Partially Implemented** | The requirement, in one or several important aspects, is not entirely met. |
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| **Not Implemented** | The requirement is totally or substantially not met. |
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| **Not Applicable**  | The requirement does not apply to the school district or charter school. |

Collegiate Charter School of Lowell)

**SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE CRITERIA RATINGS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Special Education** | **Civil Rights and Other General Education Requirements** | **English Learner Education** |
| **IMPLEMENTED** | SE 1, SE 3A, SE 4, SE 5, SE 6, SE 8, SE 9, SE 9A, SE 10, SE 11, SE 12, SE 14, SE 15, SE 18A, SE 18B, SE 19, SE 20, SE 21, SE 22, SE 25, SE 25A, SE 25B, SE 26, SE 27, SE 29, SE 33, SE 34, SE 35, SE 36, SE 40, SE 41, SE 43, SE 44, SE 45, SE 46, SE 47, SE 48, SE 49, SE 50, SE 51, SE 52, SE 52A, SE 53, SE 55, SE 56, SE 59 | CR 3, CR 6, CR 7, CR 7A, CR 7B, CR 8, CR 10A, CR 11A, CR 14, CR 15, CR 18, CR 20, CR 21, CR 22, CR 23, CR 26A | ELE 1, ELE 2, ELE 3, ELE 4, ELE 5, ELE 6, ELE 7, ELE 8, ELE 9, ELE 11, ELE 12, ELE 13, ELE 15, ELE 16, ELE 17 |
| **PARTIALLY****IMPLEMENTED** | SE 2, SE 3, SE 13, SE 24, SE 32, SE 54 | CR 10B, CR 10C, CR 12A, CR 17A, CR 18A | ELE 10, ELE 14, ELE 18 |
| **NOT IMPLEMENTED** |  | CR 24, CR 25 |  |
| **NOT APPLICABLE** | SE 7, SE 16, SE 17, SE 37, SE 38, SE 39A, SE 39B, SE 42 | CR 7C, CR 9, CR 10, CR 13, CR 16 |  |

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| **SPECIAL EDUCATION** **LEGAL STANDARDS,** **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND** **FINDINGS**  |

