

# CONTRACT TO CHARTER A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

**ISSUED TO** 

UNITY ACADEMY
(A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY)

By The

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(AUTHORIZING BODY)

May 22, 2025

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### AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

### **Unity Academy**

#### Recitals:

- The Michigan legislature has provided for the establishment of public school academies as part of the Michigan public school system by enacting Act No. 362 of the Public Acts of 1993.
- 2. The Michigan legislature has mandated that public school academy contracts be issued on a competitive basis taking into consideration the resources available for the proposed public school academy, the population to be served by the proposed public school academy, and the educational goals to be achieved by the proposed public school academy.
- 3. The Michigan legislature has mandated that authorizing bodies establish by resolution the method of selection, length of term, and number of members of the board of directors.
- 4. According to this legislation, the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees, as the governing body of a state public university, is an authorizing body empowered to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies.
- 5. The Central Michigan University Board of Trustees has requested applications for organizing public school academies and has reviewed the applications according to the provisions set forth by the Michigan legislature.
- 6. The Central Michigan University Board of Trustees has established chartering policies in addition to the policy titled *Public School Academy: Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal* as required by the Michigan legislature.
- 7. The university president or designee has recommended the issuance of a contract to charter as a public school academy to Unity Academy for a term not to exceed five (5) years.
- 8. The university president or designee has recommended Alisa Selim for appointment to a term which expires February 13, 2029; Babour Ahmed to a term which expires February 13, 2029; and Uthman Alkursari to a term which expires February 13, 2028.
- 9. Unity Academy's application has been submitted under Act 362 of the Public Acts of 1993, part 6A of the Revised School Code, being sections 380.501 to 380.507 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the University Board approves and authorizes the execution of a contract to charter a public school academy to Unity Academy and authorizes the chair of the board of trustees to execute a contract to charter as a public school academy and related documents between Unity Academy and the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees, provided that, before execution of the contract, the university president or designee affirms that all terms of the contract have been agreed upon and Unity Academy is able to comply with all terms and conditions of the contract.

Central Michigan University Board, of Trustees Approved

Signature: Man

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following individuals are appointed to serve as initial members of the board of directors of Unity Academy commencing the date upon which the oaths of public office are taken.

Initial Members of the Board of Directors. The initial board of directors of Unity Academy shall consist of five (5) positions.

Alisa Selim Clinton Township, Michigan homemaker (to fill a position ending February 13, 2029)

Babour Ahmed Madison Heights, Michigan chaplain, Ascension Health/Henry Ford Health (to fill a position ending February 13, 2029)

Uthman Alkursari Dearborn, Michigan chief internal auditor, Nexteer Automotive (to fill a position ending February 13, 2028)

To be determined (to fill a position ending February 13, 2027)

To be determined (to fill a position ending February 13, 2026)

> **Central Michigan University** Board of Trustees Approved



#### PROPOSAL FOR BOARD ACTION: CONSENT AGENDA

Public School Academy Board of Directors: Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal

### **Project Description:**

After reviewing the exigent appointment process, the Center for Charter Schools believes that this process cannot adequately protect the University Board from a situation where an academy governing board and the educational service provider simultaneously resign. The challenges in recruiting, interviewing and appointing a new board (or at least three members who could meet as a quorum), and have the new board contract with a new educational service provider, is time consuming and cannot be accomplished quickly. Accordingly, the Center recommends that the University Board charter contracts include a revision to a provision regarding the appointment of a conservator/manager on a temporary basis to address situations such as the en masse resignation of an academy governing board.

The conservator/manager would have all the powers and duties of the academy's governing board and would function in the board's place upon appointment. The conservator/manager would be designated by the University President or his or her designee upon consultation with the University Board Chair. The current conservator/manager provision required the action of the full University Board to appoint a conservator/manager. In order for this change to occur, the University Board's Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Policy must be amended.

**Proposed by:** Provost Gealt

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: CONSENT AGENDA

Public School Academy Board of Directors: Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal

BE IT RESOLVED, That the policy titled Public School Academy Board of Directors: Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal as amended and dated February 15, 2018, is adopted and replaces the Public School Academy Board of Directors: Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal approved and dated December 7, 2006, July 12, 2007 and July 14, 2011; and Be it further

RESOLVED, That these provisions shall be implemented with new charter contracts and shall be phased in as existing charter contracts are reissued. This applies to new and existing charter contracts issued under Part 6A, Part 6E or MCL 380.1311b to MCL 380.1311m of the Revised School Code. The charter schools office is authorized to negotiate changes in the terms and conditions of charter contracts to fully implement these provisions.

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### Public School Academy Board of Directors: Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal

The Central Michigan University Board of Trustees declares that the method of selection, length of term, and number of board members shall be as follows.

### **Method of Selection and Appointment**

The Central Michigan University Board of Trustees ("University Board") shall prescribe the method of appointment for members of an academy's board of directors. The director of the charter schools office is authorized to develop and administer an academy board selection and appointment process that includes an *Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment* and is in accord with these policies:

- a. The University Board shall appoint the initial and subsequent academy board of directors by resolution, except as prescribed by subparagraphs d and e. The director of the charter schools office shall recommend qualified individuals to the University Board, and ensure that the board of directors includes representation from the local community where the academy is located.
- b. The academy board of directors, by resolution and majority vote, shall nominate its subsequent members, except as provided otherwise. The academy board of directors shall recommend to the director of the charter schools office at least one nominee for each vacancy. Nominees shall submit the *Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment* for review by the charter schools office. The director of the charter schools office may or may not recommend the appointment of a nominee submitted by the academy board. If the director of the charter schools office does not recommend the appointment of a nominee submitted by the academy board, he/she may select and recommend another nominee or may request the academy board submit a new nominee for consideration.
- c. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy created other than by the expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of that vacant position.
- d. Under exigent conditions, and with the approval of the University Board's chair and the president, the director of the charter schools office may appoint a qualified individual to an academy's board of directors. All appointments made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The University Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any appointments made under this provision.
- In the event that the health, safety and welfare of an academy's students, property or funds are at risk, the president, after consulting with the University Board's chair, may appoint a person to serve as a conservator for the academy. Upon appointment, the conservator shall have all the powers of the academy's board of directors and shall act in the place and stead of the academy's board of directors. After the President appoints a conservator, the full Board of Trustees shall receive notice of the appointment as soon as possible. The president shall appoint the conservator for a definite term which may be extended in writing. During the conservator's appointment, the academy's board of directors, and all powers of the academy's board of directors, are suspended. The charter contract shall set forth any additional powers granted to the conservator during their appointment. All appointments made with the conservator during their appointment. All appointments made with the conservator during their appointment.

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provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

### **Length of Term**

The director of an academy board shall serve at the pleasure of the University Board. Terms of the initial positions of the academy board of directors shall be staggered in accordance with The Academy Board of Directors Table of Staggered Terms and Appointments established and administered by the director of the charter schools office. Subsequent appointments shall be for a term of office not to exceed four (4) years, except as prescribed by The Academy Board of Directors Table of Staggered Terms and Appointments.

### Removal and Suspension

If the University Board determines that an academy board member's service in office is no longer necessary, then the University Board may remove an academy board member with or without cause and shall specify the date when the academy board member's service ends. An academy board member may also be removed as part of a reconstitution under the charter contract or from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the academy's board of directors for cause.

With the approval of the University Board's chair and the president, the director of the charter schools office may suspend an academy board member's service, if in his/her judgment the person's continued presence would constitute a risk to persons or property, or would seriously impair the operation of the academy. Any suspension made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The University Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any suspensions made under this provision.

### **Number of Directors**

The number of members of the academy board of directors shall not be less than five (5) nor more than nine (9). If the academy board of directors fails to maintain its full membership by making appropriate and timely nominations, the University Board or its designee may deem that failure an exigent condition.

### **Qualifications of Academy Board Members**

To be qualified to serve on an academy's board of directors, a person shall, among other things: (a) be a citizen of the United States; (b) be a resident of the State of Michigan; (c) submit all materials requested by the charter schools office including, but not limited to, the Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment which must include authorization to process a criminal background check; and (d) annually submit a conflict of interest disclosure as prescribed by the charter schools office.

The members of an academy board of directors shall not include: (a) employees of the academy; (b) any director, officer, or employee of an educational management organization or educational management corporation that contracts with the academy; (c) a Central Michigan University official or employee, as a representative of Central Michigan University.

Date: <u>M5118</u>
Signature: <u>my Hanagen</u>

### **Oath of Public Office**

All members of the academy board of directors must take the constitutional oath of office and sign the *Oath of Public Office* before beginning their service. No appointment shall be effective prior to the filing of the *Oath of Public Office* with the charter schools office.

Note: These provisions shall be implemented with new charter contracts and shall be phased in as existing charter contracts are reissued or amended. The charter schools office is authorized to negotiate changes in the terms and conditions of charter contracts to fully implement these provisions.

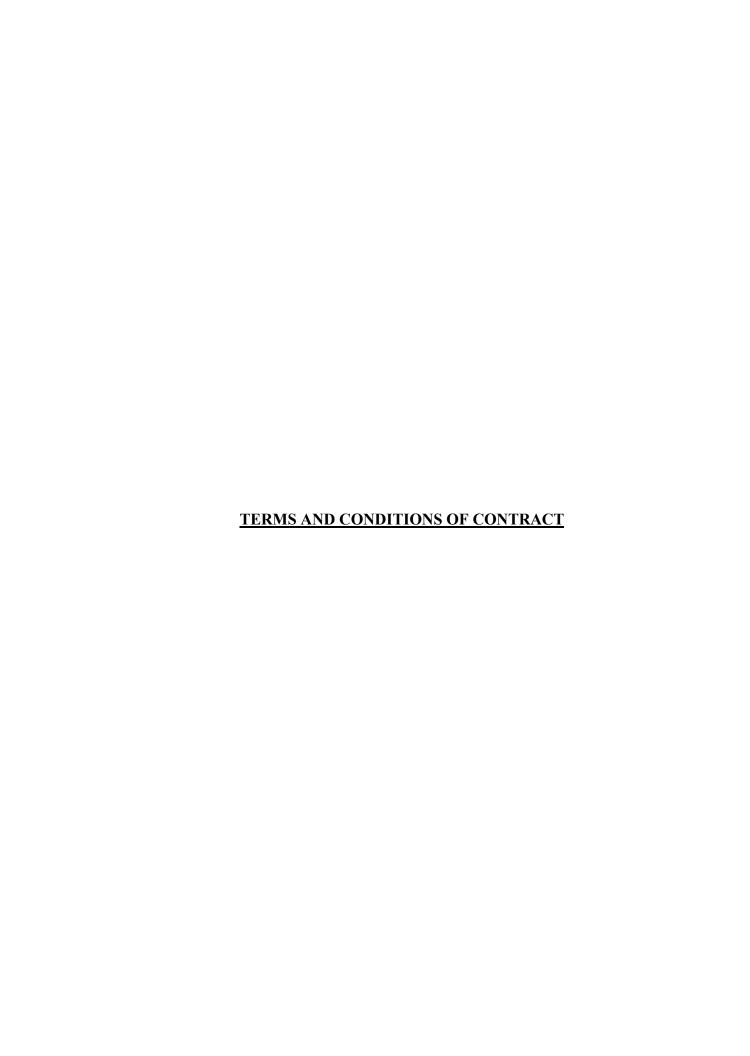
Amended by Board of Trustees: 18-0215

Adopted by Board of Trustees: 98-0918, 06-1207, 07-0712 and 11-0714

CMU BDT APPROVED

Date: 215/18

Signature: my Hanogan



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

**DATED: MAY 22, 2025** 

**ISSUED BY** 

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**CONFIRMING THE STATUS OF** 

**UNITY ACADEMY** 

AS A

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

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WHEREAS, the People of Michigan through their Constitution have provided that schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged and have authorized the Legislature to maintain and support a system of free public elementary and secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, all public schools are subject to the leadership and general supervision of the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has authorized an alternative form of public school designated a "public school academy" to be created to serve the educational needs of pupils and has provided that pupils attending these schools shall be eligible for support from the State School Aid Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has delegated to the governing boards of state public universities, community college boards, intermediate school district boards and local school district boards, the responsibility for authorizing the establishment of public school academies; and

WHEREAS, the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees has considered and has approved the issuance of a contract to Unity Academy;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Revised School Code, the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees issues a Charter Contract conferring certain rights, franchises, privileges, and obligations and confirms the Unity Academy's status as a public school academy. In addition, the parties agree that the issuance of this Charter Contract is subject to the following terms and conditions:

### ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1. <u>Certain Definitions</u>. For purposes of this Charter Contract, and in addition to the terms defined throughout this Contract, each of the following words or expressions, whenever initially capitalized, shall have the meaning set forth in this section:

- (a) "Academy" means the Michigan nonprofit corporation named Unity Academy which is established as a public school academy pursuant to this Charter Contract.
- (b) "Academy Board" means the Board of Directors of the Academy.
- (c) "Applicable Law" means all state and federal law applicable to public school academies, including all rules, regulations, and orders promulgated thereunder.
- (d) "Application" means the public school academy application and supporting documentation submitted to the University for the establishment of the Academy.
- (e) "Authorizing Resolution" means the resolution adopted by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees on February 13, 2025, approving the issuance of a Contract to the Academy.
- (f) "Code" means the Revised School Code, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, being Sections 380.1 to 380.1852 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.
- (g) "Community District" means a community school district created under part 5B of the Code, MCL 380.381 et seq.

- (h) "Conservator" means an individual appointed by the President of Central Michigan University in accordance with Section 10.8 of these Terms and Conditions of Contract.
- (i) "Contract" means, in addition to the definition set forth in the Code, these Terms and Conditions of Contract, the Authorizing Resolution, the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution, the Charter Contract Schedules 1-8, as defined below, the Educational Service Provider Policies, the Master Calendar of Reporting Requirements and the Application.
- (i) "Department" means the Michigan Department of Education.
- (k) "Director" means a person who is a member of the Academy Board.
- (1) "Educational Service Provider" or "ESP" means an educational management organization, or employee leasing company, as defined under section 503c of the Code, MCL 380.503c, that has entered into a contract or agreement with the Academy Board for operation or management of the Academy, and which agreement has been submitted to the Center for review, has not been disapproved by the director of The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools, is consistent with the Educational Service Provider Policies, as they may be amended from time to time, and with Applicable Law.
- (m) "Educational Service Provider Policies" or "ESP Policies" means the Educational Service Provider Policies, adopted by The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University that apply to an agreement that has been entered into between an ESP and the Academy Board. The Educational Service Provider Policies may be amended from time to time. Upon amendment, changes to the ESP Policies shall automatically be incorporated into this Contract and shall be exempt from the amendment procedures under Article IX of these Terms and Conditions of Contract.
- (n) "Fund Balance Deficit" means the Academy has more liabilities than assets at the end of any given school fiscal year, and includes any fiscal year where the Academy would have had a budget deficit but for a financial borrowing by the Academy or a monetary contribution by an Educational Service Provider or other person or entity to the Academy. If the Academy receives a gift or grant of money or financial support from an Educational Service Provider or other person or entity that does not require repayment by the Academy, and is not conditioned upon the action or inactions of the Academy or the Academy Board, then such gift or grant shall not constitute a borrowing or contribution for purposes of determining a Fund Balance Deficit.
- (o) "Management Agreement" or "ESP Agreement" means an agreement as defined under section 503c of the Code, MCL 380.503c, that has been entered into between an ESP and the Academy Board for the operation and/or management of the Academy and that has been submitted to The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools for review and has not been disapproved by the director of The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools.
- (p) "Master Calendar" means the Master Calendar of Reporting Requirements as annually issued by The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools setting forth reporting and document submission requirements for the Academy.
- (q) "Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution" means the policy adopted by resolution of the University Board on September 18, 1998, and amended on February 15, 2018,

- establishing the standard method of selection and appointment, length of term, removal and suspension, number of directors and qualifications of Academy Board members for public school academies issued a Contract by the University Board.
- (r) "Schedules" means the following Contract documents: Schedule 1: Articles of Incorporation, Schedule 2: Bylaws, Schedule 3: Fiscal Agent Agreement, Schedule 4: Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Agreement, Schedule 5: Description of Staff Responsibilities, Schedule 6: Physical Plant Description, Schedule 7: Required Information for a Public School Academy, and Schedule 8: Information Available to the Public and the Center.
- (s) "State Board" means the State Board of Education, established pursuant to Article 8, Section 3 of the 1963 Michigan Constitution and MCL 388.1001 et seq.
- (t) "State School Aid Fund" means the State School Aid Fund established pursuant to Article IX, Section 11 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, as amended.
- (u) "State School Reform/Redesign Office" means the office created within the Michigan Department of Technology Management and Budget by Executive Reorganization Order 2015-02 codified at MCL 18.445, and transferred from the Michigan Department of Technology Management and Budget to the Michigan Department of Education by Executive Reorganization Order 2017-02, codified at MCL 388.1282.
- (v) "Superintendent" means the Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (w) "Terms and Conditions" means this document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Contract, Dated May 22, 2025, Issued by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees Confirming the Status of Unity Academy as a Public School Academy."
- (x) "The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools" or "the Center" means the office designated by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees as the initial point of contact for public school academy applicants and public school academies authorized by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees. The Center is also responsible for administering the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees' responsibilities with respect to the Contract.
- (y) "The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools Director" or "the Center Director" means the person designated at Central Michigan University to administer the operations of the Center.
- (z) "University" means Central Michigan University, established pursuant to Article 8, sections 4 and 6 of the 1963 Michigan Constitution and MCL 390.551 et seq.
- (aa) "University Board" means the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees.
- (bb) "University Charter Schools Hearing Panel" or "Hearing Panel" means such persons as designated by the University President.
- (cc) "University President" means the President of Central Michigan University or his or her designee. In section 1.1(bb) above, "University President" means the President of Central Michigan University.

