

Partnership Solicitation For Interest

CURRENT STATUS and APPROVED ACTION

- The Board of Trustees received an update on January 13 that the solicitation vetting process was ending with none of the respondents being recommended for partnership contracts as turnaround school operators at this time. The District and schools will continue with the identification of possible waivers from some state regulations and subsequent requests from the CCSD Board of Trustees to the State Board of Education without contracting with external turnaround school operators.
- Three partnership proposals have submitted program implementation plans and are continuing through the process as “partners” – not turnaround school operators:
 - Engaging Creative Minds with Sanders-Clyde Elementary
 - College of Charleston Teacher Residency with an elementary school TBD
 - University of Virginia Schools of Business and Education Leaders in Education with schools TBD
- The Solicitation/turnaround process resulted in 10 other proposals for managing a school. Those were sent to a vetting committee comprised of board members, parents, and educators. The report to the CCSD Board was to not bring forward any of the proposals, as was mentioned above.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- State Legislature passed a proviso in 2019 allowing districts to create “schools of choice”, basically allowing more than one “school of choice” which is the terminology that allowed the CCSD/Meeting Street partnership a few years ago.
- Schools of Choice can request waivers from the S.C. Department of Education to allow them more flexibility for innovative approaches while maintaining the school’s status as a district public school.
- CCSD Board/Administration issued a Solicitation for Interest seeking individuals or entities with a proven track record of improving student achievement in low-performing schools (school turnaround).
- The Solicitation was to attract entities that could possibly manage the school as a public school (not privatize) with the school’s attendance zone and student body remaining as it currently exists. These schools would be required to demonstrate stronger student success rates than is currently the case.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All requested waivers from state regulations will be approved by the CCSD Board of Trustees.
- Parents and educators will be involved in this process.