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 2** | Required and optional assessments1. Required assessments: The following assessments are completed by appropriately credentialed and trained specialists for each referred student:
	1. Assessment(s) in all areas related to the suspected disability(y) (ies) including consideration of any needed assistive technology devices and services and/or instruction in Braille.
	2. Educational assessment by a representative of the school district, including a history of the student’s educational progress in the general curriculum.
	3. Assessment by a teacher(s) with current knowledge regarding the student’s specific abilities in relation to learning standards of the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and the district’s general education curriculum, as well as an assessment of the student’s attention skills, participation behaviors, communication skills, memory, and social relations with groups, peers, and adults.
	4. For a student being assessed to determine eligibility for services at age three (3), an observation of the student’s interactions in the student’s natural environment or early intervention program is strongly encouraged together with the use of current assessments from Early Intervention Teams to avoid duplicate testing.
2. Optional assessments: The Administrator of Special Education may recommend or the parent may request one or more of the following:
	1. A comprehensive health assessment by a physician that identifies medical problems or constraints that may affect the student's education. The school nurse may add additional relevant health information from the student’s school health records.
	2. A psychological assessment by a certified school psychologist, licensed psychologist, or licensed educational psychologist, including an individual psychological examination.
	3. A home assessment that may be conducted by a nurse, psychologist, social worker, guidance or adjustment counselor, or teacher and includes information on pertinent family history and home situation and may include a home visit, with the agreement of the parent.
3. At the re-evaluation of a student, if no additional assessments are needed to determine whether the student continues to be eligible for special education, the school district recommends to the student’s parents the following:
	1. that no further assessments are needed and the reasons for this; and
	2. the right of such parents to request an assessment.
 |
|  | **State Requirements** | **Federal Requirements** |
|  | 603 CMR 28.04 (1) and (2) | 34 CFR 300.304; 300.305;300.324(a)(2)(v) |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records and staff interviews indicated that the charter school does not consistently complete an educational assessment by a representative of the school district, including a history of the student's educational progress in the general curriculum and an assessment by a teacher(s) with current knowledge regarding the student's specific abilities in relation to learning standards of the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and the district's general education curriculum, as well as an assessment of the student's attention skills, participation behaviors, communication skills, memory, and social relations with groups, peers, and adults.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 3** | Special requirements for determination of specific learning disabilityWhen a student suspected of having a specific learning disability is evaluated, the Team creates a written determination as to whether or not he or she has a specific learning disability, which is signed by all members of the Team, or if there is disagreement as to the determination, one or more Team members document their disagreement. |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  |  | 34 CFR 300.8(c)(10); 300.311 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records and staff interviews indicated that when a student suspected of having a specific learning disability is evaluated, the Team does not consistently create a written determination as to whether or not he or she has a specific learning disability, which is signed by all members of the Team. If one or more members are in disagreement as to the determination, the Team does not consistently document their disagreement.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 13** | Progress Reports and content 1. Parents receive reports on the student's progress towards reaching the goals set in the IEP at least as often as parents are informed of the progress of non-disabled students.
2. Progress report information sent to parents includes written information on the student’s progress toward the annual goals in the IEP.
3. Where a student’s eligibility terminates because the student has graduated from secondary school or exceeded the age of eligibility, the school district provides the student with a summary of his or her academic achievement and functional performance, including recommendations on how to assist the student in meeting his or her postsecondary goals.
 |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | 603 CMR 28.07(3) | 34 CFR 300.305(e)(3); 300.320(a)(3) |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records and staff interviews indicated that although parents receive written information on the student's progress towards the annual related service(s) goals in the IEP, they do not receive written information on progress regarding all other goals set in the IEP.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | SPECIAL EDUCATION**III. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT** |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 24** | Notice to parent regarding proposal or refusal to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the student or the provision of FAPE1. A student may be referred for an evaluation by a parent or any person in a caregiving or professional position concerned with the student's development.
