

RICHLAND ACADEMY OF THE ARTS

Reviewed: 2025-2026

POLICY: RENEWAL AND NONRENEWAL OF COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONTRACTS

PURPOSE: TO ESTABLISH A POLICY WHICH ENSURES COMMUNITY SCHOOL (SCHOOL) APPLICATIONS ARE APPROVED AFTER BEING THOROUGHLY VETTED THROUGH AN EVIDENCE BASED APPLICATION PROCESS

STATUORY REQUIREMENT: OHIO REVISED CODE CHAPTER 3314

SPONSOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW REFERENCE: E.01, E.02, E.03 & E.06

Application for Renewal

The Board requires all community schools sponsored by (“Richard Allen Academy”) RAA to apply for renewal of their sponsor contract through a renewal application.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop an application for renewal (“Renewal Application”). The Renewal Application shall require the sponsored school to provide the following:

- a. multiple years of student achievement,
- b. multiple measures of student achievement,
- c. financial audits for each year,
- d. site visit reports,
- e. other compliance reports,
- f. status reports on corrective action plans and/or other required interventions, and
- g. other criteria determined applicable.

The Board directs the Superintendent to adopt a documented, systematic renewal process. The process must include:

- a. a defined timeline for renewals
- b. criteria used to evaluate Renewal Applications
- c. a scoring rubric that accounts for a high stakes review that is aligned to the performance framework and includes academic and non-academic measures, and accounts for at least 67% of the renewal scoring
- d. clear directions for Renewal Applications and guidance for application.

****Schools must submit a timely renewal application.**

The Renewal Application and all documentation related to the renewal process must be posted on the RAA’s website.

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Completed Applications

Completed Renewal Applications shall be reviewed by RAA's staff and renewal committee to determine whether the school is fiscally and operationally viable, has achieved its contractual standards, and is faithful to the terms of the sponsor contract. RAA staff and renewal committee shall provide evidence-based recommendations to the Board regarding contract renewal. Any Renewal Application shall earn a "cut score" of at least seventy-five (75) percent to qualify for renewal.

Criteria for Renewal

The Board may non-renew a sponsored school's contract when there is clear evidence of one (1) or more of the following:

- a. Failure to meet student performance requirements stated in the contract;
- b. Failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management;
- c. Violation of any provision of the contract or applicable state or federal law; or
- d. Other good cause, which may include, but is not limited to the following:
 - 1) unresolved compliance issues;
 - 2) unresolved audit findings;
 - 3) substantiated violations of sunshine laws or ethics laws

Evidence supporting renewal must be provided during the renewal application process. Evidence may include, but is not limited to, the completed Renewal Application, academic performance measures from the sponsor contract, the school's report card issued by the State of Ohio, financial audits, site visit reports, compliance reports, opinions of legal counsel, status reports on corrective action plans or other required interventions, documentation required by the sponsor contract, or other documentation demonstrating clear violation of the criteria for termination above.

Procedure for Renewal or Non-Renewal

The Board adopts the following procedure for renewal and non-renewal of sponsored schools.

- a. RAA's staff shall make an evidence-based recommendation to the Board regarding renewal and the board shall pass a resolution of its intent to renew or non-renew the sponsorship contract.
- b. The recommendation shall address the following:
 - 1) RAA's progress toward its academic targets in the contract
 - 2) Any unresolved compliance issues with laws or contractual terms
 - 3) Any unresolved fiscal or operational viability concern
- c. RAA shall notify school's governing authority within fourteen (14) days of proposed non-renewal decision in writing, no later than January 15 of the year the Board intends to non-renew the contract, The notice must include the following:

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- 1) The reason(s) for the intended non-renewal with explanation beyond the statutory languages
- 2) The effective date of the non-renewal;
- 3) A statement, notifying the school of the right to appear, upon request, before the Board at an informal hearing to challenge the reason(s) for the intended nonrenewal; and
- 4) The request to appear must be made within fourteen (14) days of receiving the request, in writing.
- 5) The informal hearing shall be held within fourteen (14) days of the Sponsor's receipt of a request for the hearing.
- 6) No later than fourteen (14) days after the informal hearing, the Sponsor shall issue a written decision either affirming or rescinding the decision to non-renew the contract.
- 7) The non-renewal of the contract shall be effective upon the later of the following: (a) the date the sponsor notifies the school of its decision to nonrenew the contract; or (b) the effective date of the nonrenewal specified in the notification of nonrenewal.
- 8) RAA shall notify the school's families of non-renewal by April 15 of the year of non-renewal.