

Reconstitution of Double F Charter Schools

Background

Reconstitution is the process of dramatically altering the governance, administration, and instructional systems and personnel to improve educational outcomes. A double F charter school and its authorizer may choose to reconstitute the school rather than close the school.

Discussion

Reconstitution includes the termination of the existing charter contract and the development and approval of a new charter contract for the same school. This new contract must require:

- A reconstituted charter school governing board - over 50% of the members must be new to the board.
- A reconstituted staff - school instructional administrators are replaced and instructional staff that did not produce student achievement gains are replaced.
- An authorizer approved action plan that includes research-based improvement strategies targeting the school's specific deficiencies.
- A statement in this new contract of guaranteed future school grade performance above F or, if too small to receive a grade, improved student performance based on analysis of student data. (Pre-reconstitution school grade performance history will no longer apply). If the school receives an F grade for their first year under reconstitution, it must be closed by the authorizer.

If an authorizer determines not to close a double F charter school, it must submit a reconstitution plan to the Department of Education addressing each of the requirements listed above. This plan must include how each of the elements have been or will be addressed, including what standards have been used or will be used to determine which instructional staff are to be replaced for not producing student achievement gains.

The Department of Education must approve the reconstitution plan.

Contacts for Additional Information

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, website can be found at: <http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org>

For questions and information on charter schools, contact Karen Hines-Henry at 850-245-0502 or karen.hines@fldoe.org

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