

Revision of the Admissions Policy: Split Admissions Policy and Change in At-Risk Preference

To: Members of the True North Rochester Preparatory Charter School Board of Trustees
From: Anna Hall, Chief Operating Officer, Uncommon Schools Boston, Troy, and Rochester
Subject: Revision of the Admissions Policy: Split and Change to At-Risk Preference
Date: March 23, 2016

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the True North Rochester Preparatory Charter School ("Rochester Prep") Board of Trustees wishes to maximize enrollment of students who are at-risk of academic failure; and

Whereas the Board also wishes to revise its admissions policies to ensure that the Rochester Prep 3 school remains in compliance with Federal and State CSP funding requirements; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Trustees (the "Board") requests to revise the Rochester Prep Admissions Policy to create two separate policies through June 30, 2016; and also be it

Resolved that the Board wishes to apply no at-risk preference to the Rochester Prep 3 schools, and to use a Set-Aside for ELL-eligible students and an Absolute Preference for FRPL-eligible students in all other schools; and also be it

Resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the School, in conjunction with its management partner, Uncommon Schools, to complete and submit to the SUNY Board of Trustees on its behalf the request for the Charter Revision described herein.

Background

Rochester Prep has learned of additional State requirements for schools that receive Federal CSP startup funding and apply admissions preference for at-risk students. Because these requirements apply only to Rochester Prep Charter School 3, and only for one year, the Board has decided to split the schools admissions policies for one year only. Through June 30, 2016, Rochester Prep will use one Admissions Policy for the original "Rochester Prep" school and the "Rochester Prep West Campus" school, and a separate admissions policy for the "Rochester Prep 3" school. The Rochester Prep 3 admissions policy will include no at-risk admissions preferences. Because the Rochester Prep and Rochester Prep West Campus schools are not subject to CSP requirements, the admissions policy for these schools will use a combination of a Set Aside and Absolute Preference to grant maximum preference to at-risk students. After June 30, 2016, all 3 schools will use one admissions policy, with the combination of Set Aside and Absolute Preference for at-risk students.