



## **IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**

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## **PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

January 9, 2018  
304 N 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Boise ID  
Borah Building, Room 242  
(Telephone Meeting)

### **AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 9th, 2018 – 304 N 8<sup>th</sup> St, Room 242, 1:00 p.m. (by telephone)**

- 1. PCSC Consideration of Temporary Waiver of PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 regarding Renewal Hearing Date**

If auxiliary aids or services are needed for individuals with disabilities, or if you wish to speak during the Open Forum, please contact the SBOE office at 334-2270 or PCSC staff before the meeting opens. While the PCSC attempts to address items in the listed order, some items may be addressed by the PCSC prior to or after the order listed.

**SUBJECT**

PCSC Consideration of Temporary Waiver of PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 regarding Renewal Hearing Date

**APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

PCSC Policy Section V

**BACKGROUND**

In 2015, the PCSC adopted its current policies related to the charter renewal process. Policy Section V.11-12 requires that the PCSC hold renewal hearings during its February regular meeting.

**DISCUSSION**

After the inaugural renewal process in 2017, the PCSC received feedback from schools requesting additional time to respond to staff's renewal recommendations prior to a hearing, if such hearing is requested.

The PCSC's Renewal Committee has expressed support of a revised renewal process developed by staff in response to stakeholder feedback, including later hearing dates in order to accommodate schools' request for additional response time.

Implementation of the modified renewal process conflicts with PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 because allowing additional response time from schools requires that hearings, if requested, be held later than the PCSC's February regular meeting. A temporary waiver of PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 would permit the PCSC to test the modified process in 2018 before potentially adopting policy amendments to make the change permanent.

**IMPACT**

If the PCSC temporarily waives PCSC Policy Section V.11-12, any requested hearings related to 2018 renewal considerations could be held later than the PCSC's February regular meeting. Final renewal decisions would still need to be made by the statutory deadline of March 15.

**STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends that the PCSC temporarily waive PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 in order to accommodate schools' request for additional time in which to consider renewal recommendations.

**COMMISSION ACTION**

A motion to temporarily waive PCSC Policy Section V.11-12 for purposes of the 2018 renewal process.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ Carried Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## As Adopted and Amended June 11, 2015

### Section V: Renewal and Non-Renewal (Adopted June 11, 2015)

#### Standards for Renewal Decision-Making.

1. The PCSC shall make renewal decisions based on documented outcomes regarding a school's academic, mission-specific, operational, and fiscal performance. Such performance shall be evaluated using the provisions, conditions, and measures contained in the performance certificate and its appendices, including the performance framework.
2. Calculation of the percentage of eligible points earned on the academic and mission-specific sections of the performance framework for each school shall determine that school's accountability designation: Honor, Good Standing, Remediation, or Critical. The accountability designation shall guide the PCSC's renewal or non-renewal decision-making. Renewal or non-renewal decision-making shall also be influenced by results on the operational and financial sections of the framework.
  - a. Schools achieving an accountability designation of Honor shall be recommended for renewal. Schools that fall into the point-percentage range for Honor but whose financial and/or operational outcomes are poor shall not be eligible for an Honor designation.
  - b. Schools achieving an accountability designation of Good Standing shall be recommended for renewal; however, conditional renewal may be recommended if financial and/or operational outcomes are poor.
  - c. Schools achieving an accountability designation of Remediation may be recommended for non-renewal or conditional renewal, particularly if financial and/or operational outcomes are poor.
  - d. Schools achieving an accountability designation of Critical are likely to be recommended for non-renewal, particularly if financial and/or operational outcomes are poor.
  - e. Financial or operational outcomes shall be considered poor if points achieved on the corresponding section of the performance framework place the school in remediation or critical status for that section.
  - f. Measures for which a school lacks data due to factors such as grade configuration or small size shall not contribute to that school's accountability designation.
  - g. Student-level data may be considered by the PCSC, in a manner consistent with federal and state law, for the purposes of renewal or non-renewal decision-making.
3. The PCSC shall consider contextual factors affecting a school's accountability designation when making renewal or non-renewal decisions. However, renewal decisions shall be based on past outcomes, not on promises of future improvement.

# PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As Adopted and Amended June 11, 2015

4. The PCSC shall consider trends documented in a school's annual reports for the years leading up to renewal. Statistically significant, positive growth trends will make renewal of schools with Remediation accountability designations more likely, while stagnant or negative growth trends will make renewal of such schools less likely. Trends may also contribute to recommendations for conditional renewal.
5. If a school fails to meet specific conditions for necessary improvement within the specified timeframes included in Appendix A of the performance certificate, non-renewal may result regardless of the school's accountability designation.
6. Conditional renewals shall be for periods of five years, but shall include in Appendix A of the performance certificate specific conditions for necessary improvement pursuant to §33-5209B(1), Idaho Code.

## Renewal / Non-Renewal Process

7. No later than November 15, the PCSC shall issue to all renewal-year schools a performance report and renewal application guidance that meets the requirements of §33-5209B, Idaho Code. The performance report shall include notification of the prospect of non-renewal, if applicable.
8. Renewal-year schools may submit corrections and clarifications to the PCSC's performance report with thirty (30) days of issuance of the performance report.
  - a. Corrections and clarifications shall be submitted to the PCSC office in writing and shall include, at minimum:
    - i. A completed Annual Report Response Form clearly identifying each correction/clarification; and
    - ii. Documentation supporting each correction/clarification.
9. Renewal-year schools shall submit a renewal application to the PCSC no later than December 15. Renewal applications shall be submitted in accordance with the renewal application guidance provided by the PCSC and represent the charter holders' opportunity to submit documents challenging any rationale for non-renewal and supporting the continuation of the school.
  - a. Renewal applications shall be submitted to the PCSC office electronically via email or online file-sharing service.
  - b. Renewal applications shall be comprised of no more than two (2) documents: the completed application form and an Adobe PDF document providing any supporting documentation. Supporting documentation shall include a table of contents and make use of Adobe's "bookmark" feature for ease of navigation. Additional documents in other formats may be accepted, on a case-by-case basis, with the prior approval of PCSC staff.
  - c. Schools that fail to submit their completed renewal applications, in a format consistent with this policy, by the statutory deadline may be recommended for non-renewal.

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## As Adopted and Amended June 11, 2015

10. No later than January 15, PCSC staff will advise any renewal-year schools regarding whether they will be recommended for renewal or non-renewal. The purpose of this notice is to permit schools that may be recommended for non-renewal time to prepare a response in advance of the PCSC's regular February meeting.
11. During its February regular meeting, the PCSC will consider evidence regarding all renewal-year schools.
  - a. Written evidence provided by schools as part of their renewal application shall be provided to the PCSC. Additional written evidence shall not be accepted from schools after the meeting materials deadline.
  - b. Any written evidence provided by PCSC staff shall be published on the PCSC's website at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.
  - c. Both schools and the PCSC may be represented by counsel.
  - d. Schools may call witnesses and give testimony.
  - e. The PCSC may call witnesses and give testimony.
  - f. The PCSC may delegate the hearing of evidence to a hearing officer, or may hear evidence itself.
12. Schools may submit written closing arguments to the PCSC office within seven (7) days of the February regular PCSC meeting.
13. No later than March 15, the PCSC will hold a special meeting for the purpose of making final renewal or non-renewal determinations regarding all renewal-year schools.