State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 6a
June 19, 2018

Ken Wagner, Ph.D.
Commissioner

June 19, 2018

TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Ken Wagner, Ph.D., Commissioner

RE: **Charette Charter School – Authorization to Operate, Final Approval**

I present for your consideration the recommendation to grant Charette Charter School final authorization to operate. This recommendation verifies that, since the granting of preliminary approval on December 19, 2017, Charette Charter School has met all of the technical operational requirements required to successfully open their charter for the 2018-19 school year.

Authorization to Operate:

Charette Charter School will open an independent charter serving and located in Providence. The school seeks to serve grades 9 – 12, 168 students (at-scale), with 84 students, grades 9 and 10, enrolled in the first year of operation.

In accordance with R.I.G.L. §16-77.3-3, the authorization to operate a new charter requires final approval by the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education. Charette Charter School obtained preliminary approval at the December 19, 2017 meeting of the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Regulations Governing Rhode Island Public Charter Schools C-1-4 outline the criteria that must be met in order to obtain final approval from the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education. These criteria align primarily to meeting operational requirements necessary to successfully open a charter school.

RIDE has conducted a review of the criteria submitted by the proposed charter, including the submissions addressing the essential concerns from the application review. RIDE has concluded that the Charette Charter School has satisfactorily addressed all required pre-opening items and essential concerns.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Rhode Island Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to issue a final charter to Charette Charter School and authorizes its operation for a maximum term of five (5) years beginning in the 2018-2019 school year and ending in the 2023-2024 school year.

The Board of Regents does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, race, color, religion, national origin, or disability.

Enclosed Documents:

The following documents provide further detail regarding the Commissioner's recommendation and analysis contributing to that recommendation:

- Commissioner's Recommendation Overview for Final approval (including a detailed overview of Charette Charter School's proposal and an overview of Regulatory Requirements for Final Approval).
- Review of the financial records for Charette Charter School by the Office of the Auditor General, as required for final approval.
- RIDE's local impact analysis and publically submitted local impacted analyses (educational, programmatic, and fiscal) from the December 19, 2017 Council meeting regarding preliminary approval.

Charette Charter School
Commissioner's Recommendation & Proposal Overview
Commissioner's Recommendation: Final Approval

Overview of Charette Charter School's Proposal

Proposed Charter Overview			
Charter Type:	Independent	Year Opening:	2018-19
Location of School:	Providence	Grade Level (At-Scale):	9 – 12
Enrolling Communities:	Providence	Enrollment (At-Scale):	168
Establishing Entity:	The DaVinci Center	Enrollment (First Year):	84

Summary of Proposal
Charette Charter School proposes to open an urban planning theme-based blended learning school in Providence for grades 9-12. Students will participate in a pod-based blended learning environment while working with the community to engage in real-world examples of urban planning and historic preservation. The school proposes to open in 2018-19 with 84 students in grades 9-10 and grow to 168 students in grades 9-12 by 2020-21.

Overview of Commissioner's Recommendation: Final Approval

Summary of Recommendation	
Recommended Action:	**The Commissioner recommends that the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to grant <u>final approval</u> to Charette Charter School.**
Key Recommendation Drivers:	The Regulations Governing Rhode Island Public Charter Schools outlines criteria that charter applicant teams must meet in order to obtain final approval. In addition to regulatory requirements, the Rhode Island Department of Education identified conditions for final approval to address concerns resulting from the quality review of the application. Upon meeting these criteria, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education may issue a final charter and authorize the school to operate. The Rhode Island Department of Education will continue to oversee the pre-opening process to support and ensure a successful school launch through the school's first year of operation. • In accordance with the Regulations Governing Rhode Island Public Charter Schools C-1-4, the Rhode Island Department of Education has determined that the Charette Charter School team has satisfactorily completed required pre-opening items. • The Rhode Island Department of Education has determined that the Charette Charter School team has completed all conditions established by RIDE as a result of the Council's December 19, 2017, preliminary approval vote, thereby addressing essential concerns from the application.

