

Executive Summary

Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc. Imagine at North Lauderdale - 5171 One-Year Renewal of Charter Agreement with an Automatic Termination Clause

School Name	Imagine at North Lauderdale -5171
Implementation Year	2001-2002
Termination Date of Current Charter Agreement	June 30, 2012
Address	1395 S. State Road 7 North Lauderdale, FL 33068
Grades	K-5
Enrollment	408
Target population	Neighborhoods surrounding the school
Curriculum Focus	Traditional
School Grade 2010-2011	F (353 points)
School Grade 2009-2010	D (413 points)
School Grade 2008-2009	D (418 points)
School Grade 2007-2008	F (394 points)

On June 19, 2001, The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC) approved a Charter School Agreement authorizing Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc. to open Imagine at North Lauderdale – 5171. The original contract was effective for a ten-year period, which concluded on June 30, 2011. During the last year of the contract, pursuant to Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, the charter school received program reviews as required for charter contract renewal. The first program review, conducted in school year 2008-2009, demonstrated academic and programmatic deficiencies. This resulted in the school receiving a one-year charter contract, effective from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010. The district provided Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc., (Imagine at North Lauderdale – 5171) with support and recommendations for improvement.

Subsequently, a second program review was conducted at the end of the one-year contract, which demonstrated continued academic and programmatic deficiencies. Consequently, Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc., (Imagine at North Lauderdale – 5171) was granted another one-year contract, which will end on June 30, 2012. The current one-year contract clearly outlined remedial measures for curing such deficiencies by June 30, 2012 (Exhibit B). Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc., (Imagine at North Lauderdale – 5171) agreed to put in place district recommended remedial measures. Despite continued district support and assistance to remedy the identified deficiencies, the charter school continues to exhibit serious academic deficiencies.

Section 1002.33(7)(b)(1), Florida Statutes, states that, “a charter school may be renewed provided that a program review demonstrates that student achievement levels and prior rates of academic progress have been accomplished and that none of the grounds for non-renewal has been documented.”

Section 1002.33(8)(a), Florida Statutes, specifies the causes for non-renewal or termination of a charter. These are:

1. Failure to participate in the state’s education accountability system created in Section 1008.31, Florida Statutes or failure to meet the requirements for student performance stated in the charter.
2. Failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management.
3. Violation of law.
4. Other good cause shown.

As part of its renewal process for charter schools, the District has conducted a review of the school's data and of the charter renewal application submitted by Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc., (Imagine at North Lauderdale - 5171), as required by Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The Superintendent is recommending to The School Board of Broward County, Florida, at its Regular School Board Meeting of March 20, 2012, that the charter contract with Learning Excellence of East Broward, Inc., (Imagine at North Lauderdale - 5171) be renewed for one-year with an automatic termination clause.

As an alternative to a non-renewal recommendation, the Charter Agreement will be renewed for one-year but will include an automatic termination clause that would allow for this year's FCAT results to determine whether the charter school reopens for the 2012-2013 school year. By agreeing to a renewal with an automatic termination clause, the Charter Agreement would be renewed for one year, but would immediately terminate should the Charter School's point allocation from the State's assessment program (FCAT), Section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, released the summer of 2012, equate to less than a "C" grade. Should FCAT points and school grade indicate an improvement to a "C" or better grade, the charter school would operate under the one-year Charter Agreement that would expire on July 30, 2013. Imagine at North Lauderdale - 5171 would implement the following remedial measures, as indicated in the charter.

Remedial Measures:

Academic Accountability

- The School must comply with all state and district Differentiated Accountability initiatives as they relate to charter schools.
- The School must not receive a grade or point allocation that would equate to less than a "C" grade.

English Language Learners

- The School will provide English Language Learners (ELL) with programs and services in accordance with federal, state, and local school district laws and policies. These programs and services must be available to students on the first day of school and throughout the academic year.
- The School will comply with the META Consent Decree and with the Sponsor's State Approved ELL Plan in identifying ELL students and for the provision of required ESOL services.
- The School will implement and monitor procedures to address the needs of ELLs, including, but not limited to, identification, appropriate placement, required accommodations, and equal access to remedial and enrichment programs.

Organizational Accountability

- The School is responsible to inform parents of the School's status in regard to potential closure and will provide the Sponsor with documentation that such notice has taken place.

The members of Learning Excellence Foundation of East Broward, Inc. reside in Broward County, Florida.