



# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Mark A. Holodick, Ed.D.  
Secretary of Education  
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December 28, 2022

Dr. Marsha Horton  
Board President  
Early College School @ DSU  
1570 North Dupont Highway  
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Dr. Horton:

I am pleased to inform you that on December 15, 2022, the Department of Education, with the assent of the State Board of Education, approved the charter renewal application for Early College School @ DSU with the following condition:

The school will meet the expectations outlined in the Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development workgroup feedback as listed below:

1. English/Language Arts:
  - a. Provide revised scope and sequence documents for every grade by January 3<sup>rd</sup>. These scope and sequence documents should include evidence of the metrics listed for the following three non-negotiables of the Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool (IMET):
    - **Non-Negotiable 1:** Anchor texts are worthy of students' time and attention, texts are worthy of quality and are rigorous, containing rich academic language, meeting appropriate text complexity criteria for each grade.
    - **Non-Negotiable 2:** Curriculum/materials provide opportunities for rich and rigorous evidence-based discussions and writing about texts to build strong literacy skills.
    - **Non-Negotiable 3:** Curriculum/materials build knowledge systematically through reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language study.
2. Math:
  - a. By January 3<sup>rd</sup>, based on the schools continued review using EdReports, provide documentation on how identified gaps in practice or content standards are being addressed. Include which instructional materials are being provided to teachers to address the gaps in standards.
  - b. It is the expectation that the high school math courses falling outside of the Spring Board curriculum are included as they fall within the mathematics courses and graduation requirement. DOE has no information on standards and content beyond Algebra II. While there is a common understanding of the standards/content that falls under Precalculus and College Algebra, it is not commonly understood what content/standards are covered in Consumer Mathematics. Without a course specific scope and sequence, DOE has no evidence that Consumer Mathematics meets Regulation 505 2.1.1: students completed

work no less than the required three courses (Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II). By January 3<sup>rd</sup>, provide a course scope and sequence for Consumer Mathematics.

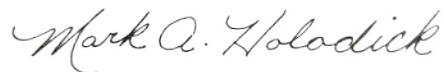
3. Visual and Performing Arts:

- a. There are 11 Anchor Standards within the Traditional and Emerging Ensemble strand of the Arts Standards that fall into four artistic processes. These artistic processes create a well-rounded arts education experience for students in ensembles. Therefore, it is critical that students engage in learning experiences that demonstrate alignment to more than one single standard. Students can create warm-ups or short patterns to demonstrate understanding of repertoire. They can respond to recordings of their repertoire performed by other ensembles OR by their own ensemble. Students can connect by understanding the repertoire's place in history or within the culture of the classroom, state, nation or world.
- b. By January 3<sup>rd</sup>, provide documentation of alignment to standards. As the units currently show, students are only learning from a single standard for every unit. This does not highlight a complete standards alignment. There are also two other performing standards that could be addressed as well within a multi-grade level instrumental unit/lesson.
- c. While it is not the expectation that each unit cover each standard or artistic process, it is the expectation that each of the artistic processes are covered over the course of study. By January 3<sup>rd</sup>, submit documentation of that each artistic process is covered of the course of study.

Once this condition is met, the school's renewed charter will be in effect from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2028. Please note that your next charter renewal application will be due September 30, 2027.

Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Leroy Travers at (302) 735-4020.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Holodick, Ed.D.  
Secretary of Education

cc: Kim D. Klein, Associate Secretary, Operations Support  
Leroy Travers, Director, Charter School Office  
Evelyn Edney, Head of School