- Section 1.2. <u>Captions</u>. The captions and headings used in this Contract are for convenience only and shall not be used in construing the provisions of this Contract.
- Section 1.3. <u>Gender and Number</u>. The masculine, feminine, or neuter pronouns in this Contract shall be interpreted without regard to gender, and the use of the singular shall be deemed to include the plural (and vice versa) wherever applicable.
- Section 1.4. <u>Statutory Definitions</u>. Statutory terms defined in the Code shall have the same meaning in this Contract.
- Section 1.5. <u>Schedules</u>. All Schedules to this Contract are incorporated into, and made part of, this Contract.
- Section 1.6. <u>Application</u>. The Application submitted to the University Board for the establishment of the Academy is incorporated into, and made part of, this Contract. To the extent there is a difference between the Contract and the Application, the Contract shall control.
- Section 1.7. <u>Conflicting Contract Provisions</u>. In the event that there is a conflict between language contained in the provisions of this Contract, the Contract shall be interpreted as follows: (i) the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution shall control over any other conflicting language in the Contract with the exception of language in the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution; (iii) the Terms and Conditions shall control over any other conflicting language in the Contract with the exception of language in the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution and the Authorizing Resolution; and (iv) the Articles of Incorporation shall control over any other conflicting language in the Contract with the exception of language in the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution, Authorizing Resolution and these Terms and Conditions.

## ARTICLE II RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ACADEMY AND THE UNIVERSITY BOARD

- Section 2.1. <u>Constitutional Status of Central Michigan University</u>. Central Michigan University is a constitutionally established body corporate operating as a state public university. The University Board is an authorizing body as defined by the Code. In approving this Contract, the University Board voluntarily exercises additional powers given to the University under the Code. Nothing in this Contract shall be deemed to be any waiver of Central Michigan University's powers or independent status and the Academy shall not be deemed to be a part of Central Michigan University. If applicable, the University Board has provided to the Department the accreditation notice required under the Code.
- Section 2.2. <u>Independent Status of the Academy</u>. The Academy is a body corporate and governmental entity authorized by the Code. It is organized and shall operate as a public school academy and a nonprofit corporation. It is not a division or part of Central Michigan University. The relationship between the Academy and the University Board is based solely on the applicable provisions of the Code and the terms of this Contract or other agreements between the University Board and the Academy.
- Section 2.3. <u>Financial Obligations of the Academy Are Separate From the State of Michigan, University Board and the University.</u> Any contract, mortgage, loan or other instrument of indebtedness entered into by the Academy and a third party shall not in any way constitute an obligation, either general, special, or moral, of the State of Michigan, the University Board, or the University. Neither the full faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State of Michigan or any agency of the State, nor the full faith and

credit of the University Board or the University shall ever be pledged for the payment of any Academy contract, mortgage, loan or other instrument of indebtedness.

Section 2.4. Academy Has No Power To Obligate or Bind the State of Michigan, the University Board or the University. The Academy has no authority whatsoever to enter into any contract or other agreement that would financially obligate the State of Michigan, the University Board or the University, nor does the Academy have any authority whatsoever to make any representations to lenders or third parties, that the State of Michigan, the University Board or the University in any way guarantee, are financially obligated, or are in any way responsible for any contract, mortgage, loan or other instrument of indebtedness entered into by the Academy.

Section 2.5. New Public School Academies Located Within the Boundaries of a Community District. If the circumstances listed below in (a) or (b) apply to the Academy's site, the Academy represents to the University Board, intending that the University Board rely on such representation as a precondition to issuing a contract for a new public school academy, that the Academy will have substantially different governance, leadership and curriculum than the public school previously operating at the site:

- (a) The Academy's proposed site is the same location as a public school that (i) is currently on the list under Section 1280c(1), MCL 380.1280c(1) or Section 1280g(3), MCL 380.1280g(3) of the Code, as applicable; or (ii) has been on the list under Section 1280c(1) or 1280g(3) of the Code, as applicable, during the immediately preceding 3 school years.
- (b) The Academy's proposed site is the same location of another public school academy, urban high school academy, school of excellence or strict discipline academy whose contract was revoked or terminated by an authorizing body.

## ARTICLE III ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY BOARD AS AUTHORIZING BODY

Section 3.1. <u>University Board Resolutions</u>. The University Board has adopted a resolution, hereinafter the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution, providing for the method of selection and appointment, length of term, removal and suspension, number of Directors and the qualifications of Directors. The University Board has adopted a Authorization Resolution which approves the issuance of this Contract. The Authorization Resolution and the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution are hereby incorporated into this Contract. The University Board may, from time to time, amend the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution changing the method of selection, length of term, number of Directors and the qualifications of Directors. Any subsequent resolution of the University Board changing the Method of Selection, Appointment, and Removal Resolution shall automatically be incorporated into this Contract without the need for an amendment under Article IX of the Terms and Conditions.

Section 3.2. <u>University Board as Fiscal Agent for the Academy</u>. The University Board is the fiscal agent for the Academy. As fiscal agent, the University Board assumes no responsibility for the financial condition of the Academy. The University Board is not liable for any debt or liability incurred by or on behalf of the Academy Board, or for any expenditure approved by or on behalf of the Academy Board. Except as provided in the Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Agreement and Article X of these Terms and Conditions, the University Board shall promptly, within ten (10) business days of receipt, forward to the Academy all state school aid funds or other public or private funds received by the University Board for the benefit of the Academy. The responsibilities of the University Board, the State of Michigan, and the Academy are set forth in the Fiscal Agent Agreement incorporated herein as Schedule 3.

Section 3.3. Oversight Responsibilities of the University Board. The University Board has the responsibility to oversee the Academy's compliance with the Contract and all Applicable Law. The responsibilities of the Academy and the University Board are set forth in the Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Agreement and incorporated herein as Schedule 4.

Section 3.4. <u>University Board Administrative Fee</u>. The Academy shall pay the University Board an administrative fee to compensate the University Board for overseeing the Academy's compliance with the Contract and all Applicable Law.

Section 3.5. <u>University Board Approval of Condemnation</u>. In the event that the Academy desires to acquire property pursuant to the Uniform Condemnation Procedures Act or other applicable statutes, it shall obtain express written permission for such acquisition from the University Board. The Academy shall submit a written request to the Center describing the proposed acquisition and the purpose for which the Academy desires to acquire the property. Provided the Academy Board submits the written request to the Center at least sixty (60) days before the University Board's next regular meeting, the University Board may vote on whether to give express written permission for the acquisition at its next regular meeting.

Section 3.6. <u>Authorization to Employ or Contract</u>. The University Board authorizes the Academy Board to employ or contract for personnel according to the position information outlined in Schedule 5. The Academy Board shall prohibit any individual from being employed by the Academy or an Educational Service Provider in more than one (1) full-time position and simultaneously being compensated at a full-time rate for each of these positions. An employee hired by the Academy shall be an employee of the Academy for all purposes and not an employee of the University for any purpose. With respect to Academy employees, the Academy shall have the power and responsibility to (i) recruit, select and engage employees; (ii) pay their wages, benefits, and applicable taxes; (iii) evaluate performance; (iv) discipline and dismiss employees; and control the employees' conduct, including the method by which the employee carries out his or her work. The Academy Board shall be responsible for carrying workers' compensation insurance and unemployment insurance for its employees.

The Academy Board may contract with an Educational Service Provider to provide comprehensive educational, administrative, management, or instructional services or staff to the Academy. Before entering into a Management Agreement with an Educational Service Provider, the Academy Board shall first comply with the Educational Service Provider Policies issued by the Center. Any Management Agreement entered into by the Academy shall also comply with Section 11.2 and 12.10 of these Terms and Conditions. A copy of the Management Agreement between the Academy Board and the Educational Service Provider shall be incorporated into this Contract under Schedule 5. Any changes to the Management Agreement shall be incorporated into this Contract by amendment in accordance with Article IX, as applicable.

Section 3.7. <u>Teacher Certification</u>. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Academy shall use certificated teachers according to State Board rule.

Section 3.8. <u>Administrator and Teacher Evaluation Systems</u>. The Academy Board shall adopt, implement and maintain a rigorous, transparent, and fair performance evaluation system for its teachers and school administrators that complies with Applicable Law. If the Academy enters into a Management Agreement with an Educational Service Provider, the Academy Board shall ensure that the Educational Service Provider complies with this section.

Section 3.9. <u>Reimbursement of University Board Services</u>. The University Board shall be reimbursed for the actual cost of University services associated with responding to third party subpoenas and freedom of information act (FOIA) requests under the following circumstances:

If the University receives a subpoena or FOIA request from a third party (including the Academy, its counsel, the Academy's ESP or its counsel) demanding the production of Academy documents related to pending litigation or proceedings involving the Academy, the Academy's ESP (or any subcontractor of the ESP or other contractors of the Academy) or a third party, the University may charge the Academy for the actual cost of the services associated with the University's response to the subpoena or FOIA request(s) (including actual attorney's fees in fulfilling the request). The parties agree that the Academy may reduce or avoid the obligation to pay for services by the University Board associated with such responses by directly producing Academy documents to the requesting party.

## ARTICLE IV REQUIREMENT THAT THE ACADEMY ACT SOLELY AS GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY

Section 4.1. <u>Limitation on Actions in Performance of Governmental Functions</u>. The Academy shall act exclusively as a governmental entity and shall not undertake any action inconsistent with its status as a governmental entity authorized to receive state school aid funds pursuant to Section 11 of Article IX of the State Constitution of 1963.

#### Section 4.2. Other Permitted Activities.

- (a) Nothing in this Contract shall prohibit the Academy from engaging in other lawful activities that are not in derogation of the Academy's status as a public school or that would not jeopardize the eligibility of the Academy for state school aid funds. Except as provided for the agreements identified below in Section 4.2(b), the Academy may enter into agreements with other public schools, governmental units, businesses, community and nonprofit organizations where such agreements contribute to the effectiveness of the Academy or advance education in this state.
- (b) The Academy shall submit to the Center for prior review the following agreements:
  - (i) In accordance with the Educational Service Provider Policies, a draft copy of any ESP Agreement and any subsequent amendments;
  - (ii) In accordance with the Master Calendar, a draft copy of any Academy deed or lease, amendments to existing leases or any new leasing agreements for any Academy facility; and
  - (iii) In accordance with the Master Calendar, draft long-term or short-term financing closing documents and intercept requests.

Section 4.3. Academy Board Members Serve In Their Individual Capacity. All Directors of the Academy Board shall serve in their individual capacity, and not as a representative or designee of any other person or entity. A person who does not serve in their individual capacity, or who serves as a representative or designee of another person or entity, shall be deemed ineligible to continue to serve as a Director of the Academy Board. A Director who violates this section shall be removed from office, in accordance with the removal provisions found in the Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Resolution and Contract Schedule 2: Bylaws. As set forth in the Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Resolution, a Director serves at the pleasure of the University Board, and may be removed with or without cause at any time.

Section 4.4. <u>Incompatible Public Offices and Conflicts of Interest Statutes</u>. The Academy shall comply with the Incompatible Public Offices statute, being MCL 15.181 et seq. of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and the Contracts of Public Servants with Public Entities statute, being MCL 15.321 et seq. of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The Academy Board shall ensure compliance with Applicable Law relating to

conflicts of interest. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, the following shall be deemed prohibited conflicts of interest for purposes of this Contract:

- (a) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an owner, officer, director, employee or consultant of an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company, or a subcontractor to an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company that has an ESP Agreement with the Academy;
- (b) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an Academy employee;
- (c) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an independent contractor to the Academy;
- (d) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and a member of the governing board of another public school;
- (e) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and a University official, employee, or paid consultant, as a representative of the University; and
- (f) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and having an ownership or financial interest in any real or personal property leased or subleased to the Academy.

Section 4.5. <u>Prohibition of Identified Family Relationships</u>. The Academy Board shall prohibit specifically identified family relationships pursuant to applicable law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract. Language in this Section controls over section 1203 of the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, the following shall be deemed prohibited familial relationships for the purposes of this Contract:

- (a) No person shall be appointed or reappointed to serve as an Academy Board member if the person's mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, spouse or domestic partner:
  - (i) Is employed by the Academy;
  - (ii) Works at or is assigned to work at the Academy;
  - (iii) Has an ownership, officer, policymaking, managerial, administrative non-clerical, or other significant role with the Academy's Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company;
  - (iv) Has an ownership or financial interest in any school building lease or sublease agreement with the Academy; or
  - (v) Is a current Academy Board member.
- (b) The Academy Board shall require each individual who works at the Academy to annually disclose any familial relationship with any other individual who works at, or provides services to, the Academy. If an Academy Board member discloses any prohibited familial relationships in the annual disclosure, or if the University finds that an Academy Board member has failed to disclose a prohibited familial relationship, that Academy Board member shall be removed from office, in accordance with the removal provisions found in the Resolution or Schedule 2: Bylaws. For purposes of this subsection, familial relationship means a person's mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, spouse or domestic partner.

- Section 4.6. <u>Oath of Public Office</u>. Before entering upon the duties of a public school board member, each Academy Board member shall take the constitutional oath of office as required by the Code and as set forth in the Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Resolution.
- Section 4.7. <u>Academy Counsel</u>. The Academy Board shall select, retain and pay legal counsel to represent the Academy. The Academy shall not retain any attorney to represent the Academy if the attorney or the attorney's law firm also represents the Academy's Educational Service Provider or any person or entity leasing real property to the Academy, if any.

## ARTICLE V CORPORATE STRUCTURE OF THE ACADEMY

- Section 5.1. <u>Nonprofit Corporation</u>. The Academy shall be organized and operate as a public school academy corporation organized under the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act, as amended, Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1982, being Sections 450.2101 to 450.3192 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Notwithstanding any provision of the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act, as amended, the Academy shall not take any action inconsistent with the provisions of Part 6A of the Code or other Applicable Law.
- Section 5.2. <u>Articles of Incorporation</u>. The Articles of Incorporation of the Academy, as set forth in Schedule 1, shall be the Articles of Incorporation of the Academy.
- Section 5.3. <u>Bylaws</u>. The Bylaws of the Academy, as set forth in Schedule 2, shall be the Bylaws of the Academy.

### ARTICLE VI OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- Section 6.1. Governance Structure. The Academy shall be organized and administered under the direction of the Academy Board and pursuant to the Governance Structure as set forth in Schedule 7a. The Academy shall have four officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The officer positions shall be filled by persons who are members of the Academy Board. A description of their duties is included in Schedule 2.
- Section 6.2. <u>Educational Goal and Related Measures</u>. The Academy shall achieve, or demonstrate measurable progress for all groups of pupils toward the achievement of, the educational goal and related measures identified in Schedule 7b and the results of the academic assessments identified in Schedule 7e. Upon request, the Academy shall provide the Center with a written report, along with supporting data, assessing the Academy's progress toward achieving this goal.
- Section 6.3. <u>Educational Programs</u>. The Academy shall implement, deliver and support the educational programs identified in Schedule 7c.
- Section 6.4. <u>Curriculum</u>. The Academy shall implement, deliver and support the curriculum identified in Schedule 7d.
- Section 6.5. <u>Methods of Pupil Assessment</u>. The Academy shall properly administer the academic assessments identified in Schedule 7e and in accordance with the requirements detailed in the Master

Calendar. The Academy also shall assess pupil performance using all applicable testing that the Code or the Contract require. The Academy shall provide the Center direct access to the results of these assessments, along with any other measures of academic achievement reasonably requested by the Center.

- Section 6.6. <u>Application and Enrollment of Students</u>. The Academy shall comply with the application and enrollment requirements identified in Schedule 7f.
- Section 6.7. <u>School Calendar and School Day Schedule</u>. The Academy shall comply with the school calendar and school day schedule requirements as set forth in Schedule 7g.
- Section 6.8. <u>Age or Grade Range of Pupils</u>. The Academy shall comply with the age or grade ranges as stated in Schedule 7h.
- Section 6.9. <u>Collective Bargaining Agreements</u>. Collective bargaining agreements, if any, with employees of the Academy shall be the responsibility of the Academy.
- Section 6.10. <u>Accounting Standards</u>. The Academy shall at all times comply with generally accepted public sector accounting principles and accounting system requirements that comply with the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, MCL 141.421, et seq., and applicable State Board and Michigan Department of Education rules.
- Section 6.11. <u>Annual Financial Statement Audit</u>. The Academy shall conduct an annual financial statement audit prepared and reviewed by an independent certified public accountant. The Academy Board shall select, retain and pay the Academy's independent auditor. The Academy Board shall not approve the retention of any independent auditor if that independent auditor or auditor's firm is also performing accounting and/or auditing services for the Academy's Educational Service Provider, if applicable. The Academy shall submit the annual financial statement audit and auditor's management letter to the Center in accordance with the Master Calendar. The Academy Board shall provide to the Center a copy of any responses to the auditor's management letter in accordance with the Master Calendar.
- Section 6.12. Address and Description of Physical Plant. The address and description of the physical plant for the Academy is set forth in Schedule 6. With the approval of the University Board, the Academy Board may operate the same configuration of age or grade levels at more than one (1) site if each configuration of age or grade levels and each site identified in Schedule 6 are under the direction and control of the Academy Board. University Board consideration regarding requests to add additional site(s) shall include, but not be limited to, the Academy Board's demonstration that it meets all statutory requirements under the Code.
- Section 6.13. <u>Contributions and Fund Raising</u>. The Academy may solicit and receive contributions and donations as permitted by law. No solicitation shall indicate that a contribution to the Academy is for the benefit of Central Michigan University.
- Section 6.14. <u>Disqualified Organizational or Contractual Affiliations</u>. The Academy shall comply with all state and federal law applicable to public schools concerning church-state issues. To the extent disqualified under the state or federal constitutions, the Academy shall not be organized by a church or other religious organization and shall not have any organizational or contractual affiliation with or constitute a church or other religious organization. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to diminish or enlarge the civil and political rights, privileges and capacities of any person on account of his or her religious belief.

Section 6.15. Method for Monitoring Academy's Compliance with Applicable Law and its Targeted Educational Outcomes. The Academy shall perform the compliance certification duties required by the University Board as outlined in the Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Agreement set forth as Schedule 4. In addition to the University Board's oversight responsibilities and other Academy compliance and reporting requirements set forth in this Contract, the Academy's compliance with the annual Master Calendar shall serve as one means by which the University will monitor the Academy's compliance with Applicable Law.

Section 6.16. <u>Matriculation Agreements</u>. Before the Academy Board approves a matriculation agreement with another public school, the Academy shall provide a draft copy of the agreement to the Center for review. Any matriculation agreement entered into by the Academy shall be added to Schedule 7f through a contract amendment approved in accordance with the Contract.

Section 6.17. <u>Postings of Accreditation Status</u>. The Academy shall post notices to the Academy's homepage of its website disclosing the accreditation status of each school as required by the Code.

### ARTICLE VII TUITION PROHIBITED

Section 7.1. <u>Tuition Prohibited</u>; <u>Fees and Expenses</u>. The Academy shall not charge tuition. The Academy may impose fees and require payment of expenses for activities of the Academy where such fees and payments are not prohibited by Applicable Law.

