

Executive Summary

RISE Education Schools, Inc. RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420

Five-Year Renewal of Charter Agreement with a Specific Remedial Action Clause

School Name	RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420
Implementation Year	2008-2009
Termination Date of Current Charter Agreement	June 30, 2014
Address	6101 N. W. 31 st Street Margate, Florida 33063
Grades	K-8
Benchmark Enrollment	270
Target population	Neighborhoods surrounding the school
Curriculum Focus	Traditional
School Grade 2012-2013	F (380 points) AMO – No
School Grade 2011-2012	NA (466 points) AMO – No
School Grade 2010-2011	C (447 points) AYP – No
School Grade 2009-2010	NA (405 points) AYP – No

On May 8, 2008, The School Board of Broward County, Florida, approved a Charter School Agreement authorizing RISE Education Schools, Inc., to open RISE Academy of Science and Technology - 5420. The original contract was effective for a five-year period, to conclude on June 30, 2013. On July 22, 2011, the agreement was updated to reflect a location change for the charter school. During the 2012-2013 school year, the charter school received a program review as required for charter contract renewal. This program review identified serious academic and programmatic deficiencies. On, June 6, 2013, the charter school received a one-year charter agreement with remedial measures effective from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. The District provided RISE Education Schools, Inc., (RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420), 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, RISE Education School, Inc., (RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420), was granted another one-year contract, which will end on June 30, 2014. The current one-year contract clearly outlined remedial measures for curing such deficiencies by June 30, 2014. RISE Education Schools, Inc., (RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420), 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 academic deficiencies.

Pursuant to Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420, has received a program review as required for charter contract renewal. This program review, conducted in school year 2013-2014, demonstrated academic and programmatic 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.” The documented findings have been noticed in this executive summary and are the basis for a specific remedial action clause. It is recommended that the findings be given ninety (90) days to cure.

Pursuant to Section 1002.33(8)(a), Florida Statutes, The sponsor shall make student academic achievement for all students the most important factor when determining whether to renew or terminate the charter. The sponsor may also choose to not renew or may terminate the charter for any of the following grounds:

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.

Section 1002.33(9)(n)1, Florida Statutes, states that “The director and a representative of the governing board of a charter school that has earned a grade of “D” or “F” pursuant to s. 1008.34(2), shall appear before the sponsor to present information concerning each contract component having noted deficiencies. The director and a representative of the governing board shall submit to the sponsor for approval a school improvement plan to raise student achievement. Upon approval by the sponsor the charter school shall begin implementation of the school improvement plan...”

As part of its renewal process for charter schools, the Superintendent’s Charter School Review Committee has conducted a review of the school’s data and of the charter renewal program review submitted by RISE Education Schools, Inc., (RISE Academy of Science and Technology - 5420), as required by Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. Upon reviewing the renewal program review, the Superintendent’s Charter School Review Committee concluded that, although there were deficiencies in the areas of Educational Performance and Organizational Performance, they were not sufficient to deny any renewal of the contract and the committee recommended a renewal with a specific remedial action clause to be met within the first year.

The following is the specific section of the renewal program review that did not meet or partially met the renewal criteria, thus contributing to the recommendation of a five-year renewal with a specific remedial action clause to be met within the first year.

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Deficiency 1 – Federal Accountability - Assessment

Findings:

- Failure to meet AYP for 2010 and 2011 and AMO for 2012 and 2013.

Deficiency 2 – State Accountability - Assessment

Findings:

- Failure to meet the state requirements for student performance.
- The Charter School had a lower percentage of students meeting high standards in reading, math, writing and science than that of the District.

	RISE Academy 5420	District
Reading	36	58
Math	31	61
Writing	41	66
Science	53	55

- The Charter School had a lower percentage of students making learning gains in reading and math than that of the District.

	RISE Academy 5420	District
Reading	52	65
Math	39	65

- The number of school grade points earned has decreased from 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 resulting in an “F” grade.

