

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waiver will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: Since educator expertise has a great impact on the performance of the entire school, the impact of the waivers will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: As a result of these waivers, the school will be able to employ professional staff possessing unique skills and/or background filling all staff needs.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan

C.R.S. §22-63-203 Probationary Teachers; renewal and non-renewal of employment contract; Specific Duties;

C.R.S. §22-63-203.5 Nonprobationary portability

Rationale: MA should be granted authority to develop its own employment agreements, terms, policies, and conditions of employment. MA will have teacher agreements with terms of non-renewal and renewal of employment agreements, and payment of salaries upon termination of employment of a teacher. MA will operate differently from other schools, with a unique curriculum for which having the proper teaching staff is essential. Not every teacher who is successful in other schools will be successful at MA. All employees of MA will be employed on an at-will basis and subject to employment policies set by MA.

Replacement Plan: Employment at MA will be on an at-will basis. Continued employment will be subject to a satisfactory performance evaluation(s) consistent with the employment procedures and policies adopted by MA Governing Board. MA will use a specific employment agreement with requires an annual renewal and addresses payment of salaries upon termination of employment of a teacher.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waivers be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waivers will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waivers will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: As a result of these waivers, the school will be able to employ professional staff possessing unique skills and/or background filling all staff needs.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan

C.R.S. §22-63-205 – Exchange of Teachers

C.R.S. §22-63-206 – Transfer of Teachers

Rationale: Under the charter contract with Woodland Park School District, MA has authority to select its own teachers. No other school or WPSD Re-2 has authority to transfer teachers into Merit Academy, or transfer teachers from Merit Academy to any other schools. Merit Academy has no intention to start a teacher exchange program.

Replacement Plan: Merit Academy has its own policies regarding hiring teachers on a best-qualified basis that meet or exceed the intent of the law.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waiver be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waivers will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waivers will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: As a result of these waivers, MA will be able to manage its own personnel affairs, consistent with the terms of the charter contract and the Colorado Charter School Act.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan**C.R.S. §22-63-204 – Interest Prohibited, receiving money from sale of goods**

Rationale: As provided for in the Charter School Agreement, all staff employed at Merit Academy are employees of the school and not of WPSD. As a result, the authority of the employing board to provide written consent in these matters should be transferred to MA. It is essential that the school be granted the latitude to raise money through grants and fundraising to spend such funds to accomplish its educational objectives. MA needs to be allowed to accept pay for sale of goods to accomplish education objectives. All employees of Merit Academy will be employed on an at-will basis and subject to employment policies set by the school.

Replacement Plan: Merit Academy Board will employ best practices for policy to determine acceptance of gifts, donations, and grants and will monitor expenditures against instructional objectives. The school has policies for teacher employment agreements and contracts, that meet or exceed the intent of the law.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waiver be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waiver will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waivers will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: The impact of the waivers will provide MA with the latitude to raise and expend funds as to administer the school program in keeping with the philosophy and mission as stated in the Charter School Agreement.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan**C.R.S. §22-32-109 (1)(b) – Local Board duties concerning competitive bidding**

Rationale: Merit Academy should be granted authority to develop its operating policies, consistent with the Charter School Act and state law. This policy has been an automatic waiver granted to all charter schools until recently. The school requests sole discretion in all competitive bidding policies in order to make sure that we are able to acquire goods and services that best meet the needs of MA students in the most efficient possible manner.

Replacement Plan: Merit Academy will follow accounting policies and procedures that comply with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The School is in the best position to know what goods and services are needed and which vendors may be available. Procurement of goods and services shall be made by the MA governing board and school leader in the best interest of the school, upon considering the totality of the circumstances surrounding the procurement, which may include but not be limited to price, quality, availability, timelines, reputation, and prior dealings. MA will be responsible for establishing procedures for competitive bidding, as required by applicable law, and for selecting successful bidders on projects/contracts. MA will ensure the process is open, transparent, and in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waiver be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waiver will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waiver will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract, through June 30, 2032.