## ARTICLE VIII COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

Section 8.1. <u>Compliance with Applicable Law</u>. The Academy shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws. Nothing in this Contract shall be deemed to apply any other state or federal law to the Academy.

### ARTICLE IX AMENDMENT

Section 9.1. <u>Amendments</u>. The University Board and the Academy acknowledge that the operation and administration of a public school academy and the improvement of educational outcomes over time will require appropriate amendment of this Contract. In order to assure a proper balance between the need for independent development of the Academy and the statutory responsibilities of the University Board as an authorizing body, the parties have established a flexible process for amending this Contract.

Section 9.2. <u>Process for Amendment Initiated by the Academy</u>. The Academy, by a majority vote of its Board of Directors, may, at any time, propose specific changes in this Contract or may propose a meeting to discuss potential revision of this Contract. The proposal will be made to the University Board through its designee. The University Board delegates to the Center Director the review and approval of changes or amendments to this Contract. In the event that a proposed change is not accepted by the Center Director, the University Board may consider and vote upon a change proposed by the Academy following an opportunity for a presentation to the University Board by the Academy.

Section 9.3. <u>Process for Amendment Initiated by the University Board</u>. The University Board, or an authorized designee, may, at any time, propose specific changes in this Contract or may propose a meeting to discuss potential revision of this Contract. The University Board delegates to the Center Director the review and approval of changes or amendments to this Contract. The Academy Board may delegate to a Director of the Academy the review and negotiation of changes or amendments to this Contract. The Contract shall be amended as requested by the University Board upon a majority vote of the Academy Board.

Section 9.4. <u>Final Approval of Amendments</u>. Amendments to this Contract take effect only after they have been approved by the Academy Board and by the University Board or the Center Director. If the proposed amendment conflicts with any of the University Board's general policies on public school academies, the proposed amendment shall take effect only after approval by the Academy Board and the University Board.

Section 9.5. <u>Change in Existing Law</u>. If, after the effective date of this Contract, there is a change in Applicable Law which alters or amends the responsibilities and obligations of either the Academy or the University Board, this Contract shall be altered or amended to reflect the change in existing law as of the effective date of such change. To the extent possible, the responsibilities and obligations of the Academy and the University Board shall conform to and be carried out in accordance with the change in Applicable Law.

Section 9.6. Emergency Action on Behalf of University Board. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract to the contrary, the contents of this Section shall govern in the event of an emergency situation that arises between meetings of the University Board. An emergency situation shall be deemed to occur if the University President, in his or her sole discretion, determines that the facts and circumstances warrant that emergency action take place before the next meeting of the University Board. Upon the determination that an emergency situation exists, the University President may temporarily take action on behalf of the University Board with regard to the Academy or the Contract, so long as such action is in the best interest of the University Board and the University President consults with the University Board Chairperson prior to taking the intended actions. When acting during an emergency situation, the University President shall have the authority to act in place of the University Board, and such emergency action shall only be effective in the interim before the earlier of (a) rejection of the emergency action by the Chairperson of the University Board; or (b) the next meeting of the University Board. The University President shall immediately report such action to the University Board for confirmation at the next meeting so that the emergency action continues or, upon confirmation by the University Board, becomes permanent.

# ARTICLE X CONTRACT REVOCATION, TERMINATION, AND SUSPENSION

Section 10.1. <u>Statutory Grounds for Revocation</u>. In addition to the other grounds for revocation in Section 10.2 and the automatic revocation in Section 10.3 of these Terms and Conditions, the University Board may revoke this Contract, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 10.6, upon a determination that one or more of the following has occurred:

- (a) Failure of the Academy to demonstrate improved pupil academic achievement for all groups of pupils or abide by and meet the educational goal and related measures set forth in this Contract:
- (b) Failure of the Academy to comply with all Applicable Law;

- (c) Failure of the Academy to meet generally accepted public sector accounting principles and to demonstrate sound fiscal stewardship; or
- (d) The existence of one or more other grounds for revocation as specified in this Contract.

Section 10.2. Other Grounds for Revocation. In addition to the statutory grounds for revocation set forth in Section 10.1 and the grounds for an automatic revocation set forth in Section 10.3, the University Board may revoke this Contract, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 10.6, upon a determination that one or more of the following has occurred:

- (a) The Academy fails to achieve or demonstrate measurable progress toward achieving the educational goal and related measures identified in this Contract;
- (b) The Academy fails to properly implement, consistently deliver, and support the educational programs or curriculum identified in this Contract;
- (c) The Academy is insolvent, has been adjudged bankrupt, or has operated for two or more school fiscal years with a Fund Balance Deficit;
- (d) The Academy has insufficient enrollment to successfully operate a public school academy, or the Academy has lost more than fifty percent (50%) of its student enrollment from the previous school year;
- (e) The Academy fails to fulfill the compliance and reporting requirements or defaults in any of the terms, conditions, promises or representations contained in or incorporated into this Contract or, during the term of this Contract, it is discovered by the Center that the Academy failed to fulfill the compliance and reporting requirements or there was a violation of a prior Contract issued by the University Board;
- (f) The Academy files amendments to its Articles of Incorporation with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, without first obtaining the Center's approval;
- (g) The Center Director discovers grossly negligent, fraudulent or criminal conduct by the Academy's applicant(s), directors, officers, employees or agents in relation to their performance under this Contract; or
- (h) The Academy's applicant(s), directors, officers, employees or agents have provided false or misleading information or documentation to the Center in connection with the University Board's approval of the Application, the issuance of this Contract, or the Academy's reporting requirements under this Contract or Applicable Law.

Section 10.3. <u>Automatic Amendment Of Contract;</u> Automatic Termination of Contract If All <u>Academy Sites Closed; Economic Hardship Termination</u>. Except as otherwise provided in this Section 10.3, if the University Board is notified by the Department that an Academy site is subject to closure under section 507 of the Code, MCL 380.507 ("State's Automatic Closure Notice"), then this Contract shall automatically be amended to eliminate the Academy's authority to operate certain age and grade levels at the site or sites identified in the State's Automatic Closure Notice. If the State's Automatic Closure Notice includes all of the Academy's existing sites, then this Contract shall automatically be terminated at the end of the current school year in which either the State's Automatic Closure Notice is received without any further action of the University Board or the Academy.

Following receipt of the State's Automatic Closure Notice, the Center Director shall forward a copy of the notice to the Academy Board and request a meeting with the Academy Board representatives to discuss the Academy's plans and procedures for the elimination of certain age or grade levels at the identified site or sites, or if all of the Academy's existing sites are included in that notice, then wind-up and dissolution of the Academy corporation at the end of the current school year. All Academy inquiries and requests for reconsideration of the State's Automatic Closure Notice, including the granting of any hardship exemption by the Department rescinding the State's Automatic Closure Notice ("Pupil Hardship Exemption"), shall be directed to the Department, in a form and manner determined by the Department. If the Department rescinds the State's Automatic Closure Notice for an Academy site or sites by granting a Pupil Hardship Exemption, the Academy is not required to close the identified site(s), but shall present to the Center a proposed Contract amendment incorporating the Department's school improvement plan, if applicable, for the identified site(s).

If the Department elects not to issue a Pupil Hardship Exemption and the Center Director determines, in his or her discretion, that the closure of one or more sites as directed by the Department creates a significant economic hardship for the Academy as a going concern or the possibility of a mid-year school closure, then the Center Director may recommend to the University Board that the Contract be terminated at the end of the current school year (hereinafter "Economic Hardship Termination"). If the University Board approves the Economic Hardship Termination recommendation, then this Contract shall terminate at the end of the current school year without any further action of the parties.

The University Board's revocation procedures set forth in Section 10.6 do not apply to an automatic termination initiated by the State's Automatic Closure Notice or an Economic Hardship Termination under this Section 10.3.

Section 10.4. Grounds and Procedures for Academy Termination of Contract. The Academy Board, by majority vote of its Directors, may, at any time and for any reason, request termination of this Contract. The Academy Board's request for termination shall be made to the Center Director not less than six (6) calendar months in advance of the Academy's proposed effective date of termination. Upon receipt of an Academy request for termination, the Center Director shall present the Academy Board's request for termination to the University Board. A copy of the Academy Board's resolution approving of the Contract termination, including a summary of the reasons for terminating the Contract, shall be included with the Academy Board's request for termination. After receipt of the Academy Board's request for termination, the University Board shall consider the Academy's request no later than its next regularly scheduled meeting. The University Board shall make a final determination and vote on the proposed termination request within 90 days of receipt of the request from the Academy. The University Board may, in its sole discretion, waive the six (6) month advance notice requirement for terminating this Contract.

Section 10.5. Grounds and Procedures for University Termination of Contract. The University Board, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to terminate the Contract (i) for any reason or for no reason provided that such termination shall not take place less than six (6) months from the date of the University Board's action; (ii) if there is a change in Applicable Law that the University Board, in its sole discretion, determines impairs its rights and obligations under the Contract or requires the University Board to make changes in the Contract that are not in the best interest of the University Board or the University; or (iii) if exigent circumstances exist that the University Board determines, in its sole discretion, that termination of this Contract is required to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the Academy students, property, or funds that cannot be cured in a reasonable period as determined solely by the University Board, then such termination shall take effect at the end of the current Academy fiscal year. Following University Board approval, the Center Director shall provide notice of the termination to the Academy. If during the period between the University Board action to terminate and the effective date of termination, the Academy has violated the Contract or Applicable Law, the Contract may be revoked or suspended sooner pursuant to this

Article X. If this Contract is terminated pursuant to this Section 10.5, the revocation procedures in Section 10.6 shall not apply.

Section 10.6. <u>University Board Procedures for Revoking Contract</u>. Except for the automatic revocation and procedures initiated by the State of Michigan set forth in Section 10.3, the University Board's process for revoking the Contract is as follows:

- (a) Notice of Intent to Revoke. The Center Director, upon reasonable belief that grounds for revocation of the Contract exist, shall notify the Academy Board of such grounds by issuing the Academy Board a Notice of Intent to Revoke for non-compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law. The Notice of Intent to Revoke shall be in writing and shall set forth in sufficient detail the alleged grounds for revocation.
- (b) Academy Board's Response. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Notice of Intent to Revoke, the Academy Board shall respond in writing to the alleged grounds for revocation. The Academy Board's response shall be addressed to the Center Director, and shall either admit or deny the allegations of non-compliance. If the Academy's response includes admissions of non-compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law, the Academy Board's response must also contain a description of the Academy Board's plan and timeline for correcting the non-compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law. If the Academy's response includes a denial of non-compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law, the Academy's response shall include sufficient documentation or other evidence to support a denial of non-compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law. A response not in compliance with this Section shall be deemed to be non-responsive. As part of its response, the Academy Board may request that a meeting be scheduled with the Center Director prior to a review of the Academy Board's response.
- (c) <u>Plan of Correction</u>. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Academy Board's response or after a meeting with Academy Board representatives, the Center Director shall review the Academy Board's response and determine whether a reasonable plan for correcting the deficiencies can be formulated. If the Center Director determines that a reasonable plan for correcting the deficiencies set forth in the Notice of Intent to Revoke can be formulated, the Center Director shall develop a plan for correcting the non-compliance ("Plan of Correction") which may include Reconstitution pursuant to 10.6(d) of these Terms and Conditions. In developing a Plan of Correction, the Center Director is permitted to adopt, modify or reject some or all of the Academy Board's response for correcting the deficiencies outlined in the Notice of Intent to Revoke. The Notice of Intent to Revoke shall be closed if the Center Director determines any of the following: (i) the Academy Board's denial of non-compliance is persuasive; (ii) the non-compliance set forth in the Notice of Intent to Revoke has been corrected by the Academy Board; or (iii) the Academy Board has successfully completed the Plan of Correction.
- (d) <u>University Board's Contract Reconstitution Provision</u>. The Center Director may reconstitute the Academy in an effort to improve student educational performance or to avoid interruption of the educational process. Reconstitution may include, but is not limited to, one of the following actions: (i) removal of 1 or more members of the Academy Board; (ii) termination of at-will board appointments of 1 or more Academy Board members in accordance with the Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Resolution; (iii) withdrawing approval of a contract under Section 506 of the Code; or (iv) the appointment of a new Academy Board or a Conservator to take over operations of the Academy.

Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, reconstitution of the Academy does not prohibit the Department from issuing an order under section 507 of the Code, MCL 380.507, directing the automatic closure of the Academy's site(s).

- (e) <u>Request for Revocation Hearing</u>. The Center Director may initiate a revocation hearing before the University Charter Schools Hearing Panel if the Center Director determines that any of the following has occurred:
  - (i) the Academy Board has failed to respond to the Notice of Intent to Revoke as set forth in Section 10.6(b);
  - (ii) the Academy Board's response to the Notice of Intent to Revoke is non-responsive;
  - (iii) the Academy Board's response admits violations of the Contract or Applicable Law which the Center Director deems cannot be remedied or cannot be remedied in an appropriate period of time, or for which the Center Director determines that a Plan of Correction cannot be formulated;
  - (iv) the Academy Board's response contains denials that are not supported by sufficient documentation or other evidence showing compliance with the Contract or Applicable Law;
  - (v) the Academy Board has not complied with part or all of a Plan of Correction established in Section 10.6(c);
  - (vi) the Academy Board has engaged in actions that jeopardize the financial or educational integrity of the Academy; or
  - (vii) the Academy Board has been issued multiple or repeated Notices of Intent to Revoke.

The Center Director shall send a copy of the request for revocation hearing to the Academy Board at the same time the request is sent to the Hearing Panel. The request for revocation shall identify the reasons for revoking the Contract.

- (f) Hearing before the University Charter Schools Hearing Panel. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of a request for revocation hearing, the Hearing Panel shall convene a revocation hearing. The Hearing Panel shall provide a copy of the notice of hearing to the Center and the Academy Board at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The purpose of the Hearing Panel is to gather facts surrounding the Center Director's request for Contract revocation, and to make a recommendation to the University Board on whether the Contract should be revoked. The revocation hearing shall be held at a location, date and time as determined by the Center Director and shall not last more than three hours. The hearing shall be transcribed and the cost shall be divided equally between the University and the Academy. The Center Director or his or her designee, and the Academy Board or its designee, shall each have equal time to make their presentation to the Hearing Panel. Although each party is permitted to submit affidavits and exhibits in support of their positions, the Hearing Panel will not hear testimony from any witnesses for either side. The Hearing Panel may, however, question the Center Director and the Academy Board. Within thirty (30) days of the revocation hearing, the Hearing Panel shall make a recommendation to the University Board concerning the revocation of the Contract. For good cause, the Hearing Panel may extend any time deadline set forth in this subsection. A copy of the Hearing Panel's recommendation shall be provided to the Center and the Academy Board at the same time that the recommendation is sent to the University Board.
- (g) <u>University Board Decision</u>. If the Hearing Panel's recommendation is submitted to the University Board at least fourteen (14) days before the University Board's next regular meeting, the University Board shall consider the Hearing Panel's recommendation at its next regular meeting and vote on whether to revoke the Contract. The University Board reserves the right

to modify, reject or approve all or any part of the Hearing Panel's recommendation. The University Board shall have available to it copies of the Hearing Panel's recommendation and the transcript from the hearing. The University Board may waive the fourteen (14) day submission requirement or hold a special board meeting to consider the Hearing Panel's recommendation. A copy of the University Board's decision shall be provided to the Center, the Academy Board and the Department.

- (h) <u>Effective Date of Revocation</u>. If the University Board votes to revoke the Contract, the revocation shall be effective on the date of the University Board's act of revocation, or at a later date as determined by the University Board.
- (i) <u>Disposition of State School Aid Funds</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract, any state school aid funds received by the University Board after a recommendation is made by the Hearing Panel to revoke the Contract, or a decision by the University Board to revoke the Contract, may be withheld by the University Board or returned to the Michigan Department of Treasury upon request. The University Board may also direct that a portion of the Academy's state school aid funds be directed to fund the Academy's Dissolution account established under Section 10.9 of these Terms and Conditions.

Section 10.7. <u>Contract Suspension</u>. The University Board's process for suspending the Contract is as follows:

- (a) <u>The Center Director Action</u>. If the Center Director determines, in his or her sole discretion, that certain conditions or circumstances exist such that the Academy Board:
  - (i) has placed staff or students at risk;
  - (ii) is not properly exercising its fiduciary obligations to protect and preserve the Academy's public funds and property;
  - (iii) has lost its right to occupancy of the physical facilities described in Schedule 6, and cannot find another suitable physical facility for the Academy prior to the expiration or termination of its right to occupy its existing physical facilities;
  - (iv) has failed to secure or has lost the necessary fire, health, and safety approvals as required by Schedule 6;
  - (v) has willfully or intentionally violated this Contract or Applicable Law; or
  - (vi) has violated Section 10.2(g) or (h),

then the Center Director may immediately suspend the Contract, pending completion of the procedures set forth in Section 10.6. A copy of the suspension notice, setting forth the grounds for suspension, shall be sent to the Academy Board and to the Hearing Panel. If this subsection is implemented, the notice and hearing procedures set forth in Section 10.6 shall be expedited as much as possible.

- (b) <u>Disposition of State School Aid Funds</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract, any state school aid funds received by the University Board after a decision by the Center Director to suspend the Contract, shall be retained by the University Board for the Academy until the Contract is reinstated, or shall be returned to the Michigan Department of Treasury upon the State's request.
- (c) <u>Immediate Revocation Proceeding</u>. If the Academy Board, after receiving a notice of Contract suspension from the Center Director, continues to engage in conduct or activities that are covered by the suspension notice, the Hearing Panel may immediately convene a revocation hearing in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 10.6(e) of this Contract. The

Hearing Panel has the authority to accelerate the timeline for revoking the Contract, provided that notice of the revocation hearing shall be provided to the Center and the Academy Board at least five (5) days before the hearing. If the Hearing Panel determines that the Academy Board has continued to engage in conduct or activities that are covered by the suspension notice, the Hearing Panel may recommend revocation of the Contract. The University Board shall proceed to consider the Hearing Panel's recommendation in accordance with sections 10.6(f) through (h).

