



Know Your Charter Contract

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Read it

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

Dr. Seuss

Most common answer to any question I am asked?

“Well, what does your Charter Contract say?”



Most common reply to my
answer?

“Oh...did I really need to
read that??”



Origins



§1002.33, Fla. Stat.

- Charter School law—combination of State and
Federal Law

Fla. Admin. Code R. 6A-6.0786



- §1002.33, Fla. Stat. created Charter Schools; Fla. Admin. Code R. 6A-6.0786 created a standard contract to begin negotiations
- Note: any changes to the standard contract made by the District must be for good cause, presumed to be unreasonable



*HAVE YOUR CONTRACT
REVIEWED BY YOUR COUNSEL
BEFORE YOU AGREE TO IT*

Overview



1. Terms, Renewal, and Termination
2. Academic Accountability
3. Students
4. Financial Accountability
5. Facilities
6. Transportation
7. Food Services
8. Insurance & Indemnification
9. Governance
10. Human Resources
11. Required Reports & Docs
12. Miscellaneous Provisions



Beginning with the end: Termination (and how to avoid it)

- Grades
- Good financials
- Pass your audit
- Follow all State and Federal Laws



Financial Accountability

- Basis for funding
- Annual budget and audit
- Monthly/quarterly reports



Governance

- Meetings held in compliance with Sunshine Laws
- Role of Governing Board/membership
- Requirements for Governing Board members (i.e., fingerprinting)

Staying on track— Reporting



- *Pre-Opening* (i.e., Student Code of Conduct, Policies and Procedures)
- *Monthly* (i.e., financials, board minutes)
- *Annually* (i.e., Student Achievement Report, Projected Enrollment)



Game plan

- *READ* the whole contract at least once per year
- *FAMILIARIZE* the Governing Board with the Contract one Section at a time
- *SCHEDULE* important dates

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QUESTIONS



Attributions

Sections pertaining to the Charter School Contract are taken from the Florida Department of Education website:
<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/charter-schools/charter-school-reference/>

Quote by Dr. Seuss taken from *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut* from this website: <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/6806-the-more-that-you-read-the-more-things-you-will>

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