School Year	RISE Academy 5420
2012-2013	380
2011-2012	466
2010-2011	447
2009-2010	405

Remedial Measures:

- The charter school shall comply with all State and District accountability initiatives as they relate to charter schools.
- The charter school must receive a grade or point allocation that would equate to a “D” grade or higher for the 2013-2014 school year. For the remaining four (4) years of the Charter Agreement, the school shall achieve and maintain a grade or point allocation that would equate to a “C” grade or higher.

Deficiency 3 – Educational Program Implementation – Curriculum Findings:

- Failure to demonstrate evidence of the required NGSSS/CCSS blended implementation in grades 3-8 as required in Reading Plan Section 1002.33(7)(a)(2), Florida Statutes.
- Failure to demonstrate the use of materials in the middle school reading classes that match those listed in the current FLDOE K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan database as required by SB Rule 6A-6.053 and SB Rule 6A-6.054, Florida Administrative Code.
- Failure to demonstrate instructional strategies that are grounded in scientifically based reading research as required in Reading Plan Section 1002.33(7)(a)(2), Florida Statutes.
- Failure to demonstrate evidence of a state-approved, research-based reading program in 7th and 8th grade as required in Reading Plan Section 1002.33(7)(a)(2), Florida Statutes.

Remedial Measures:

- The charter school shall ensure that, pursuant to Section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, any elementary student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading based upon locally determined assessments, statewide assessments, or through teacher observations must be given intensive reading instruction immediately following the identification of the reading deficiency. Immediate intensive intervention must be provided daily for all students who have been identified with a reading deficiency.
- The charter school shall provide immediate intensive intervention to their students with a reading deficiency for grades K-12. This intensive intervention must be provided daily beyond the 90-minute uninterrupted reading block (K-5) or as an intensive reading course (6-12), as required by State Board Rule 6A-6.054, Florida Administrative Code.
- The charter school shall ensure that, pursuant to Section 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, middle school students who score at Level 1 on FCAT Reading are required to complete an intensive

reading course. Those students who score at Level 2 must be placed in an intensive reading course or a content area reading intervention course.

- The charter school shall provide a detailed reading plan as required by State Board Rule 6A-6.053, Florida Administrative Code.
- The charter school shall ensure that appropriate research-based instructional materials and strategies are used to address specific student needs as outlined in State Board Rule 6A-6.053, Florida Administrative Code.
- The charter school shall ensure that reading is a primary focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to identify and provide specialized instruction for students who are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional strategies for reading must be consistent with the Sunshine State Standards and grounded in scientifically based reading research as outlined in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes.

ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE:

Deficiency 4 – Governance

Findings:

- Failure to ensure that the school’s parent liaison contact information is posted on the school’s website as specified in Section 1002.33(7)(d)(1), Florida Statutes.
- Failure to maintain a school website that enables the public to obtain information regarding the school as specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes.

Remedial Measures:

- The charter school shall ensure that the school’s parent liaison contact information is posted on its school website as specified in Section 1002.33(7)(d)(1), Florida Statutes.
- The charter school shall update the school’s website by August 1, 2014, with specific information regarding the school as specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes, and update the information as appropriate.

It is therefore requested that The School Board of Broward County, Florida, approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement for RISE Education Schools, Inc., (RISE Academy of Science and Technology – 5420), for a five-year period, starting on July 1, 2014, and ending on June 30, 2019. The five-year renewal term with a specific remedial action clause will afford the charter school an opportunity to continue its operations while demonstrating its ability to remediate deficiencies within the first year as required by Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes.

If the renewed charter school fails to implement the specific remedial measures listed in the renewal of the Charter School Agreement and as stated above, in the timeframe indicated, such non-compliance will be considered grounds for automatic termination of the renewed Charter School Agreement.

RISE Academy of Science Technology – 5420 is located in District 4.

The governing board members of RISE Education Schools, Inc., reside in Broward County, Florida.