



MPS CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION	
CHARTER SCHOOL	Next Door Charter School
MISSION	Next Door supports the intellectual, physical, and emotional development of children by partnering with their families for success in school and the community.
YEAR OPENED	2004
DATE OF SITE VISIT	October 1, 2024

The renewal recommendation is based on a thorough review and analysis of information and data from the following and summarized in this document: Charter School Performance Summary, Application for Renewal, and school site visit.

CHARTER SCHOOL REVIEW TEAM RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION		
	Renewal Terms	Criteria
X	Full-term Renewal Term of five years	<p>To be eligible, schools must be in the last year of the contract term and have achieved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a strong and compelling record of evidence that the school met the performance standards in the areas of Academic Performance, Financial Performance, and Organizational Performance. <p><u>Guidelines for Recommending Five-Year Renewal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Team determines that a school primarily merits <i>Met the Standard</i> ratings in the performance areas. A school that receives mixed ratings may be recommended for a full five-year renewal term if sufficient additional evidence obtained from the school's Application for Renewal and School Site Visit make this a credible recommendation.
	Short-term Renewal Term of three years	<p>To be eligible, schools must be in the last year of the contract term and have achieved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a strong and compelling record of evidence that the school met a considerable number of the performance standards (approaches the standards) in the areas of Academic Performance, Financial Performance, and Organizational Performance and/or shows continuous, meaningful improvement toward meeting the performance standards.

		<p><u>Guidelines for Recommending Three-Year Renewal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Team determines that a school primarily merits <i>Met the Standard or Approaching the Standard</i> ratings or demonstrates continuous and meaningful improvement in the performance areas. • A school that receives mixed ratings may be recommended for a three-year renewal term if evidence obtained from the school's Application for Renewal and School Site Visit make this a credible recommendation.
	Non-Renewal / Revocation	<p>To be considered for non-renewal or revocation, the school does not apply for renewal or the school's academic, financial, and/or organizational performance results do not meet the standards and are deemed unsatisfactory. This would result in a recommendation for non-renewal/revocation.</p> <p><u>Guidelines for Recommending Non-Renewal / Revocation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School receives a <i>Did Not Meet the Standard</i> in all three areas of performance. • A school that receives mixed ratings may be recommended for non-renewal/ renovation if evidence obtained from the school's Performance Summary, Application for Renewal, and School Site Visit make this a credible recommendation.

CHARTER SCHOOL PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

	Met the Standard (At least 75%)	Approaches the Standard (Between 50%-74%)	Did Not Meet the Standard (Below 50%)
Academic Performance		X	
Financial Standard	X		
Organizational Standard	X		

CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL

Met the Standard	Approaches the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard
<p>The Application for Renewal provides clear, concise and compelling information in the areas of Academic, Financial and Organizational Performance. The school has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included ample evidence of increased student 	<p>The Application for Renewal provides information in the areas of Academic, Financial and Organizational Performance. The information provided does not fully meet the expectations of the standard. Some of the information provided is developing and there is evidence of growth.</p>	<p>The Application for Renewal does not provide clear, concise and compelling information in the areas of Academic, Financial and Organizational Performance. The school did not satisfactorily address application components. Responses lack details.</p>

<p>achievement or shown continuous improvement;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provided credible examples and documented evidence of its financial performance; and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrated sufficiently and convincingly that it is organizationally sound. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The school's plans for continued success are clearly and effectively outlined with full details, descriptions, and explanations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provided some evidence of increased student achievement or continuous improvement; <input type="checkbox"/> Provided some evidence of its financial performance; and <input type="checkbox"/> Provided some evidence that it is organizationally sound. <input type="checkbox"/> The school's plans for continued success were partially developed and did not provide sufficient evidence to support the plan's for success. 	<p>Descriptions and/or examples are underdeveloped. The school provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient evidence of increased student achievement or continuous improvement; <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear examples and evidence of its financial performance; and <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate evidence that it is organizationally sound. <input type="checkbox"/> The school's plans for continued success are unclear and not fully described or developed.
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CHARTER SCHOOL SITE VISIT

Met the Standard	Approaches the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard
<p>Charter school site visit provided excellent further evidence that the school is meeting performance standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School presentations clearly and effectively communicated information from its Application for Renewal. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School sufficiently addressed any issues/concerns raised by the MPS Charter School Contract Review Team members. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School (if appropriate) provided sufficient supplementary information to further clarify performance results and ratings. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samples of student work and classroom visits reflect strongly and positively the school's teaching and learning practices. 	<p>Charter school site visit provided some evidence that the school is meeting some of the performance standards. The information provided does not fully meet the expectations of the standard. Some of the information provided is developing and the school demonstrated evidence of growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> School presentation partially communicated information from its Application for Renewal. <input type="checkbox"/> School addressed some of the issues/concerns raised by the MPS Charter School Contract Review Team members. <input type="checkbox"/> School provided some supplementary information to clarify performance results and ratings. <input type="checkbox"/> Samples of student work and classroom visits provided some information to support the school's teaching and learning practices. 	<p>Charter school site visit did not provide compelling evidence that the school is meeting performance standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> School presentation insufficiently communicated information from its Application for Renewal. <input type="checkbox"/> School did not adequately address issues/concerns raised by the MPS Charter School Contract Review Team members. <input type="checkbox"/> School did not provide ample supplementary information to clarify performance results and ratings. <input type="checkbox"/> Samples of student work and classroom visits did not necessarily positively reflect the school's teaching and learning practices.

