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November 28, 2017,

Dear Steering Rules Committee,

On behalf of the City of Milwaukee - Charter School Review Committee (CSRC), this letter is in support of recommending a five-year renewal contract for **Central City Cyberschool, Downtown Montessori, Milwaukee Academy of Science, and Rocketship Southside Community Prep.** In 1998, the City of Milwaukee Common authorized its first charter school. During the 2016-17 school term, the operated eight schools. Four of the eight schools will come to the end of their current contract with city at the close of the school term in June of 2018.

In 2009 CSRC created and piloted the CSRC School Scorecard. In 2012, the CSRC formally adopted the scorecard to help the CSRC monitor each charter school's performance, based on each school's individual multiple measures of their students' academic progress as well as, their financial stability annually. However, due to the changes in the state assessment in the past 3 years, the scorecard is back in the pilot stage. These multiple measures include the following: Performance on standardize tests and local measures; Point-in-time academic achievement; Family and student engagement; Attendance; Student retention and return rates; and Teacher retention and return rates.

Schools recommended for contract renewal	Years chartered by the City of Milwaukee	Number of students served for 2016-17 school-year	Scorecard %	District Report Card Score
Central City Cyberschool	18 years	419	73.1%	76.8
Downtown Montessori	19 years	250	75.2%	70.2
Milwaukee Academy of Science	9 years	1,056	69.5%	77.6
Rocketship Southside Prep	4 years	509	66.6%	72.8

## Summary/Recommendations

**Central City Cyberschool** has continuously met the educational provisions in their contract with the City of Milwaukee and subsequent CSRC requirements. Based on the school's status as a 18th-year school, its contract compliance status, and its scorecard rating, CSRC with the assistance of the NCCD Children's Research Center, recommends that Central City Cyber School be awarded another five-year contract with the City of Milwaukee as a charter school. Central City Cyberschool is one of the top performing schools in the city of Milwaukee. Additionally, Central City Cyberschool is one of the first schools in the city to have a technology focus.

**Downtown Montessori** charter schools substantially met the educational provisions in their contract with the City of Milwaukee and subsequent CSRC requirements. Based on the school's status as a 19th-year school, its contract compliance status, and its scorecard rating, CSRC with the assistance of the NCCD Children's Research Center, recommends that Downtown Montessori be awarded another five-year contract with the City of Milwaukee as a charter school. Downtown Montessori has continuously been a high performing schools and premier Montessori school in Milwaukee.

**Milwaukee Academy of Science** charter has met or substantially met the educational provisions in their contract with the City of Milwaukee and subsequent CSRC requirements. Based on the school's status as a ninth-year school, its contract compliance status, and its scorecard rating, CSRC with the assistance of the NCCD Children's Research Center, recommends that Milwaukee Academy of Science be awarded another five-year contract with the City of Milwaukee as a charter school. MAS is the only STEM focused K-12 schools and continue to make gains in their academic performance.

**Rocketship Southside Community Prep** has met or substantially met the educational provisions in their contract with the City of Milwaukee and subsequent CSRC requirements. Based on the school's status as a fourth-year school, its contract compliance status, and its scorecard rating, CSRC with the assistance of the NCCD Children's Research Center, recommends that Milwaukee Academy of Science be awarded another five-year contract with the City of Milwaukee as a charter school.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kevin Ingram, Chair  
Charter School Review Committee