

Carolina Voyager Charter School
Clarification of Proposed Charter Amendments for CCSD Board of Trustees

Submitted January 27, 2021

- Page 3 “located on the peninsula” struck in light of the fact the school is not able to purchase land and fund construction of a school building on the peninsula
- Page 4 Wings for Kids - This organization is mentioned in numerous places throughout the original charter application - After a one year grant, the CVCS Board of Directors opted not to continue the relationship. Our staff develop their own SEL program based on the CASEL competencies of grit, growth mindset, social awareness, self-efficacy, and self-management. Using fall and spring student survey data each year from Panorama Education we have consistently seen growth in our students’ social and emotional skills. Since that time, we have also incorporated aspects of the Second Step Program. You will see that language related to Wings for Kids has been struck throughout the original application and has been replaced with our SEL program and the Panorama SEL Surveys.
- Page 4 The start and end times for the school days have been revised to reflect current practices, but the length of the school day remains the same. Voyager students spend at least an additional 4 hours a week in school compared to their peers in traditional distinct schools.
- Page 4 “though families on the Charleston peninsula will be specifically targeted in our early marketing efforts” struck as the school is well beyond our period of early marketing efforts.
- Page 4 Language added, “ensure the CVCS’s demographics are similar to that of the Charleston County School District” to align with state charter law.
- Page 6 Two paragraphs struck as they are simply historical, specifically making the case of the need for a school like Voyager downtown.
- Page 9 “CVCS’s communication and outreach efforts are directed to the peninsula of Charleston...” struck as this references marketing efforts before the school opened
- Pgs. 10 & 11 “On October 9, 2012, a group of” struck as this information is simply historical
- Page 12 Another reference to Wings for Kids (see notes from page 4)

- Page 13 “youth programs” struck as they were not targeted in early marketing efforts
- Page 15 “South Carolina” struck as it contradicts state law regarding the lottery process for Voyager
- Page 15 “intends to ” changed to “will strive to” as we are unable to guarantee an exact level of diversity given the lottery process.
- Pgs. 19 & 20 “Of the 19 low performing, high minority, low income schools...” struck as this information is simply historical and RTT-L3 is a grant program that no longer exists
- Page 20 “The school’s culture...” struck as the Voyager pledge has been rewritten by our staff members
- Page 21 Another reference to Wings for Kids (see notes from page 4)
- Page 23 “Flipping classes...” struck as this is not mandated across all grade levels. Some teachers, in particular those in the upper grades, utilize this strategy at times.
- Page 23 “CVCS will help families...” struck as we do not pay for the internet for any of our families. We do connect families with Comcast’s Internet Essentials. Through our annual parent survey we have found that 100% of our families have access to the internet at home or through cell phone providers.
- Page 24 All references to the Common Core throughout the original charter application have been replaced with “South Carolina Standards”.
- Page 25 Our students loop with the same teachers for two years in first through eighth grades. Kindergarten students do not loop.
- Page 27 The start and end times for the school day have been revised (see notes form page 4).
- Page 27 “Before” struck as there was not enough interest in a before school program from our parents. Drop off of students in the morning starts as early as 7:25 a.m.
- Page 28 Our Board voted to follow the CCSD calendar, as some of our students have siblings that attend other CCSD schools.
- Pgs. 30-33 All achievement targets were revised from 90% to 80%. The highest performing schools in the district (e.g., Buist) have not achieved at the 90% level on state assessments. Our Board approved an 80% target as it is a lofty target for any public school.

Page 31	The SEL targets have been revised to align with our SEL program.
Page 34	The assessments in this chart have been revised to reflect our current practices K-8 - iReady Diagnostic (We need to add Fountas and Pinnell Reading Benchmarks) 3rd-8th - The state has abandoned the Smarter Balance assessments and is using SC Ready and SC Pass 3rd-8th - The pre and post Panorama Surveys are used to measure growth in SEL Competencies
Page 36	Short term goals revised to reflect current practices (see notes from above) Assessment changes (see notes from above)
Pgs. 38-40	Assessment changes (see notes from above)
Page 41	Revisions to this chart - Activity/Strategy, Related Goal/Objective, Person Responsible, and Data to be Collected (see notes from above)
Page 45	Language related to support/contracts with CCSD have been struck as CVCS is providing all services required under IDEA
Page 46	CVCS developed our own Behavior Handbook. Since our inception, we have incorporated a number of components of the CCSD Handbook.
Page 47	Added the word “recommendation” as our Board must review/approve/overturn disciplinary actions.
Page 48	“transportation” struck in accordance with the intent stated later in the charter application on page 65, “At this time, we do not intend on providing transportation.”
Page 51	“CCSD” struck as support from the district has not been needed by the CVCS Board.
Page 53	“CVCS plans to implement...” has been struck. Input and feedback from parents is obtained through the use of surveys, google forms, social media, our website, our PTO, and our Board.
Page 54	“It is the goal of the charter committee...” struck as this is historical and the Charter Committee no longer exists.

- Page 54 "Parents will have an opportunity to..." struck as it references initial enrollments in the charter. All of our current students are provided with a school owned device that they are allowed to take home each evening.
- Page 58 The page contains a mistake that we need to revise. All of our classroom teachers hold a Bachelor's degree and are highly qualified.
- Page 62 "TAP" struck in favor of "ADEPT", the evaluation platform used throughout the state of South Carolina. We had utilized TAP in our initial years as we had grant funding for the program which has since ended.
- Page 64 "We have also procured an estimate for Student Insurance..." struck as we have never offered student insurance.
- Page 65 "Transportation will not be a barrier...." struck given the next sentence in this paragraph stating, "At this time we do not intend on providing transportation."
- Page 65 "including transportation" struck as we do not have any students with special needs who require transportation. If we did, we would comply with the legal mandates outlined in IDEA.
- Page 66 "in" struck and replaced with "as close to..." in light of the fact the school is not able to purchase land and fund construction of a school building on the peninsula

Appendix E-1 beginning on page 104

Wings for Kids replaced with CVCS SEL program throughout this section (see notes above)

Appendices E1-E4 beginning on page 114

The daily schedule revised in light of current practices (see notes above)

Before care program struck as there was not enough interest for such a program and our children may be dropped at school as early as 7:25 a.m. (see notes above)

Our after care program is in place being staffed by Kaleidoscope

Appendices G2- G69 beginning on page 118

All references to "Common Core Standards" have been replaced with "South Carolina Standards"

Page 120 "Every student produces a long term project..." struck by staff who did not see the appropriateness of students at every grade level completing a long range project. All students do complete several short term projects throughout the year.

Page 128 Wings for Kids replaced with CVCS SEL program throughout this section (see notes above)

Appendix G61 page 177

"In doing so..." struck by staff who did not see the appropriateness of students at every grade level engaged in project -based learning.

Page 178 "CVCS will reach out to local businesses..." struck. Staff have developed several business partnerships, but we do not engage in internships

Page 186 Our Leadership Team and Board developed our own Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.

Appendix I1- I15 beginning on page 187

The new Bylaws adopted by the CVCS Board of Directors have replaced the proposed bylaws from the original charter application

Appendix R10 page 251

"Open Door Policy" struck in favor of "Internal Complaint Procedures Policy"

Appendix R15 page 256

Added "or" to technology use policy

Added "The following violation may be grounds for dismissal at the discretion of the school."

Appendix R17 page 258

Added a paragraph outlining requirements for employees leaving Voyager in order for them to receive their last paycheck