Section 10.8. Conservator; Appointment By University President. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract, in the event that the University President, in his or her sole discretion, determines that the health, safety and welfare of Academy students, property or funds are at risk, the University President, after consulting with the University Board Chairperson, may appoint a person to serve as the Conservator of the Academy. Upon appointment, the Conservator shall have all the powers and authority of the Academy Board under this Contract and Applicable Law and shall act in the place and stead of the Academy Board. The University President shall appoint the Conservator for a definite term which may be extended in writing at his or her sole discretion. During the appointment, the Academy Board members and their terms in office are suspended and all powers of the Academy Board are suspended. All appointments made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. During their appointment, the Conservator shall have the following powers:

- (a) take into his or her possession all Academy property and records, including financial, board, employment and student records;
- (b) institute and defend actions by or on behalf of the Academy;
- (c) continue the business of the Academy including entering into contracts, borrowing money, and pledging, mortgaging, or otherwise encumbering the property of the Academy as security for the repayment of loans. However, the power shall be subject to any provisions and restrictions in any existing credit documents;
- (d) hire, fire, evaluate and discipline employees of the Academy;
- (e) settle or compromise with any debtor or creditor of the Academy, including any governmental or taxing authority;
- (f) review all outstanding agreements to which the Academy is a party and to take those actions which the Academy Board may have exercised to pay, extend, rescind, renegotiate or settle such agreements as needed; and
- (g) perform all acts necessary and appropriate to fulfill the Academy's purposes as set forth under this Contract or Applicable Law.

Section 10.9. <u>Academy Dissolution Account</u>. If the University Board terminates, revokes or fails to issue a new Contract to the Academy, the Center Director shall notify the Academy that, beginning thirty (30) days after notification of the University Board's decision, the University Board may direct up to \$10,000 from each subsequent State School Aid Fund payment, not to exceed a combined total of \$30,000, to a separate Academy account ("Academy Dissolution Account") to be used exclusively to pay the costs associated with the wind-up and dissolution responsibilities of the Academy. Within five (5) business days of the Center Director's notice, the Academy Board Treasurer shall provide the Center Director, in a form and manner determined by the Center, with account detail information and authorization to direct such funds to the Academy Dissolution Account. The Academy Dissolution Account shall be under the sole care,

custody and control of the Academy Board, and such funds shall not be used by the Academy to pay any other Academy debt or obligation until such time as all the wind-up and dissolution expenses have been satisfied. An intercept agreement entered into by the Academy and a third-party lender or trustee shall include language that the third party lender or trustee acknowledges and consents to the funding of the Academy's dissolution account in accordance with this Contract. Any unspent funds remaining in the Academy's dissolution account after payment of all wind-up and dissolution expenses shall be returned to the Academy.

## ARTICLE XI PROVISIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES

Section 11.1. <u>The Academy Budget; Transmittal of Budgetary Assumptions; Budget Deficit;</u> <u>Enhanced Deficit Elimination Plan.</u> The Academy agrees to comply with all of the following:

- (a) The Academy Board is responsible for establishing, approving, and amending an annual budget in accordance with the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, MCL 141.421, et seq. The Academy Board shall submit to the Center a copy of its annual budget for the upcoming fiscal year in accordance with the Master Calendar. The budget must detail budgeted expenditures at the object level as described in the Department's Michigan School Accounting Manual. In addition, the Academy Board is responsible for approving all revisions and amendments to the annual budget. In accordance with the Master Calendar, revisions or amendments to the Academy's budget shall be submitted to the Center following Academy Board approval.
- (b) Unless exempted from transmitting under section 1219 of the Code, MCL 380.1219, the Academy, on or before July 7th of each school fiscal year, shall transmit to the Center for Educational Performance and Information ("CEPI") the budgetary assumptions used when adopting its annual budget pursuant to the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, MCL 141.421 et seq.
- (c) The Academy shall not adopt or operate under a deficit budget, or incur an operating deficit in a fund during any fiscal year. At any time during the term of this Contract, the Academy shall not have an existing deficit fund balance, incur a deficit fund balance, or adopt a current year budget that projects a deficit fund balance. If the Academy has an existing deficit fund balance, incurs a deficit fund balance in the most recently completed school fiscal year, or adopts a current year budget that projects a deficit fund balance, all of the following apply:
  - (i) The Academy shall notify the Superintendent and the State Treasurer immediately upon the occurrence of the circumstance, and provide a copy of the notice to the Center;
  - (ii) Within 30 days after making notification under subdivision (i), the Academy shall submit to the Superintendent in the form and manner prescribed by the Department an amended budget for the current school fiscal year and a deficit elimination plan approved by the Academy Board, with a copy to the State Treasurer. The Academy shall transmit a copy of the amended budget and the deficit elimination plan to the Center; and
  - (iii) After the Superintendent approves Academy's deficit elimination plan, the Academy shall post the deficit elimination plan on the Academy's website.
- (d) If the Academy is required by the State Treasurer to submit an enhanced deficit elimination plan under section 1220 of the Code, MCL 380.1220, the Academy shall do all of the following:

- (i) The enhanced deficit elimination plan shall be approved by the Academy Board before submission;
- (ii) After the State Treasurer approves an enhanced deficit elimination plan for the Academy, the Academy shall post the enhanced deficit elimination plan on the Academy's website; and
- (iii) As required, submit to the Superintendent and State Treasurer an enhanced monthly monitoring reports in a form and manner prescribed by the State Treasurer and post such monthly reports on the Academy's website.

Section 11.2. <u>Insurance</u>. The Academy Board shall secure and maintain in its own name, as the "first named insured," insurance coverage as required by the University's insurance carrier.

The insurance must be obtained from a licensed mutual, stock, or other responsible company licensed to do business in the State of Michigan. The Academy may join with other public school academies to obtain insurance if the Academy Board finds that such an association provides economic advantages to the Academy, provided that each Academy maintains its identity as first named insured. The Academy shall list the University on the insurance policies as an additional insured as required by the University's insurance carrier. The coverage provided to the University as an additional covered person or organization will be primary and non-contributory with the University's insurance carrier. The Academy shall have a provision included in all policies requiring notice to the University, at least thirty (30) days in advance, upon termination or non-renewal of the policy for any reason other than nonpayment which would require a ten (10) day advance notice to the University. In addition, the Academy shall provide the Center copies of all insurance policies required by this Contract.

When changing insurance programs or carriers, the Academy must provide copies of the proposed policies to the Center at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed change. The Academy shall not cancel or change its existing carrier without the prior review of the Center.

The University's insurance carrier periodically reviews the types and amounts of insurance coverage that the Academy must secure in order for the University to maintain insurance coverage for the authorization and oversight of the Academy. In the event that the University's insurance carrier requests additional changes in coverage identified in this Section 11.2, the Academy agrees to comply with any additional changes in the types and amounts of coverage requested by the University's insurance carrier within thirty (30) days after notice of the insurance coverage change.

The Academy may expend funds for payment of the cost of participation in an accident or medical insurance program to insure protection for pupils while attending school or participating in a school program or activity. Other insurance policies and higher minimums may be required depending upon academic offerings and program requirements.

Pursuant to Section 3.6 of these Terms and Conditions, the University requires that any Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company that enters into a contract with the Academy must obtain insurance coverage similar to the insurance coverage that is currently required for the Academy. Accordingly, any agreement between the Academy and an Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company shall contain a provision requiring the Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company to comply with the coverage requirements recommended by the University's insurance carrier. Furthermore, the agreement between the Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company and the Academy shall contain a provision stating that "in the event that the University's insurance carrier recommends any change in coverage by the Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company, the Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company agrees to comply with any changes in the

type and amount of coverage as requested by the University or the University's insurance carrier within thirty (30) days after notice of the insurance coverage change."

Section 11.3. <u>Legal Liabilities and Covenant Against Suit</u>. The Academy acknowledges and agrees that it has no authority to extend the faith and credit of the University or to enter into a contract that would bind the University. The Academy also is limited in its authority to contract by the amount of funds obtained from the state school aid fund, as provided hereunder, or from other independent sources. The Academy hereby covenants not to sue the University Board, the University or any of its Trustees, officers, employees, agents or representatives for any matters that arise under this Contract. The University does not assume any obligation with respect to any director, employee, agent, parent, guardian, student, or independent contractor of the Academy, and no such person shall have the right or standing to bring suit against the University Board, the University or any of its Trustees, employees, agents, or independent contractors as a result of the issuance, non-issuance, oversight, revocation, termination or suspension of this Contract.

Section 11.4. <u>Lease or Deed for Proposed Site</u>. The Academy shall provide to the Center copies of its proposed lease or deed for the premises in which the Academy shall operate. Following the Center's review, a copy of the Academy's lease or deed shall be incorporated into this Contract under Schedule 6 and in accordance with Article IX, as applicable.

Section 11.5. Certificate(s) of Use and Occupancy. The Academy Board shall: (i) ensure that the Academy's physical facilities comply with all fire, health and safety standards applicable to schools; and (ii) possess the necessary occupancy certificates for the Academy's physical facilities. The Academy Board shall not occupy or use any facility until approved for occupancy by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Construction Codes. Copies of these Certificate(s) of Use and Occupancy shall be incorporated into this Contract under Schedule 6 and in accordance with Article IX, as applicable.

Section 11.6. New Building Construction or Renovations. The Academy shall not commence construction on a new school building or the major renovation of an existing school building unless the Academy consults on the plans of the construction or major renovation regarding school safety issues with the law enforcement agency that is or will be the first responder for that school building. School building includes either a building intended to be used to provide pupil instruction or a recreational or athletic structure or field used by pupils.

Section 11.7. Criminal Background and History Checks; Disclosure of Unprofessional Conduct. The Academy shall comply with section 1230 and 1230a of the Code concerning criminal background and criminal history checks for its teachers, school administrator(s), and for any other position requiring State Board approval. In addition, the Academy shall comply with section 1230b of the Code concerning the disclosure of unprofessional conduct by persons applying for Academy employment. This Section 11.7 shall apply to such persons irrespective of whether they are employed by the Academy or employed by another entity contracting with the Academy.

Section 11.8. Special Education. Pursuant to Section 1701a of the Code, the Academy shall comply with Article III, Part 29 of the Code, MCL 380.1701 et seq., concerning the provision of special education programs and services at the Academy as referenced in Contract Schedule 7c. Upon receipt, the Academy shall notify the Center of any due process or state complaint filed against the Academy or notice of state audit.

### Section 11.9. <u>Information Available to the Public and the Center.</u>

- (a) Information to be provided by the Academy. In accordance with Applicable Law, the Academy shall make information concerning its operation and management, including, without limitation, information in Schedule 8 available to the public and the Center.
- (b) Information to be provided by Educational Service Provider. The agreement between the Academy and the Educational Service Provider shall contain a provision requiring the Educational Service Provider to make information concerning the operation and management of the Academy, including the information in Schedule 8, available to the Academy as deemed necessary by the Academy Board in order to enable the Academy to fully satisfy its obligations under paragraph 11.9 (a) above.

Section 11.10. <u>Deposit of Public Funds by the Academy</u>. The Academy Board agrees to comply with Section 1221 of the Revised School Code, being MCL 380.1221, regarding the deposit of all public or private funds received by the Academy. Such deposit shall be made within three (3) days after receipt of the funds by the Academy. Only Academy Board members or designated Academy Board employees may be a signatory on any Academy bank account.

Section 11.11. Nonessential Elective Course. If the Academy Board elects to provide nonessential elective courses to part-time pupils at a nonpublic school building, the Academy shall comply with Section 166b of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended, MCL 388.1766b. Prior to providing instruction, the Academy Board shall ensure that the Academy has sufficient documentation to qualify for part-time pupil funding under the State School Aid Act. The provision of nonessential elective courses by the Academy shall be incorporated into Schedule 7c of this Contract by amendment pursuant to Article IX of these Terms and Conditions, as applicable.

# ARTICLE XII GENERAL TERMS

Section 12.1. <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices permitted or required to be given hereunder shall be deemed duly given: (i) upon actual delivery, if delivery is by hand; or (ii) upon receipt by the transmitting party of confirmation or answer back if delivery is by facsimile or electronic mail; or (iii) upon delivery into United States mail if delivery is by postage paid first class mail. Each such notice shall be sent to the respective party at the address indicated below or to any other address or person as the respective party may designate by notice delivered pursuant hereto:

If to the University Board: The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools

Attn: Executive Director Central Michigan University

EHS 200

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

General Counsel: General Counsel

Central Michigan University Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Chief Financial Officer: Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services

Central Michigan University Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859 If to the Academy: Academy Board President

Unity Academy 27800 Dequindre Rd. Warren, MI 48092

Section 12.2. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision in this Contract is held to be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be ineffective only to the extent of the invalidity, without affecting or impairing the validity and enforceability of the remainder of the provision or the remaining provisions of this Contract. If any provision of this Contract shall be or become in violation of any local, state or federal law, such provision shall be considered null and void, and all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 12.3. <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. The terms and provisions of this Contract are binding on and shall inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

Section 12.4. <u>Entire Contract</u>. Except as specifically provided in this Contract, this Contract sets forth the entire agreement between the University Board and the Academy with respect to the subject matter of this Contract. All prior contracts, representations, statements, negotiations, understandings, and undertakings are superseded by this Contract.

Section 12.5. <u>Assignment</u>. This Contract is not assignable by the Academy.

Section 12.6. <u>Non-Waiver</u>. Except as provided herein, no term or provision of this Contract shall be deemed waived and no breach or default shall be deemed excused, unless such waiver or consent shall be in writing and signed by the party claimed to have waived or consented. No consent by any party to, or waiver of, a breach or default by the other, whether expressed or implied, shall constitute consent to, waiver of, or excuse for any different or subsequent breach or default.

Section 12.7. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Contract shall be governed and controlled by the laws of the State of Michigan as to interpretation, enforcement, validity, construction, and effect, and in all other respects.

Section 12.8. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts. Each counterpart so executed shall be deemed an original, but all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

Section 12.9. <u>Term of Contract</u>. This Contract is for a fixed term and shall terminate at the end of the Contract term without any further action of either the University Board or the Academy. This Contract shall commence on the date first set forth above and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of five (5) academic years and shall terminate on June 30, 2030, unless sooner revoked, terminated, or suspended pursuant to Article X of these Terms and Conditions. Pursuant to University Board policy, the standards by which the Academy may be considered for the issuance of a new contract will be guided by the following core questions:

Is the Academy's academic program successful?

Is the Academy's organization viable?

Is the Academy demonstrating good faith in following the terms of its charter and applicable law?

The Center shall establish the process and timeline for the issuance of a new contract. The standards for the issuance of a new contract shall include increases in academic achievement for all groups of pupils as measured by assessments and other objective criteria established by the University Board as the most

important factor of whether to issue or not issue a new contract. Consistent with the Code, the University Board in its sole discretion may elect to issue or not issue a new contract to the Academy.

Section 12.10. <u>Indemnification of University</u>. As a condition to receiving a grant of authority from the University Board to operate a public school pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, the Academy agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the University Board, the University and its officers, employees, agents or representatives from and against all demands, claims, actions, suits, causes of action, losses, judgments, liabilities, damages, fines, penalties, forfeitures, or any other liabilities or losses of any kind whatsoever, including costs and expenses (not limited to reasonable attorney fees, expert and other professional fees) settlement and prosecution imposed upon or incurred by the University, and not caused by the sole negligence of the University, which arise out of or are in any manner connected with the University Board's approval of the public school academy application, the University Board's consideration of or issuance of a Contract, the Academy's preparation for or operation of a public school, or which are incurred as a result of the reliance by the University Board, the University and its officers, employees, agents or representatives upon information supplied by the Academy, or which arise out of the Academy's failure to comply with this Contract or Applicable Law. The foregoing provision shall not be deemed a relinquishment or waiver of any kind of Section 7 of the Governmental Liability for Negligence Act, being Act No. 170, Public Acts of Michigan, 1964.

Section 12.11. <u>Construction</u>. This Contract shall be construed fairly as to both parties and not in favor of or against either party, regardless of which party prepared the Contract.

Section 12.12. <u>Force Majeure</u>. If any circumstances occur which are beyond the control of the parties, which delay or render impossible the obligations of one or both of the parties, the parties' obligations to perform such services shall be postponed for an equivalent period of time or shall be canceled, if such performance has been rendered impossible by such circumstances.

Section 12.13. No Third Party Rights. This Contract is made for the sole benefit of the Academy and the University Board. Except as otherwise expressly provided, nothing in this Contract shall create or be deemed to create a relationship between the parties hereto, or either of them, and any third person, including a relationship in the nature of a third party beneficiary or fiduciary.

Section 12.14. Non-agency. It is understood that the Academy is not the agent of the University.

Section 12.15. <u>University Board or the Center's General Policies on Public School Academies Shall Apply</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of this Contract to the contrary, and with the exception of existing University Board or the Center policies regarding public school academies which shall apply immediately, University Board or the Center general policies clarifying procedure and requirements applicable to public school academies under this Contract, as from time to time adopted or amended, will automatically apply to the Academy, provided they are not inconsistent with provisions of this Contract. Before issuing general policies under this section, the University Board or the Center shall provide a draft of the proposed policies to the Academy Board. The Academy Board shall have at least thirty (30) days to provide comment to the Center on the proposed policies before such policies shall become effective.

Section 12.16. <u>Survival of Provisions</u>. The terms, provisions, and representations contained in Section 11.2, Section 11.3, Section 11.9, Section 12.10, Section 12.13 and any other provisions of this Contract that by their sense and context are intended to survive termination of this Contract shall survive.

Section 12.17. <u>Termination of Responsibilities</u>. Upon termination or revocation of the Contract, the University Board or its designee shall have no further obligations or responsibilities under this Contract to the Academy or any other person or persons in connection with this Contract. Upon termination or

revocation of the Contract, the Academy may amend its articles of incorporation or bylaws as necessary to allow the Academy Board to: (a) take action to appoint Academy Board members in order to have a quorum necessary to take Academy Board action; or (b) effectuate a dissolution, provided that the Academy Board may not amend the articles of incorporation with regard to the disposition of assets upon dissolution.

Section 12.18. <u>Disposition of Academy Assets Upon Termination or Revocation of Contract</u>. Following termination or revocation of the Contract, the Academy shall follow the applicable wind-up and dissolution provisions set forth in the Academy's articles of incorporation, the Code, and Applicable Law.

Section 12.19. <u>Student Privacy</u>. In order to protect the privacy of students enrolled at the Academy, the Academy Board, subject to Section 12.22, shall not:

- (a) Sell or otherwise provide to a for-profit business entity any personally identifiable information that is part of a pupil's education records. This subsection does not apply to any of the following situations:
  - (i) for students enrolled in the Academy, providing such information to an ESP that has a contract with the Academy and whose contract has not been disapproved by the University;
  - (ii) providing the information as necessary for standardized testing that measures a student's academic progress and achievement; or
  - (iii) providing the information as necessary to a person that is providing educational or educational support services to the student under a contract with either the Academy or an educational management organization that has a contract with the Academy and whose contract has not been disapproved by the University.
- (b) The terms "education records" and "personally identifiable information" shall have the same meaning as defined in MCL 380.1136.

