



Charter School Performance Summary

Charter School:	Milwaukee Excellence Charter School	Contract Term:	2016-17 to 2020-21
Grade Levels:	6 - 10	Date:	September 18, 2020
Contract Max FTE:	600	September Enrollment Count:	545

Introduction

MPS follows the principles and standards for contracting, performance evaluation and compliance monitoring established by the *National Association of Charter School Authorizers*. The Charter School Performance Summary rates a school's performance in three broad areas: **Academic Performance**, **Financial Performance**, and **Organizational Performance**. The performance summary is *one* of the review and evaluation components used as the basis for charter renewal recommendations.

For additional information regarding the contract renewal decision-making process and timeline, see the document, "Charter School Performance Evaluation and Contract Renewal Procedures."

Performance Ratings

Each of the three performance areas as well as each of the individual performance standards will be given a rating of either:

Met the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard
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The overall rating for each section and the renewal recommendation is completed via collaboration and consensus by the MPS Charter School Contract Review Team after the team's review of the School Performance Summary, Application for Renewal, and site visit.

Academic Performance

Academic Performance Standards:

1	WSAS Reading	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in reading that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
2	WSAS Mathematics	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in mathematics that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
3	WSAS English / Language Arts (ELA)	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in English / Language Arts (ELA) that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
4	WSAS Writing	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in writing that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
5	WSAS Science	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in science that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
6	WSAS Social Studies	Achieve a percentage of pupils in Charter School scoring proficient or advanced on the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) tests in social studies that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils scoring proficient or advanced in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
7	Graduation Rate	Using a DPI formula for comparison, Charter School shall achieve a high school graduation rate that is the same as, or higher than, the high school graduation rate in all MPS high schools.
8	Attendance Rate	Achieve an average daily attendance rate of pupils in Charter School that is the same as, or higher than, the average daily attendance rate of pupils in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
9	Mobility Rate	Achieve a mobility rate of pupils in Charter School that is the same as, or lower than, the mobility rate of pupils in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
10	Stability Rate	Achieve a stability rate of pupils in Charter School that is the same as, or higher than, the stability rate of pupils in corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
11	Promotion Rate Grade 8	Achieve a percentage of pupils promoted from grade 8 in Charter School that is the same as, or higher than, the percentage of pupils being promoted from corresponding grades in all MPS schools.
12	AYP	Meet or exceed the state's minimum Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements.

Objective Measures for Academic Performance:

Met the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard
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Standard	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19	Year 4 2019-20
1. WSAS Reading	WSAS Reading is combined with WSAS English Language Arts.			
2. WSAS Mathematics	NO School = 12.5% District = 15.0%	YES School = 31.7% District = 15.4%	YES School = 33.0% District = 14.2%	NA Due to COVID-19 School Closures

3. WSAS English/Language Arts (ELA)	NO School = 12.5% District = 21.2%	YES School = 26.9% District = 22.3%	NO School = 19.6% District = 21.0%	NA Due to COVID-19 School Closures
4. WSAS Writing	WSAS Writing is combined with WSAS English Language Arts.			
5. WSAS Science	NA School did not have tested grade	NA School did not have tested grade	NO School = 21.3% District = 24.7%	NA Due to COVID-19 School Closures
6. WSAS Social Studies	NA School did not have tested grade	NA School did not have tested grade	NO School = 19.1% District = 26.0%	NA Due to COVID-19 School Closures
7. Graduation Rate	School does not have graduates during this contract term.			
8. Attendance Rate	YES School = 94.3% District = 90.9%	YES School = 92.4% District = 90.3%	YES School = 94.6% District = 89.7%	YES School = 94.2% District = 86.9%
9. Mobility Rate	NO School = 11.0% District = 10.7%	YES School = 2.7% District = 10.9%	YES School = 2.9% District = 11.0%	YES School = 0.7% District = 12.0%
10. Stability Rate	YES School = 91.0% District = 79.3%	YES School = 89.6% District = 82.2%	YES School = 87.6% District = 79.6%	NO School = 83.6% District = 87.7%
11. 8 th Grade Promotion	NA School did not have grade level	NA School did not have grade level	YES School = 100% District = 99.6%	YES School = 100% District = 99.9%
12. AYP	AYP is not calculated.			
Percentage of Standards Met by Year	40% MET 60% DID NOT MEET	100% MET 0% DID NOT MEET	63% MET 37% DID NOT MEET	75% MET 25% DID NOT MEET