Charette Charter School
Commissioner's Recommendation & Proposal Overview
Commissioner's Recommendation: Final Approval

Overview of School Mission, Model, and Enrollment Projections

School Mission & Model	
School Mission:	"Charette exists to inspire students: to become practitioners of city planning as a life-long civic engagement strategy to act as guardians of historic buildings; to learn in a proficiency based, high-tech and work-like environment, and to help build and preserve a collaborative and community immersed school."
School Model:	Charette Charter School seeks to serve Providence students through the Summit Learning Platform. The platform allows for the adaptation of courses for differentiated instruction and customization to align with the school's mission. All course work is composed of projects and focus areas that have been approved by Stanford University's SCALE Program. Coursework is aligned to Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. The applicant team plans to adapt the curriculum to reflect the urban planning and historical preservation mission and the special needs of individual students. Project-based and community-based learning are a priority with weekly opportunities for fieldwork. The school's core content teachers are supported by the position of the Community Partnerships Coordinator who has experience in either urban planning or preservation arts and architecture.

Charter Regulatory Requirements for Final Charter Approval

Adherence to charter regulatory requirements is mandated per statue for final approval. In addition to regulatory requirements, conditions were established to address essential concerns identified by the application review committee and approved by the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education. The applicant team must meet all regulatory requirements and council approved conditions prior to final approval.

C-1-4 (a):	File Articles of Incorporation	The Charette Charter School team submitted evidence of filing articles of incorporation for Charette Charter School on May 22, 2018.
C-1-4 (b):	Review of Financial Plan by Rhode Island Office of the Auditor General	The Charette Charter School team submitted the school business plan, financial management procedures, the first year and five year operating budget, first year monthly cash flow, board-approved financial policies and the formal facility lease on May 11, 2018. The Office of the Auditor General approved the submissions on June 12, 2018.
C-1-4 (c):	Establish Governance Structure (i.e. board of trustees or directors)	The Charette Charter School team submitted a governance structure on March 12, 2018.
C-1-4 (d):	Hire Qualified Chief Administrator	Dr. Kathleen L. Vespia was identified as the Head of School at the time of the original application submission

		in June 2017 and continues as the chief administrator capacity.
C-1-4 (e):	Staffing plan Consistent with School Design	The Charette Charter School team submitted a staffing plan at the time of the original application submission in June 2017. The staffing plan is consistent with the Charette school design as defined in the charter school's application.
C-1-4 (f):	Evidence of Interest in Enrollment	The Charette Charter School team conducted a lottery on April 02, 2018. The lottery resulted in 48 students and families expressing interest and accepting seats. On April 03, 2018, Charette Charter School submitted evidence of the expressed interest to RIDE.
C-1-4 (g):	Identify an Appropriate Building for Use	The Charette Charter School team identified the building located at 335 Westminster Street, Providence, RI as the school building. The formal facility lease was submitted on May 11, 2018.
C-1-4 (h):	Final Charter	RIDE is in the process of drafting the final charter for Charette Charter School and finalize upon receipt of final approval.
C-1-4 (i):	Execute Commissioner-Approved Contract with Comprehensive Service or Management Provider	Not Applicable.

Additional Conditions for Final Approval (Based on December 19, 2018 Preliminary Approval)

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education voted to approve the following conditions on final approval on December 19, 2018. Conditions were established to address essential concerns identified by the application review committee. In addition to the following conditions, the applicant team must meet all regulatory requirements prior to final approval.

Condition A:	In accordance with regulation, the Charette Charter School applicant team must submit at least 42 signatures expressing interest in the school's mission and model by April 01, 2018. Providence families and students, must author the signatures.	The Charette Charter School conducted a lottery on April 02, 2018. The lottery resulted in 48 students and families expressing interest and accepting seats. On April 03, 2018, Charette Charter School submitted evidence of the expressed interest to RIDE.
Condition B:	The applicant team must submit a comprehensive description of how the proposed school's mission and model will	The applicant team submitted a description of how the proposed school's mission and model will serve the communities in Providence on April 02, 2018.

	serve the communities Providence to RIDE by April 01, 2018.	
Condition C:	The applicant team must submit a formal terms of agreement with New England BaseCamp that describes how the organization plans to support the implementation of the proposed curricular and pedagogical systems described in the application to RIDE by April 01, 2018	The applicant team submitted a formal terms of agreement with New England BaseCamp on April 02, 2018.
Condition D:	While the Charette Charter School applicant team has identified highly qualified Board members, the applicant team must submit the process used to recruit, select and train said Board members by April 01, 2018.	The applicant team submitted a description of the process used to recruit, select and train the Charette Charter School board of directors on April 02, 2018.

