



CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE
ROOM 5N EB Mezzanine, 89 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALBANY NY, 12234
Tel. 518/474-1762; Fax 518/474-7558; charterschools@nysed.gov

To: School District in which Brooklyn RISE Charter School is Located
Public and Nonpublic Schools in the Same Geographic Area as Brooklyn RISE Charter School

From: Lisa Long, Executive Director

Subject: Notice of Receipt of and Pending Action on Charter School Renewal with Revisions

Date: September 15, 2023

Name of Charter School: Brooklyn RISE Charter School
BEDS Code: 331500861156
District/CSD of Location: New York City Geographic District #15
District(s) Required to Hold a Hearing: New York City Geographic District #15
Deadline to Hold Hearing: October 16, 2023 (30 calendar days)
Type of Request: Renewal with Revisions
Current Charter Term: 8/26/2019-6/30/2024
Proposed New Charter Term: 7/1/2024-6/30/2029
Management Company: NA
Grades Served in the Current Academic Year: K-5
Approved Grades and Maximum Enrollment: K-5; 312
Proposed Revision(s):

1. A revision requested by this charter school to increase its grade span to include Grades 6 through 8 to its current kindergarten through Grade 5 configuration; and to make a corresponding increase to its authorized enrollment from 312 students to 468 students by year five of the renewal charter term. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.
2. A revision requested by this charter school to amend this Key Design Element, beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. College Begins in kindergarten. **(removing bold font language)** "We believe that college preparation begins on the first day of kindergarten; it is our responsibility to provide all students with the knowledge, habits, and mindset to be on the path to college beginning day one. True college preparation requires ample time for high-quality instruction. To ensure students are getting the instructional time they need, we provide an extended school day and year. **Students will attend school for eight hours per day, two hours longer than the school day offered at district schools in our proposed community. This will result in 27 extra days of learning each school year. Our school calendar will be 186 days, 6 days more than that**

provided by local district schools. In total including our extended day and year. Extended learning time, when used strategically, yields significant academic benefits, especially for specific student subgroups such as ELLs. Additional instructional time will allow students to develop the skills they need to be on the path to college. We prioritize time in our extended model on the core subjects. All students will be reading and writing at or above grade level by third grade. All will receive approximately 200 minutes of daily literacy instruction. That time will be used for a balanced literacy approach: students will engage in interactive read aloud, shared reading, small-group guided reading, and independent reading each day. Targeted guided reading provides students the opportunity for phonics work and word study, critical to the development of reading skills. The balanced approach between print and language-rich learning opportunities is an accepted best practice supported by research and national literacy experts. We will provide targeted development and support to teachers so they can implement rigorous literacy instruction, guided by principles in Reading Reconsidered. We will incorporate close reading and challenging texts, so students develop into enthusiastic, analytical readers. A love of literacy will be cultivated across classrooms and throughout the school community. Each classroom will have a library of books labeled by level and organized by genre or topic; students will have independent reading books with them throughout the day. In addition to 200 minutes of daily literacy instruction, students will be expected to read at home every night; families will sign nightly reading logs, provided in the home language, to ensure literacy expectations are consistent in school and at home. With the goal of placing students on the path to college, we will develop rigorous curricula and deliver quality instruction across content areas. To ensure students are being challenged and engaging with high-quality content, we will select research-based, standards-aligned curricula across subject areas and create internal curricula as necessary. Within each subject area, we will break down content using essential questions and key ideas that students need to answer and understand to master an objective. Teachers will use high-level questioning and prompting to ensure students are doing the cognitive heavy lifting. When a student answers a question, rather than addressing the answer with “Right” or “Wrong,” teachers will respond with, “Why do you think that?,” “What is the evidence that supports your

claim,” or “Do you agree or disagree with ?,” so students develop the habits of justifying their answers and evaluating the answers of classmates. College prep academics will be accompanied by supportive college messaging. Each classroom will be named for a college/university students might aim to attend. There will be “Class of” banners in each room, college banners will adorn hallways, and bulletin boards will provide inspirational information about colleges and universities. All students will receive the message that they are working hard every day to be on the path to college so they can live lives of opportunity.” A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.

3. A revision requested by this charter school to amend its organizational chart to reflect significant changes beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.

The application of this school is being reviewed for possible action at an upcoming Board of Regents meeting. You are receiving this notice since the school is located in your school district and/or your school is located in the same geographic region as the charter school seeking this proposed action. If you are not the school’s district of location, as indicated above, nothing further is required. However, if you seek to provide public comment regarding this proposed revision, additional information on how to do so is provided below.

Please note that pursuant to Education Law §2857(1) and 8 NYCRR §119.4 (available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/aboutcharterschools/lawsandregs/law.html>), **the school district of location is required to hold a public hearing to solicit comments from the community in connection with the foregoing application. The hearing, which is required to be held within the community that is potentially impacted by the charter school, must be held within 30 calendar days of receipt of this letter.**

The charter school’s district of location is required to provide the following required documentation to the Charter School Office:

1. A copy of the public hearing notice, at the **time of dissemination**.
2. Written confirmation that this hearing was held, no later than the **next business day** following the hearing.
3. Copies of any and all written records or comments generated from this hearing within **15 business days** after the hearing.
4. **A summary** (shown below) outlining the date and time of the hearing, the number of people who attended, the number of speakers, the number of people in favor, and the number of people opposed, and any comments received **in the following format:**

“The required public hearing was held by the ___[full name of School District/New York City Department of Education] on ___[Date]___, 20[YY]. ___[Number]___ people attended, and ___[Number]___ spoke. ___[Number]___ were in favor of the [renewal/revision/merger] and ___[Number]___ were opposed.”

All documentation listed above must be submitted to charterschools@nysed.gov. The subject line of the e-mail should read “[Name of Charter School] Public Hearing.”

In addition, as stated above, the Board of Regents welcomes all public comments on the proposed application, including those related to the programmatic and fiscal impact of the proposed application on other public and nonpublic schools in the area. Comments can be submitted during the public hearing or can be submitted to charterschools@nysed.gov with a subject line of “School District Response to [Name of Charter School] Application.”

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions, please contact the Charter School Office at charterschools@nysed.gov or (518) 474-1762.