



March 7, 2013

Kristoffer Haines
Rocketship Education
350 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 109
Redwood City, CA 94065

Dear Mr. Haines,

The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board ("PCSB") has completed the 2012-2013 Experienced Operator Application Review process. I am pleased to inform you that at its public meeting held February 25, 2013, the Board approved your application to establish Rocketship DC as a public charter school in the District of Columbia. This approval is contingent on satisfying all of the Board's conditions and successful negotiation of a mutually acceptable charter.

The PCSB's decision was based on a thorough evaluation of the written application by the Board and PCSB staff; and information gathered from due diligence, the applicant interview, site visits as well as the public hearing.

Enclosed is a list of conditions that must be satisfied for full approval. The PCSB staff will contact you to schedule an appointment to discuss these conditions. At this meeting, Board staff will coordinate with Rocketship DC to establish milestones for the completion of the conditions and discuss, in more detail, next steps in the process.

Thank you for your commitment to improving public education in the District and we look forward to having Rocketship DC join the DC charter school community.

Sincerely,



John (Skip) McCoy
Board Chair

Enclosure

cc: Charlie Bufalino, National Development Associate

Rocketship DC

Conditions for Full Approval

All Conditions to be met and approved by PCSB by April 1 of the year the first campus is scheduled to open

1. PCSB authorizes the opening of two campuses with an initial enrollment ceiling of 1300 not before August 2014. Beginning at the second anniversary of the first campus opening, the authorization will increase in increments of one campus and 650 students per year, up to a maximum authorization of eight campuses and 5,200 students, provided that in each year that such increments are authorized:
 - a. All previously authorized campuses have opened;
 - b. All operating DC campuses have PMF scores of at least 65 for the most recent year of reporting;
 - c. All operating DC campuses have early learning programs that are the equivalent of “tier 1” on the forthcoming EC PMF for the most recent year of reporting; and,
 - d. There have been no material violations of the law and neither the school nor any of its campuses are under “charter warning” status by PCSB.
2. The school’s goals are revised to either adopt the PMF as its goals and/or amend the goal that states, "Rocketship schools will meet or exceed the average achievement for schools in the same geographic area on the DC CAS" to be more challenging. Rocketship must develop two to three additional goals; one must address special education student performance and the other should address aspects critical to the school's mission.
3. Rocketship DC revises its special education plan to include language that states it will accommodate students with varying supports pursuant to their existing IEPs. Further, it will ensure a continuum of services is offered to students with disabilities at all service levels that could include pullout and/or resource classrooms.
4. Provide final curriculum maps for each subject/content area taught in year one of operation. The maps must include: goals/objectives, standards, instructional strategies to be used, lesson plans, summative assessments, and resources (selection/purchase of materials, translation).
5. Rocketship DC implements its community engagement plan as outlined in its application.
6. Rocketship DC completes the formation of its local board that adheres to the requirements outlined in the DC School Reform Act (odd number of members not to exceed 15, two parents, and majority DC residents) with the exception of the two parents requirement.
7. Rocketship DC identifies a location for its first school and provides information demonstrating that it has acquired the title to, or otherwise secured the use of the facility.
8. Rocketship DC provides a certificate of insurance that includes general liability, property, and trustees and employees’ liability coverage.

9. Provide a final copy of the bylaws adopted by the Board of Trustees for the Rocketship DC.
10. Provide copies of incorporation documents showing the nonprofit status of Rocketship DC, as required by law.
11. Submit reports detailing allocation and use of Title V funds.
12. Participate in all PCSB - facilitated training program during the planning year.
13. Meet all mutually agreed upon implementation milestones and document submission deadlines.
14. Ensure that Rocketship DC's discipline and attendance policies are in accordance with PCSB's model policies.