Expected Outcome: As a result of this waiver, MA will be able to carry out its educational program, and administer its affairs in an efficient manner.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan

C.R.S. §22-32-110- (1)y – Local Board Powers – Accept Gifts, Donations and Grants

Rationale: In order to ensure the School is able to operate critical aspects of its model outside of its core program, the school engages in fund development efforts. In accordance with state law, MA will be responsible for determining its own budget and issues associated therewith.

Replacement Plan: MA will not accept any gift or donation if the acceptance of said gift or donation is in violation of the law, its charter contract, or any ethical or conflict of interest policies of MA. The School, rather than the District, will be responsible for determining whether or not to accept gifts, donations, and grants. The School will adopt a policy to ensure the process is an open process in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waiver be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waiver will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waiver will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: As a result of this waiver, MA will be able to carry out its educational program, administer its affairs in an efficient manner, and accomplish its mission as set forth in the charter contract.

Non-Automatic Waivers: Statute Description and Rationale and Replacement Plan

C.R.S. §22-1-110 – Effect of Use of Alcohol and Controlled Substances to be Taught

Rationale: MA is granted the authority to determine the educational program for the school through an automatic waiver of C.R.S. §22-32-109(1)(t). Consistent with this waiver, MA should have the authority to

establish and maintain appropriate standards for the education program, texts, and materials acceptable in its school in accordance with the Charter School Contract.

Replacement Plan: MA will include instruction on the effect and use of alcohol and controlled substances and will meet the intent of the Colorado Academic Standards on Comprehensive Health and Physical Education by including the effects of alcohol and controlled substances.

Duration of Waivers:

We formally request the waiver be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2032.

Financial Impact: MA anticipates the requested waiver will have no financial impact upon the budgets of WPSD Re-2 or MA.

How the Impact of the Waivers Will be Evaluated: The impact of the waivers will be measured by the same performance criteria and assessments that apply to MA as set forth in the charter contract.

Expected Outcome: As a result of these waivers, Merit Academy will experience an enhanced educational program by administering the school program, while keeping with the philosophy and mission as stated in the Charter School Agreement and executing the curricular autonomy it is guaranteed.

ATTACHMENT 7: WAIVERS OF DISTRICT POLICIES (WITH RATIONALE AND REPLACEMENT PLAN)

Waiver Requests Woodland Park School District Re-2

The following waivers are requested from WPSD Re-2 policies. Where a waiver from Colorado State Statute is approved, or in instances where a policy contradicts the powers and authorities provided to the Charter School by the Charter School Act, it will be assumed that any corresponding rules (State, District, or otherwise) will also be waived.

We formally request these waivers be in effect as long as the school is open and operating in compliance with the Charter School Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, through the duration of our contract, through June 30, 2027.

Many of these waivers are listed because the responsibilities, duties, and powers rest, in policy, with the superintendent and WPSD Board of Education. However, Merit Academy's responsibilities, duties, and powers rest with the Chief Action Officer and MA Board of Directors.

Also, there are over 400 policies governing WPSD, with quite a few as old as 1991, some even referring to WPSD Board as an operational vs policy governance board.

Depending on the results of the non-automatic waivers and with the above reasoning and assumptions in mind, if the Board of Education requires a reason for any remaining district

policies from which Merit Academy seeks a waiver, we ask that we have until June 15 to submit that to the Board for further consideration.