2. When a student is referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education, the school district sends written notice to the student's parent(s) within 5 school days of receipt of the referral, along with the district’s notice of procedural safeguards. The written notice meets all of the content requirements set forth in M.G.L. c.71B, §3, and in federal law, seeks the consent of the parent for the evaluation to occur, and provides the parent with the opportunity to express any concerns or provide information on the student’s skills or abilities and to consult regarding the evaluators to be used.
3. For all other actions, the district gives notice complying with federal requirements within a reasonable time.
4. The school district provides the student's parent(s) with an opportunity to consult with the Special Education Administrator or his/her designee to discuss the reasons for the referral and the nature of the proposed evaluation.
5. The district provides parents with an opportunity to consult with the Administrator of Special Education or his/her designee regarding the evaluators to be used and the proposed content of all required and optional assessments
6. The school district does not limit a parent’s right to refer a student for timely special education evaluation because the district has not fully explored and/or attempted some or all of the available instructional support programs or other interventions available in general education that may be described in the district’s curriculum accommodation plan, including any pre-referral program.
7. The school district refuses to conduct an initial evaluation only when the circumstances of a student make clear that there is no suspicion of a disability and that there is no concern about the student’s development.
 |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71B, § 3; 603 CMR 28.04(1) | 34 CFR 300.503; 300.504(a)(1) |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records indicated that information included in the narrative description of the Notice of Proposed School District Action (N1) does not consistently include the following: any options that the school considered and the reasons why those options were rejected; evaluation procedure(s), test(s), record(s) or report(s) used as a basis for the proposed action; other relevant factors for the school's decisions; and what next steps, if any, are recommended.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 32** | Parent advisory council for special education 1. The school district has established a district-wide parent advisory council on special education.
2. Membership on the council is offered to all parents of students with disabilities and other interested parties.
3. The parent advisory council duties include but are not limited to: advising the district on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities; meeting regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the school district’s special education programs.
4. The parent advisory council has established by-laws regarding officers and operational procedures.
5. The parent advisory council receives assistance from the school committee without charge, upon reasonable notice, and subject to the availability of staff and resources.
6. The school district conducts, in cooperation with the parent advisory council, at least one workshop annually within the district on the rights of students and their parents and guardians under the state and federal special education laws.
 |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71B, § 3; 603 CMR 28.03(1)(a)(4); 28.07(4) |  |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and interviews indicated that the parent advisory council for special education has not advised the charter school on matters that pertain to the education and safety of students with disabilities or met regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development, and evaluation of the charter school's special education programs. In addition, the charter school has not conducted, in cooperation with the parent advisory council, at least one workshop annually on the rights of students and their parents and guardians under the state and federal special education laws.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 54** | **Professional development**1. The district considers the needs of all staff in developing training opportunities for professional and paraprofessional staff and provides a variety of offerings.
2. The district ensures that all staff, including both special education and general education staff, are trained on:
	1. state and federal special education requirements and related local special education policies and procedures;
	2. analyzing and accommodating diverse learning styles of all students in order to achieve an objective of inclusion in the general education classroom of students with diverse learning styles;
	3. methods of collaboration among teachers, paraprofessionals and teacher assistants to accommodate diverse learning styles of all students in the general education classroom;
3. The district provides in-service training for all locally hired and contracted transportation providers, before they begin transporting any special education student receiving special transportation, on his or her needs and appropriate methods of meeting those needs; for any such student it also provides written information on the nature of any needs or problems that may cause difficulties, along with information on appropriate emergency measures. Transportation providers include drivers of general and special education vehicles and any attendants or aides identified by a Team for either type of vehicle.
 |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, §§ 38G , 38Q and 38Q ½603 CMR 28.03(1)(a); 28.06(8)(b) and (c) |  |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that the charter school does not ensure that all staff, including both special education and general education staff, are trained on methods of collaboration among teachers, paraprofessionals and teacher assistants to accommodate diverse learning styles of all students in the general education classroom.* |

