



Brighter Choice

CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

for Boys & Girls

New York State Board of Regents
State Education Department
Charter School Office
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12234

February 23, 2021

To the Board of Regents:

Upon receiving the Renewal Site Visit Reports, dated February 11, 2021, for Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys (BCCS-B) and Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls (BCCS-G), our schools were given the opportunity to respond to the reports. On behalf of the Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools Board of Trustees and the leaders of both schools, I am submitting this response to the Site Visit Reports.

We were proud that both schools received a rating of “Meets” on 9 of the 10 benchmarks, which demonstrates significant improvement from our previous renewal cycle when both schools received a rating of “Meets” 6 of the 10 benchmarks.

With this response, we would like specifically to address Benchmark 9, which was rated “Approaches” at both schools. Both BCCS-B and BCCS-G serve populations that are substantially at-risk. Our enrollment of economically disadvantaged (ED) students has always exceeded that of the district by double digits, and our enrollment of English language learners (ELLs) has steadily increased at both schools throughout our charter term.

- In 2019-20, BCCS-B enrolled 96% ED students, +31 percentage points more than the district;
- In 2019-20, BCCS-G enrolled 87% ED students, +22 percentage points more than the district; and
- As a result of concerted efforts, BCCS-B’s ELL (including former ELLs) population increased from 3% in 2016-17 to 8% in 2019-20 and was 5 percentage points below the district in 2019-20. In 2019-20, BCCS-G enrolled 12% ELLs compared to 13% ELLs in the district.

While we are meeting our targets for enrollment of ED students and ELLs, both BCCS schools are continuing to approach the target for enrollment of students with disabilities (SWD). We have been closely monitoring this challenge and continue to implement strategies for increasing the enrollment of SWD at both schools. Currently, we are exploring the possibility of introducing behavior-modification settings, 12:1:1 classrooms and other classrooms in order to reach more SWD. We remain committed to enrolling and serving SWD as we enter our next charter term.

Thank you for your consideration,


Martha J. Snyder (Feb 23, 2021 14:12 EST)

Martha Snyder, Chair
Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools