

April 10, 2018

To: Charter School Review Committee

From: Gayle Peay, Institute for the Transformation of Learning

RE: ACT 55- Removal of Geographic Restrictions

MEMO

At the next meeting the CSRC will need to make a decision on whether or not to continue to restrict the City charters to only serving the pupils of the city of Milwaukee. In 2015, Act 55 was passed which deleted all geographic restrictions on where authorizers can locate a school or which pupils can attend these schools.

The CSRC never discussed and voted on this change which means that the city policy and contract language still have residency restrictions which does not align with state law and may present confusion for the City charters.

While the law does not prohibit students who live outside of Milwaukee from attending independent charter schools, establishing an attendance area is also not prohibited. This is an issue that is handled amongst the parties. (City of Milwaukee and charter school governing board through the contracting process)

Additionally, Act 55 gave several authorizers in the state including the City of Milwaukee the authority to authorize a 2R charter school anywhere in the state. There have been several calls from individuals who would like apply through the City to establish schools outside of Milwaukee. At this point a decision has not been made on whether or not you would like to accept applications as a statewide authorizer.

Please read the attached "CS Law Changes and page 3 of "Informational Paper 27" to get more details.