

Ontario School District 8

Code: **LBE**
Adopted: 09/21/00
Readopted: 8/18/10
Orig. Code(s): LBE

Public Charter Schools

The district recognizes that public charter schools offer an opportunity to create new, innovative, and more flexible ways of educating students in an atmosphere of learning experiences based on current research and development. Public charter schools shall demonstrate a commitment to the mission and diversity of public education while adhering to one or more of the following goals:

1. Increase student learning and achievement;
2. Increase choices of learning opportunities for students;
3. Better meet individual student academic needs and interests;
4. Build stronger working relationships among educators, parents, and other community members;
5. Encourage the use of different and innovative learning methods;
6. Provide opportunities in small learning environments for flexibility and innovation;
7. Create new professional opportunities for teachers;
8. Establish additional forms of accountability for schools; and
9. Create innovative measurement tools.

Public charter schools may be established as a new public school, from an existing public school or a portion of the school or from an existing alternative education program. A public charter school may not convert an existing tuition-based private school into a charter school, affiliate itself with a nonsectarian school or religious institution or encompass all the schools in the district unless the district is composed of only one school.

The Board will not approve any public charter school proposal when it is deemed that its value is outweighed by any direct identifiable, significant, and adverse impact on the quality of the public education of students residing in the district. To meet the eligibility criteria for Board approval, a public charter school proposal must meet the requirements of Oregon Revised Statutes, Oregon Administrative Rules, Board policy, and regulation.

The district will determine if it has any unused or underutilized buildings. Buildings may be made available for public charter school use, subject to Board approval. Approved use may be limited to instructional purposes only. Appropriate-use fees will be determined by the Board. Public charter school

use outside the district’s instructional day will be subject to Board policy KG – Community Use of District Facilities.

Public charter school students may, upon request, be allowed to participate in district programs such as physical education, instrumental and vocal music offerings, or other selected options if space and materials are available. Students must adhere to state law, Board policies, regulations, and rules concerning conduct and discipline. Public charter school students shall not be permitted to participate in district curricular programs.

The district may, at its discretion, provide instructional materials, lesson plans or curriculum guides for use by the public charter school.

The district will determine with each proposal whether or not it will act as employer for the public charter school. If the Board chooses to be the employer, the terms of the current collective bargaining agreement will be examined to determine which parts of the agreement apply. If the Board is not the sponsor of the public charter school, state law (ORS 338.135) does not permit it to be the employer nor to collectively bargain with the public charter school employees.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations for public charter schools to include the proposal process, review, and appeal procedure and charter agreement provisions.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

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| ORS 326.603 | ORS 339.155 | OAR 581-020-0301 to -0395 |
| ORS 326.607 | ORS 342.125 | |
| ORS 327.077 | ORS 342.127 | |
| ORS 327.109 | ORS 342.143 | |
| ORS 329.045 | ORS 342.165 | |
| ORS 332.107 | ORS 342.175 | |
| ORS 337.150 | ORS 342.180 | |
| ORS Chapter 338 | ORS 342.232 | |
| ORS 339.141 | ORS 342.815 | |
| ORS 339.147 | ORS 659.855 | |

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title I, Sections 1111-1120B.