

## Thomas B. Fordham Foundation Charter School Renewal Evaluation Rubric and Process

### ***Instructions***

Thomas B Fordham Foundation (TBF) staff will review renewal applications and will use the following Evaluation Rubric to provide evidence-based recommendations to the sponsor’s board regarding renewal

Decisions. The renewal rubric includes both academic and non-academic measures based on contractual performance indicators for academics, finance and operations. To be considered for conditional renewal, the Ohio Department of Education requires that schools must meet sixty-six percent of the contractual performance indicators (Exhibit IV) and to be recommended for unconditional renewal, schools must meet seventy-five percent of their contractual indicators.

TBF staff should complete the summary scoring table and narrative at the end of the evaluation rubric. Each standard where the score is “Exceeds the standard” or “Meets the standard” counts as one point; each standard where the score is “Does not meet the standard” or “Falls far below the standard” counts as zero points and any item in the accountability plan that does not apply will not be scored or counted in the calculation.

### **Exhibit 4: Academic and organizational accountability plan (K–12) and Renewal Rubric**

Pursuant to Article III of this Contract, the Academic and Organizational Accountability Plan constitutes the agreed-upon academic, financial, and organizational and governance requirements (“Requirements”) that the GOVERNING AUTHORITY and SPONSOR will use to evaluate the performance of the Community School during the term of this contract. Each of these Requirements may be considered by the SPONSOR to gauge success throughout the term of this contract.

To be considered for contract renewal, the GOVERNING AUTHORITY is expected to have “achieved” the standard as specified herein, which is the SPONSOR’s minimum expectation for the School. An inability to achieve minor elements of the standards may not prevent consideration of contract renewal, based on the totality of the circumstances, which will be subject to SPONSOR’s sole and complete discretion. The SPONSOR will also consider the school’s Local Report Card, as issued by the Ohio Department of Education and incorporated by reference herein.

All indicators are reviewed annually and are also reviewed over the term of the contract at renewal.

<b>Primary academic indicators</b>	<b>Exceeds the standard</b>	<b>Meets the standard</b>	<b>Does not meet the standard</b>	<b>Falls far below the standard</b>	<b>Points (for each year of the term of the contract)</b>	<b>Total points</b>
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PI <sup>1</sup>	80% or higher	50%–79%	30%–49%	29% and below		
VA <sup>2</sup>	Greater or equal to +2	Greater or equal to -2 but less than +1	-Greater or equal to -2 but less than -3	Greater or equal to to -3		
Graduation rate (four years)	89% - 100%	79% - 88.9%	69% - 78.9%	Below 69%		
Graduation rate (five years)	90%–100%	80%–89.9%	60%–79%	Below 69%		
Improving At-Risk K-3 Readers	56.6% - 78.2%	13.2% - 56.5%	5% - 13.1%	Below 5%		
Performance versus local market: <sup>3</sup> PI	Ranked in top 20th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in PI score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in PI score		
Performance versus local market: VA	Ranked in top 20th percentile in VA score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in VA score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in VA score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in VA score		
Performance versus statewide charters: PI	Ranked in top 20th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in PI score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in PI score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in PI score		
Performance versus statewide charters: VA	Ranked in top 20th percentile in VA score	Ranked in 70th–79th percentile in VA score	Ranked in 50th–69th percentile in VA score	Ranked in bottom 49th percentile in VA score		

<sup>1</sup> The PI percentage is calculated as follows: school’s PI score divided by 120 (the highest possible PI score).

<sup>2</sup> A VA score is a statistical estimate intended to convey how much a school has contributed to student learning. A higher VA score conveys greater confidence that, on average, the school has contributed more than one standard year of academic growth; a lower VA score conveys greater confidence that the school has, on average, not contributed more than one standard year of academic growth.

<sup>3</sup> “Local market” includes other charter schools (excluding virtual and dropout-recovery charter schools, as designated by the ODE) in the county in which a school is located as well as comparable district schools in the charter school’s serving district, as designated by the ODE.

