**RENEWAL OF SPONSORED SCHOOLS**

Pursuant to Ohio law, the Board of Education may renew or non-renew a sponsor contract with a sponsored school. This policy explains when the District may renew or non-renew a sponsored school’s contract and explains the procedures to be followed if non-renewal occurs.

Application for Renewal

The Board requires all community schools sponsored by the District to apply for renewal of their sponsor contract through a renewal application.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop an application for renewal (“Renewal Application”). The Renewal Application shall require the sponsored school to provide the following:

a. multiple years of student achievement,

b. multiple measures of student achievement,

c. financial audits for each year,

d. site visit reports,

e. other compliance reports,

f. status reports on other required interventions, and

g. other criteria determined applicable.

The Board directs the Superintendent to adopt a documented, systematic renewal process. The process must include a defined timeline for renewals, criteria used to evaluate Renewal Applications, clear directions for Renewal Applications, and guidance for application.

The Renewal Application and all documentation related to the renewal process must be posted on the District’s website.

Completed Applications

Completed Renewal Applications shall be reviewed by the District’s sponsor staff to determine whether the school is fiscally and operationally viable, has achieved its contractual standards, and is faithful to the terms of the sponsor contract. The District’s sponsor staff shall provide evidence-based recommendations to the Board regarding contract renewal.

Criteria for Renewal

The Board may non-renew a sponsored school’s contract when there is clear evidence of one (1) or more of the following:

a. Failure to meet student performance requirements stated in the contract;

b. Failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management;

c. Violation of any provision of the contract or applicable state or federal law; or

d. Other good cause.

Evidence supporting renewal must be provided during the renewal application process. Evidence may include, but is not limited to, the completed Renewal Application, academic performance measures from the sponsor contract, the school’s report card issued by the State of Ohio, financial audits, site visit reports, compliance reports, opinions of legal counsel, status reports on corrective action plans or other required interventions, documentation required by the sponsor contract, or other documentation demonstrating clear violation of the criteria for termination above.

Procedure for Renewal or Non-Renewal

The Board adopts the following procedure for renewal and non-renewal of sponsored schools.

1. The District’s sponsor staff shall make a recommendation to the Board regarding renewal. The Board shall pass a resolution of its intent to renew or non-renew the sponsor contract.

2. The District shall notify a community school of proposed non-renewal, in writing, no later than January 15 of the year the Board intends to non-renew the contract. The notice must include:

a. The reason(s) for the intended non-renewal;

b. The effective date of the non-renewal;

c. A statement, notifying the school of the right to appear, upon request, before the Board at an informal hearing to challenge the reason(s) for the intended termination; and

d. The request to appear must be made within fourteen (14) days of receiving the request, in writing.

3. The informal hearing shall be held within fourteen (14) days of the District’s receipt of a request for the hearing.

4. No later than fourteen (14) days after the informal hearing, the Board shall issue a written decision either affirming or rescinding the decision to non-renew the contract.

5. The non-renewal of the contract shall be effective upon the later of the following: (a) the date the sponsor notifies the school of its decision to terminate the contract; or (b) the effective date of the termination specified in the notification of termination.

6. The District shall notify the school’s families of non-renewal by January 15 of the year of non-renewal.

Quality Practices Rubric: E.01 – Renewal Application; E.02 – Renewal and Non-Renewal Decisions; E.03 – Non-Renewal Notifications

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_