

Executive Summary

Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc. Broward Charter School of Science and Technology - 5055

Termination of Charter Agreement

Implementation Year	2012 - 2013
Termination Date of Current Charter Agreement	June 30, 2017
Address	1800 N. Douglas Rd., Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024
Grades	K-8
Enrollment	97
Target Population	Neighborhoods surrounding the school
Curriculum Focus	Science and Technology
School Grade 2011-2012	F
School Grade 2012-2013	F

The terms and conditions for the operation of a charter school are set forth by the governing board of the charter school and by The School Board of Broward County, Florida, in a written contractual agreement that constitutes a school's charter. On March 20, 2012, The School Board of Broward County, Florida, and Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., (Broward Charter School of Science and Technology - 5055), entered into a Charter School Agreement that became effective July 1, 2012, and covers a term of five years commencing on July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2017.

Pursuant to Section 14002.33(9)(n)(4), Florida Statutes, a Sponsor shall terminate a charter school agreement if the charter school earns two consecutive grades of "F". On July 11, 2014, The Florida Department of Education released school letter grades for the 2013-2014 school year. For the second consecutive year, the Broward Charter School of Science and Technology – 5055, has received a state designated "F". Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., submitted a request for a waiver of termination to the State seeking a waiver of termination under Section 1002.33(9)(n)(4)(c), Florida Statutes. On August 18, 2014, The State Board of Education denied the charter school's waiver request. In addition to the mandatory termination under state law, Section 2.D.1.a of the Charter School Agreement states that "the sponsor shall terminate a charter if charter school earns two consecutive school grades of "F".

Section 1002.33(9)(n)(4), Florida Statutes, provides as follows:

The sponsor shall terminate a charter if charter school earns two consecutive school grades of "F" unless:

- a) The charter school is established to turn around the performance of a district school pursuant to Section 1008.33(4)(b)(3), Florida Statutes. Such charter schools shall be governed by Section 1008.33;
- b) The charter school serves a student population the majority of which resides in a school zone served by a district public school that earned a grade of "F" in the year before the charter school opened and the charter school earns at least a grade of "D" in its third year of operation. The exception provided under this sub-subparagraph does not apply to a charter school in its fourth year of operation and thereafter; or

- c) The state board grants the charter school a waiver of termination. The charter school must request the waiver within 15 days after the department's official release of school grades. The state board may waive termination if the charter school demonstrates that the learning gains of its students on statewide assessments are comparable to or better than the learning gains of similarly situated students enrolled in nearby district public schools. The waiver is valid for 1 year and may only be granted once. Charter schools that have been in operation for more than 5 years are not eligible for a waiver under this sub-subparagraph. [Emphasis added].

This charter school is ineligible for the exemptions permitted under Section 1002.33(9)(n)(4)(a) and (b), Florida Statutes. Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., timely submitted a request for a waiver of termination to the State Board of Education under Section 1002.33(9)(n)(4)(c), Florida Statutes. On August 18, 2014, the State Board of Education denied the charter school's waiver request. As the charter school was denied its waiver by the State Board of Education and is ineligible for the above-referenced exemptions, its termination by the Sponsor is mandatory under Section 1002.33(9)(n)(4), Florida Statutes.

In addition, Section 2.D.1.a, of the Charter School Agreement between the parties provides in pertinent part as follows:

Grounds for Good Cause: "Good Cause" for termination or non-renewal shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

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(2) receipt by the School of a state designated grade of "F" in any Two (2) of Four (4) years or the school is designated as "a school in need of improvement" for more than Two (2) years...

On August 5, 2014, The School Board of Broward County, Florida, authorized the Superintendent to notify Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., (Broward Charter School of Science and Technology – 5055), of the intent to terminate the Charter School Agreement. That notice was delivered on August 5, 2014, and the Governing Board of Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., failed to submit an appeal to the State. Therefore, it is requested that The School Board of Broward County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to provide Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., (Broward Charter School of Science and Technology – 5055), notification of the termination of the Charter School Agreement.

On September 19, 2014, the Sponsor received notification from Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., that Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, is choosing to cease operations on October 13, 2014.

Broward Charter School of Science and Technology – 1800 N. Douglas Road, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024 Street, which is located in District 1.

The governing board members of Broward Charter School of Science and Technology, Inc., reside in Broward County, Florida.