

Charter School Review Committee

December 13, 2004

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The Honorable Willie L. Hines, Jr. President
Milwaukee Common Council and
Members of the Common Council

Dear President Hines and Members of the Common Council:

I wish to inform you that, after carefully following the standards and procedures on charter school applications that are set forth in Chapter 330 of the Code of Ordinances, the Charter School Review Committee recommends that the Common Council approve the charter school applications of:

Maasai Institute and The Inland Seas School of Expeditionary Learning

The Committee carefully reviewed the written applications and weighed the additional information we obtained at our public hearing. We concluded--using the evaluation criteria and scoring methodology we have used for several years—that both schools have submitted applications strong enough to permit us to make the required findings that:

- The school's applications comply with the requirements of Sections 330-5 and 330-7;
- The schools will operate educational programs that have a reasonable prospect of providing Milwaukee children a good education; and
- The schools have appropriate governance structures, sound systems of management, adequate budgets and budget processes, and qualified bodies of administrators, teachers, and staff.

Attached, for your review, is the scoring methodology and results we used in reaching our conclusions.

Based on the strength of these school's applications, the additional evidence we obtained at our hearing, our scoring methodology and results, and our positive findings about the schools, the Committee recommends that Maasai Institute and The Inland Seas School of Expeditionary Learning receive charters from the Common Council.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information as you consider our recommendation.

Since rely,

Howard Fuller

Chair, Charter School Review Committee