



CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE
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Tel. 518/474-1762; Fax 518/474-7558; charterschools@nysed.gov

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO:

lesli.myers-small@rcsdk12.org

Dr. Lesli C. Myers-Small
Rochester City School District
131 West Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Rochester, New York 14614

June 15, 2020

Dear Dr. Myers-Small:

This notice is to inform you that on May 15th, 2020 the New York State Board of Regents received three applications to establish a charter school within the City of Rochester. These applications are under review for possible action at the November 16-17, 2020 Board of Regents meeting. Full application materials may be viewed on or after Wednesday, June 17th at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/startcharter/StartCharter2020.html>.

Please note that pursuant to Education Law section 2857(1) and 8 NYCRR 119.4 (available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/publichearing.html>), the school district of location is required to hold a public hearing to solicit comments from the community relating to the foregoing applications. This hearing, which is required to be held within the community that is potentially impacted by the charter school, must be held within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

Public hearing comments are generally due 45 days after receipt (or within 15 days of from the hearing) of this notice. However, given the COVID-19 pandemic, NYSED has provided additional flexibilities if needed to school districts required to conduct charter school public hearings. Those flexibilities allow for school districts, at their discretion, to hold charter school related public hearing remotely and to delay charter school public hearings until a date **no later than September 30, 2020**. More information on these flexibilities can be found at <https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/620bra10.pdf>.

Please provide the following required documentation:

1. A copy of the public hearing notice at the time of dissemination.
2. Written confirmation that the hearing was held no later than the next business day following the hearing.
3. Copies of all written records or comments generated from this hearing should be sent within 15 business days after the hearing. However, the Department would appreciate receiving the **written records or comments no later than October 7, 2020**.

All documentation listed above should be submitted electronically to CharterSchools@nysed.gov (the subject line of the email should include the NAME OF PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL *Public Hearing*).

In addition, Rochester City School District has the right to comment directly to the Board of Regents on the programmatic and fiscal impact of the proposed charter school on traditional public and non-public schools in your district. Comments should be submitted no later than **September 30, 2020** to CharterSchools@nysed.gov (the subject line of the email should read: *Rochester City School District response to NAME OF PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL application*).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (518) 474-1762 or Vickie.Smith@nysed.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Vickie Smith
New Schools Coordinator

c: David Frank

2020 NYSED Round 1 Charter School Applications

Proposed School Name; Grade Levels; Max Enrollment	Community School District of Location	Proposed Board Chair Name	Proposed Board Chair Email Address	Public Contact Name	Public Contact Email Address	Mission Statement
Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School; Grades K-6; 525 Students	Rochester CSD (Regent Brown)	Dr. Fehmi Damkaci	damkaci@sany.org	Bekir Duz	duz@sany.org	Citizenship and Science Academy of Rochester Charter School will provide support, challenges and opportunities for its students, and it will instill the necessary skills and knowledge in math, science, and technology to empower students, through high intellectual standards, preparing them for college, career, and citizenship. The school seeks to graduate students who can think critically and creatively, who are committed to a lifetime of learning and civic involvement, and who are conscious of local, global, and environmental issues.
Innova Girls Academy Charter School; Grades 4-8; 260 Students	Rochester CSD (Regent Brown)	Jonathan Nwagbaraocha	Jonathan.Nwagbaraocha@xerox.com	Lindsay Swanson	lswanson@bes.org	Through a supportive and rigorous STEM integrated academic program, Innova Girls Academy Charter School empowers 4th through 8th grade girls to excel in high school, college, and career as innovative leaders and confident problem-solvers.
Rochester Excellence Academy Charter School; Grades K-4; 375 Students	Rochester CSD (Regent Brown)	Laura Smith	laurasmith18@yahoo.com	Brittany Rumph	brumph@bes.org	Through rigorous academics, a values-based community, and individualized supports Rochester Excellence Academy Charter School equips all kindergarten through fourth grade scholars with the skills, habits, and mindsets necessary for school, career, and life success.