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Next Door's mission of supporting the whole child is evident throughout the supporting documents and the site visit. Next Door supports the intellectual, physical, and emotional development of children by partnering with families for success in school and the community. Next Door Charter School is connected to a larger organization, Next Door Foundation, and is able to offer

wrap-around services and opportunities for both students and families. Next Door Charter School serves students in grade K4 and the organization serves families and children starting from birth.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the evidence provided in the Charter School Application for Renewal, Preliminary Performance Summary, site visit (which included a school presentation, classroom visits, and testimony from staff and parents), and additional information from the school team, the Charter School Review Team recommends a full-term charter school contract renewal.

Next Door offers a comprehensive educational program to children with a focus on tailored academics and teaching strategies that includes social emotional development. The family advocates and student support services are foundational components to support the student's school readiness. Next Door is child-centered and family-focused. The school has been intentional on the implementation of the Pyramid Model which includes Guided Play.

The Team noted that the staff, parents, governing board, and school leadership are part of a well-organized, student-centered, early childhood organization. Next Door has developed a skill level in both reading and social development that has a positive impact on the surrounding community.

The support and resources that Next Door provides families is unmatched and a vital asset to the community. This is evidenced by the parents who provided testimony to the organization. Next Door believes that the quality of the teacher is key to the quality of the programming within the classroom. Next Door invests in staff development, which supports teacher retention and impact on children.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Next Door has met 50% of its academic performance standards. Since the school is serving students in K4, the current contract measures are not aligned to K4 assessments. To align best practices with early childhood education, Next Door uses assessment data to determine progression of student growth in both reading and math. The school is a comprehensive educational program with a focus on tailored academics and teaching strategies, as well as to support social emotional development. Next Door's approach is to strengthen the student's reciprocal relationships with other students, families, teachers, society, and the school environment.

Next Door implements research based, developmentally appropriate curriculum using best teaching practices. The curriculum is continuously adapted and aligned to state and national early childhood standards. The school utilizes Brigance and Bridges assessments in the areas of literacy and mathematics. Recent assessment scores in both areas show a significant growth from fall to spring.

FINANCIAL STANDARDS

Next Door has consistently met its financial performance standards. The organization continues to be a budget conscious organization and maintains a financial management system that provides accurate and complete disclosure of the financial activities.

ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS

Next Door has consistently met its organizational performance standards. Next Door has connected with a range of community partners to support the students' educational opportunities and healthy living outcomes. Families continue to be the center of the work to support the whole child. Parents are part of the policy council to keep them informed on topics and to be empowered in shared decision-making.

SCHOOL SITE VISIT

Next Door's presentation provided further information around organizational supports for the development of the whole child. The school team recognizes the value of teachers and invests in the staff through building educators, emphasizing collaboration and support with coaching and reflective supervisions. Guided play has become the center of their work that builds social-emotional and collaborative learning environment for children. Next Door bridges academics for students through guided play by having children work together to problem-solve and discover learning through collaboration. Next Door uses a trauma informed lens that provides social-emotional learning and self-regulating strategies that are guided by the Pyramid Model.

During the site visit, the Team recognized the strong safety measures that are in place throughout the Next Door organization that parents appreciate as they feel confident in trusting Next Door with their children.

CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS

There was strong evidence of literacy components, guided play, and the development of the whole child. Students were engaged in multiple activities to support the academic, and social-emotional development. Students displayed joy as they were learning through play and building relationships with their peers. The support that is available in all classrooms was evident of their intentionality to support the children. Through teachers, educational assistants, Leading Men Fellows, and additional support staff, Next Door has created an environment where all staff feel valued and know the importance of their work in the classroom. The classrooms are rich in print material to support student learning.

READ WITH ME

The Read with Me program provides opportunities for volunteers to read with students weekly. The Team had the opportunity to read books with the K4 students. The Team experienced how students look forward to this special time. This is a valuable practice for students to have a positive place for exposure to literacy and to build their home library.

PARENT FOCUS GROUP

Parents expressed how the organization provides resources to families through individualized support. Next Door has a number of community resources that support the children's well-being. This includes but is not limited to: Children's Hospital, Medical College of Wisconsin, DentaMed Dental Clinic, Aurora Health Care, Fatherhood initiative, and Literacy Lab. There are many opportunities to be involved through volunteering, committees, and policy council. As one parent stated, "Next Door is home here. There is so much love."

Next Door provides a birth to kindergarten model which is vital to the Milwaukee community. Next Door prepares students to be school ready and builds positive and meaningful relationships with families.

MPS CHARTER SCHOOL REVIEW TEAM MEMBERS

Tangela Anderson	MPS Finance
Nate Deans	MPS Director of Black and Latino Male Achievement
Lolita Harden	Community Member
Darryl Jackson	MPS Board of Directors
Henry Leonard	MPS Board of Directors
Marty Lexmond	Community Member
Katie Soukup	MPS Research, Assessment, and Data
Tracy Wozniak	MPS Specialized Services

SIGNATURE: *Bridget Schock*

DATE: 10/1/24

Bridget Schock, Director, Contracted School Services