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MEMORANDUM

TO: District Charter School Contacts and Charter Schools subject to Differentiated Accountability

FROM: Michael D. Kooi, Esq.

DATE: August 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Strategies and Support for Differentiated Accountability for Charter Schools

Attached is an adjusted crosswalk for the application of Differentiated Accountability (DA) to charter schools. There are numerous instances in which district action and responsibility has been adjusted to reflect, in the case of charter schools, that action or responsibility is required of the charter school governing board.

In addition to that generally applicable adjustment, there are several other items that warrant further mention and explanation. These items are set forth below:

- The leadership team for charter schools under DA should be composed of at least the school principal, assistant principal, guidance counselor, a representative of the school's governing board, and a representative of the education service provider, if applicable.
- The provision requiring assistance and input by the School Advisory Council is not applicable to charter schools that do not have such councils.
- The provision requiring a Community Assessment Team does not apply to charter schools.
- Districts are expected to continue to make professional development opportunities available to charter school administrators and instructional staff, as required by DA.

MICHAEL D. KOOI, ESQ.

Executive Director

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

District Charter School Contacts

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- Districts are expected to continue to provide reading, math and/or science coaches under the same circumstances as traditional district schools, with the exception that those charter schools that have chosen in their contract to opt out of the district reading program would not be entitled to the provision of reading coaches.
- Charter school governing boards are required to work with the district sponsor and the state on issues such as, performance appraisals, Individual Professional Development Plans, formative and summative assessments, and proper monitoring of student academic progress.

Any further questions regarding these adjustments and the application of DA to charter schools should be directed to Nikolai Vitti at (850) 245-0509, Adam Miller at (850) 245-0998 or myself at (850) 245-0502.

MDK/tlc