Proposed Enrollment			
Charter Year	School Year	Grades	Total Student Enrollment
Year 1	2018-19	9 – 10	84
Year 2	2019-20	9 – 11	126
Year 3 (At-Scale)	2020-21	9 – 12	168
Year 4	2021-22	9 – 12	168
Year 5	2022-23	9 – 12	168

Overview of Public Comment	
Public Comment Period	July 1, 2017, to November 1, 2017
Public Hearings	Two public hearings were held for Charette Charter School: 1) September 21, 2017 at the Wanskuck Public Library; 2) October 19, 2017 at the South Providence Public Library.
Summary of Received Public Comments	RIDE received comment from 15 individuals during the public comment period. Of the 15 received public comments, 14 individuals (93%) supported the proposal and 1 individual (7%) opposed the proposal.

Office of the Auditor General
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations - General Assembly
Dennis E. Hoyle, CPA - Auditor General
oag.ri.gov
33 Broad Street • Suite 201• Providence, RI • 02903-4177
tel: 401.222.2435 • fax: 401.222.2111

June 12, 2018

Ken Wagner, Ph.D., Commissioner
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Commissioner Wagner:

I write regarding the independent charter school application of the **Charette Charter School (Charette)** which is established by The DaVinci Center for Community Progress (DaVinci Center), a qualifying non-profit establishing entity as provided in section 16-77.3-1 of the General Laws.

As you are aware, RI General Law 16-77.3-2(b) requires the Auditor General:

- To review the financial integrity of the establishing entity and to be satisfied that the nonprofit organization is financially responsible;
- To review and approve the financial plan and financial recordkeeping system of the proposed charter school; and
- To obtain evidence of a lease or purchase agreement or option for lease or purchase agreement for a facility in which the charter school will operate in its first year of operation.

We have reviewed the information supplied by Charette and its establishing entity, DaVinci Center. The information included the establishing entity's most recent audited financial statements, the charter school application, proposed charter school budgets, projected cash flows, executed lease agreement, and other related correspondence.

Audited financial statements are the principal means by which we typically assess the financial responsibility of a sponsoring organization. We find the non-profit establishing entity to be financially responsible although we note that, based on the operating financial plan and other information provided, DaVinci Center will have no direct financial role with the proposed charter school. We understand that a representative of the DaVinci Center will serve on the Charette Board of Trustees. We further understand the charter will be held in the name of the Charette Charter School. We have reviewed the audited financial statements of DaVinci Center for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. We request that the fiscal 2017 audited financial statements for DaVinci Center be provided when available.

We have reviewed the proposed financial plan of Charette and find it to be reasonable based on its own merits, independent of the establishing entity. We have received a copy of the signed lease agreement for space at 335 Westminster Street, Providence, RI. We approve the financial plan submitted for the Charette Charter School.

We note that in the second and later years of operation, the Charette Charter School projects substantial budgetary surpluses. While actual operating costs will be further refined once the school opens, we recommend Charette update the later year budget projections and address how the surplus funds will be used for ongoing school operations.

We emphasize that we have not considered or evaluated the educational plan proposed for the Charette Charter School from an educational perspective or for compliance with various federal and state educational requirements. We believe consideration of those requirements is appropriately within the purview of the RI Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the independent consultant engaged to review the application.

Additionally, we have not considered the potential fiscal impact on any local education agency which may send a student to Charette Charter School.

Once a charter school has been approved and is functional, the RI General Laws require the Auditor General continue to review its financial operations on an annual basis. Therefore, in all future years of operation, Charette should:

- Maintain accounting records in compliance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts (UCOA), as promulgated by RIDE and the Auditor General.

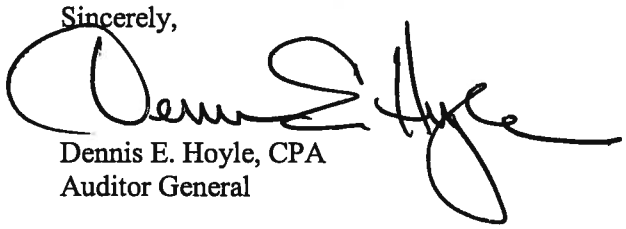
- Engage the services of an independent certified public accountant to perform an annual audit of the financial records of the preceding fiscal year operations of the Charette Charter School. The audits should be conducted in accordance with the same state and federal standards that are applicable to local public-school districts. The auditors engaged to perform the annual audit shall also be engaged to report on their tests of compliance with the UCOA requirements in an agreed-upon procedures compliance attestation format.