<b>Secondary academic indicators</b>	<b>Exceeds the standard</b>	<b>Meets the standard</b>	<b>Does not meet the standard</b>	<b>Falls far below the standard</b>	<b>Points (for each year of the term of the contract)</b>	<b>Total points</b>
VA: Overall grade	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
PI: Overall grade	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
VA: Gifted	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
VA: Disabilities	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
VA: Lowest 20%	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
AMOs (gap closing)	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
Dual-enrollment credits	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
Industry credentials	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
Honors diplomas awarded	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
AP score	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
IB score	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
College Admission Test	A or B	C or D	F	NA		
School regularly administers internal growth assessment	NA	Yes	No	NA		
School met a majority of its internal/mission specific goals (section A.7 of this contract)	NA	Yes	No	NA		
<b>Financial measures of success (current</b>	<b>Exceeds the standard</b>	<b>Meets the standard</b>	<b>Does not meet the</b>	<b>Falls far below the</b>	<b>Points (for each year</b>	<b>Total points</b>

year)			standard	standard	of the term of the contract)	
Current ratio of assets to liabilities	Ratio is greater than or equal to 1.1	Ratio is between 1.0 and 1.1; AND one-year trend is positive (current year's ratio is higher than last year's)	Ratio is between 0.9 and 1.0 or equals 1.0; OR ratio is between 1.0 and 1.1 AND one-year trend is negative	Ratio is less than or equal to 0.9		
Days' cash	60 or more days' cash	Between 30 and 60 days' cash	Between 15 and 30 days; OR between 30 and 60 days' cash AND one-year trend is negative	Fewer than 15 days' cash		

Current-year enrollment variance <sup>4</sup>	Actual enrollment equals or is within 95% of budgeted enrollment in most recent year	Actual enrollment is 90%–95% of budgeted enrollment in most recent year	Actual enrollment is 80%–90% of budgeted enrollment in most recent year	Actual enrollment is less than 80% of budgeted enrollment in most recent year		
<b>Financial measures of</b>	<b>Exceeds the</b>	<b>Meets the</b>	<b>Does not meet</b>	<b>Falls far below</b>	<b>Points (for</b>	<b>Total points</b>

<sup>4</sup> The enrollment variance depicts actual enrollment divided by enrollment projection in the charter school's board-approved budget.

<b>success (prior years)</b>	<b>standard</b>	<b>standard</b>	<b>the standard</b>	<b>the standard</b>	<b>each year of the term of the contract)</b>	
Multiyear ratio of assets to liabilities <sup>5</sup>	Ratio is greater than or equal to 1.1 for at least the 2 most recent years	Ratio is between 1.0 and 1.1 for at least the most recent year	Ratio is below 1.0 for the most recent year; OR below 1.0 in the 2 most previous years out of 3 years	Ratio is 0.9 or less for the most recent year; OR is 0.9 or less in the 2 most previous years out of 3 years		
Cash flow	Cash flow is positive for at least the 2 most recent years	Cash flow is positive for at least 1 of the most recent 2 years	Cash flow is not positive for at least 1 of the most recent 2 years	Cash flow is negative for any 2 consecutive years		
<b>Operations &amp; governance primary indicators</b>	<b>Exceeds the standard</b>	<b>Meets the standard</b>	<b>Does not meet the standard</b>	<b>Falls far below the standard</b>	<b>Points (for each year of the term of the contract)</b>	<b>Total points</b>
Records compliance <sup>6</sup>	90% or higher	79%–89%	60%–78%	59% or below		
On-time records submission rate	90% or higher	79%–89%	60%–78%	59% or below		
Financial records submitted monthly	90% or higher	79%–89%	60%–78%	59% or below		
Annual audit	Two consecutive years of no findings, findings for recovery,	No findings, findings for recovery, noncompliance citations, questioned	Audit contains fewer than three of the following: findings, noncompliance	Audit contains three or more of the following: findings, noncompliance		

<sup>5</sup> This ratio depicts the relationship between a school’s annual assets and liabilities, covering the last three years, based on the most recently audited financial statements.