ACR

AD-Vision & Mission

ADF-WPSD Wellness Policy

ADF-R-School Wellness

AE-Accountability/Commitment to Accomplish

AER-District Advisory Committee

AEA

AED-Accreditation

BCB-E-Disclosure Statement

BDFH-Advisory Committee

BG

BID-BIE

BJA-Legislative Program

CG-Administrative Organization

CLA-District Organizational Chart

CHCA-Handbooks and Directives

DAC-Federal Fiscal Compliance

DBC-Budget Planning, Preparation & Administration

DBD-Determination of Budget Priorities

DFA/DFAA-Revenues from Investments/Use Surplus Funds

DFA/DFAA-R: Revenues from Investments/Use Surplus Funds

DG-Banking Services

DKA-Compensation Admin

DI-Fiscal Accounting

DID-Inventories

DIE-Auditor

DJ/DJA-Purchasing/Authority

DJB-Federal Procurement

DBJ-R-Federal Procurement

DJE-Bidding

DKC-Expense Authorization Reimbursement

EBBA-Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission

EBCE-School Closure/Cancellation

ECAP-Personal Property Reimbursement

EDC-Authorized use of School Owned Materials

EDB- merit & Control materials & Equipment

EEA-Transportation

SECTION G- Staff Issues (Policies adopted by Charter School to be Determined by Charter Board, with compliance to required CO State Statutes and law).

- **File: GBA - OPEN HIRING/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**
- File: GBAA - SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- File: GCI - PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT
- File: GCKA - INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS
- File: GCKAA* - TEACHER DISPLACEMENT
- File: GCKAA*-R - TEACHER DISPLACEMENT
- File: GCKB - ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS
- File: GCL - INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF SCHEDULES AND CALENDARS
- File: GCO - EVALUATION OF LICENSED PERSONNEL
- File: GCO-R - EVALUATION OF LICENSED PERSONNEL
- File: GCOE - EVALUATION OF EVALUATORS
- File: GCQA - INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF REDUCTION IN FORCE
- File: GCQA-R - INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF REDUCTION IN FORCE
- File: GCQC/GCQD - RESIGNATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
- File: GCQC/GCQD-R - RESIGNATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
- File: GCQE - RETIREMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF
- File: GCQEA - VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF MEMBERS
- File: GCQF - DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF
- File: GCQF-R - DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF
- File: GCS - PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING
- File: GD - SUPPORT / CLASSIFIED STAFF
- File: GDBA - SUPPORT STAFF SALARY SCHEDULE
- File: GDBC - SUPPORT STAFF SUPPLEMENTARY PAY PLANS
- File: GDBD - SUPPORT STAFF FRINGE BENEFITS
- File: GDD - SUPPORT STAFF VACATIONS AND HOLIDAYS
- File: GDE/GDF - SUPPORT STAFF RECRUITING/HIRING
- File: GDE/GDF-R - SUPPORT STAFF RECRUITING/HIRING
- File: GDG - SUPPORT STAFF PART-TIME AND SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYMENT
- File: GDO - EVALUATION OF SUPPORT STAFF
- File: GDQA - SUPPORT STAFF REDUCTION IN FORCE
- File: GDQB - SUPPORT STAFF RESIGNATION
- File: GDQD - DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL OF SUPPORT STAFF
- File: GP-8-E - Policy Type: Governance

SECTION I - INSTRUCTION

- File: IC/ICA - SCHOOL YEAR/SCHOOL CALENDAR
- File: IG - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
- File: IHACA* - LAW-RELATED EDUCATION
- File: IHAM - HEALTH AND FAMILY LIFE/SEX EDUCATION
- File: IHAM-R - HEALTH AND FAMILY LIFE/SEX EDUCATION
- File: IHAMA - TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

