

V.B.

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

TO BE PROPOSED:

July 19, 2017

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education approves the distribution of 9,913 seats in state charter schools and 160 seats at a local charter school for the 2017-18 school year and, pursuant to Section 10-66bb(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, grants enrollment waivers for six state charter schools, as delineated in the July 19, 2017, memorandum to the Board, "Approval of Charter School Enrollments," and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of _____, this nineteenth day of July, Two Thousand Seventeen.

Signed: _____
Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary
State Board of Education

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education

DATE: July 19, 2017

SUBJECT: Approval of Charter School Enrollments

Executive Summary

Introduction

In accordance with Section 10-66bb(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.), the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) seeks the State Board of Education’s (SBE) approval of charter school enrollments for the 2017-18 school year. The CSDE requests, within funds made available pursuant to Governor Malloy’s Executive Order “Resource Allocation Plan” for Fiscal Year 2018, to apportion available seats based on each school’s approved charter, eligible October 1, 2016 enrollment, new grade growth and demonstrated record of achievement.

Background

The CSDE seeks the SBE’s approval of charter school enrollments on an annual basis. There are currently 23 state charter schools in Connecticut serving 9,409 students and one local charter school serving 126 students. Elm City Montessori School (ECMS), the local charter, will enroll 160 students from the City of New Haven (through the local charter school program) and 14 students from suburban districts (through the Open Choice program) during the 2017-18 school year. The CSDE proposes allocating a total of 9,913 seats in state charter schools and 160 seats in the local charter school during the 2017-18 school year. In August 2016, the CSDE asked each school to confirm its 2017-18 enrollment projections. The 9,913 state charter seats represent an increase of 504 seats compared to the eligible October 1, 2016 enrollment.

There are state charter school enrollment caps of 300 seats for schools serving Grades K-8 and 250 for all other grade levels. Applying the statutory per-pupil rate for state charter schools of \$11,000 for 2017-18, these totals are within available appropriations. Approved grade growth is detailed in Table 1, and enrollments are disaggregated and detailed in Table 2 (attached).

Charter School Seat Proposals

CSDE staff reviewed applications from charter schools requesting seats apportioned to state charter schools with approved grade growth (i.e., serving Grades 3 in 2016-17 school year, adding new Grade 4 in 2017-18). Applications were received from: (1) Achievement First Hartford Academy; (2) Booker T. Washington Academy; (3) Brass City Charter School; (4) Capital Prep Harbor; (5) Great Oaks Charter School; (6) Stamford Charter School for Excellence and the local charter, (7) Elm City Montessori School. New seats will accommodate the incoming class in schools serving a new grade.

Common Ground High School and New Beginnings Family Academy enrolled above the SBE approved enrollment level, and did not receive funding for those students in the 2016-17 school year. Due to the fact that the students continue to be enrolled in the 2017-18 school year, the State will provide financial support within available funding.

Capital Preparatory Harbor School's (CPHS) seat allocation reflects the expansion of CPHS to serve Grades K-5 and the expansion of the physical space to more appropriately serve these grades.

Recommendation

The CSDE recommends that the SBE approve the distribution of 9,913 seats in state charter schools, 160 seats in the local charter, and grant enrollment waivers for the six state charter schools serving new grades in the 2017-18 school year.

Prepared by: Robert E. Kelly, Charter School Program Manager
Turnaround Office

Approved by: Desi D. Nesmith, Chief Turnaround Officer
Turnaround Office

2017-18 Grade Growth Detail

Table 1

School Year:	Achievement First Hartford Academy – currently serves Grades K-12														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17		80	89	92	92	93	145	127	141	55	41	40	41	30	1066
2017-18		90	80	89	92	92	140	145	127	141	48	40	34	38	1156

School Year:	Booker T. Washington Academy – currently serves Grades K-3														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17		85	75	50	31										241
2017-18		60	85	75	50	31									301

School Year:	Brass City Charter School– currently serves Grades PK-4														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17	33	35	34	38	38	38									216
2017-18	37	34	34	34	38	38	38								253

School Year:	Capital Prep Harbor School– currently serves Grades 6-12														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17								37	40	42	39	37	37	18	250
2017-18		25	26	26	26	26	25	35	36	36	36	36	36	35	404

School Year:	Elm City Montessori School (local charter) – currently serves Grades PK-2														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17	54	29	25	18											126
2017-18	34	54	29	25	18										160

School Year:	Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport– currently serves Grades 6-8														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17								113	102	109					324
2017-18								100	113	102	109				424

School Year:	Stamford Charter School for Excellence– currently serves Grades PK-2														
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17	58	57	53	49											217
2017-18	56	58	57	53	49										273

Incoming seats

2017-18 Grade Growth Detail

Table 2

Charter School Name	Host District	Eligible October 1, 2016 Enrollment	2017-18 Enrollment Proposed	2017-18 Enrollment Grade Growth Only	2016-17 Grade Levels	2017-18 Approved New Grade Expansion
Achievement First Bridgeport	Bridgeport	1,042	1,042	0	K-12	None
Achievement First Hartford	Hartford	1,066	1,156	90	K-12	8
Amistad Academy	New Haven	1,057	1,057	0	K-12	None
Booker T. Washington Academy	New Haven	241	301	60	K-3	4
Brass City Charter School	Waterbury	216	253	37	PK-4	5
The Bridge Academy	Bridgeport	280	280	0	7-12	None
Capital Prep Harbor	Bridgeport	250	404	154	6-12	K-5
Common Ground High School	New Haven	195	200	5	9-12	None
Elm City College Prep.	New Haven	719	719	0	K-12	None
Explorations Charter School	Winsted	92	92	0	9-12	None
Great Oaks Charter School	Bridgeport	324	424	100	6-8	9
Highville Charter School	New Haven	502	502	0	PK-12	None
Integrated Day Charter School	Norwich	330	330	0	PK-8	None
ISAAC	New London	270	270	0	6-8	None
Jumoke Academy	Hartford	753	753	0	PK-12	None
New Beginnings Family Academy	Bridgeport	497	499	2	PK-8	None
Odyssey Community School	Manchester	328	328	0	K-8	None
Park City Prep Charter School	Bridgeport	360	360	0	5-8	None
Path Academy - Windham	Windham	157	157	0	9-12	None
Side by Side Charter School	Norwalk	236	236	0	PK-8	None
Stamford Academy	Stamford	148	148	0	9-12	None
Stamford Charter School for Excl.	Stamford	217	273	56	PK-2	3
Trailblazers Academy	Stamford	129	129	0	6-8	None
Total State Charter Schools	--	9,409	9,913	504		--
*Elm City Montessori School (Local Charter School)	New Haven	126	160	34	PK-2	3

*Local Charter School