



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 Rochester Academy Charter School is Located
Public and Nonpublic Schools in the Same Geographic Area as Rochester Academy Charter School

From: David M. Frank, Executive Director

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

Date: September 13, 2021

Name of Charter School:	Rochester Academy Charter School
BEDS Code:	261600860910
District/CSD of Location:	Rochester City School District
Type of Request:	Renewal with Revisions
Current Charter Term:	07/01/2017-06/30/2022
Proposed New Charter Term:	07/01/2022-06/30/2027
Management Company:	NA
Grades Served in the Current Academic Year:	K-4, 6-12
Approved Grades and Maximum Enrollment:	K-4, 6-12; 750
Proposed Revision(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A revision requested by this charter school to increase the charter school's current grade span to add Grade 5 to the school's currently approved K- Grade 4 and Grades 6 through 12 configuration and to increase enrollment from 750 to 816 to commence in the 2022-2023 school year and be fully implemented by the 2022-2023 school year. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.• A revision requested by this charter school to amend the charter school's mission from "The mission of the Rochester Academy Charter School (RACS) is to provide students with rigorous, challenging academics through hands-on, meaningful learning opportunities that will provide them with the skills necessary to be successful academically, socially, and emotionally." to "The mission of the Rochester Academy Charter School (RACS) is to prepare the whole child for a rapidly changing world by cultivating the knowledge, critical thinking skills and personal character to succeed in college or a career of choice. RACS is committed to creating an environment of respect and inclusion that both acknowledges and supports the diversity of the RACS school community." This revision is proposed to commence in the 2022-2023 school year. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York

State Education Department.

- A revision requested by this charter school to add the school's vision as "We are committed to relentless intervention-doing whatever it takes to see every student graduate from RACS and move on to college or career intellectually prepared and emotionally secure for the challenges ahead." This revision is proposed to commence in the 2022-2023 school year. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.
- A revision requested by this charter school to remove the following Key Design Element from the school's charter "Provide a strong focus on Mathematics and Science" and "Use national competitions and science fairs to motivate students" to "Provide a focus on Mathematics and Science to encourage students to pursue college and/or careers in the STEM field" and remove the following Key Design Element from the school's charter "Provide broad tutoring services that will help students address learning needs and/or issues with specific content" to "Assess the needs of students and use research-based methods to intervene relentlessly to promote student success." This revision is proposed to commence in the 2022-2023 school year. A determination regarding this revision has not yet been made and is currently under review by the New York State Education Department.
- A revision request to amend the charter school's organizational chart to reflect significant changes. This revision is proposed to commence in the 2022-2023 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.