



Chair
Kevin Ingram

Committee Members
Desiree Pointer-Mace
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Charter School Review Committee

October 30, 2015

Mr. David Chief, Principal
Milwaukee Math and Science Academy
110 West Burleigh Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Mr. Serdar Bozdog, PhD, President of the Board of Directors
Milwaukee Math and Science Academy
3910 W. Jerelin Dr.
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Mr. Chief and Mr. Bozdog,

On September 10, 2015, the Charter School Review Committee (CSRC) received and accepted the Milwaukee Math and Science Academy (MMSA) 2014–15 *Programmatic Profile and Educational Performance* report from the Children’s Research Center (CRC). That report included the following CRC Recommendation:

MMSA addressed all of the conditions of probation set forth by the City of Milwaukee CSRC, adopted strategies to ensure that all of the recommendations for school improvement in the 2014–14 report were implemented, and has met all of the provisions of its contract with the City of Milwaukee. In addition, MMSA’s score on the CSRC scorecard for the 2014–15 is 72.6%. Because of the solid trend of continuous growth on the multiple measure scorecard and the school’s ability to meet all of the other recommended and required conditions, CRC recommends that the school’s probationary status be lifted with the school continuing to receive regular annual academic monitoring and reporting with an emphasis on the school’s sustained progress.

The CSRC members expressed concern that the progress made during the 2014–15 academic year may not be sustained over the 2015–16 academic year. Due to this concern, the CSRC did not lift MMSA’s probationary status and asked MMSA to provide a report at the middle of the 2015–16 school year with the possibility of lifting the school’s probationary status at that time.

Please submit a written report to the CRC as soon as possible after the end of the second quarter (January 22, 2016), but no later than February 5, 2016, addressing the progress that MMSA has made during the first half of the school year to address the recommendations for school improvement in the 2014–15 annual report. The recommendations areas follow.

- Continue the summer reading program.
- Continue to focus on strategies and staff resources that will result in continued growth in reading.

- Provide more professional development in the areas of reading and writing (literacy), with a new emphasis on how to measure writing skills at all levels.
- Focus on writing improvement throughout the academic year by using fall writing sample to inform teaching interventions and strategies.
- Clarify and implement appropriate Individualized Education Program (IEP) development and review. Consider requiring both goals and subgoals for each IEP.
- Continue to provide enrichment opportunities for students who are functioning above grade level. Address and implement strategies to increase student attendance, retention, and return rates.
- Continue the implementation of strategies to increase student attendance, retention, and return rates.
- Continue the strategies to retain teachers throughout the school year and to encourage teachers to return year after year.

In addition, submit an explanation of the specific measures taken during the first half of the 2015–16 academic year to reduce the number of out-of-school and in-school suspensions. This explanation should include any professional development activities regarding appropriate behavioral consequences.

Also, please provide a list of the school’s administrative leadership and a list of the board of directors in place (including the date appointed to the board) at the end of the first semester.

Within five days after the end of the first semester, January 22, 2016, provide CRC the engagement data available through January 22, 2016, so that CRC can preliminarily assess the engagement indicators on the scorecard. The following are specifically requested.

- Student attendance
- Student reenrollment (return rate)
- Student retention for the first semester
- Instructional staff return rate (i.e., the fall instructional staff roster)
- Instructional staff retention rate for the first semester; (i.e., the mid-year instructional staff roster)

CRC will compute the preliminary scorecard engagement data, review all of the information submitted by MMSA, request any clarifications needed, and make a recommendation to the CSRC. The CSRC will then review all of the information and meet to address reconsideration of MMSA’s probationary status.

Sincerely,



Kevin Ingram
Chair, Charter School Review Committee