School's Comments to Academic Performance Measures:

(Schools may respond to performance measures, submit additional information, and/or address areas of strength and/or challenge identified in the Academic Performance section. Additionally, schools should include statements and evidence reflecting areas of improvement related to Academic Performance.)

Currently, Milwaukee Excellence is the #2 rated school in Milwaukee Public Schools (as rated by DPI) and a National Title I Distinguished School.¹ Milwaukee Excellence is a five-star school according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction having earned that honor for two consecutive years. Our proficiency rates are approaching the average of all students in the state on the Wisconsin Forward Exam after only our third year of operation. A few of our most notable highlights are below:

- **The top growth rating** of any school in the state. We earned a perfect score of **100** on student achievement growth for consecutive years.
- Milwaukee Excellence 8th graders **beat the state average** in math results. 40% of our students were proficient in 8th-grade math compared to 36% of students statewide. African-American students at Milwaukee Excellence are outpacing the state average after our first year assessed in this grade-level.
- Our math scores are **nearly three times the state average for African-American students.**
- Our reading scores **outpace the state average for African-American students.**
- Milwaukee Excellence is **one of seven MPS schools to earn a five-star rating for the 2018-2019 school year.**
- Milwaukee Excellence was the **only middle school (6th - 8th grade) with a five-star rating** in all of MPS for the 2018 - 2019 school year. This is an incredible feat considering our initial year with students is 6th grade.

Milwaukee Excellence will continue to improve in all academic areas. We've maintained a strong attendance rate throughout the duration of our contract. Additionally, the FY20 PAAR will reflect that Milwaukee Excellence met 75% of all targets for last school year. We hope you are able to see the growth of our school over time.

Financial Performance

Financial Performance Standards:

1	Financial Audit	Charter school provides for an annual financial audit consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract. There are no material, unresolved, and/or repeat findings.
2	Budget Accounts	Charter school expends and accounts for funds in a manner consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract. Expenditures in any category of the school's annual budget did not deviate by more than 10%, unless mutually agreed upon between MPS and the charter school.
3	Financial Accounting	Charter school expends and accounts for funds in accordance with the federal guidelines set forth in Office of Management and Budget OMB Circular(s), A21, A87, or A122 Circular.
4	Financial Records	Charter school maintains all financial records in compliance with state and federal guidelines and with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Standards. Charter school's financial records are consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract.
5	Budget Deficit	When charter school anticipates a revenue shortfall or deficit from operations, or upon request of MPS, charter school submits within 30 days contingency plans for such revenue shortfalls in accordance with provisions of the charter contract. Plans to manage deficits or other contingencies are explained.
6	Financial Reporting	Charter school complies with all the financial reporting as outlined in the charter contract.

Objective Measures for Financial Performance

Met the Standard	Did Not Meet the Standard
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¹ Retrieved from: <https://www.eseanetwork.org/ds/schools/milwaukee-excellence-charter-school>

Standard	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19	Year 4 2019-20
1. Financial Audit	YES	YES	YES	Due November 30, 2020
2. Budget Accounts	YES	YES	YES	YES
3. Financial Accounting	YES	YES	YES	YES
4. Financial Records	YES	YES	YES	YES
5. Budget Deficit	YES	YES	YES	YES
6. Financial Reporting	YES	YES	YES	YES
Percentage of Standards Met by Year	100% MET 0% DID NOT MEET	100% MET 0% DID NOT MEET	100% MET 0% DID NOT MEET	100% MET 0% DID NOT MEET

