

Purpose

To develop a policy governing the establishment of public charter schools in Allegany County

Definitions

Public charter school means a public school that:

1. Is nonsectarian in all its programs, policies, and operations.
2. Is a school to which parents choose to send their children.
3. Is open to all students on a space-available basis and admits students on a lottery basis if more students apply than can be accommodated.
4. Is a new public school or a conversion of an existing public school.
5. Provides a program of elementary or secondary education or both.
6. Operates in pursuit of a specific set of educational objectives.
7. Is tuition-free for all students who are eligible to attend any other Allegany County school tuition-free.
8. Is subject to federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination.
9. Is in compliance with all applicable health and safety laws.
10. Requires students to be physically present on school premises for a period of time substantially similar to that which other Allegany County Public School students spend on school premises.
11. Is created in accordance with all federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies and is under the supervision of the Board of Education of Allegany County.

Policy Statement

In keeping with the Board of Education's interest in providing varied innovative and creative instructional programs, a public charter school may be established in Allegany County.

The Board of Education intends to maintain a fair and open application process including informative application materials, clear instruction on what the application must contain, and an explanation to the applicant of the scoring rubric and the point system.

The purpose of a Public Charter School is to provide parents and students who reside in Allegany County an alternative means within the existing public school system for additional innovative learning opportunities and creative educational approaches to educating students.

Legal Reference Charter School Act of 2003			
Md. Code Ann., Ed. Art. §§ 9-101-110.			
Policy History	Adopted	Reviewed	Revised Oct. 14, 2003, 2 nd Reading June 8, 2010, 2 nd Reading Jan. 11, 2011