

May 12, 2017

To: Charter School Review Committee

From: Judith Parker, Principal, Milwaukee Collegiate Academy High School

cc: Michelle Nettles, Board Chair, Howard Fuller, Board Member

RE: Milwaukee Collegiate Academy Description of 2017-18 Personalized Learning Collaboration

During the 2017-18 school year, Milwaukee Collegiate Academy High School (MCA) seeks to provide support to approximately 20 families many of them graduates of the Bader Hillel Academy community (BHA) and leaders in its parent organization as MCA and BHA community implement the Summit Personalized Learning instructional program. MCA has ended its first year of implementation of the Summit Personalized Learning Program during the 2016-17 school year. BHA parent community is dedicated to supporting its families by facilitating access to rigorous high school curriculum and will implement the Summit Personalized Learning Platform during the 2017-18 school year. We are asking the Charter School Review Committee to review this proposal and agree that this collaborative relationship is good for Milwaukee's children and will not substantially change MCA's instructional programme.

Summit Personalized Learning platform provides a comprehensive personalized curriculum in all core subjects but requires a shift in how educators approach teaching, assessment, student engagement and parent communication. Through this collaboration, MCA will share with Bader Hillel what we have learned during our pilot implementation year about how to manage the platform, facilitate teaching, learning and assessment and how other operational tools and resources need to be leveraged to support student-centered learning and standards based instruction.

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As of the 2016-17 school year, Milwaukee Collegiate Academy was the only school in Wisconsin implementing the Summit Personalized Learning program. Our nearest peers have been in Chicago where we have convened three times this year as part of Summit Regional Conferences to exchange best practices with schools who are also first-year implementers. By working together, MCA and the BHA community will be able to deepen its respective expertise in personalized learning and improve the educational outcomes for students.

Within this partnership, MCA's director of personalized learning, Kourtney Bauswell, and one of MCA's experienced teachers will work in consultation with the BHA community's leaders and educational facilitators for 4 hours per week. MCA will award transcript credit to BHA community students who have earned it through the Summit pilot, which is allowable per the Department of Public Instruction. This collaboration will also enable our students to engage in athletic events together. The BHA community will provide operational resources to support the collaboration for approximately 10% of time that our administrator and teacher will spend on site at the community site. No other compensation is expected in the pilot year of our collaboration.

The benefits of the Summit Personalized Learning at MCA can be measured in the growth of our students' literacy and math scores as measured by the NWEA MAP assessment (below). This instructional approach has allowed MCA teachers to differentiate instruction for all of our learners and teach students, inherently, how to manage and benefit from intellectual self-direction and selfadvocacy. In addition to our school data, outlined below, we have seen exceptional results in attendance and parent participation at school. Our Freshman class, for the first time ever, has an average attendance rate of 93%. Freshmen parents attend parent meetings twice as often as parents of students at other grade levels.

MAP Data from Winter (MOY) Testing:

- 90% of students have met their EOY goal by MOY testing in at least ONE subject (math, reading, or language)
- 36% of students have met their EOY goal by MOY testing in 2 of 3 subjects
- 20% of students have met their EOY goal by MOY testing in 3 out of 3 subjects

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The Summit Personalized Learning model was created by Summit school district teachers in Redwood, California, and has been shared nation-wide with over 100 schools seeking to implement this innovative educational approach. A partnership like the one we are proposing is in the spirit of what the Summit Personalized Learning movement is all about. Summit was designed by teachers and was shared with educators across the country so that more children could have access to differentiated and challenging curriculum.

We are all very excited about the opportunity to have our respective communities work together as families, educators and students. It is our hope that the Charter School Review Committee will agree that the work that MCA will do with the BHA community during the 2017-18 school year aligns with the expectations of our charter.