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| **CIVIL RIGHTS** **METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)** **AND** **OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS****LEGAL STANDARDS,** **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND** **FINDINGS** |

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 10B | Bullying Intervention and Prevention1. Public schools (including charter schools and collaboratives) must update school handbooks to conform to their updated amended Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan (Plan). The school handbook (and local updated Plan) must be consistent with the amendments to the Massachusetts anti-bullying law, which became effective July 1, 2013. The amendments extend protections to students who are bullied by a member of the school staff. As defined in G.L. c. 71, 37O, as amended, a member of the school staff includes, but is not limited to, an “educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional.” The school handbook must make clear that a member of the school staff may be named the “aggressor” or “perpetrator” in a bullying report.
2. School and district employee handbooks must also contain relevant sections of the amended Plan relating to the duties of faculty and staff and relevant provisions addressing the bullying of students by a school staff member.
3. Each year all school districts and schools must give parents and guardians annual written notice of the student-related sections of the local Plan.
4. Each year all school districts and schools must provide all staff with annual written notice of the Plan.
5. All schools and school districts must implement, for all school staff, professional development that includes developmentally appropriate strategies to prevent bullying incidents; developmentally appropriate strategies for immediate, effective interventions to stop bullying incidents; information regarding the complex interaction and power differential that can take place between and among a perpetrator, victim and witnesses to the bullying; research findings on bullying, including information about specific categories of students who have been shown to be particularly at risk for bullying in the school environment; information on the incidence and nature of cyber-bullying; and internet safety issues as they relate to cyber-bullying.
 |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, s. 37H, as amended by Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2010. M.G.L. c. 71, s. 37O(e)(1) & (2). M.G.L. c. 71, s. 370(d), as amended. |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that the charter school's Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan, as referenced in the student handbook, has not been amended to extend protections to students who are bullied by a member of the school staff. In addition, the school handbook does not make clear that a member of the school staff may be named the "aggressor" or "perpetrator" in a bullying report. Furthermore, a review of documentation and staff interviews indicated related professional development does not include: developmentally appropriate strategies to prevent bullying incidents; developmentally appropriate strategies for immediate, effective interventions to stop bullying incidents; information regarding the complex interaction and power differential that can take place between and among a perpetrator, victim and witnesses to the bullying; research findings on bullying, including information about specific categories of students who have been shown to be particularly at risk for bullying in the school environment; information on the incidence and nature of cyber-bullying; and internet safety issues as they relate to cyber-bullying.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 10C | Student DisciplineEach school committee and board of trustees shall ensure that policies and procedures are in place in public preschool, elementary, and secondary schools and programs under its jurisdiction that meet, at a minimum, the requirements of M.G.L.c. 71, section 37H ¾, M.G.L.c. 76, section 21, and 603 CMR 53.00. These policies and procedures must address or establish, but are not limited to:1. The notice of suspension and hearing;
2. Procedures for emergency removal;
3. Procedures for principal hearings for both short and long-term suspension;
4. Procedures for in-school suspension;
5. Procedures for superintendent hearing;
6. Procedures for education services and academic progress (School-wide Education Service Plan);
7. A system for periodic review of discipline data by special populations;
8. Alternatives to suspension.
 |
|  | M.G.L.c. 71, section 37H ¾, M.G.L.c. 76, section 21, and 603 CMR 53.00, M.G.L.c. 71 section 38R and Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2013. |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that while the charter school has established student discipline procedures, these do not include: procedures for emergency removal; procedures for principal hearings for both short and long-term suspension; procedures for in-school suspension; procedures for superintendent hearing; procedures for education services and academic progress (School-wide Education Service Plan); and alternatives to suspension.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 12A | Annual and continuous notification concerning nondiscrimination and coordinators1. If the district offers vocational education programs, it advises students, parents, employees and the general public before the beginning of each school year that all vocational opportunities will be offered regardless of race, color, national origin, gender identity, sex or disability. The notice includes a brief summary of program offerings and admission criteria and the name(s), office address(es), and phone number(s) of the person(s) designated under CR 11A to coordinate compliance under Title IX and Section 504.
2. In all cases, the district takes continuing steps to notify applicants, students, parents, and employees (including those with impaired vision or hearing), as well as unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the district, that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender identity, sex, or disability. This notice, also, includes the name(s), office address(es), and phone number(s) of the person(s) designated under CR 11A to coordinate compliance under Title IX and Section 504.
3. Written materials and other media used to publicize a school include a notice that the school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, religion, or sexual orientation.