#### Section 12.20. Disclosure of Information to Parents and Legal Guardians, subject to Section 12.22.

- (a) Within thirty (30) days after receiving a written request from a student's parent or legal guardian, the Academy shall disclose without charge to the student's parent or legal guardian any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the Academy as part of the student's education records.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (b) and within thirty (30) days after receiving a written request from a student's parent or legal guardian, the Academy shall disclose to a student's parent or legal guardian without charge any personally identifiable information provided to any person, agency or organization. The Academy's disclosure shall include the specific information that was disclosed, the name and contact information of each person, agency, or organization to which the information has been disclosed; and the legitimate reason that the person, agency, or organization had in obtaining the information. The parental disclosure requirement does not apply to information that is provided:
  - (i) to the Department or CEPI;
  - (ii) to the student's parent or legal guardian;
  - (iii) by the Academy to the University Board, University, Center or to the ESP with which the Academy has a Management Agreement that has not been disapproved by the Center Director:

- (iv) by the Academy to the Academy's intermediate school district or another intermediate school district providing services to Academy or the Academy's students pursuant to a written agreement;
- (v) to the Academy by the Academy's intermediate school district or another immediate school district providing services to pupils enrolled in the Academy pursuant to a written agreement;
- (vi) to the Academy by the University Board, University, Center;
- (vii) to a person, agency, or organization with written consent from the student's parent or legal guardian, or from the student if the student is 18 years of age;
- (viii) to a person, agency, or organization seeking or receiving records in accordance with an order, subpoena, or ex parte order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- (ix) to a person, agency, or organization as necessary for standardized testing that measures a student's academic progress and achievement; or
- (x) in the absence of, or in compliance with, a properly executed opt-out form, as adopted by the Academy in compliance with section 1136(6) of the Code, pertaining to uses for which the Academy commonly would disclose a pupil's "directory information."
- (c) If the Academy considers it necessary to make redacted copies of all or part of a student's education records in order to protect personally identifiable information of another student, the Academy shall not charge the parent or legal guardian for the cost of those redacted copies.
- (d) The terms "education records," "personally identifiable information," and "directory information" shall have the same meaning as defined in MCL 380.1136.

# Section 12.21. <u>List of Uses for Student Directory Information; Opt Out Form; Notice to Student's Parent or Legal Guardian.</u>

- (a) Subject to Section 12.22, the Academy shall do all of the following:
  - (i) Develop a list of uses (the "Uses") for which the Academy commonly would disclose a student's directory information;
  - (ii) Develop an opt-out form that lists all of the Uses and allows a student's parent or guardian to elect not to have the student's directory information disclosed for one (1) or more Uses;
  - (iii) Present the opt-out form to each student's parents or guardian within the first thirty (30) days of the school year and at other times upon request; and
  - (iv) If an opt-out form is signed and submitted to the Academy by a student's parent or guardian, then the Academy shall not include the student's directory information in any of the Uses that have been opted out of in the opt-out form.
- (b) The term "directory information" shall have the same meaning as defined in MCL 380.1136.

### Section 12.22. Confidential Address Restrictions.

- (a) The Academy shall not disclose the confidential address of a student if the student or the student's parent or legal guardian has obtained a participation card issued by the department of the attorney general under the address confidentiality program act and the parent or legal guardian provides notice of the issuance of the participation card, in a form and manner prescribed by the Michigan Department of Education.
- (b) The term "confidential address" shall have the meaning as defined in MCL 380.1136.

Section 12.23. <u>Partnership Agreement</u>. If the Department and State School Reform/Redesign Office impose a partnership agreement on the Academy, the Academy shall work collaboratively with the Department, the State School Reform/Redesign Office and other partners to implement the partnership agreement. In the event that a provision in the partnership agreement is inconsistent with a provision in this Contract, this Contract shall control.

Section 12.24. <u>Required Statutory Disclosures</u>. The Academy shall ensure that the names of Central Michigan University Board of Trustees and the primary educational management organization, if applicable, must appear and be verbally provided, as applicable, on all of the following:

- (a) Unless prohibited by a local ordinance or local zoning authority, signage that is on the Academy's property and is erected, repaired, or installed on or after April 2, 2025;
- (b) Promotional material that is created, modified, or distributed on or after April 2, 2025;
- (c) The footer of the Academy's website pages; and
- (d) The student application that is required to be enrolled in the Academy.

For purposes of this section, "primary educational management organization" shall have the same meaning as defined in MCL 380.503.

As the designated representative of the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees, I hereby issue this Contract to the Academy on the date first set forth above.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
By: Todd J. Regis, Chair
Date:
As the authorized representative of the Academy, I hereby certify that the Academy is able to comply with the Contract and all Applicable Law, and that the Academy, through its governing board, has approved and agreed to comply with and be bound by the Terms and Conditions of this Contract and all Applicable Law
UNITY ACADEMY
By: Selim Hisa Board President
Date: May 22nd 2025

As the designated representative of the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees, I hereby issue this Contract to the Academy on the date first set forth above.  CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  By:  Todd J. Regis, Chair
Date: 4 ( ) Y   S    As the authorized representative of the Academy, I hereby certify that the Academy is able to comply with
the Contract and all Applicable Law, and that the Academy, through its governing board, has approved and agreed to comply with and be bound by the Terms and Conditions of this Contract and all Applicable Law.
UNITY ACADEMY
By:Board President
Date:

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# CONTRACT SCHEDULE 1 ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION



Form Revision Date 07/2016

## CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

For use by DOMESTIC NONPROFIT CORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 162, Public Acts of 1982, the undersigned corporation executes the following Certificate:

The identification number assigned by the Bureau is:	803347340
The name of the corporation is:	UNITY ACADEMY

The Articles of Incorporation is hereby amended to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE II

The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are:

- 1. The corporation is organized for the purpose of operating as a public school academy in the State of Michigan pursuant to Part 6a, Act 45, P.A. 1976.
- 2. The authorizing body for the corporation is: Central Michigan University Board of Trustees.
- 3. The corporation, including all activities incident to its purposes, shall at all times be conducted so as to be a governmental entity pursuant to Section 115 of the United States Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") or any successor law. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activity not permitted to be carried on by a governmental instrumentality exempt from federal income tax under Section 115 of the IRC or by a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Michigan and subject to a Contract authorized under the Code.

Use the space below for additional Articles or for continuation of previous Articles. Please identify any Article being continued or added.

ARTICLE XII OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION IS HEREBY AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

THE DEFINITIONS SET FORTH IN THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED AS PART OF THE CONTRACT SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING IN

THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. THESE AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON FILING. HOWEVER, THE

CORPORATION SHALL NOT CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN ARTICLE II UNLESS THE UNIVERSITY BOARD ISSUES TO THE CORPORATION A

CONTRACT TO OPERATE AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY, AND THE CONTRACT IS EXECUTED BY BOTH THE CORPORATION AND THE UNIVERSITY BOARD.

ARTICLE XIII IS ADDED TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND READS AS FOLLOWS: THE CORPORATION IS A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.

The foregoing amendment to the Articles of Incorporation was duly adopted on: 03/19/2025

in accordance with the provisions of the act by the unanimous consent of the incorporator(s) before the first meeting of the Board of Directors or Trustees.

This document must be signed by an authorized officer or agent:

Signed this 25th Day of March, 2025 by:

Signature Title Title Title if "Other" was selected

Schedule 1-1 Unity Academy

Uthman Alkusari	Incorpo	rator
By selecting ACCEPT, I hereby acknowledge that this that to the best of my knowledge the information pro		nent is being signed in accordance with the Act. I further certify curate, and in compliance with the Act.
	j Decline	jm Accept

Schedule 1-2 Unity Academy

# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS FILING ENDORSEMENT

This is to Certify that the CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

for

**UNITY ACADEMY** 

**ID Number:** 803347340

received by electronic transmission on March 25, 2025 , is hereby endorsed.

Filed on March 28, 2025 , by the Administrator.

The document is effective on the date filed, unless a subsequent effective date within 90 days after received date is stated in the document.



In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Department, in the City of Lansing, this 28th day of March, 2025.

Linda Clegg, Director

Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau

Schedule 1-3 Unity Academy



Form Revision Date 07/2016

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

For use by DOMESTIC NONPROFIT CORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 162, Public Acts of 1982, the undersigned corporation executes the following Articles:

#### ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is:

UNITY ACADEMY

#### ARTICLE II

The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are:

The corporation is organized for the purpose of operating as public school academy in the State of Michigan pursuant to Part 6a, Act 451, P.A. 1976. As such, the corporation is a government entity.

The authorizing body for the corporation is Central Michigan University Board of Trustees.

#### ARTICLE III

The Corporation is formed upon Non Stock

basis.

If formed on a stock basis, the total number of shares the corporation has authority to issue is

If formed on a nonstock basis, the description and value of its real property assets are (if none, insert "none"):

The description and value of its personal property assets are (if none, insert "none"):

None

The corporation is to be financed under the following general plan:

- a. State school aid payments received pursuant to the State School Aid Act of 1979 or any successor law.
- b. Federal funds.
- c. Donations.
- d. Fees and charges permitted to be charged by public school academies.
- e. Other funds lawfully received.

The Corporation is formed on a | Directorship

basis

#### ARTICLE IV

The street address of the registered office of the corporation and the name of the resident agent at the registered office (P.O. Boxes are not acceptable):

1. Agent Name: UTHMAN ALKUSARI

2. Street Address: 15904 LONGMEADOW STREET

Apt/Suite/Other:

City: **DEARBORN** 

State: MI Zip Code: 48120

3. Registered Office Mailing Address:

P.O. Box or Street Address:

15904 LONGMEADOW STREET

Apt/Suite/Other:

Schedule 1-4 Unity Academy City: DEARBORN

State: Zip Code: 48120

#### ARTICLE V

The name(s) and address(es) of the incorporator(s) is (are) as follows:

Name	Residence or Business Address
UTHMAN ALKUSARI	15904 LONGMEADOW STREET, DEARBORN, MI 48120 USA

Use the space below for additional Articles or for continuation of previous Articles. Please identify any Article being continued or added.

#### ARTICLE VI

THE CORPORATION AND ITS INCORPORATORS, BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND VOLUNTEERS HAVE GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 7 OF ACT NO. 170 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964, BEING SECTION 691.1407 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS.

#### ARTICLE VII

BEFORE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT TO CHARTER A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY BETWEEN THE CORPORATION AND CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (THE "UNIVERSITY BOARD"), THE METHOD OF SELECTION, LENGTH OF TERM, AND THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION SHALL BE APPROVED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY BOARD AS REQUIRED BY THE CODE.

#### ARTICLE VIII

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL HAVE ALL THE POWERS AND DUTIES PERMITTED BY LAW TO MANAGE THE BUSINESS, PROPERTY AND AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION.

#### ARTICLE IX

THE OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION SHALL BE A PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND A TREASURER, EACH OF WHOM SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY SELECT ONE OR MORE ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OR TREASURER, AND MAY ALSO APPOINT SUCH OTHER AGENTS AS IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OF THE CORPORATION.

#### ARTICLE X

NO PART OF THE NET EARNINGS OF THE CORPORATION SHALL INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF OR BE DISTRIBUTABLE TO ITS BOARD, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS OR OTHER PRIVATE PERSONS, OR ORGANIZATION ORGANIZED AND OPERATED FOR A PROFIT (EXCEPT THAT THE CORPORATION SHALL BE AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED TO PAY REASONABLE COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND TO MAKE PAYMENTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN ARTICLE II HEREOF). NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THESE ARTICLES, THE CORPORATION SHALL NOT CARRY ON ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT PERMITTED TO BE CARRIED ON BY A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY EXEMPT FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAX UNDER SECTION 115 OF THE IRC, OR COMPARABLE PROVISIONS OF ANY SUCCESSOR LAW.

TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, UPON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION, THE BOARD SHALL AFTER PAYING OR MAKING PROVISION FOR THE PAYMENT OF ALL OF THE LIABILITIES OF THE CORPORATION, DISPOSE OF ALL OF THE ASSETS OF THE CORPORATION TO THE UNIVERSITY BOARD FOR FORWARDING TO THE STATE SCHOOL AID FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE IX, SECTION 11 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OF 1963, AS AMENDED.

#### ARTICLE XI

THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SHALL NOT BE AMENDED EXCEPT BY THE PROCESS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE IX OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED AS PART OF THE CONTRACT. THIS PROCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

THE CORPORATION, BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MAY, AT ANY TIME, PROPOSE SPECIFIC CHANGES TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OR MAY PROPOSE A MEETING TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL REVISION TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. THE PROPOSAL WILL BE MADE TO THE UNIVERSITY BOARD THROUGH ITS DESIGNEE. THE UNIVERSITY BOARD DELEGATES TO THE GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER CENTER FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS' ("THE CENTER") EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CHANGES OR AMENDMENT TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. IN THE EVENT THAT A PROPOSED CHANGE IS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE CENTER'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE UNIVERSITY BOARD SHALL CONSIDER AND VOTE UPON A CHANGE PROPOSED BY THE CORPORATION FOLLOWING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A WRITTEN AND ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE UNIVERSITY BOARD BY THE CORPORATION.

AT ANY TIME AND FOR ANY REASON, THE UNIVERSITY BOARD OR AN AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE MAY PROPOSE SPECIFIC CHANGES TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OR MAY PROPOSE A MEETING TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL REVISION. THE CORPORATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY DELEGATE TO AN OFFICER OF THE CORPORATION THE REVIEW AND NEGOTIATION OF CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SHALL BE AMENDED AS REQUESTED BY THE UNIVERSITY BOARD

OR AN AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE UPON A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE CORPORATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

AMENDMENTS TO THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION TAKE EFFECT ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CORPORATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND BY THE UNIVERSITY BOARD OR THE CENTER'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND THE AMENDMENTS ARE FILED WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS. IN ADDITION, THE CORPORATION SHALL FILE WITH THE AMENDMENT A COPY OF THE UNIVERSITY BOARD'S OR THE CENTER'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT. UPON TERMINATION OR REVOCATION OF THE CONTRACT, THE ACADEMY MAY AMEND ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AS NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE ACADEMY BOARD TO: (A) TAKE ACTION TO APPOINT ACADEMY BOARD MEMBERS IN ORDER TO HAVE A QUORUM NECESSARY TO TAKE ACADEMY BOARD ACTION; OR (B) EFFECTUATE A DISSOLUTION, PROVIDED THAT THE ACADEMY BOARD MAY NOT AMEND THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION WITH REGARD TO THE DISPOSITION OF ASSETS UPON DISSOLUTION.

# ARTICLE XII

THE DEFINITIONS SET FORTH IN THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED AS PART OF THE CONTRACT SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING IN THESE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

ARTICLE XI

THESE ARTICLES SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON FILING WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.

Signed this 6th Day of March, 2025 by the incorporator(s).

Signature	Title	Title if "Other" was selected
Uthman Alkusari	Incorporator	

By selecting ACCEPT, I hereby acknowledge that this electronic document is being signed in accordance with the Act. I further certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided is true, accurate, and in compliance with the Act.

jm Decline jm Accept

Schedule 1-6 Unity Academy

# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS FILING ENDORSEMENT

This is to Certify that the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

for

**UNITY ACADEMY** 

*ID Number:* 803347340

received by electronic transmission on March 06, 2025 , is hereby endorsed.

Filed on March 11, 2025 , by the Administrator.

The document is effective on the date filed, unless a subsequent effective date within 90 days after received date is stated in the document.



In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Department, in the City of Lansing, this 11th day of March, 2025.

Linda Clegg, Director

Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau

Schedule 1-7 Unity Academy

# CONTRACT SCHEDULE 2 <u>BYLAWS</u>

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#### **BYLAWS**

**OF** 

#### **UNITY ACADEMY**

## ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be called Unity Academy (the "Academy" or the "corporation").

## ARTICLE II FORM OF ACADEMY

The Academy is organized as a non-profit, non-stock, directorship corporation.

## ARTICLE III OFFICES

- Section 1. <u>Principal Office</u>. The principal office of the Academy shall be located in the state of Michigan.
- Section 2. <u>Registered Office</u>. The registered office of the Academy may be the same as the principal office of the Academy, but in any event must be located in the state of Michigan, and be the business office of the resident agent, as required by the Michigan Non-Profit Corporation Act. Changes in the resident agent and registered address of the Academy must be reported to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and to The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools ("the Center.")

# ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. <u>General Powers</u>. The business, property and affairs of the Academy shall be managed by the Academy Board of Directors ("Academy Board"). The Academy Board may exercise any and all of the powers granted to it under the Michigan Non-Profit Corporation Act or pursuant to Part 6Aof the Revised School Code ("Code"). The Academy Board may delegate such powers to the officers and committees of the Academy Board as it deems necessary, so long as such delegation is consistent with the Articles, these Bylaws, the Contract and Applicable Law.
- Section 2. <u>Method of Selection and Appointment</u>. The Central Michigan University Board of Trustees ("University Board") shall prescribe the method of appointment for members of an Academy's Board. The Center Director is authorized to develop and administer an academy board selection and appointment process that includes an *Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment* and is in accord with these policies:

Schedule 2 - 1 Unity Academy

- a. The University Board shall appoint the initial and subsequent Academy Board by resolution, except as prescribed by subparagraph d. The Center Director shall recommend qualified individuals to the University Board.
- b. The Academy Board, by resolution and majority vote, shall nominate its subsequent members, except as provided otherwise. The Academy Board shall recommend to the Center Director at least one nominee for each vacancy. Nominees shall submit the *Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment* for review by the Center. The Center Director may or may not recommend the appointment of a nominee submitted by the Academy Board. If the Center Director does not recommend the appointment of a nominee submitted by the Academy Board, he/she may select and recommend another nominee or may request the Academy Board submit a new nominee for consideration.
- c. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy created other than by the expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of that vacant position.
- d. Under exigent conditions, and with the approval of the University Board's chair and the University President, the Center Director may appoint a qualified individual to the Academy Board. All appointments made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The University Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any appointments made under this provision.
- Section 3. <u>Length of Term.</u> A Director of the Academy Board shall serve at the pleasure of the University Board. Terms of the initial positions of the Academy Board shall be staggered in accordance with *The Academy Board of Directors Table of Staggered Terms and Appointments* established and administered by the Center Director. Subsequent appointments shall be for a term of office not to exceed four (4) years, except as prescribed by *The Academy Board of Directors Table of Staggered Terms and Appointments*.
- Section 4. <u>Number of Director Positions</u>. The number of director positions on the Academy Board shall not be less than five (5) nor more than nine (9) as determined by the University Board. If the Academy Board fails to maintain its full membership by making appropriate and timely nominations, the Center Director may deem that failure an exigent condition.
- Section 5. <u>Qualifications of Academy Board Members</u>. To be qualified to serve on the Academy Board, a person shall, among other things: (a) be a citizen of the United States; (b) be a resident of the State of Michigan; (c) submit all materials requested by the Center including, but not limited to, the *Application for Public School Academy Board Appointment* which must include authorization to process a criminal background check; and (d) annually submit a conflict of interest disclosure as prescribed by the Center.