- Submit a copy of the annual audit report, other audit communications, and the UCOA agreed-upon procedures report to the Office of the Auditor General. Submit a corrective action plan and timetable to address any audit findings and recommendations resulting from the audit.

- Submit quarterly budget to actual reports to the Auditor General highlighting any actual or projected year-end deficit and how the school plans to address any identified shortfalls.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss these matters further.

Sincerely,



Dennis E. Hoyle, CPA
Auditor General

c: Speaker Nicholas A. Mattiello
Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio
Board of Education - Council on Elementary and Secondary Education
Brian Darrow
Pascale Pierre Thompson
Paula Barney
Robert Pilkington, Ed.D.
Kathleen L. Vespia, Ed.D.
John F. DeLuca

Charette Charter School
Local Impact Analysis for New Charter Request
Local Community: Providence

Enrollment Assumptions & Comparison[i]

Proposed Charter Overview			
Charter Type:	Independent	Year Opening:	2018-19
Location of School:	Providence	Grade Level (At-Scale):	9 – 12
Enrolling Communities:	Providence	Enrollment (At-Scale):	168

Summary of Proposal
Charette Charter School proposes to open an urban planning theme-based blended learning school in Providence for grades 9-12. Students will participate in pod-based blended learning environment while also working with the community to engage real-world examples of urban planning and historic preservation. The school will open 2018-19 with 84 students in grades 9 - 10 and grow to 168 students in grades 9 – 12 by 2020-21.

Proposed Enrollment			
Charter Year	School Year	Grades	Total Student Enrollment
Year 1	2018-19	9 – 10	84
Year 2	2019-20	9 – 11	126
Year 3 (At-Scale)	2020-21	9 – 12	168
Year 4	2021-22	9 – 12	168
Year 5	2022-23	9 – 12	168

Demographics of Enrolling Communities		
Demographics (%)	Providence	State Avg.
FRPL	86%	48%
ELL	25%	8%
Students w/ IEPS	15%	15%
Minority	91%	40%

Charette Charter School
Local Impact Analysis for New Charter Request
Local Community: Providence

How does Charette's projected enrollment fit within the overall portfolio of Providence students?	
Enrollment Category	**Student Enrollment**
Total # of students enrolled in Providence Public School District (PPSD)	~24.1K
Charette's at-scale enrollment as a % of PPSD's enrollment	0.7%
Total # of students residing in Providence	~28.5K
Charette's at-scale enrollment as a % of total # of students residing in Providence	0.6%

Educational & Programmatic Impact Analysis

2017 PARCC Grade-by-Grade Comparison with Charter, District, and State Results

Grades:	ELA (% Meets / Exceeds)			Math (% Meets / Exceeds)		
	Charette	PPSD	State	Charette	PPSD	State
ELA-9th		15%	34%	-	-	-
Algebra I (9th Grade Only)	-	-	-	-	7%	15%

2017 PARCC Demographic Charter/District/State Analysis - % Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations:

Students	ELA (% Meets / Exceeds)			Math (% Meets / Exceeds)		
	Charette	PPSD (HS)	State (HS)	Charette	PPSD (HS)	State (HS)
All Students	-	15%	34%	-	9%	24%
FRPL	-	12%	18%	-	6%	10%
ELL	-	0%	1%	-	1%	2%
Students w/ IEPs	-	0%	5%	-	0%	4%

2017 SAT 11th Grade Performance Comparison with Charter, District, and State Results

SAT Results	% of all Gr. 11 Students Participating	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)		Math		EBRW + Math	
		Average Scale Score	% Students Who Met "College and Career Ready" Benchmark	Average Scale Score	% Students Who Met "College and Career Ready" Benchmark	Average Scale Score	% Students Who Met "College and Career Ready" Benchmark
Charette	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PPSD	76%	444	31%	444	20%	888	17%
State	79%	498	56%	490%	34%	988	32%

Charette Charter School
Local Impact Analysis for New Charter Request
Local Community: Providence

Providence Student Demand Analysis for Grade 9-12 Charter Seats					
# of 2017-18 Charter Applications for grades 9-12 from Students Residing in PPSD:	2,581	# of 2017-18 Charter Application Awards for grades 9-12 from Students Residing in PPSD:	304	Ratio (%): # of Awards / Applications [IE –What % of applicants received an award]	11.2%

Fiscal Impact Analysis[ii]

Educational funding dollars follow each child to the school of their choice. The following analysis projects the total amount of funding that would follow students to the school of their choice, commensurate with the size of the requested expansion.

