

Sarasota County Public Schools
2017-2018
Charter School Renewal Application Review

Name of Charter School: Sarasota Academy of the Arts (SAA)
CRC Member Name: CRC Group Notes Recorded by Dr. Roca **Review Date(s):** 1/18/18

Please review the information and documentation submitted in the charter renewal application to determine if the school is in compliance with charter school requirements and policies. Some information in the renewal application is factual in nature (e.g., current enrollment, current facility) and is presented for descriptive purposes. Information about services provided, governance, student achievement history, teacher qualifications and proposed changes or plans for the future should be considered in the review.

Section I. Current Information about the Charter School (Pages 1-4)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School’s mission and vision. • Description of the students served. • 5-year enrollment counts by grade level and by gender/ethnicity based on the last survey period. • Number of ESE and ELL students, and total number as of the last survey period. • Ethnicity and socioeconomic status composition of the school for the current year. • Services provided to the students that might be considered unique to the school. • Future plan to add/change grade levels, projected enrollment and/or enrollment capacity. 		
Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Application states 47% of students are economically disadvantaged and 39% are non-white. Current data indicates a 53% Free/Reduced Lunch status and 31% minority population.	1	
SAA K-8 enrollment is 225. No plans to add grade levels, but may increase enrollment.	2	
Commendations Noted		
SAA’s student population is relatively stable. The school serves a diverse population of students representative of the surrounding community.		

Section II. Student Achievement (Pages 5-8)

- Five-year trends in reading, math, science and writing achievement based on state assessments and other relevant data.
- History of school grades.
- Graduation/dropout rates. **N/A**
- Highlighted areas reflect most significant student achievement accomplishments.
- Discrepancies in goals between the previous year’s School Improvement Plan and test results for current school year.
- If applicable, strategies in place to remediate problems or strengthen achievement.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Note: Only 3 years of data available.	5	
School has a solid plan for addressing SIP needs.	7-8	
Commendations Noted		
SAA has gone from a “C” to an “A” school in 3 years.		

Section III. Academic Program (Pages 9-13)

- Educational program design and curriculum. Description of ACCEL and course recovery options.

If applicable:

- Proposed changes/modifications to the academic program.
- New instructional approaches.
- Changes in course offerings and their alignment to program of study.
- Plans for new instructional materials/resources to support/align with program changes.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
School plans to add enrichment courses (dance, band, orchestra) to enhance connection to the arts and robotics at the middle school to complement the STEM program.	10	
How is reading provided for middles school students needing reading intervention? This is later explained on page 22, but does not show availability on the middle school schedule.	12	At the sixth-grade level, students needing assistance meet with the 6th grade ELA teacher (also ESE certified) for 1/2 hour per day to work on skills. They, along with the 7th and 8th grade students who scored at FSA level 1 or have direct reading services per their IEP, also meet with the Reading Specialist for between 45 - 60 minutes daily in lieu of one of their electives. There are six 6th graders who meet daily from 3:15 - 4:00. Five 7th graders meet daily from 9:00 - 10:00, two 8th graders meet from 11:00 - 11:45 and four 8th graders meet from 2:15 - 3:15.
Commendations Noted		

Section IV. Services for ESE and ELL Students (Pages 14-16)

- Instructional and program services provided for ESE students.
- Instructional and program services provided for ELL students.
- Changes in the level of services provided for ESE and ELL students and rationale for the proposed changes.
- If applicable, complaints filed in the past 5 years against school regarding ESE and their findings.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
<p>The school recognized that ELL students need more support in ELA. The school has provided additional time with core teacher and reading specialist. What data guides this additional services? What does the instruction look like?</p>	<p>15-16</p>	<p>As a group, we looked at FSA scores, i-ready scores, teacher observations, and reports to CARE team for our data and continue to monitor the students. The younger students have an additional 30 minutes per day with the reading specialist (also certified in ESOL and ESE) who uses the SRA curriculum. The core teachers at the elementary level have designated extra time per week to support skills. At the middle school level, she uses the National Geographic Inside curriculum. Six of the 17 middle school students are ELL students. The class sizes range from three to six students.</p>
<p>Elementary Functional Literacy: Are there 4th and 5th grade students who have scored an FSA level 1 and are not ESE students, but receive reading services? How is that provided?</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>There are no students in 4th or 5th grade who scored at Level 1 FSA. We have two 4th graders who are ELL/lowest quartile. These students go to the Reading Specialist daily for 1/2 hour and are with the core teacher instead of Spanish daily (30 minutes) for extra support. The fifth graders are all ESE students. 5th graders also receive Rtl from their core teacher.</p>
<p>Commendations Noted</p>		
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Section V. Human Resources, Staffing and Teacher Qualifications (Pages 17-18)