District's Comments to Financial Performance Measures:
<p>Financial Audit:</p> <p>2016-17 School Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmodified opinion on the audited financial statements • No material weaknesses noted • No matters were reported on state award findings and questioned costs • No budget deficits were noted <p>2017-18 School Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmodified opinion on the audited financial statements • No material weaknesses noted • No matters were reported on state award findings and questioned costs • No budget deficits were noted <p>2018-19 School Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmodified opinion on the audited financial statements • No material weaknesses noted • No matters were reported on state award findings and questioned costs • No budget deficits were noted <p>2019-20 School Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit due October 30, 2020 • No budget deficits <p>Milwaukee Excellence was awarded the DPI Charter School grant for new schools and is in year 3 of implementation of this grant.</p>

School's Comments to Financial Performance Measures:

(Schools may respond to performance measures, submit additional information, and/or address areas of strength and/or challenge identified in the Financial Performance section. Additionally, schools should include statements and evidence reflecting areas of improvement related to Financial Performance.)

The Milwaukee Excellence Board is committed to sound financial management and ensuring sound oversight of public revenues and the school's sustainable viability for the term of our charter and beyond. We use conservative budgeting that allows us to maximize educational outcomes for students while minimizing financial risks. Our budget modeling includes revenue inflation for all years that is more conservative than state projections, and annual expense inflation of 2.5%, with health expenses estimated at 4% annual inflation. Revenues are estimated at the average yearly enrollment, while expenses are estimated based on the beginning of the-year enrollment targets. This is a very conservative model.

Organizational Performance**Organizational Performance Standards:**

1	Annual Performance Audit	Charter school provides for an annual performance audit consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract. There are no material, unresolved, and/or repeat findings.
2	Educational Program	Charter school operates the educational program consistent with description contained in the charter school proposal approved by the Milwaukee Board of School Directors and equips all classrooms with all materials, equipment and supplies required to implement the educational program.
3	School Governance	Charter school governance structure and reporting requirements are consistent with provisions of the charter school contract.
4	Parental Involvement	Charter school employs methods to ensure parental involvement consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract.
5	Title I Requirements	Charter school complies with all of the rules and regulations applicable to Title I funding requirements consistent with federal law and the provisions of the charter school contract.
6	Employee Qualifications and Human Resources Provisions	Charter school complies with all state statutes and provisions of the charter school contract relative to the qualifications and hiring of individuals employed in the school. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that all instructional staff hold a current and appropriate license or permit issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and background screening for both employees and volunteers.
7	Health and Safety	Charter school complies with all district policies and all local, state and federal laws, codes, rules and regulations that apply to public schools pertaining to health and safety consistent with the provisions of the charter school contract.
8	Pupil Admission and Enrollment Policies, and Records Retention	Charter school complies with provisions of the charter school contract regarding admissions requirements, pupil enrollment, racial and ethnic balance, and pupil records retention. Charter school adheres to state and federal laws and contract provisions related to nondiscrimination and statutory requirements, nonsectarian status, and pupil tuition and fees.
9	Special Education Compliance	Charter school complies with all of the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. School provides a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to children with disabilities, including, but not limited to, identifying, evaluating, planning educational programs, and implementing placements in accordance with those Acts.
10	Transportation and Nutrition Services	Charter school adheres to all provisions of the charter contract relative to transportation and nutrition services.