The members of the Academy Board shall not include (a) employees of the Academy; (b) any director, officer, or employee of a service provider that contracts with the Academy; (c) a Central Michigan University official or employee, as a representative of Central Michigan University.

Section 6. Oath of Public Office. All members of the Academy Board must take the constitutional oath of office and sign the *Oath of Public Office* before beginning their service. The *Oath of Public Office* shall be filed with the Center.

Schedule 2 - 2 Unity Academy

- Section 7. <u>Tenure</u>. Each Director shall hold office until the Director's replacement, death, resignation, removal or until the expiration of the term, whichever occurs first.
- Section 8. <u>Removal and Suspension</u>. If the University Board determines that the service in office of a Director of the Academy Board is no longer necessary, then the University Board may remove the Academy Board member with or without cause and shall specify the date when the Academy Board member's service ends. The Academy Board member may also be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Academy's Board.

With the approval of the University Board's chair and the University President, the Center Director may suspend the service of a Director of the Academy Board if, in his/her judgment, the person's continued presence would constitute a risk to persons or property, or would seriously impair the operation of the Academy. Any suspension made under this provision must be presented to the University Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The University Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any suspensions made under this provision.

- Section 9. <u>Resignation</u>. Any Director may resign at any time by providing written notice to the corporation or by communicating such intention (orally or in writing) to the Center. Notice of resignation will be effective upon receipt or at a subsequent time if designated in a written notice. A successor shall be appointed as provided in Section 2 of this Article.
- Section 10. <u>Board Vacancies</u>. A Director vacancy shall occur because of death, resignation, removal, failure to maintain residency in the State of Michigan, disqualification or as otherwise specified in the Code. Any vacancy shall be filled as provided in Section 2 of this Article.
- Section 11. <u>Compensation</u>. A Director of the Academy Board shall serve as a volunteer Director. By resolution of the Academy Board, the Directors may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incident to their duties.

### ARTICLE V MEETINGS

- Section 1. <u>Annual and Regular Meetings</u>. The Academy Board shall hold an annual meeting each year. The Academy Board must provide, by resolution, the time and place, within the State of Michigan, for the holding of regular monthly meetings. The Academy Board shall provide notice of the annual and all regular meetings as required by the Open Meetings Act.
- Section 2. <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Academy Board may be called by or at the request of any Director. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Academy Board may fix the place within the State of Michigan for holding any special meeting of the Academy Board called by them, and, if no other place is fixed, the place of meeting shall be the principal business office of the corporation in the state of Michigan. The corporation shall provide notice of all special meetings as required by the Open Meetings Act.
- Section 3. <u>Notice; Waiver</u>. The Academy Board must comply with the notice provisions of the Open Meetings Act. In addition, notice of any meeting shall be given to each Director stating the time and place of the meeting, delivered personally, mailed, or sent by facsimile or electronic mail to the Director's business address. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting by written statement, facsimile or electronic mail sent by the Director, signed before or after the holding of the meeting. The attendance of

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a Director at a meeting constitutes a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

Section 4. <u>Quorum</u>. In order to legally transact business, the Academy Board shall have a quorum physically present at a duly called meeting of the Academy Board. A "quorum" shall be defined as follows:

# of Academy Board Positions	# Required for Quorum
Five (5)	Three (3)
Seven (7)	Four $(4)$
Nine (9)	Five $(5)$

A Director of the Academy Board who is absent from a meeting of the Academy Board due to military duty may participate in the meeting virtually, and that member's virtual presence will count towards quorum and allow the absent member to participate in and vote on business before the Academy Board.

- Section 5. <u>Manner of Acting</u>. The act of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Academy Board. No member of the Academy Board may vote by proxy, by way of a telephone conference or any other electronic means of communication.
- Section 6. Open Meetings Act. All meetings of the Academy Board shall at all times be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.
- Section 7. Presumption of Assent. A Director of the Academy Board who is present at a meeting of the Academy Board at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless that Director's dissent shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless that Director shall file a written dissent to such action with the person acting as the Secretary of the meeting before the adjournment thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the Secretary of the corporation immediately after the adjournment of the meeting. This right to dissent shall not apply to a Director who voted in favor of such action.

# ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Section 1. <u>Committees</u>. The Academy Board, by resolution, may designate one or more committees. Each committee is to consist of one or more Directors selected by the Academy Board. As provided in the resolution as initially adopted, and as thereafter supplemented or amended by further resolution, the committees shall have such powers as delegated by the Academy Board, except (i) filling of vacancies in the officers of the Academy Board or committees created pursuant to this Section; (ii) amending the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; or (iii) any action the Academy Board cannot lawfully delegate under the Articles, Bylaws or Applicable Law. All committee meetings shall at all times be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Each committee shall fix its own rules governing the conduct of its activities and shall make such reports to the Academy Board of its activities as the Academy Board may request.

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# ARTICLE VII OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

- Section I. <u>Number</u>. The officers of the Academy Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such assistant Treasurers and assistant Secretaries as may be selected by the Academy Board.
- Section 2. <u>Election and Term of Office</u>. The Academy Board shall elect the initial officers at its first duly noticed meeting. Thereafter, the officers of the Academy Board shall be elected annually by the Academy Board. If the election of officers is not held at the annual meeting, the election shall be held as soon thereafter as may be convenient. Each officer shall hold office while qualified or until the officer resigns or is removed in the manner provided in Section 3.
- Section 3. <u>Removal.</u> Any officer or agent elected or appointed by the Academy Board may be removed by the Academy Board whenever in its judgment the best interests of the corporation would be served thereby.
- Section 4. <u>Vacancies</u>. A vacancy in any office shall be filled by appointment by the Academy Board for the unexpired portion of the term.
- Section 5. <u>President</u>. The President of the Academy Board shall be a member of the Academy Board. The President of the corporation shall preside at all meetings of the Academy Board. If there is not a President, or if the President is absent, then the Vice-President shall preside. If the Vice-President is absent, then a temporary chair, chosen by the members of the Academy Board attending the meeting shall preside. The President shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of President of the Academy Board as may be prescribed by the Academy Board from time to time.
- Section 6. <u>Vice-President</u>. The Vice-President of the Academy Board shall be a member of the Academy Board. In the absence of the President or in the event of the President's death, inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Vice-President by the President or by the Academy Board.
- Secretary. The Secretary of the Academy Board shall be a member of the Academy Board. The Secretary shall: (a) keep the minutes of the Academy Board meetings in one or more books provided for that purpose; (b) see that all notices, including those notices required under the Open Meetings Act, are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law; (c) be custodian of the corporate records and of the seal of the corporation and see that the seal of the corporation is affixed to all authorized documents; (d) keep a register of the post office address of each Director; and (e) perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and other duties assigned by the President or the Academy Board.
- Section 8. <u>Treasurer</u>. The Treasurer of the Academy Board shall be a member of the Academy Board. The Treasurer shall: (a) have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation; (b) keep accurate books and records of corporate receipts and disbursements; (c) deposit all moneys and securities received by the corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected by the Academy Board; (d) complete all required corporate filings; (e) assure that the responsibilities of the fiscal agent to the corporation are properly carried out; and (f) in general perform all

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Unity Academy

of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the Academy Board.

- Section 9. <u>Assistants and Acting Officers</u>. The Assistants to the officers, if any, selected by the Academy Board, shall perform such duties and have such authority as shall from time to time be delegated or assigned to them by the Secretary or Treasurer or by the Academy Board. The Academy Board shall have the power to appoint any member of the Academy Board to perform the duties of an officer whenever, for any reason, it is impractical for such officer to act personally. Such acting officer so appointed shall have the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the officer to whose office the acting officer is so appointed except as the Academy Board may by resolution otherwise determine.
- Section 10. <u>Salaries</u>. Officers of the Academy Board, as Directors of the corporation, may not be compensated for their services. By resolution of the Academy Board, officers may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incident to their duties.
- Section 11. <u>Filling More Than One Office</u>. Subject to the statute concerning the Incompatible Public Offices, Act No. 566 of the Public Acts of 1978, being Sections 15.181 to 15.185 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, any two offices of the corporation except those of President and Vice-President may be held by the same person, but no officer shall execute, acknowledge or verify any instrument in more than one capacity.

# ARTICLE VIII CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS AND DEPOSITS; SPECIAL CORPORATE ACTS

- Section 1. <u>Contracts</u>. The Academy Board may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract, to execute and deliver any instrument, or to acknowledge any instrument required by law to be acknowledged in the name of and on behalf of the corporation. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances, but the appointment of any person other than an officer to acknowledge an instrument required by law to be acknowledged should be made by instrument in writing. When the Academy Board authorizes the execution of a contract or of any other instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, without specifying the executing officers, the President or Vice-President, and the Secretary or Treasurer may execute the same and may affix the corporate seal thereto. No contract entered into, by or on behalf of the Academy Board, shall in any way bind Central Michigan University or impose any liability on Central Michigan University, its trustees, officers, employees or agents.
- Section 2. <u>Loans</u>. No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Academy and no evidences of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by a prior resolution of the Academy Board. Such authority shall be confined to specific instances. No loan, advance, overdraft or withdrawal by an officer or Director of the corporation, shall be made or permitted unless approved by the Academy Board. No loan entered into, by or on behalf of the Academy Board, shall in any way be considered a debt or obligation of Central Michigan University or impose any liability on Central Michigan University, its trustees, officers, employees or agents.
- Section 3. <u>Checks, Drafts, etc.</u> All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Academy, shall be signed by Academy Board members or Academy Board employees, which shall not include employees of the Academy Board's Educational Service Provider, and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Academy Board.

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Section 4. <u>Deposits</u>. All funds of the Academy shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Academy Board may select, provided that such financial institution is eligible to be a depository of surplus funds under Section 1221 of the Revised School Code, being Section 380.1221 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Section 5. Voting of Gifted, Bequested or Transferred Securities Owned by this Corporation. Subject always to the specific directions of the Academy Board, any shares or other securities issued by any other corporation and owned or controlled by this corporation may be voted at any meeting of security holders of such other corporation by the President of this corporation or by proxy appointed by the President, or in the absence of the President and the President's proxy, by the Secretary or Treasurer of this corporation or by proxy appointed by the Secretary or Treasurer. Such proxy or consent in respect to any shares or other securities issued by any other corporation and owned by this corporation shall be executed in the name of this corporation by the President, the Secretary or the Treasurer of this corporation without necessity of any authorization by the Academy Board, affixation of corporate seal or countersignature or attestation by another officer. Any person or persons designated in the manner above stated as the proxy or proxies of this corporation shall have full right, power and authority to vote the shares or other securities issued by such other corporation and owned by this corporation the same as such shares or other securities might be voted by this corporation. This section shall in no way be interpreted to permit the corporation to invest any of its surplus funds in any shares or other securities issued by any other corporation. This section is intended to apply, however, to all gifts, bequests or other transfers of shares or other securities issued by any other corporation which are received by the corporation.

Section 6. <u>Contracts Between Corporation and Related Persons</u>. As required by Applicable Law, any Director, officer or employee of the Academy, who enters into a contract with the Academy, that meets the definition of contract under the statute on Contracts of Public Servants with Public Entities, Act No. 317 of the Public Acts of 1968, being sections 15.321 to 15.330 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, shall comply with the public disclosure requirements set forth in Section 3 of the statute.

The University Board authorizes the Academy Board to employ or contract for personnel according to the position information outlined in Schedule 5. However, the Academy Board shall prohibit any individual from being employed by the Academy, an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company involved in the operation of the Academy, in more than one (1) full-time position and simultaneously being compensated at a full-time rate for each of these positions. An employee hired by the Academy Board shall be an employee of the Academy for all purposes and not an employee of the University for any purpose. With respect to Academy Board employees, the Academy shall have the power and responsibility to (i) select and engage employees; (ii) pay their wages, benefits, and applicable taxes; (iii) dismiss employees; and (iv) control the employees' conduct, including the method by which the employee carries out his or her work. The Academy Board shall be responsible for carrying workers' compensation insurance and unemployment insurance for its employees. The Academy Board may contract with an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company to provide services or to provide personnel to perform services or work at the Academy. Before entering into an agreement with an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company to perform services or to provide personnel to perform services or work at the Academy, the Academy Board must first comply with the Educational Service Provider Policies issued by the Center. A copy of the agreement between the Academy Board and the Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company shall be included as part of Schedule 5.

The Academy shall comply with the Incompatible Public Offices statute, Act No. 566 of the Public Acts of 1978, of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and the Contracts of Public Servants With Public Entities statute, Act No. 371 of the Public Acts of 1968, of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The Academy Board shall

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ensure compliance with Applicable Law relating to conflicts of interest. Language in this Section controls over section 1203 of the Code. The following shall be deemed prohibited conflicts of interest:

- (a) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an owner, officer, director, employee or consultant of an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company, or a subcontractor to an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company that has an ESP Agreement with the Academy;
- (b) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an Academy Board employee;
- (c) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and an independent contractor to the Academy;
- (d) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and a member of the governing board of another public school;
- (e) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and a University official, employee, or paid consultant, as a representative of the University; and
- (f) An individual simultaneously serving as an Academy Board member and having an ownership or financial interest in any real or personal property leased or subleased to the Academy.

No person shall be appointed or reappointed to serve as an Academy Board member if the person's mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, spouse or domestic partner:

- (a) Is employed by the Academy Board;
- (b) Works at or is assigned to work at the Academy;
- (c) Has an ownership, officer, policymaking, managerial, administrative non-clerical or other significant role with the Academy's Educational Service Provider or employee leasing company; and
- (d) Has an ownership or financial interest in any school building lease or sublease agreement with the Academy.
- (e) Is a current Academy Board member.

The Academy Board shall require each individual who works at the Academy to annually disclose any familial relationship with any other individual who works at, or provides services to, the Academy. If an Academy Board member discloses any prohibited familial relationships in the annual disclosure, or if the University finds that an Academy Board member has failed to disclose a prohibited familial relationship, that Academy Board member shall be removed from office, in accordance with the removal provisions found in the Resolution or these Bylaws. For purposes of this sub-section, familial relationship means a person's mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, spouse or domestic partner.

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# ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent permitted by Applicable Law, each person who is or was a Director, officer or member of a committee of the Academy and each person who serves or has served at the request of the Academy as a trustee, director, officer, partner, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, may be indemnified by the Academy. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any such person against any liability asserted against and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify such person against such liability under the preceding sentence. The corporation may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Academy Board, grant rights to indemnification to any employee or agent of the corporation. The indemnification shall not include any circumstances in which a person who is or was a director, officer or member of a committee of the Academy and each person who serves or has served at the request of the Academy as a trustee, director, officer, partner, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise is grossly negligent or criminally liable for the indemnified act.

## ARTICLE X FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the first day of July in each year.

# ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new Amended Bylaws may be adopted by obtaining (a) the affirmative vote of a majority of the Academy Board at any regular or special meeting of the Academy Board, if a notice setting forth the terms of the proposal has been given in accordance with the notice requirements of these Bylaws and applicable law, and (b) the written approval of the changes or amendments by the Center Director. In the event that a proposed change is not accepted by the Center Director, the University Board may consider and vote upon a change proposed by the corporation following an opportunity for a written presentation to the University Board by the Academy Board. These Bylaws and any amendments to them take effect only after they have been approved by both the Academy Board and by the Center Director.

Upon termination or revocation of the Contract, the corporation may amend its Bylaws as necessary to allow the Academy Board to: (a) take action to appoint Academy Board members in order to have a quorum necessary to take Academy Board action; or (b) effectuate a dissolution, provided that the Academy Board may not amend the Bylaws with regard to the disposition of assets upon dissolution.

# ARTICLE XII TERMS AND CONDITIONS DEFINITIONS

The definitions set forth in the Terms and Conditions incorporated as part of the Contract shall have the same meaning in these Bylaws.

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# CERTIFICATION

The Board certifies that these Bylaws were adopted as and for the Bylaws of	of a Michigan corporation
in an open and public meeting, by the Academy Board on the day of May	, 2025.
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Academy Board Secretary

# **CONTRACT SCHEDULE 3**

**FISCAL AGENT AGREEMENT** 

#### **SCHEDULE 3**

# **FISCAL AGENT AGREEMENT**

This Fiscal Agent Agreement is part of the Contract issued by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees ("University Board"), an authorizing body as defined by the Revised School Code, as amended (the "Code"), to Unity Academy ("Academy"), a public school academy.

# **Preliminary Recitals**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Code and the Contract, the University Board, as authorizing body, is the Fiscal Agent for the Academy, and

WHEREAS, the University Board is required by law to forward any State School Aid Payments received from the State of Michigan ("State") on behalf of the Academy to the Academy,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth below, the parties agree to the following:

# ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Section 1.1. <u>Definitions</u>. Unless otherwise provided, or unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

"Academy Account" means an account established by the Academy Board for the receipt of State School Aid Payments at a bank, savings and loan association, or credit union which has not been deemed ineligible to be a depository of surplus funds under Section 6 Act No. 105 of the Public Acts of 1855, being Section 21.146 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

"Agreement" means this Fiscal Agent Agreement.

"Fiscal Agent" means the University Board or an officer or employee of Central Michigan University as designated by the University Board.

"Other Funds" means any other public or private funds which the Academy receives and for which the University Board voluntarily agrees to receive and transfer to the Academy.

"State School Aid Payment" means any payment of money the Academy receives from the State School Aid Fund established pursuant to Article IX, Section 11 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 or under the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.

"State" means the State of Michigan.

"State Treasurer" means the office responsible for issuing funds to public school academies for State School Aid Payments pursuant to the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.

