

## **Teton School District No. 401**

### **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**10000**

#### Goals

A charter school is a public, nonreligious, publicly funded school which is accountable for the provisions set forth in its petition as negotiated with the District. The charter school shall operate independently within the boundaries of the District, and it shall be responsible for its own operation including, but not limited to, personnel matters, preparation of a budget, and contracted services.

A charter school may be formed by creating a new school or converting an existing public school to charter status. The District cannot authorize the conversion of any private or parochial school to a charter school. A charter school cannot be operated for profit.

A charter school shall be subject to all federal and state laws including, but not limited to, laws concerning discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, age, birth, ancestry, national origin, family relationship, personal or political patronage, or handicap. A charter school is exempt from the rules of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, except for the issue of teacher certification.

Involvement with the charter school by any student, parent/guardian, or employee must be voluntary. Enrollment must be open to any student who resides within the District. Nonresident students may be admitted to a charter school, but priority must be given to admission of resident students. A charter school shall not charge tuition or fees except those fees normally charged by other public schools.

A charter school must accomplish all of the following:

1. improve student learning
2. include the use of different and innovative teaching methods;
3. create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site;
4. provide parents and students with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system;
5. be accountable for meeting measurable student educational standards.

Each charter school shall:

1. be organized and managed under the Idaho nonprofit corporation act;
2. have a board of directors to act as public agents to control the charter school and have the same responsibilities and liability as any governing board of public education;
3. be considered a public school for all purposes.

## General Powers and Limitations of the Charter School Board of Directors

1. upon approval of the petition, the charter school's board of directors will be public agents required to control their charter school.
2. the charter school must comply with all federal and state laws and rules.
3. the responsibility for identifying the essential laws and regulations, and complying with them, lies with the charter school, not the District.
4. the charter school may not extend the faith and credit of the District to any third person or entity.
5. the charter school may not contractually bind the District with any third party.
6. the charter school shall keep complete and accurate board of directors' minutes and make them available to the public.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-5202      Legislative Intent  
                          I.C. § 33-5202      Nonprofit corporation – Liability – Insurance

### Policy History:

Adopted on: August 10, 2009

Revised on: July 19, 2010