Objective Measures for Organizational Performance

Met the Standard

Did Not Meet the Standard

Standard	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19	Year 4 2019-20
1. Annual Performance Audit	YES	YES	YES	Due February 2021
2. Educational Program	YES	YES	YES	YES
3. School Governance	YES	YES	YES	YES
4. Parental Involvement <i>(school provides see note)</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES
5. Title I Requirements	YES	YES	YES	YES
6. Employee Qualifications and Human Resources Provisions	YES	YES	YES	YES
7. Health and Safety	NO	NO	NO	NO
8. Pupil Admission and Enrollment Policies and Records Retention	YES	YES	YES	YES
9. Special Education Compliance	YES	YES	YES	YES
10. Transportation and Nutrition Services	YES	YES	YES	YES
Percentage of Standards Met by Year	90% MET 10% DID NOT MEET	90% MET 10% DID NOT MEET	90% MET 10% DID NOT MEET	90% MET 10% DID NOT MEET

Unmet Organizational Standard	District's Comments to Unmet Organizational Standard	School's Response to Unmet Organizational Standard
Health and Safety (Immunization State Requirement is 99.9%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016-17 school year - 87.8% compliant • 2017-18 school year - 93.3% compliant • 2018-19 school year - 85.5% compliant • 2019-20 school year - 68.2% compliant 	Milwaukee Excellence has struggled with getting immunizations from parents when they enter Milwaukee Excellence. Additionally, we've hired new secretaries and operations team members each year at Milwaukee Excellence. We are aware of the need to ensure that this requirement is at 99% moving forward.

District's Comments to Organizational Performance Measures:

Milwaukee Excellence Charter School is in year 3 of the DPI Charter School Grant that was awarded to new charter school concepts.

Milwaukee Excellence Charter School has had a compliant opinion on the performance and compliance audits throughout the contract term.

Milwaukee Excellence has a diverse board of directors that have a positive impact on the students at Milwaukee Excellence Charter School.

School's Comments to Organizational Performance Measures:

(Schools may respond to performance measures, submit additional information, and/or address areas of strength and/or challenge identified in the Organizational Performance section. Additionally, schools should include statements and evidence reflecting areas of improvement related to Organizational Performance.)

Parental Involvement:

Milwaukee Excellence has established the Phoenix Parents Organization of Milwaukee Excellence that meets monthly with Principals to discuss their satisfaction with the academic program and communication with Milwaukee Excellence. Members of the group are invited to present annually to the Board, and will oversee semi-annual parent surveys on the programs and policies of the school, the results of which will be provided to Management and the Board. Like all members of the community, families will be encouraged to consider serving as members of the Board, and with interest, will go through the same vetting process as other interested individuals.

Milwaukee Excellence routinely surveys our parents. Over 90% agree that we communicate effectively and over 90% agree with our academic model.

Exhibits

The following exhibits may be attached, but not limited to, as documented evidence of performance ratings:

1. Appendix A
2. Application for Renewal
3. Pupil Academic Achievement Report (PAAR)
4. Performance and Financial Audits
5. Information from MPS departments regarding Organizational and Financial Performance Standards

Renewal Recommendations

Charter school renewal decisions are based on a thorough analysis of a comprehensive body of objective evidence. Information and data from the following components are used in the renewal decision-making process:

- Charter School Performance Summary –
Academic, Financial and Organizational Performance Standards
- Application for Renewal
- School Site Visit

Overall school performance ratings and renewal recommendation will be made via collaboration and consensus. Following a review and analysis of this information, the MPS Charter School Contract Review Team will recommend one of the following renewal options:

Renewal Options	Eligibility
<p><i>Full-term Renewal</i></p> <p><i>Term of five years</i></p>	<p>To be eligible, schools must be in the last year of the contract term and have achieved the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There is a strong and compelling record of evidence that the school consistently met or exceeded the performance standards in the areas of Academic Performance, Financial Performance, and Organizational Performance.</p> <p><u><i>Guidelines for Recommending Five-Year Renewal:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Team determines that a school 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.
<p><i>Short-term Renewal</i></p> <p><i>Term of up to three years</i></p>	<p>To be eligible, schools must be in the last year of the contract term and have achieved the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There is a strong and compelling record of evidence that the school met or exceeded a considerable number of the performance standards in the areas of Academic Performance, Financial Performance, and Organizational Performance and/or shows continuous, meaningful improvement toward meeting the performance standards.</p> <p><u><i>Guidelines for Recommending Three-Year Renewal:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Team determines that the school primarily merits <i>Met 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.

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