Providence Student Funding Projections	Projected Per-Pupil Funding
Local Share – Projected FY19 per-pupil funding for each Providence student[iii]	$4,279 per-pupil
State Share – Projected FY19 per-pupil funding for each Providence student[iv]	$10,755 per-pupil
Federal Share – Projected FY19 per-pupil funding for each Providence student[v]	$1,954 per-pupil
Projected FY19 total per-pupil funding for each Providence Student (i.e. RIDE projects this amount of total local + state federal per-pupil funding for each Providence student in FY19)	$16,988 per-pupil
Less: 7% withheld from the local share of per pupil funding per pupil for "fixed or unique" costs[vi]	$300 per-pupil
Local Share – Projected FY19 per-pupil funding for each Providence student, less the 7% withheld for "fixed or unique" costs	$3,979 per-pupil
Projected FY19 total per-pupil funding for each Providence Student (excluding funds withheld for "fixed or unique costs")	$16,688 per-pupil

[Fiscal impact analysis continued on next page]

Charette Charter School
Local Impact Analysis for New Charter Request
Local Community: Providence

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Charette's New School Proposal:

Fiscal Year	Charette Projected Enrollment	Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate with the requested new charter proposal	Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding as % of PVD FY16 Total Expenditures[vii]	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate with the requested new charter proposal	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique Costs (to district)	Projected State Density Aid for Districts with charter enrolling exceeding 5% of enrollment (to district)[viii]
FY 2018-19 (Opening)	84	$334,236	0.08%	$1,401,792	$25,161	$4,200
FY 2019-20	126	$501,354	0.1%	$2,102,688	$37,741	$6,300
FY 2020-21 (Reaches at-scale)	168	$668,472	0.2%	$2,803,584	$50,321	$8,400

Key implication: RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2020-21, commensurate with Charette's new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of $2,803,584 to be generated by Providence students and subsequently follow these students to the educational option of their choice. $668,472 of this $2,803,584 will be contributed through local share funding. This $668,472 represents 0.2% of PPSD's total reported FY16 expenditures (excluding tuition payments to other educational options).

---

[i] Enrollment Assumptions and Comparison based off 10/1/16 counts and will be updated with 2017 counts by 11/15/2017.

[ii] This version of the fiscal impact analysis was revised for the December 19, 2017 Council mmeeting to reflect the fully transitioned funding formula value for state aid for Providence School District. Previous versions of the fiscal impact analysis used FY2017 enacted totals.

[iii] Assumes constant Local per-pupil funding, net of a constant withholding for fixed or unique costs

[iv] State local share determined of the school's current base and success factor funding. Assumes a 2% increase in the core per pupil funding for FY18 and FY19, then 1% thereafter. FRPL assumed constant at current charter school demographics.

[v] Federal funding assumed constant and based off district averages

[vi] Withholding for fixed or unique costs is the greater of: a) 7% of the per-pupil local share funding; or, b) the per-pupil value of the district's fixed or unique costs minus the average expenses incurred by charter schools for those same fixed or unique costs. Assumed constant in projections.

[vii] Total FY16 PPSD Expenditures: $401,273,824 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)

[viii] District density aid is provided for districts in which enrollment from charter public schools, Davies, and the Met Center, exceed at least 5% of the districts average daily membership. For each student enrolled in a charter public school, Davies, or the Met Center, qualifying districts receive $175 per pupil in FY16, $100 in FY18, and $50 per pupil in FY19. While future density aid is uncertain beyond FY19, the local impact analysis projects density aid of $50 per pupil in FY20 and beyond.

JORGE ELORZA
Mayor

CHRISTOPHER N. MAHER
Superintendent

Providence Schools

Providence Public School District
Finance Department
797 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-4045
tel. 401.456-9435
Fax 401. 456.9252
www.providenceschools.org