- File: IHBIB - PRIMARY/PREPRIMARY EDUCATION
- File: IHBIB-R - PRIMARY/PREPRIMARY EDUCATION
- File: IHBK* - PREPARATION FOR POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE SUCCESS
- File: IHCDA-R - CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT (Procedure for students seeking to enroll in postsecondary courses)
- File: IIB - CLASS SIZE
- File: IJ - INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES AND MATERIALS
- File: IJK - SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION
- File: IJK-E - SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION
- File: IJK-E.2 - WOODLAND PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-2
- File: IJOA - FIELD TRIPS
- File: IK - ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
- File: IKA - GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS
- File: IKA-R - GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS
- File: IKA-R1 - GRADING / ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS
- File: IKA-R2 - CLASS RANK / GRADE POINT AVERAGES
- File: IKE - ENSURING ALL STUDENTS MEET STANDARDS
- File: IKE-R - ENSURING ALL STUDENTS MEET STANDARDS
- File: IKF - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- File: IKF-E - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- File: IKFB - GRADUATION EXERCISES
- File: IMB - TEACHING ABOUT CONTROVERSIAL/SENSITIVE ISSUES
- File: IMBB - EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIRED INSTRUCTION
- **File: JB - EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**
- File: JC - SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS
- File: JEB - ENTRANCE AGE REQUIREMENTS
- File: JF - ADMISSION AND DENIAL OF ADMISSION
- File: JFAB - CONTINUING ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS WHO BECOME NONRESIDENTS
- File: JFABA - NONRESIDENT TUITION CHARGES
- File: JFBA - INTRA-DISTRICT CHOICE/OPEN ENROLLMENT
- File: JFBA-R - INTRA-DISTRICT CHOICE/OPEN ENROLLMENT
- File: JFBB - INTER-DISTRICT CHOICE/OPEN ENROLLMENT
- File: JFBB-R - INTER-DISTRICT CHOICE/OPEN ENROLLMENT
- File: JFC - Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
- File: JFC-R - Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
- File: JGA - ASSIGNMENT OF NEW STUDENTS TO CLASSES AND GRADE LEVELS
- File: JH - STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES
- File: JH-R - STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES
- File: JHB - TRUANCY
- File: JHCA - CLOSED CAMPUS
- File: JHCA-R - CLOSED CAMPUS
- File: JIC - STUDENT CONDUCT
- File: JICA - STUDENT DRESS CODE

- File: JICC - STUDENT CONDUCT IN SCHOOL VEHICLES
- File: JICDA - STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
- File: JICDD* - VIOLENT AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR
- File: JICDE* - BULLYING PREVENTION AND EDUCATION
- File: JICEA - SCHOOL-RELATED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
- File: JICEA-R - SCHOOL-RELATED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
- File: JICEC* - STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF NON-CURRICULAR MATERIALS
- File: JICEC*-R - STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF NON-CURRICULAR MATERIALS
- File: JICF - SECRET SOCIETIES/GANG ACTIVITY
- File: JICF-R - SECRET SOCIETIES/GANG ACTIVITY
- File: JICH - DRUG AND ALCOHOL INVOLVEMENT BY STUDENTS
- File: JICH-R - DRUG AND ALCOHOL INVOLVEMENT BY STUDENTS
- File: JICI - WEAPONS IN SCHOOL
- File: JICJ - STUDENT USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES
- File: JIH - STUDENT INTERVIEWS, INTERROGATIONS, SEARCHES AND ARRESTS
- File: JJAB - OPEN/LIMITED FORUM
- File: JJAB-R - OPEN/LIMITED FORUM
- File: JJF - STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUNDS
- File: JJH-E1* - EXTENSIVE STUDENT TRAVEL
- File: JJH*-E2 - EXTENSIVE STUDENT TRAVEL
- File: JJH*-E3 - EXTENSIVE STUDENT TRAVEL
- File: JJH*-E4 - APPLICATION REQUESTING
- File: JJH-R - STUDENT TRAVEL
- File: JKD/JKE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF STUDENTS
- File: JKD/JKE-R - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF STUDENTS
- File: JLA - STUDENT INSURANCE PROGRAM
- File: JLCB - IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS
- File: JLCB-R - IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS
- File: JLCC - COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASES
- File: JLCD-E - PERMISSION FOR MEDICATION
- File: JLDAC - SCREENING/TESTING OF STUDENTS
- File: JLIB - STUDENT DISMISSAL PRECAUTIONS
- File: JLJ* - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
- File: JQ - STUDENT FEES, FINES AND CHARGES
- File: JRA/JRC-R - STUDENT RECORDS/RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON STUDENTS
- File: JRCB* - PRIVACY AND PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION
- File: JRCB*-R - PRIVACY AND PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION
- File: JS* - WPSD STUDENT RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT
- File: JS-E - WOODLAND PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT FOR STUDENTS