 |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.6(d); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.8(a), 106.9; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.8; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.02(2) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011. |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:**  |
| *A review of documents indicated that flyers used to publicize the charter school do not include a notice that the charter school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, religion, or sexual orientation. In addition, the student handbook does not include the name(s), office address(es), and phone number(s) of the person(s) designated to coordinate compliance under Title IX and Section 504.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 17A | Use of physical restraint on any student enrolled in a publicly-funded education program1. Public education programs must develop and implement written restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures consistent with new regulations 603CMR 46.00 regarding appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention.
	1. restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures shall be annually reviewed and provided to program staff and made available to parents of enrolled students.
	2. restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures shall include, but not be limited to: methods for preventing student violence, self-injurious behavior and suicide; methods for engaging parents and youth in discussions about restraint prevention and use; a description and explanation of the program’s alternatives to physical restraint and method of physical restraint in emergency situations; a statement prohibiting: medication restraint, mechanical restraint, prone restraint unless permitted pursuant to 603 CMR 46.03(1)(b), seclusion, and the use of restraint inconsistent with 603 CMR 46.03; a description of the program’s training requirements, reporting requirements, and follow-up procedures; a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints; a procedure for conducting periodic review of data and documentation on the program’s use of restraint; a procedure for implementing the reporting requirements; a procedure for making both oral and written notification to the parent; and a procedure for the use of time-out.
2. Each principal or director shall determine a time and method to provide all program staff with training regarding the program’s restraint prevention and behavior support policy and requirements when restraint is used. Such training shall occur within the first month of each school year and, for employees hired after the school year begins, within a month of their employment.
3. At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each public education program or his/her designee shall identify program staff who are authorized to serve as a school-wide resource to assist in ensuring proper administration of physical restraint. Such staff shall have in-depth training on the use of physical restraint.
4. The program administers physical restraint on students only in emergency situations of last resort when needed to protect a student and/or member of the school community from assault or imminent, serious, physical harm and with extreme caution in order to prevent or minimize any harm to the student as a result of the use of physical restraint..
 |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, § 37G; 603 CMR 46.00 effective January 1, 2016 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that program staff are not provided with annual training regarding the charter school's restraint prevention and behavior support policy and requirements when restraint is used.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **CR 18A** | School district employment practicesDistrict employment practices in general are free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender identity, national origin, sex, or disability. The district’s employee recruitment is aimed at reaching all groups, including members of linguistic, ethnic, and racial minorities, females and males, and persons with disabilities. |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(c); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(d); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.51-106.61; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.11-104.14; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.140; Mass. Const. amend. art 114 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement in the employee handbook indicated that gender identity is not included.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)**AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS****VIII. PROGRAM PLAN AND EVALUATION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **CR 24** | Curriculum reviewThe district ensures that individual teachers in the district review all educational materials for simplistic and demeaning generalizations, lacking intellectual merit, on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin and sexual orientation. Appropriate activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials are used to provide balance and context for any such stereotypes depicted in such materials. |
|  | M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.05(2) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Not Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that the charter school does not have a process that involves individual teachers in the review of educational materials for consideration of simplistic and demeaning generalizations, lacking intellectual merit, on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, and sexual orientation.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 25 | Institutional self-evaluationThe district evaluates all aspects of its K-12 program annually to ensure that all students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, disability, or housing status, have equal access to all programs, including athletics and other extracurricular activities. It makes such changes as are indicated by the evaluation. |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(b)(2); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4(b)(4); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130(b)(3); NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Sec. 722(g)(1)(J)(i), 722(g)(7); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, § 7; c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07(1),(4) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Not Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that the charter school does not evaluate all aspects of its program annually to ensure that all students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, disability, or housing status, have equal access to all programs, including athletics and other extracurricular activities.* |