November 1, 2017

RI Department of Education
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

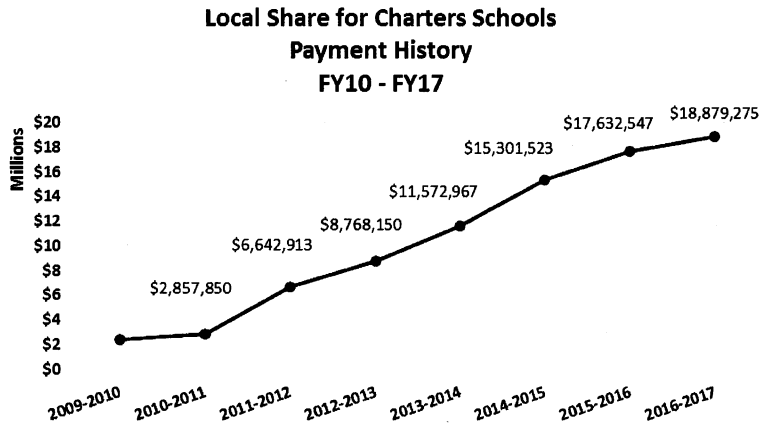
RE: Local Impact Analysis

To Whom It May Concern

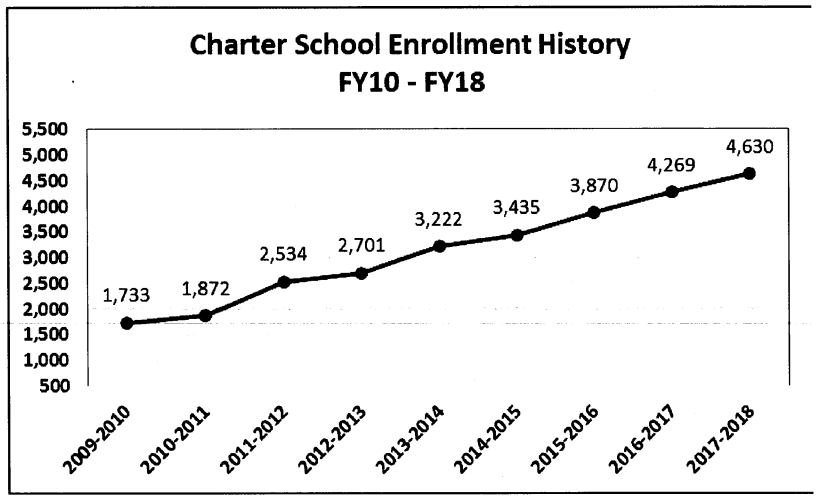
On behalf of the Providence Public Schools, we respectfully submit for your consideration our fiscal impact statement based on the proposed Expansion and New Charter School programs. This analysis covers the estimated increase of local share payments, and decreased state and federal aid. We have compared our calculation with the RI Department Education impact analysis for each charter school as the basis for our analysis of potential fiscal impact.

History

It is noteworthy to mention that Providence Public School's local share for charter schools have increased from $2.4m in FY10 to $18.9m for FY17, while Providence's charter school enrollment has increased by nearly 150% in the same period.



An Equal Opportunity Employer. The Providence School Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, color, disability or veteran status. Vision: The Providence Public School District will be a national leader in educating urban youth. Mission: The Providence Public School District will prepare all students to succeed in the nation's colleges and universities, and in their chosen professions.



Over the past few years we have experienced a slight annual increase in student enrollment that has mitigated potential programmatic or staff reductions. Additionally, we continue to enroll students throughout the year at a significant rate, many of whom trigger a need for additional resources and supports, making it difficult for us to project the financial resources required to adequately meet those unexpected increases.

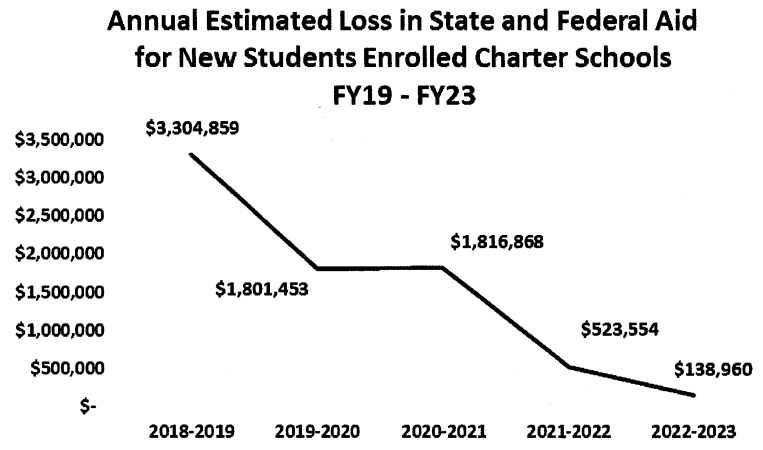
Expansion

If approved, the expansion of existing and addition of new charter school programs would cost Providence Schools approximately $3.8 million in the FY19 School Year. This would require a $1 million increase in the local share for Charter Schools as well as a $3.3 million reduction in State Aid. Since student population attending charter schools is derived district-wide, a reduction in staffing is shared among all schools resulting in a limited opportunity for decreased FTE's.