- File: JU - STUDENT MEMORIALS
- File: JU-E - PERMANENT STUDENT

- **File: KB - PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION**
- File: KBA - DISTRICT TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- File: KBBA - CUSTODIAL AND NONCUSTODIAL PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- File: KCB - COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING
- File: KD - PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
- File: KDB - PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW/FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
- File: KDB-R - PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW/FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
- File: KDBA* - PARENT NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE CRIMINAL CHARGES
- File: KDBA*-E - PARENT NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE CRIMINAL CHARGES
- File: KDDA - PRESS RELEASES, CONFERENCES AND INTERVIEWS
- File: KDEA* - CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATIONS
- File: KE - PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS
- File: KE-R - PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS
- File: KEC - PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS ABOUT INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES
- File: KEC-E - PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS ABOUT INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES
- File: KEF* - PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS ABOUT TEACHING METHODS, ACTIVITIES OR PRESENTATIONS
- File: KHC - DISTRIBUTION/POSTING OF PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
- File: KHC-R - DISTRIBUTION/POSTING OF PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
- **File: LC - RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION RESEARCH AGENCIES**
- File: LC-R - RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION RESEARCH AGENCIES

ATTACHMENT 8: SCHOOL'S RECRUITMENT AND ENROLLMENT PLAN

Enrollment: Student Recruitment & Outreach Plan

Outreach

Please find herein Merit Academy's outreach plan as a WPSD charter school, per CO best practices and WPSD's desire for Merit Academy to engage in a robust outreach and recruitment strategy. Our outreach plan is designed to reach these Woodland Park School District (WPSD) and wider area families and inform them of key events for the introduction of Merit Academy (MA). The information will contain key dates, including enrollment windows, lottery procedures, and enrollment guidelines and priorities. Our advertising will include information for current residents of the WPSD as well as incoming families. For current residents, we will:

- Distribute flyers and brochures to a variety of high-traffic locations, which may include
 - o Libraries
 - o Area businesses
 - o Handouts and presentations to groups focused on school age children likes Mothers of Pre- Schoolers (MOPS)
 - o Local youth organizations
 - o Booths, tables, and a presence at Community and area events
 - o Scouting organizations
 - o Area churches
- Expand our social media footprint:
 - o Website (merit.academy), Family Facebook Page, Public Facebook Page.

Our website includes information on the school, enrollment procedures, and information on enrollment and registration. The web site currently includes an "Intent to Enroll" form to complete, which is the first step in the enrollment process, or they may be added to contact list as "interested". MA social media will contain additional pertinent information, FAQs, forms, and will direct interested family's to informational meetings.

- Press Releases:
 - o Merit Academy's Board of Directors will issue press releases that promote school information meetings, enrollment events and opening information. It will also issue press releases that recognize accomplishments and awards received by Students, staff, and the school itself.
- Local and National Newspapers or Media have already, and will continue to, feature articles on Merit Academy, information on enrollment, and milestones achieved in these first years of operation. These outlets may include:
 - o The Pikes Peak Courier
 - o The Mountain Jackpot
 - o The Colorado Springs Gazette
- Open Houses / Community Meetings
 - o Parent Information Meetings

- o Back to School Nights: The Merit Academy marketing strategy recognizes that Back to School Nights are a valuable tool to link students, teachers, parents, and staff. Back to School nights are a wonderful opportunity to connect and we will partner with local businesses for support to the first Back to School Night
- Signage:
 - o MA will erect signs on the school site during the summer. The signs will have MA's name and contact information plus enrollment or registration events during that time of year. We will also contact local businesses and property owners in high traffic areas for permission to post "Enroll Now!" information.