<sup>6</sup> Represents the percentage of records reviewed that were accurate and complete during the school year.

	noncompliance citations, questioned costs, or material weaknesses, as set forth in the audit	costs, or material weaknesses, as set forth in the audit	e citations, questioned costs, or material weaknesses, or findings for recovery (less than \$5,000 combined), as set forth in the audit	citations, questioned costs, or material weaknesses, or findings for recovery (in excess of \$5,000 combined), as set forth in the audit		
LEA special-education performance determination (most recent annual) <sup>7</sup>	Meets requirements	Needs assistance	Needs intervention	Needs substantial intervention		
<b>Operations &amp; governance secondary indicators</b>	<b>Exceeds the standard</b>	<b>Meets the standard</b>	<b>Does not meet the standard</b>	<b>Falls far below the standard</b>	<b>Points (for each year of the term of the contract)</b>	<b>Total points</b>
Five-year forecasts submitted to the ODE by statutory deadlines		Yes	No			
Preopening assurances documentation		Completed and available 10 days before the first day of school	Not completed and not available 10 days before the first day of school			
Annual report		Submitted to parents and the sponsor by	Not submitted to parents and the sponsor by			

<sup>7</sup> The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) requires that state education agencies make annual determinations regarding the performance of special-education programs operated by local education agencies (LEAs) that receive federal IDEA Part-B funding. In Ohio, individual charter schools are considered LEAs.

		the last day of October	the last day of October			
Safety plan and blueprint submitted within the last three years to the Ohio Attorney General		Yes	No			
Family-survey results	80% or greater overall satisfaction with school	60%–79% overall satisfaction with school	40%–59% overall satisfaction with school	39% or less overall satisfaction with school		

**Scoring and Criteria**

**Academic, Financial and Operations/Governance Indicators from contract Exhibit 4 (Academic and Organizational Accountability Plan)**

<b>Summary Scoring Table</b>			
<b>Points Area</b>	<b>Possible points*</b>	<b>Points achieved</b>	<b>Total points percentage</b>
<b>Academic including multiple measures of student achievement</b>	<b>26 points x 5 years = 130 total possible points</b>	<b>__ points x __ years = __ total points</b>	<b>_____ percent</b>
<b>Financial measures</b>	<b>5 points x 5 years = 25 total possible points</b>	<b>__ points x __ years = __ total points</b>	<b>_____ percent</b>
<b>Operations and governance measures including Financial Audits</b>	<b>10 points x 5 years = 50 total possible points</b>	<b>__ points x __ years = __ total points</b>	<b>_____ percent</b>
<b>Site visit reports</b>	<b>1 point x 5 years = 5</b>	<b>__ points x __</b>	

	<b>total possible points</b>	<b>years = ___ total points</b>	<b>_____ percent</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>42 points x 5 years = 210 total possible points</b>	<b>__ points x __ years = ___ total points</b>	<b>_____ percent</b>

\*Indicates the total possible points for a five-year contract. Contracts with terms less than five years, or offer fewer grades than Kindergarten through twelfth, will have fewer total points.

**Indicator Scoring**

To be considered for conditional renewal, the Ohio Department of Education requires that schools must meet sixty six percent of the contractual performance indicators (as set forth in the Charter School Renewal Evaluation Rubric and Process, incorporated by reference and included at Attachment 1 herein) and to be considered for an unconditional renewal, schools must meet seventy-five percent of their contractual indicators.

**Multiple years of student achievement**

The sponsor will append the most recent governing authority annual report, which includes a report on multiple years of student achievement over the terms of the contract. Multiple years of student achievement are taken into consideration, and points assigned thereto, in the Charter School Renewal Evaluation Rubric and Process. The total points for multiple years are set forth in the Summary Scoring Table (above).

**Financial Audits**

The sponsor will append the most recent governing authority annual report includes an audit review over the term of the contract. At a minimum, the most recent three years of audits are reviewed for any findings and corrected actions. An audit indicator is included within the Operations and Governance performance indicators.

**Site Visit Reports**

The sponsor will append the most recent governing authority annual report, including a review on performance and whether the school is on track for renewal. If the school is on track for renewal for half or greater of the term of the contract, it receives one point; otherwise, it receives zero points.

**Status Reports on corrective action plans or interventions and/or other compliance reports**

The sponsor will append the most recent governing authority annual report, which includes status and follow up action required on any corrective action plans or interventions, if applicable.

**Training for application reviewers**

Application reviewers attend application reviewer training annually. The training takes place via a conference call and PowerPoint presentation. The presentation includes expectations, timeline, rating descriptions, and scoring.

**Staff Recommendation Narrative**

Based on the evidence, information and scoring criteria above, Fordham staff will provide a recommendation regarding renewal below.