Proposed New and Expansion Charter Schools						
Fiscal Years	**2018-2019**	**2019-2020**	**2020-2021**	**2021-2022**	**2022-2023**	**Total**
Expansions						
Greene School (9-12)	2	2	1			5
TAPA (7-12)	17	17	17			51
Proposed New						
Charette (9-12)	84	42	42			168
Wangari Maathai Community School (K-6)	144	72	72	36		324
Projected Student Increase for New/Expansion2	**247**	**133**	**132**	**36**		**548**
Total Projected Fiscal Impact to PPSD	$4,349,613	$2,373,413	$2,359,619	$647,039	$0	$9,729,684
FTE offset	($468,536)	($252,289)	($250,392)	($68,289)	$0	($1,039,506)
Est. Total Fiscal Impact to PPSD w/FTE Reductions	**$3,881,077**	**$2,121,124**	**$2,109,227**	**$578,750**	**$0**	**$8,690,178**
Est. Total Cumulative Fiscal Impact to PPSD		**$6,002,202**	**$8,111,429**	**$8,690,179**	**$8,690,179**	**$31,493,989**

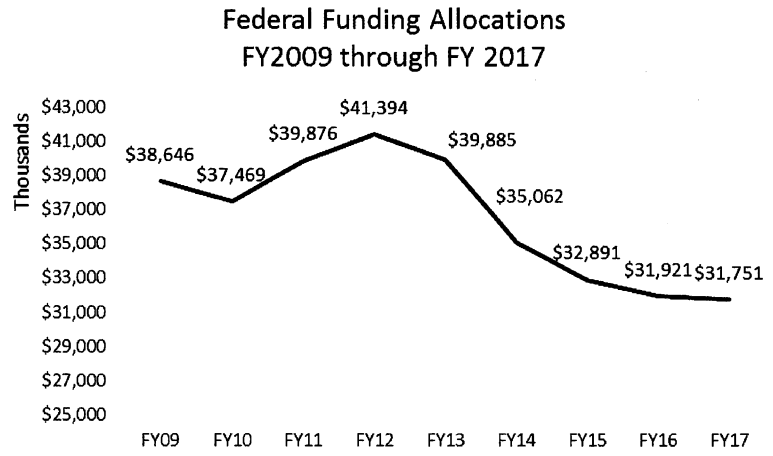
Future Implications

If the proposed expansion and new charter school seats are approved, more drastic budget cuts will be needed. This would, at the bare minimum, require the leadership team to identify non-mandatory programs and services that can be reduced or eliminated. It is not clear, however, if this strategy would enable the district to make up the complete shortfall. While we have already made significant central office staff reductions, and our central office staff size is below average compared to similar districts in our region, any future decreases would ultimately have a negative impact on our ability to meet student needs and our continued work towards increasing student performance. Moreover, given the district's fixed operating cost of approximately 97.5%, our ability to make additional cuts without decreasing teaching staff -- beyond our initial reductions to maintain class size -- is extremely limited.



The State Aid funding formula is fully implemented and, as anticipated, Providence will receive nominal state aid increases beginning in FY19 and for future years. As a result, this will place a greater demand for additional resources from the local level.

In addition, federal entitlement funds are at risk of being reduced on an annual basis, evidenced by the realized decreases over the past 10 years. For this reason, we should not and cannot rely on federal entitlement funds. Reductions in entitlement funds will require additional reductions in programs and/or a shift in cost to the local budget for those mandated services.



In closing, the fiscal impact of Expansion and New Charter School Programs is significant for the Providence School District. It would inevitably result in a significant decrease in school-based staff and student services. Given the unpredictable manner in which students enroll in charter schools and the delay in funding for students that we enroll throughout the year, the district would struggle to adequately staff our schools and provide the services that our students need.

Please feel free to reach out to myself or the superintendent to discuss the effect on local impact.

Michael. DAntuono, CPA
Business Manager

An Equal Opportunity Employer. The Providence School Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, color, disability or veteran status. Vision: The Providence Public School District will be a national leader in educating urban youth. Mission: The Providence Public School District will prepare all students to succeed in the nation's colleges and universities, and in their chosen professions.