

UP Academy Charter School of Boston
 215 Dorchester St, Boston, MA 02127
 August 31st, 2016

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
 Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
 75 Pleasant Street
 Malden, MA 02148

Dear Commissioner:

On behalf of the UP Academy Charter School of Boston/UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees, I respectfully request your approval of an amendment to change our charter to reflect the schedules as described in the Department's official schedule template.. These changes to our charter will be effective upon the approval of the Commissioner.

The UP Academy Charter School of Boston/UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees wishes to make this change because it will allow the school to better deliver on its mission. The mission of UP Academy Boston (UAB) is to ensure all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and strength of character necessary to succeed on the path to college and to achieve their full potential.

Rigorous instruction across all subjects is a key lever in achieving this mission. The requested changes to the UAB schedule will allow for additional teacher planning time during which instructional teams can focus on evaluating student data and designing rigorous instruction.

The UP Academy Charter School of Boston/UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees voted to approve this request on April 27, 2016 at a meeting held in compliance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25. At that meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized me to submit this request on their behalf.

The UP Academy Charter School of Boston/UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees also authorized the school to work with the Department to make any minor technical changes to the amendment submitted for approval **if** such changes are necessary to meet the requirements of statute or regulations, and are codified in Department guidance that was not adhered to in our submission.

I have also enclosed certification that the Boston Public Schools school committee and the Boston Teachers' union have approved this request.

UP Academy Boston is an academic success, is a viable organization, and is faithful to the terms of its charter. In the first three years of the school's operation, UP Academy Boston students ranked #1 among all schools serving middle school students in Massachusetts for academic growth in math. In 2014, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education named UP Academy Boston to its List of Schools Commended for High Progress and Narrowing Proficiency Gaps. Most recently, in February 2016, UP Academy Boston's charter was renewed without conditions.

The UP Academy Charter School of Boston/UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees requests your approval of this amendment as soon as possible.

Please contact Christina Perry, Chief of Staff at UP Education Network at cperry@upeducationnetwork.org or 678-983-0706 if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,



Robert McConnaughey
Chair, UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester Board of Trustees

Cc: Tommy Chang, Superintendent, Boston Public Schools
Lana Ewing, Principal, UP Academy Dorchester
Scott Given, CEO, UP Education Network