

BEND-LA PINE SCHOOLS

Administrative School District No. 1

Deschutes County, Oregon

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Name: Public Charter Schools

Section: Required Policies

Code: LBE-AP

The district recognizes that public charter schools offer an opportunity to create new, innovative and more flexible ways of educating students in an atmosphere based on current research and development. Public charter schools shall demonstrate a commitment to the diversity of public education while adhering to the following goals:

1. Increase student learning and achievement;
2. Increase choices of learning opportunities for students;
3. Better meet individual student academic needs and interests; and
4. Encourage the use of different and innovative learning methods.

In addition, the public charter school may meet one or more of the following goals:

5. Build stronger working relationships among educators, parents and other community members;
6. Provide opportunities in small learning environments for flexibility and innovation;
7. Create new professional opportunities for teachers;
8. Establish additional forms of accountability for schools; and
9. Create innovative measurement tools.

Public charter schools may be established as a new public school, from an existing public school or a portion of the school or from an existing alternative education program. A public charter school may not convert an existing tuition-based private school into a charter school, affiliate itself with a nonpublic sectarian school or religious institution or encompass all the schools in the district unless the district is composed of only one school.

The Board will not approve any public charter school proposal when it is deemed that its value is outweighed by any direct identifiable, significant and adverse impact on the quality of the public education of students residing in the district. To meet the eligibility criteria for Board approval, a public charter school proposal must need the requirements of Oregon Revised Statutes, Oregon Administrative Rules, Board policy and regulation.

The district will determine if it has any unused or underutilized buildings. Buildings may be made available for public charter school use, subject to Board approval. Approved use may be limited to instructional purposes only. Appropriate-use fees will be determined by the Board. Public charter school use outside the district's instructional day will be subject to Administrative Regulation KG-AR, "Community Use of District Facilities."

All students who reside within the district are eligible for enrollment at a district sponsored public charter school. If the number of applications from students who reside within the district exceeds the capacity of a public charter school program, class, grade level or building, the public charter school shall select students through an equitable lottery selection process. A public charter school may not limit student admission based on race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, disability, income level, proficiency in the English language or athletic ability, but may limit admission to students within a

given age group or grade level.

The district will annually, by October 1st, calculate the number of students residing in the district who are enrolled in a virtual public charter school. When the percentage is three percent or above, the district may choose to not approve additional students for enrollment to a virtual public charter school.

The district is only required to use data that is reasonably available to the district including but not limited to the following for such calculation:

1. The number of students residing in the district enrolled in the schools within the district;
2. The number of students residing in the district enrolled in public charter schools located in the district;
3. The number of students residing in the district enrolled in virtual public charter schools;
4. The number of home-schooled students who reside in the district and who have registered with the educational service district; and
5. The number of students who reside in the district enrolled in private schools located within the school district.

A parent may appeal a decision of a school district to not approve a student for enrollment to a virtual public charter school to the State Board of Education.

Public charter school students may, upon request, be allowed to participate in district programs such as physical education, instrumental and vocal music offerings or other selected options if space and materials are available. Students must adhere to state law, Board policies, regulations and rules concerning conduct and discipline.

Unless approval has been given by the Board through the development of the Charter agreement between the public charter school and the Bend-La Pine Schools, the district will not provide instructional materials, lesson plans or curriculum guides for use in a public charter school.

The public charter school employer will be determined with each proposed public charter school. If the Board is the employer, the terms of the current collective bargaining agreement will be examined to determine which parts of the agreement apply. If the Board is not the employer of the employees of the public charter school, it will not collectively bargain with public charter school employees.

Students of a public charter school that is located in the school district are considered to be residents of the school district for the purposes of distribution of the State School Fund. When sponsoring a public charter school, the school district shall pay for the provision of education of the public charter school students in accordance with ORS 338.155.

The Board shall annually evaluate the District's Public Charter Schools consistent with district objectives, other district policies, and statutory requirements (ORS 338.095).

The Board shall be informed by the superintendent in an ongoing and timely fashion, of the progress of all public charter school proposals.

Upon request of the Board, the public charter school applicant must furnish in a timely manner any other information the Board deems relevant and necessary to conduct a complete and good faith evaluation of the charter school proposal.

The Board shall have final approval of all proposals for the establishment of public charter schools and the renewal or termination of and changes of the mission of a public charter school.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations consistent with the Oregon Revised Statutes, Oregon Administrative Rules, and with Board Policy LBE Public Charter Schools to include the proposal process, review and appeal procedure, charter renewal, annual evaluation, funding of public charter schools, public charter school operation, district immunity and charter agreement provisions.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 327.077

ORS 327.109

ORS 332.107

ORS Chapter 338

ORS 339.141

ORS 339.147

OAR 581-020-0301 to-0395

OAR 581-020-1342

HB 2030 (2011)

HB 2299 (2011)

HB 2301 (2011)

HB 3417 (2011)

SB 800 (2011)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6311-6322 (2006).

Reviewed: 7/8/08, 8/19/14, 9/26/16
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