- Information about the current year’s instructional staff.
- If applicable, accommodations for students in grade levels which do not have teachers holding credentials to provide ESE, ELL or specialized Reading services.
- Process for dealing with teachers who are considered “out-of-field.”
- In the past 2 years the percent of instructional staff rated Highly Effective, Effective, Needs Improvement/Developing and Unsatisfactory.
- Plans for changes in staffing.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Ongoing principal search for 2018-19.	18	

Commendations Noted

All SAA teachers are rated as highly effective or effective.
Staffing levels are sufficient to serve the needs of all students. (page 17)

Section VI. Admissions and Enrollment Policies (Pages 19-20)

- Student admission policy.
- School’s enrollment practices and policy.
- School’s student/parent contract and planned revisions or modification.
- Proposed changes to enrollment preferences and/or limiting enrollment to specific student population.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Enrollment and admissions procedures are appropriate.	19	
No changes to preferences for admissions.	20	

Commendations Noted

School has fair and clear enrollment requirements and parent commitment form. (Appendix 6.1)

Section VII. School Culture and Discipline (Pages 21-24)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School's practice/methods to promote positive behavior support. Dismissal procedures. Suspension/dismissal data trend. 		
Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
No students dismissed.	24	
Commendations Noted		
SAA's school climate and culture promotes and supports positive behavior and good conduct. No students have been dismissed from SAA. School staff works with students and families to ensure students' success.		

Section VIII. Governance Structure and Procedures (Pages 25-27)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current organization chart. List of all governing board members and contact information. Last six governing board's meeting minutes. Evidence of the public notification of the governing board meetings for the last six meetings. If applicable, governing board member who is directly or indirectly receiving financial compensation from the school and the nature of that compensation. Changes in governance or board policy in the past 5 years or planned in new term of charter. Pending and threatened legal actions. 		
Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
School has appropriate governance structure, sound policies and is in compliance with Sunshine Law.	25	
Commendations Noted		

Section IX. Financial Sustainability (Page 28)

- If applicable, school's Financial Recovery Plan.
- Anticipated significant changes in school revenue or expenditures during the next five years, including grants and other external funding, enrollment changes and capital needs.
- If applicable, detailed plan for a change in the school's current site or a plan to move to another site, including a description of the manner in which those changes would be financed.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
School is considering expanding their facility and have purchased adjacent property.	28	
Commendations Noted		

Section X. Facilities (Pages 29-30)

- Floor plan of facility, including square footage of the building(s) and grounds.
- Findings or concerns, if any, related to latest facility health and safety reports, including fire inspections.
- Description of technology, access to the internet and any other resources used for administrative and instructional purposes.
- Plan for changes in the facility including expansions, upgrades, moves or changes in use of various parts of the facility or grounds.

Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
SAA is exploring several options including developing adjacent property or purchase/lease more land to build.	30	
Commendations Noted		
SAA is located a 4466 Fruitville Road.		

Section XI. Provision of Services Assurances - Certification document signed by Charter Board Chair for (see list of statutory requirements):		
Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Commendations Noted		
All required assurances have been signed and submitted by the SAA governing board.		

Section XII. Certificate of Acknowledgement		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Certificate of Acknowledgement to indicate that the majority of the governing board signed to acknowledge having reviewed the completed renewal application and authorized its submission during an open meeting. 		
Questions, Concerns or Comments	Location in Document Page #	Charter School Response
Certificate has been submitted as requested.		
Commendations Noted		