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# ARTICLE II FISCAL AGENT DUTIES

- Section 2.1. <u>Receipt of State School Aid Payments and Other Funds</u>. The University Board is the Fiscal Agent for the Academy for the limited purpose of receiving State School Aid Payments. By separate agreement, the University Board and the Academy may also agree that the University will receive Other Funds for transfer to the Academy. The Fiscal Agent will receive State School Aid Payments from the State, as provided in Section 3.2.
- Section 2.2. <u>Transfer to Academy</u>. Except as provided in Article X of the Terms and Conditions of Contract and in the Oversight, Compliance and ReportingAgreement, the Fiscal Agent shall transfer all State School Aid Payments and all Other Funds received on behalf of the Academy to the Academy within ten (10) business days of receipt or as otherwise required by the provisions of the State School Aid Act of 1979 or applicable State Board rules. The State School Aid Payments and all Other Funds shall be transferred into the Academy Account designated by a resolution of the Academy Board and by a method of transfer acceptable to the Fiscal Agent.
- Section 2.3. <u>Limitation of Duties</u>. The Fiscal Agent has no responsibilities or duties to verify the Academy's pupil membership count, as defined in the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended, or to authorize, to approve or to determine the accuracy of the State Aid School Payments received on behalf of the Academy from the State Treasurer. The duties of the Fiscal Agent are limited to the receipt and transfer to the Academy of State School Aid Payments and Other Funds received by the Academy. The Fiscal Agent shall have no duty to monitor, account for or approve expenditures made by the Academy Board.
- Section 2.4. Academy Board Requests for Direct Intercept of State School Aid Payments. If the Academy Board (i) authorizes a direct intercept of a portion of its State School Aid Payments from the State to a third party account for the payment of Academy debts and liabilities; or (ii) assigns or directs that a portion of its State School Aid Payments be forwarded by the Fiscal Agent to a third party account for the payment of Academy debts and liabilities, then Academy shall submit to The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University for review and consideration: (i) a copy of the Academy Board's resolution authorizing the direct intercept or the assignment or direction of State School Aid Payments; (ii) a State School Aid Payment Agreement and Direction document that is in a form and manner acceptable to the Fiscal Agent; and (iii) other documents as required. The Center reserves the right to not acknowledge in writing any State School Aid Payment Agreement and Direction that is not in a form and manner acceptable to the Fiscal Agent. The State School Aid Payment and Direction document shall include language that the third party lender or trustee acknowledges and consents to the transfer of State School Aid Payments into the Academy's dissolution account, as set forth in Article X of the Terms and Conditions. Any unspent funds remaining in the Academy dissolution account after payment of all wind-up and dissolution expenses shall be returned to the Academy.

# ARTICLE III STATE DUTIES

Section 3.1 <u>Eligibility for State School Aid Payments</u>. The State, through its Department of Education, has sole responsibility for determining the eligibility of the Academy to receive State School Aid Payments. The State, through its Department of Education, has sole responsibility for determining the amount of State School Aid Payments, if any, the Academy shall be entitled to receive.

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- Section 3.2. <u>State School Aid Payment Overpayments and Penalties</u>. The State, through its Department of Education, has sole responsibility for determining State School Aid Payment overpayments to the Academy and the method and time period for repayment by the Academy. The State, through its Department of Education, has sole responsibility for assessing State School Aid penalties against the Academy for noncompliance with the Code and the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.
- Section 3.3. <u>Method of Payment</u>. Each State School Aid Payment for the Academy will be made to the Fiscal Agent by the State Treasurer by issuing a warrant and delivering the warrant to the Fiscal Agent by electronic funds transfer into an account specified by the Fiscal Agent, or by such other means deemed acceptable to the Fiscal Agent. The State shall make State School Aid Payments at the times specified in the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.

# ARTICLE IV ACADEMY DUTIES

- Section 4.1. <u>Compliance with State School Aid Act</u>. In order to assure that funds are available for the education of pupils, the Academy shall comply with all applicable provisions of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.
- Section 4.2. <u>Academy Account</u>. The Academy is authorized to establish an account in the name of the Academy. Signatories to the Academy Account shall be current Academy Board members and/or Academy Board employees, which shall not include employees of the Academy Board's Educational Service Provider, as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Academy Board. The Academy Board is authorized to approve withdrawals and transfers from any Academy Account. Any authorization approved by the Academy Board for automatic withdrawals or transfers from an Academy Account may only be terminated or amended by the Academy Board.
- Section 4.3. Expenditure of Funds. The Academy may expend funds that it receives from the State School Aid Fund for any purpose permitted by the State School Aid Act of 1979 and may enter into contracts and agreements determined by the Academy as consistent with the purposes for which the funds were appropriated.
- Section 4.4. <u>Mid-Year Transfers</u>. Funding for students transferring into or out of the Academy during the school year shall be in accordance with the State School Aid Act of 1979 or applicable State Board rules.
- Section 4.5. Repayment of Overpayment. The Academy shall be directly responsible for reimbursing the State for any overpayment of State School Aid Payments or any State School Aid penalties. At its option, the State may reduce subsequent State School Aid Payments by the amount of the overpayment or penalty or seek collection of the overpayment or penalty from the Academy.

# ARTICLE V RECORDS AND REPORTS

Section 5.1. <u>Records</u>. The Fiscal Agent shall keep books of record and account of all transactions relating to the receipts, disbursements, allocations and application of the State School Aid Payments and Other Funds received, deposited or transferred for the benefit of the Academy, and these books shall be available for inspection at reasonable hours and under reasonable conditions by the Academy and the State.

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Section 5.2. Reports. Annually, the Fiscal Agent shall prepare and send to the Academy within thirty (30) days of September 1, a written report dated as of August 31. This report shall summarize all receipts, deposits and transfers made on behalf or for the benefit of the Academy during the period beginning on the latter of the date hereof or the date of the last such written report and ending on the date of the report, including without limitation, State School Aid Payments received on behalf of the Academy from the State Treasurer and any Other Funds which the University Board receives under this Agreement.

# ARTICLE VI CONCERNING THE FISCAL AGENT

- Section 6.1. <u>Representations</u>. The Fiscal Agent represents that it has all necessary power and authority to enter into this Agreement and undertake the obligations and responsibilities imposed upon it in this Agreement and that it will carry out all of its obligations under this Agreement.
- Section 6.2. <u>Limitation on Liability</u>. The liability of the Fiscal Agent to transfer funds to the Academy shall be limited to the amount of State School Aid Payments as are from time to time delivered by the State and the amount of Other Funds as delivered by the source of those funds.

The Fiscal Agent shall not be liable for any action taken or neglected to be taken by it in good faith in any exercise of reasonable care and believed by it to be within the discretion or power conferred upon it by this Agreement, nor shall the Fiscal Agent be responsible for the consequences of any error of judgment; and the Fiscal Agent shall not be answerable except for its own action, neglect or default, nor for any loss unless the same shall have been through its gross negligence or willful default.

The Fiscal Agent shall not be liable for any deficiency in the State School Aid Payments received from the State Treasurer to which the Academy was properly entitled. The Fiscal Agent shall not be liable for any State School Aid overpayments made by the State Treasurer to the Academy for which the State subsequently seeks reimbursement.

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# **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

The undersigned, on behalf of the State of Michigan, Department of Treasury, acknowledges receipt of the foregoing Fiscal Agent Agreement that is part of the Contract issued by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees to Unity Academy.

BY:

David Boyne, Director State Finance Division

Bureau of State and Authority Finance Michigan Department of Treasury

Date: February 18, 2025

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### **CONTRACT SCHEDULE 4**

OVERSIGHT, COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING AGREEMENT

#### **SCHEDULE 4**

### OVERSIGHT, COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING AGREEMENT

This Oversight, Compliance, and Reporting Agreement is part of the Contract issued by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees ("University Board"), an authorizing body as defined by the Revised School Code, as amended (the "Code"), to Unity Academy ("Academy"), a public school academy.

#### **Preliminary Recitals**

WHEREAS, the University Board, subject to the leadership and general supervision of the State Board of Education over all public education, is responsible for overseeing the Academy's compliance with the Contract and all Applicable Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth below, the parties agree to the following:

### ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Section 1.1. <u>Definitions</u>. Unless otherwise provided, or unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

"Agreement" means this Oversight, Compliance and Reporting Agreement.

"Oversight Responsibilities" means the University Board's oversight responsibilities set forth in Section 2.1 of this Agreement.

"Compliance and Reporting Duties" means the Academy's duties set forth in Section 2.2 of this Agreement.

"State School Aid Payment" means any payment of money the Academy receives from the state school aid fund established pursuant to Article IX, Section 11 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 or under the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended.

### ARTICLE II OVERSIGHT, COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Section 2.1. <u>Oversight Responsibilities</u>. The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools ("the Center") at Central Michigan University, as it deems necessary to fulfill the University Board's Oversight Responsibilities, may undertake the following:
  - a. Monitor and evaluate if the Academy Board is properly governing the Academy and following the Bylaws set forth in the Contract.
  - b. Monitor and evaluate the Academy's academic performance and progress toward achieving the educational goal and related measures set forth in Contract Schedule 7b.
  - c. Monitor and evaluate the Academy's implementation, delivery, and support of the educational program and curriculum as set forth in Contract Schedules 7c and 7d, respectively.

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- d. Monitor and evaluate the Academy's application and enrollment procedures as set forth in Contract Schedule 7f.
- e. Monitor and evaluate the Academy's organizational and financial viability.
- f. Monitor and evaluate the Academy's fiscal stewardship and use of public resources.
- g. Monitor and evaluate the records, internal controls or operations of the Academy.
- h. Monitor and evaluate if the Academy is staffed with qualified personnel and that appropriate background checks have been conducted.
- i. Monitor and evaluate if the Academy is providing a safe learning environment.
- j. Request evidence that the Academy has obtained the necessary permits and certificates to operate as a public school from the applicable governmental agencies, including, without limitation, the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' Bureau of Construction Codes and local health departments.
- k. Conduct comprehensive on-site reviews to assess and/or evaluate the Academy's performance.
- 1. Monitor and evaluate if the Academy is demonstrating good faith in complying with the Contract, the Revised School Code, and all other Applicable Law.
- m. Request periodic reports from the Academy regarding any aspect of its operation including, but not limited to, information identified in Schedule 8 of the Contract.
- n. Initiate action pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of Contract to amend, revoke, reconstitute, terminate or suspend the Contract.
- o. Provide information and support to the Academy.
- Section 2.2. <u>Compliance and Reporting Duties</u>. The Academy agrees to fulfill the following Compliance and Reporting Duties:
  - a. Adopt and properly maintain governing board policies in accordance with Applicable Law.
  - b. Comply with the reporting and document submission requirements set forth in the Master Calendar of Reporting Requirements issued annually by the Center.
  - c. Comply with any Academy-specific reporting and document submission requirements established by the Center.
  - d. Comply with the insurance requirements set forth in Article XI, Section 11.2 of the Terms and Conditions of Contract.
  - e. Comply with the Center's Educational Service Provider Policies, as may be amended.

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- f. Report any litigation or formal proceedings to the Center including, but not limited to, litigation initiated by or against the Academy alleging violation of any Applicable Law. If the University is a named party, notify the general counsel for the University Board as set forth in Article XII, Section 12.1 of the Terms and Conditions.
- g. The Academy shall not occupy or use any school facility set forth in Schedule 6 of the Contract until such facility has received all fire, health and safety approvals required by Applicable Law and has been approved for occupancy by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' Bureau of Construction Codes.
- h. Permit the Center to inspect the records, internal controls, operations or premises of the Academy at any reasonable time.
- i. Authorize the Center to perform audit and conduct systematic investigations, including research development, testing and evaluation studies, designed to develop and contribute to generalizable knowledge using Academy data including, but not limited to, personally identifiable information about the Academy's students and staff submitted by the Academy to agencies including, but not limited to, Center for Educational Performance and Information ("CEPI"), Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability ("OEAA") and the Michigan Department of Education ("MDE"). Pursuant to this authorization, the Center shall abide by the regulations that govern the use of student data within the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA 34 CFR Part 99), the Michigan Identity Theft Protection Act of 2004, and the Privacy Act of 1974.
- j. Upon request, the Academy Board shall provide the Center with a written report, along with supporting data, assessing the Academy's progress toward achieving the educational goal and related measures outlined in Contract Schedule 7b.
- k. Upon request, provide the Center with copies or view access to data, documents or information submitted to MDE, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, CEPI or any other state or federal agency.
- 1. If the Academy operates an online or other distance learning program, it shall submit a monthly report to the MDE, in the form and manner prescribed by the MDE, that reports the number of pupils enrolled in the online or other distance learning program, during the immediately preceding month.
- m. The Academy shall ensure that the names of Central Michigan University Board of Trustees and the primary educational management organization, if applicable, must appear and be verbally provided, as applicable, on all of the following:
  - i. Unless prohibited by a local ordinance or local zoning authority, signage that is on the Academy's property and is erected, repaired, or installed on or after April 2, 2025:
  - ii. Promotional material that is created, modified, or distributed on or after April 2, 2025;
  - iii. The footer of the Academy's website pages; and
  - iv. The school application that a student must submit to enroll in the Academy.

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For purposes of this section, "primary educational management organization" shall have the same meaning as defined in MCL 380.503.

Section 2.3. <u>Waiver of Compliance and Reporting Duties</u>. The University Board, or the Center Director as its authorized designee, may modify or waive any of the Academy's Compliance and Reporting Duties.

### ARTICLE III RECORDS AND REPORTS

Section 3.1. <u>Records</u>. The Academy will keep complete and accurate records and reports of its governance and operations. These records and reports shall be available for inspection by the Center at reasonable hours and under reasonable conditions.

#### ARTICLE IV MISCELLANEOUS

Section 4.1. <u>Administrative Fee</u>. The Academy agrees to pay to the University Board an administrative fee of 3% of the Academy's State School Aid Payments. This fee shall be retained by the University Board from each State School Aid Payment received for forwarding to the Academy. This fee shall compensate the University Board for overseeing the Academy's compliance with the Contract and all Applicable Law and other related activities for which compensation is permissible. By agreement between the Center and the Academy, the University may charge additional fees beyond the administrative fees for services rendered.

Section 4.2. <u>Time of the Essence</u>. Time shall be of the essence in the performance of obligations from time to time imposed upon the Academy and the University Board by this Agreement.

#### Section 4.3. Audit and Evaluation. The Academy:

- a. Hereby authorizes the Center to perform audit and evaluation studies using Academy data including, but not limited to, personally identifiable information about the Academy's students and staff submitted by the Academy to agencies including, but not limited to, CEPI, OEAA and the MDE. Pursuant to this authorization, the Center shall abide by regulations that govern the use of student data within the FERPA, the Michigan Identity Theft Protection Act of 2004 and the Privacy Act of 1974.
- b. Shall upon request, provide the Center with copies or view access to data, documents or information submitted to the MDE, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, CEPI, the Michigan DataHub or any other state or federal agency.

Section 4.4. Fiscal Stress Notification from State Treasurer. If the State Treasurer notifies the Academy that the State Treasurer has declared the potential for Academy financial stress exists, the Academy shall provide a copy of the notice to the Center. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the notification from the Academy, the Center Director shall notify the Academy whether the Center is interested in entering into a contract to perform an administrative review for the Academy. The parties shall consult with the Department of Treasury on the development of the contract and the contract for administrative review shall comply with the Code. If the Center is not interested in performing an administrative review or if the parties are unable to reach agreement on an administrative review, the Academy shall consider entering into a contract for an administrative review with an intermediate school

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district. Nothing in this Section 4.4 shall prohibit the Academy for electing to enter into a contract for an administrative review with an intermediate school district. Nothing in this Section 4.4 shall require the Academy to elect to enter or not enter into a contract for an administrative review with the Center or an intermediate school district.

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# CONTRACT SCHEDULE 5 <u>DESCRIPTION OF STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES</u>

#### **DESCRIPTION OF STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article III, Section 3.6., the Academy is authorized to employ or contract for personnel according to the position information outlined in this schedule. Before entering into an agreement with an Educational Service Provider, as defined in the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, to provide comprehensive educational, administrative, management or instructional services or staff to the Academy, the Academy Board must first comply with the Educational Service Provider Policies adopted by the Center.

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Qualifications. The Academy shall comply with all Applicable Law regarding requirements affecting personnel employed by or assigned to the Academy including (but not limited to): qualifications, evaluation systems, criminal background checks and unprofessional conduct disclosures. All administrators or other person whose primary responsibility is administering instructional programs or as a chief business official shall meet the certification and continuing education requirements as described in MCL 380.1246. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Academy shall use certificated teachers according to state board rule.

Administrator and Teacher Evaluation Systems. The Academy Board shall adopt and implement for all teachers and school administrators a rigorous, transparent, and fair performance evaluation system that complies with the Code. If the Academy enters into an agreement with an Educational Service Provider, then the Academy Board shall ensure that the Educational Service Provider adopts a performance evaluation system that complies with MCL 380.1249.

Performance Evaluation System. During the term of this Contract, the Academy shall not assign a pupil to be taught in the same subject area for 2 consecutive years by a teacher who has been rated as ineffective on his or her 2 most recent annual year-end evaluations per the Code. If the Academy is unable to comply with this provision of the Code and plans to assign a pupil to be taught in the same subject area for 2 consecutive years by a teacher who has been rated as ineffective on his or her 2 most recent annual year-end evaluations per the Code, the Academy Board shall notify the pupil's parent or legal guardian that the pupil has been assigned to be taught in the same subject area for a second consecutive year by a teacher who has been rated as ineffective on his or her 2 most recent annual year-end evaluations. The notification shall be in writing, shall be delivered to the parent or legal guardian not later than July 15<sup>th</sup> immediately preceding the beginning of the school year for which the pupil is assigned to the teacher, and shall include an explanation of why the pupil is assigned to the teacher. MCL 380.1249a.

Teacher and Administrator Job Performance Criteria. The Academy Board shall implement and maintain a method of compensation for its teachers and school administrators that includes job performance and job accomplishments as a significant factor in determining compensation and additional compensation. The assessment of job performance shall incorporate a rigorous, transparent, and fair evaluation system that evaluates a teacher's or school administrator's performance at least in part based upon data on student growth as measured by assessments and other objective criteria. If the Academy enters into an agreement with an Educational Service Provider, then the Academy Board shall ensure that the Educational Service Provider complies with this section. MCL 380.1250.

#### **Reporting Structure**

All positions are employed by Global Educational Excellence, L.L.C., and are outlined in the Educational Service Provider Agreement included in this Schedule.

#### **Position Responsibilities**

Following are the categories into which Academy staff fall. Descriptions for all positions employed by or assigned to the Academy are available at the Academy.