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| **ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION****LEGAL STANDARDS,** **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND** **FINDINGS** |

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**IV. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| ELE 10 | **Parental Notification**1. Upon identification of a student as EL, and annually thereafter, a notice is mailed to the parents or guardians written where practicable in the primary/home language as well as in English, that informs parents of:
	1. the reasons for identification of the student as EL;
	2. the child's level of English proficiency;
	3. program placement and/or the method of instruction used in the program;
	4. how the program will meet the educational strengths and needs of the student;
	5. how the program will specifically help the child learn English;
	6. the specific exit requirements;
	7. the parents' right to apply for a waiver (see ELE 4), or to decline to enroll their child in the program (see ELE 8)
2. The district shall send report cards and progress reports including, but not limited to, progress in becoming proficient in using English language and other school communications to the parents or legal guardians of students in the English learners programs in the same manner and the frequency as report cards and progress reports to the other students enrolled in the district. The reports are, to the maximum extent practicable, written in a language understandable to the parent/guardian.

Authority: NCLB, Title III, Part C, Sec. 3302(a), (c); G.L. c. 71A, § 7; 603 CMR 14.02 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records indicated that while the charter school sends initial and annual notifications to parents of English learners, it does not consistently translate such notices, when requested.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| ELE 14 | **Licensure Requirements**Licensure requirements for districts where ELs are enrolled:Every district, including every Commonwealth charter school, has at least one teacher who has an English as a Second Language or Transitional Bilingual Education, or ELL license under G.L. c.71**,** § 38G and 603 CMR 7.04(3). (This requirement does not apply separately to Horace Mann charter schools.)Except at Commonwealth charter schools, *every* teacher or other educational staff member who teaches ELLs holds an appropriate license or current waiver issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.Core academic teachers\* of ELs, including charter schools and education collaboratives, must hold an SEI Teacher Endorsement as set forth in 603 CMR 7.00 and this section. A core academic teacher who does not have the Endorsement may be assigned an EL but the teacher must obtain the SEI Endorsement within a year of the assignment, as set forth at 603 CMR 7.15(9)(b)1.\* Under Department regulations adopted in June 2012, starting on July 1, 2016, core academic teachers (including pre-school teachers) in public schools who are assigned to teach ELs must have an SEI Endorsement or must earn the Endorsement within one year of the assignment. 603 CMR §§7.15(9)(b)1 and 14.07(3); The following teachers are “core academic teachers” for purposes of providing SEI instruction: teachers of students with moderate disabilities; teachers of students with severe disabilities; subject-area teachers in English, reading or language arts; mathematics, science; civics and government, economics, history, and geography; and early childhood and elementary teachers who teach such content. Core academic teachers of ELs at Commonwealth charter schools are not required to hold an educator license but they are subject to the same SEI Endorsement requirements as core academic teachers of ELs in other public schools.Any school district that assigns an EL to a core academic teacher who has a year to obtain an SEI endorsement, must take all reasonable steps to ensure that such EL is assigned to core academic teachers with an SEI endorsement in subsequent school years.Starting on July 1, 2016, no principal, assistant principal, or supervisor/director shall supervise or evaluate a core academic teacher who provides sheltered English instruction to an English learner unless such principal, assistant principal, or supervisor/director holds an SEI Teacher Endorsement or SEI Administrator Endorsement, or will earn either endorsement within one year of the commencement of such supervision or evaluation.Except at Commonwealth charter schools, any director of ELE program(s) who is employed in that role for one-half time or more has a Supervisor/Director license and an English as a Second Language (ESL), Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) or an ELL license.If a district with 200 or more ELs—including all charter schools with 200 or more ELs—has a director of EL programs, that director has an English as a Second Language, Transitional Bilingual Education, or an EL license even if he or she is employed in that position for less than one-half time. (This requirement does not apply separately to Horace Mann charter schools.)**Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 71, § 38G, §89(qq); St. 2002, c. 218, §§ 24, 25, 30; 603 CMR 7.04(3), 7.09(3); 603 CMR 7.14 (1) and (2); 603 CMR 7.15(9)(b); 603 CMR 14.07.** |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of documentation and a review of ELAR indicated that not all charter school ESL teachers who provide students with ESL instruction hold an ESL license or a current waiver issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**IX. RECORD KEEPING** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| ELE 18 | **Records of ELL Students**ELL student records include:1. home language survey;
2. results of identification and proficiency tests and evaluations;
3. ACCESS for ELLs report;
4. MCAS/PARCC report;
5. information about students' previous school experiences if available;
6. copies of parent notification letters;
7. progress reports, in the native language, if necessary;
8. report cards, in the native language, if necessary;
9. evidence of follow-up monitoring, if applicable;
10. documentation of a parent’s consent to “opt-out” of ESL instruction, if applicable;
11. waiver documentation, if applicable;
12. individualized learning plan (optional).

**Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 69, § 1I; c. 71A, §§ 5, 7; 603 CMR 14.02, 14.04** |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *A review of student records indicated that English learner student records do not consistently include MCAS reports.* |

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| This Coordinated Program Review Final Report is also available at:<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>.Profile information supplied by each charter school and school district, including information for individual schools within districts, is available at <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/>. |

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