New Area Families

Merit Academy and the additional option it provides is already drawing new families to the WPSD and Ute Pass area. Therefore, we will target those new residents with information as well. This includes:

- Information for greeting packets for new residents of Teller County.
- Flyers and brochures distributed to a variety of locations:
 - o Real Estate development model homes
 - o Real Estate development sales office
 - o Area real estate agent's offices
 - o Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center

ATTACHMENT 9: SCHOOL'S ENROLLMENT POLICY (WITH ENROLLMENT PREFERENCES, SELECTION METHOD, AND ENROLLMENT TIMELINE AND PROCEDURES)

Merit Academy Enrollment Policy

Guiding Philosophy

As children of any socio-economic status, and cognitive ability equally deserve the benefits of a classical model, Merit Academy will recruit students in a manner that ensures equal access to the school and does not discriminate against students of a particular race, color, national origin, creed, religion, ancestry, age, gender, sex, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic status, or need for special education. The MA Board of Directors will consider applications of students who have been expelled from other institutions on a case by case basis. The Intent to Enroll form does NOT ask about ethnicity, religion, special services needs (IEP, 504, ALP, ELL, or other), or other such identifiers. It is a truly “blind” form for a fair and objective enrollment/lottery process.

Intent to Enroll Form

Parents must indicate the intent to enroll their students in Merit Academy by completing an Intent to Enroll Form prior to or during MA’s open enrollment period. This period will begin on or around January 15 and end on or around February 15th of each year. A parent’s submission of this form does not guarantee enrollment for the interested student, nor does it legally bind families to enroll in Merit Academy if selected. The Intent to Enroll form will be done primarily online, however application can be submitted via fax, email, mail, or in person.

MA will compile a database of all families with completed enrollment forms to ensure their inclusion in the lottery. The Academy will facilitate access to Intent to Enroll forms for families without internet access at all parent meetings. MA will also make Intent to Enroll forms available in Spanish to facilitate access for the region’s primary group of non-English speakers. Merit Academy will also provide hard copy enrollment forms at all parent information meetings held before the initial year and at informational meetings during subsequent years of operation. These forms will also be available at the Merit Academy offices.

Merit Academy Priority Admission Procedures

Up to twenty percent (20%) of students will be offered enrollment using the preferences listed in order below:

Children of the members of the Founding Committee for Merit Academy. Members of this Committee are those who contributed substantially to the development of application documents, grants, research, outreach, or other activities required to found the school and attended and contributed to at least 75% of the Founding Committee meetings after their selection for the committee and before the transition to a Board of Directors.

- Children of full-time teachers and staff of the Charter School. Full-time employees are those who work at least 30 hours a week and are in that status at the time of the lottery.

After the first year, there will be automatic enrollment for Students in good standing who would like to continue their education at Merit Academy. Their placement will be determined

by promotion, retention, and /or acceleration policies. MA will ask parents to complete an Intent to Continue Enrollment before January 10 annually.

Parent who choose to submit Intent to Enroll forms for siblings of currently enrolled students will receive priority enrollment offers into available openings at the suitable grade level

After enrollment slots are filled as described above, the next priority will go to the following preferential order: * current Merit Homeschool students hoping to transfer into full time status
* all other children living within WPSD boundaries. If enrollment applications exceed available openings, all in district applications shall have an equal chance of being admitted through the lottery, process set forth below.

If there are remaining available openings after the categories above have been considered, the next variable for seat offering is how much time students have been on the waitlist and the final consideration is all out of district applications. This selection ensures a fair selection process through the lottery.

Lottery Procedures

If the MA applications received during the open enrollment period exceed the spaces available, students shall be selected by a random lottery, subject to the enrollment preferences described above. The Merit Academy Board of Directors will oversee this lottery process. While allowed under current regulations for CCSP qualification, MA does not plan to use a weighted lottery for its enrollment decisions.

Once chartered, the lottery will occur on or before February 20th of each year. The lottery will contain the names taken from the Intent to Enroll forms received by the school prior to the close of business on February 15th and the names that have not been removed by request of the parent/guardian or as a result of a previous offer that was declined or a non-response to an offer. A lottery number for each child in each grade will be randomly assigned for the upcoming academic year only. The lottery will be conducted from the highest grade level with available spaces in descending order down to the Kindergarten spaces. As a name is drawn, all younger siblings of that child will be given priority for their grade levels.

Placement in programs is prescribed by the student's age as of October 1 for children entering Kindergarten or First grade. For children enrolling in other grades, placement will correspond with the grade level the child would be entering in their former school.

Invitations to enroll will first be extended to families selected by the lottery process. After all spaces for each grade level have been filled by the lottery, remaining students will be placed on a waitlist for openings that may arise in the upcoming school year. This lottery-generated waitlist will be maintained until the following year, upon which parents will have a chance to confirm whether or not they wish to remain on the waitlist. Lottery numbers are valid for one (1) lottery cycle.

To participate in subsequent year's lottery, families must indicate that they want to be considered for that future lottery and must update their enrollment form by completing the appropriate paperwork prior to February 15th. After Year 2, the Merit Academy Board of Directors and Administration will review the current lottery process and reserves the right to change the lottery application process to better meet the needs of the school and community.

If a parent/guardian whose child is on the waitlist declines or does not respond to an enrollment offer within the designed timeframe as noted in this policy, they will be removed from the MA database and a new Intent to Enroll form must be submitted to be included in future lotteries.

Enrollment Acceptance

Merit Academy will notify Families selected in the lottery for an available placement for the upcoming school year via e-mail beginning the day of the lottery and will follow-up with a phone call if no response is received within 72 hours. After the family is contacted and enrollment is offered, the school will require a verbal decision within 72 hours.

Parents/guardians of the student(s) will provide a reasonable way for MA to reach them regarding enrollment and will tell the school of any change to their contact information. While MA will make every attempt to notify families, the school is not responsible for the inability to contact families should they be unreachable (i.e. traveling, inaccurate information on the Intent to Enroll form, etc.). After the first day of school, families who are contacted about immediate openings will need to give a verbal decision within 48 hours of the enrollment offer. MA reserves the right to cease new student enrollment after October 15.

Siblings receive priority, but not guaranteed enrollment as listed above. Every effort will be made to ensure enrollment for siblings in the future. Sibling status will begin after a sibling is enrolled or an older sibling is selected in the lottery and continue in future years while a student from that family is continuously enrolled. If an incoming kindergarten student has accepted enrollment and is determined by staff and parents to benefit by waiting a year, MA will reserve a kindergarten spot for the following year for that child.

All admitted families must complete an enrollment packet that documents proof of residency, current immunizations and health appraisal, and if applicable, a 504 service agreement, Individual Education Plan for special education, a Behavior Plan, a Safety and/or Containment Plan, a literacy and/or tutoring plan, etc. and a home language survey. In addition, families must attend an orientation meeting that will introduce the child and family to his or her teacher, school culture and discipline expectations, etc.

Families may choose to withdraw their children from the school at any time. To the extent possible, the School will hold exit interviews with the parents/guardians of withdrawing students to gather as much information as possible regarding reasons behind the withdraw. The data collected will be used to shape future school decisions.

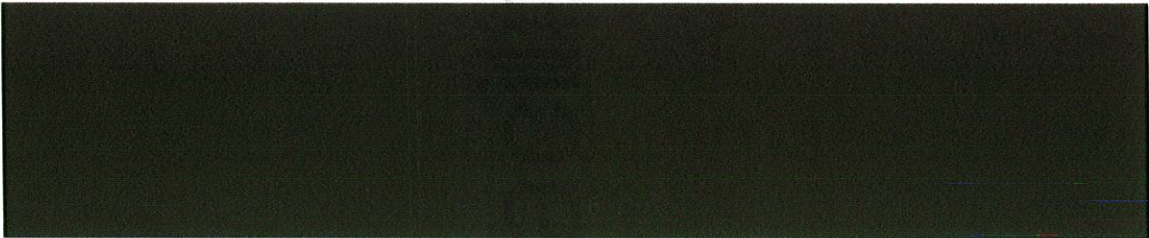
ATTACHMENT 10: DISTRICT SERVICES CONTRACT

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Facilities Update

August 9, 2023



Woodland Park School District



Woodland Park School District

Lockers at Gateway



Lockers at Columbine