#### **School Administrator(s)**

As stated above, all administrators or other person whose primary responsibility is administering instructional programs or as a chief business official shall meet the certification and continuing education requirements as described in MCL 380.1246. In addition to the position titles identified in MCL 380.1246, the Michigan Department of Education ("MDE") will deem an administrator working

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at a district or school level to be "administering instructional programs" if the person's position description or day-today duties include any or all of the following elements \*:

- 1. Responsibility for curriculum. This includes final or executive decisions which directly impact what should be taught to students and how it should be delivered, as well as what learning outcomes are expected, often following a philosophy of research, best practices, and continuous improvement providing equitable access to all students.
- 2. Responsibility for overseeing district or school improvement plan design or implementation. This includes a vision and a method for execution of plans regarding incorporating student assessment, using student performance and school safety data to drive decision-making, the use of information technology to support improvement, professional development, and overall student achievement.
- 3. Oversight of instructional policies. This includes the creation, modification, and recommendation of final policy regarding any aspect of how teachers implement, deliver, and support curriculum. Whether or not making specific financial decisions in support of these policies is part of the oversight role, this person still has final decision-making responsibility for instruction.
- 4. Executive-level reporting on academic progress to a governing authority. This includes providing updates, documentation, data, or presentations in an official or executive capacity to a governing body regarding progress on student learning goals—whether or not these reports are tied to expenditures related to the successful delivery of the instruction.
- 5. Supervision and evaluation of direct reports responsible for instruction. This includes providing executive leadership for employees who report to the individual, and providing direction to establish work priorities and decision-making. This involves evaluation of educator efficacy as well as general work performance of staff.

(\*This statement and numbered items that follow it were taken directly from the February 23, 2017, Memorandum issued by the MDE.)

#### **Instructional Staff**

As stated above, except as otherwise provided by law, the Academy shall use certificated teachers according to state board rule. Individuals that are considered instructional staff are responsible for implementing the Academy's curriculum, developing assessments and monitoring student progress. Instructional staff whose main responsibility is working with students with disabilities must modify instructional techniques in order to enhance learning for all students.

#### **Non-Instructional Staff**

The staff that fall into this category are not required to hold an administrator certificate or a teaching certificate. The individuals in this category support the Academy's pursuit of its mission, vision, and educational goals.

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#### SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Service Agreement is made and entered into as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025 by and between Global Educational Excellence (the "Contractor"), a Michigan limited liability company, and Unity Academy, through its Board of Directors (the "Board"), a Michigan non-profit corporation (the "Academy").

#### **RECITALS**

- A. The Academy is a charter school, organized as a public school academy under the Revised School Code (the "Code"). The Academy is authorized to operate as a public school academy pursuant to a contract (said contract, together with all schedules attached thereto and as the same may be modified from time to time, shall be known herein as the "Contract") with the Board of Trustees of Central Michigan University ("CMU"), with CMU as the authorizing body.
- B. The Contractor specializes in providing educational organizations with a variety of management and educational services and products, including assessment, curriculums, educational programs, teacher training, and assistive technology. Contractor's products and services are designed to serve the needs of the Academy's diverse student population, with effective strategies for the needs of all members of its community.
- C. The Academy and Contractor desire to create an enduring educational agreement, whereby the Academy and Contractor will work together to bring educational excellence and innovation to the operation of the Academy based on Contractor's school design, institutional principles, and management methodologies.
- D. In order to facilitate the continuation of school for the 2025-2026 school year and indefinitely thereafter, and to implement an innovative educational program at the school, the parties desire to establish this arrangement for the management and operation of certain of the Academy's educational and administrative activities or functions.

Therefore, it is mutually agreed as follows:

### ARTICLE I TERM

- A. <u>Term.</u> Subject to the provisions of Paragraph B of this Article I and Paragraph D of Article VIII, this Agreement shall become effective July 1, 2025 and shall be consistent with the terms in the Contract and shall expire with the term of the Contract on June 30, 2030.
- B. <u>Review by CMU</u>. The parties acknowledge that this Agreement is subject to the review of CMU and shall be subject to termination pursuant to Article VIII, Paragraph D, in the event that CMU disapproves this Agreement.

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### ARTICLE II CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP

- A. <u>Authority</u>. The Academy represents that it is authorized by law and the Contract to contract with a private entity and for that entity to provide educational and management services. The Board is authorized by CMU to supervise and control such Academy and vested with all powers within applicable law for carrying out the educational program contemplated in this Agreement.
- B. <u>Contract.</u> Acting under and in the exercise of such authority, the Board hereby contracts with Contractor, to the extent permitted by law, to provide all functions relating to the provision of educational services and the management and operation of the Academy in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and the Contract.
- Status of the Parties. Contractor is a for-profit entity and is not a division or a part of C. the Academy. The Academy is a body corporate and governmental entity authorized by the Code and is not a division or part of Contractor. The relationship between Contractor and the Academy is based solely on the terms of this Agreement and the terms of any other agreements between Contractor and the Academy. The Academy agrees to define "school official" in the Academy's annual notification of rights under 20 U.S.C. & 1232g 34 C.F.R & 99, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ('FERPA"), to include a contractor who performs an institutional service or function for which the Academy would otherwise use its own employees, who is under direct control of the Academy with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records, and who is subject to the requirements of 34 C.F.R. & 99.33(a) governing the use and redisclosure of personally identifiable information from education records. The Board designates Contractor and certain of its employees and subcontractors as school officials of the Academy having a legitimate educational interest such that they are entitled to access to educational records under FERPA. Contractor and its employees and subcontractors agree to comply with FERPA and corresponding regulations applicable to school officials. Except as set forth in this paragraph or as expressly acknowledged in writing by the Board, no employee of Contractor shall be deemed to be an agent of the Academy.

### ARTICLE III FUNCTIONS TO BE PERFORMED BY CONTRACTOR

A. <u>Responsibility</u>. Contractor shall be responsible and accountable to the Board for the administration, operation, and performance of the Academy in accordance with appropriate sections of the Code and the Contract. Contractor shall use its best efforts to perform the obligations and responsibilities of the Academy under the Code and the Contract on behalf of the Academy or to assist the Academy in performing those obligations and responsibilities. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent the Board from exercising its statutory, contractual, or fiduciary responsibilities or from setting policies governing the operation of the Academy. Decisions made by the Contractor which, by law or the Contract,

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must be made by the Board in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act shall not be binding on the Academy and its Board.

- B. <u>Disclosures</u>. On an annual basis, Contractor shall provide the Academy Board all of the same information that a school district is required to disclose under section 18(2) of the State School Aid, MCL 388.1618(2), for the most recent school fiscal year in which the information is available. Within thirty (30) days of receiving the information under section 18(2), the Academy Board shall make this information publicly available on its website in a form and manner prescribed by the Michigan Department of Education.
- C. <u>Use of Personally Identifiable Information</u>. Except as permitted under the Code, Contractor shall not sell or otherwise provide to a for-profit business entity any personally identifiable information that is part of an Academy's student education records. If Contractor receives information that is part of an Academy student's education records, Contractor shall not sell or otherwise provide the information to any other person except as permitted under the Code. For purposes of this section, the terms "education records" and "personally identifiable information" shall have the same meaning as those terms in sections 1136 of the Code, MCL 380.1136.
- **D.** <u>Data Breach</u>. Immediately upon becoming aware of any unauthorized access or disclosure of confidential information or personally identifiable information or other information not suitable for public release from Academy education records, Contractor will notify the Academy Board, investigate the breach, and fully cooperate to remedy the situation. Contractor will comply with and will fully cooperate to assist the Academy to comply with data security laws and security breach notification laws.
- E. <u>Educational Program</u>. The educational program and the program of instruction shall be designed by Contractor in accordance with the Contract and may be adapted and modified from time to time with prior Board approval, it being understood that an essential principle of a successful, effective education program is its flexibility, adaptability, and capacity to change in the interest of continuous improvement and efficiency, and that the Board and Contractor are interested in results and not in inflexible prescriptions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board shall have the right to approve material changes to the educational program and programs of instruction necessitated by the failure of the Academy to meet the goals identified in the Contract or otherwise abide by the terms of the Contract. The parties acknowledge that changes to the educational program may require an amendment to the Contract prior to implementation.

As between the parties, all intellectual property, propriety information, or other rights in or to any curriculum, educational materials, or teaching techniques (i) both developed and paid for by the Academy, and (ii) developed by Contractor at the direction of the Academy Board with Academy funds shall be the property of the Academy and shall be subject to disclosure under the Code and the Michigan Freedom of Information Act unless specifically exempt.

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- F. <u>Strategic Planning</u>. Contractor shall design strategic plans for the continuing educational and financial benefit of the Academy.
- G. <u>Public Relations</u>. Contractor shall design an ongoing public relations strategy for the development of beneficial and harmonious relationships with other organizations and the community for implementation by the Academy's Board. Marketing and development costs paid by or charged to the Academy shall be limited to those costs specific to the Academy program and shall not include any costs for the marketing and development of the Contractor or any other Academy managed by the Contractor.
- H. **Specific Functions.** Contractor shall be responsible for the management, operation, administration, and provision of educational and custodial activities at the Academy. Such functions may include, but are not limited to:
- 1. Implementation and administration of the Educational Program, including the recommendation and acquisition of instructional materials, equipment and supplies (subject to the right of the Board to approve text books), and the administration of any and all extra and co-curricular activities and programs as approved by the Academy Board.
- 2. Management of personnel functions, including professional development for the Principal, all instructional personnel, and other staff, and the personnel functions outlined in Article I.
  - 3. Aspects of the business administration of the Academy.
  - 4. Business, educational, and community partnering programs.
  - 5. Strategic planning.
  - 6. Fundraising and grant development programs and strategies.
  - 7. Public relations programs, strategies, and events.
- 8. Any other function necessary or expedient for the administration of the Academy or as may be required under the Code, the Contract, or by CMU.
- I. <u>Subcontracts</u>. Contractor reserves the right to subcontract, with Academy Board approval, any and all aspects of all other services it agrees to provide to the Academy including, but not limited to, transportation and/or food service.
- J. <u>Place of Performance</u>. Contractor reserves the right to perform functions other than instruction, such as purchasing, professional development, and administrative functions, offsite unless prohibited by state or local law.

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- K. <u>Materials Purchased</u>. All equipment, materials, and supplies purchased by Contractor on behalf of the Academy shall be property of the Academy. If Contractor purchases equipment, material, and supplies for the Academy, it shall comply with the Code including, but not limited to, sections 1274 and 1267 as if the Academy were making all such purchases directly.
- L. <u>Student Recruitment</u>. Contractor and the Board shall be jointly responsible for the recruitment of students, subject to the Board's direction on general recruitment and admission policies and the Contract. Application by or for students shall be voluntary and shall be in writing. Students shall be selected in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Contract and in compliance with the Code and other applicable law.
- M. <u>Due Process Hearings</u>. Contractor shall provide student due process hearings in conformity with the requirements of state and federal law regarding discipline, special education, confidentiality, and access to records consistent with the Academy's own obligations and policy.
- N. <u>Legal Requirements</u>. Contractor shall provide educational programs that meet federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and the requirements imposed under the Code and the Contract. Contractor agrees to perform its duties and responsibilities under this Agreement in a manner that is consistent with the Academy's obligations under the Academy's Contract issued by the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees. The provisions of the Contract shall supersede any competing or conflicting provisions contained in this Agreement.
- O. <u>Rules and Procedures</u>. Contractor shall recommend reasonable rules, regulations, and procedures applicable to the Academy and is authorized and directed to enforce those rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by the Academy Board.
- P. <u>School Year and School Day</u>. Contractor shall establish the calendar for the school year and the school day subject to the requirements under law and as determined annually by the Board.
- Q. <u>Additional Grades and Student Population</u>. Contractor shall make recommendations to the Board concerning limiting, increasing, or decreasing the number of grades offered and the number of students served per grade or in total, within the limits provided for by the Contract. In the event the Board seeks to expand the Academy to a new grade level, the Board shall involve Contractor in such efforts as early as possible.
- R. <u>Material Breach of Agreement</u>. Failure of Contractor to reasonably perform these functions, unless prevented from doing so by the Academy, its Board, or circumstances beyond Contractor's control shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement. Any action or inaction by Contractor that is not cured within 60 days of notice thereof and which causes the Contract to be revoked, terminated, suspended, or which causes the Contract to be put in jeopardy of revocation, termination, or suspension by CMU is a material breach.

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### ARTICLE IV OBLIGATIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board shall have the obligation and authority to oversee the performance of the duties of the Contractor under this Agreement. The Board shall perform sufficient due diligence on whether any principal or officer of the Contractor, or the Contractor (including any related organizations or organizations in which a principal or officer of the Contractor served as a principal or officer) as a corporate entity, has filed for bankruptcy protection within the five (5) years prior to execution of this Agreement. The Board shall be responsible for adopting budgets and policies for the Academy to be implemented by the Contractor in accordance with this Agreement. The Board shall exercise good faith in considering the recommendations of Contractor including, but not limited to, Contractor's recommendations concerning policies, rules, regulations, procedures, curriculum, budgets, fundraising, public relations, and school entrepreneurial affairs. The Academy's failure to adopt Contractor's reasonable recommendations concerning functions to be performed by Contractor shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement. If the Board determines in good faith that a recommendation of Contractor is contrary to the Code, the Contract, or policies adopted by the Board not otherwise contrary to this Agreement, its failure or refusal to adopt a recommendation of Contractor shall not be deemed to be a material default of this Agreement.

No provision of this Agreement shall interfere with the Board's duty to exercise its statutory, contractual, and fiduciary responsibilities governing the operation of the Academy. No provision of this Agreement shall prohibit the Board from acting as an independent, self-governing public body or allow public decisions to be made other than in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

### ARTICLE V FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A. <u>Capitation Fee.</u> The Academy shall pay Contractor an annual capitation fee in an amount equal ten percent (10%) of the money, grants, fees, and credits received by the Academy from all sources in connection with the enrollment of students at the Academy including, but not limited to, state funding, government and private grants, and student fees except to the extent prohibited by law or grant restrictions or those amounts exempted by CMU. Said amounts may change during the term of this Agreement according to overall changes in the state grants, moneys, or services provided by other governmental agencies and the extent of other revenue sources. The capitation fee shall be paid to Contractor as and when state payments or funds from other state agencies or other revenue sources are received by the Academy. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the parties agree that state payments shall be made directly to the Academy, and that capitation fees and other charges under this Agreement shall be paid to Contractor upon availability of funds. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the total annual management fee payable to Contractor hereunder in any academic year shall not be less than \$750,000 nor shall exceed \$1,500,000,

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subject to change by written agreement of Contractor and Academy depending upon changes in annual pupil enrollment.

- B. Other Revenue Sources. In order to supplement and enhance the state school aid payments, improve the quality of education at the Academy, and fulfill the mission of the Academy, Contractor shall develop and pursue a program for obtaining and producing revenue supplemental to state aid and grants, shall seek Academy Board approval prior to accepting grant revenues, and shall report to the Board on a consistent basis regarding the status of its efforts in this area.
- C. Payment of Costs. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, all costs incurred in furnishing Contractor's Educational Program to the Academy shall be paid by the Academy. All Contractor's products and services, including management and educational services and products, assessment, curriculums, educational programs, teacher training, and assistive technology, are included within the management fee set forth in this Agreement. No additional costs are billed to the school for such services. Contractor shall be reimbursed by the Academy for all additional services provided by Contractor not included in the management fee, including, but not limited to, personnel, curriculum materials, textbooks, library books, computer and other equipment, software, supplies, building payments, maintenance, student meal services, and capital improvements. Contractor may, in order to gain various economies and efficiencies, elect to incur certain of such costs directly and, in such event, the Academy shall reimburse Contractor for budgeted items upon presentation of supporting documentation at a duly convened meeting of the Board. In no event shall Contractor charge an additional fee or charge to the cost of equipment, materials, and supplies purchased from third parties. Contractor shall comply with the Revised School Code including, but not limited to, Sections 1267 and 1274 of the Code, MCL 380.1267 and MCL 380.1274, as if the Academy were making these purchases directly from a third party supplier or vendor. Any services provided by Contractor that are included in the management fee but are performed by a subcontractor shall not be charged to, reimbursed by, or passed through as an additional cost to the Academy. No corporate costs of the ESP shall be charged to or reimbursed by the Academy.
- D. Advancement of Funds. Contractor may advance funds to the Academy relating to recruiting, selecting, and pre-service training of staff members or cleaning, fixing, renovating, and equipping of the Academy building and related capital facilities, all pending receipt by the Academy of its subsequent school aid payments. The Academy shall reimburse Contractor such funds upon receipt of such state school aid payments to the extent that it is able to do so consistent with the Code and the Contract. The parties shall enter into a separate agreement regarding the terms and conditions of any advance and its repayment before funds are disbursed by Contractor to or for the benefit of the Academy. If the parties cannot enter into an agreement before the Contractor disburses funds, they shall do so as soon as possible thereafter.
- E. <u>Other Public School Academies</u>. The Academy acknowledges that Contractor may enter into similar management agreements with other public school academies. Contractor shall separately account for reimbursable expenses incurred on behalf of the Academy and other

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public school academies and only charge the Academy for expenses incurred on behalf of the Academy. If Contractor incurs reimbursable expenses on behalf of the Academy and other public school academies which are incapable of precise allocation between such academies, then Contractor shall allocate such expenses among all such academies, including the Academy, on a pro rata basis based upon the number of students enrolled at such academies or upon such other equitable basis as is acceptable to the parties.

#### **F. Financial Reporting.** Contractor shall provide the Board with:

- 1. A projected annual budget (in compliance with P.A. 493 of the 2000 Uniform Budget and Accounting Act) not later than thirty (30) days after enrollment at the Academy for the first year of this Agreement is set or by May 1 and with a projected annual budget prior to each school year thereafter.
- 2. Monthly financial statements that (at a minimum) include: a balance sheet, an object-level detailed statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance that includes a comparison of budget-to-actual information, and an explanation of variances.
- 3. An annual audit of the Academy in compliance with state law and regulations showing the manner in which funds are spent at the Academy.
- 4. Reports on Academy operations and student performance, upon reasonable request, but not less frequently than four (4) times per year and other information on a periodic basis to enable the board to monitor Contractor's educational performance and the efficiency of its operation of the Academy.

The Contractor shall make all its finance and other records related to the Academy available to the Academy, the Academy's independent auditor, and The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools upon reasonable notice. The Board is responsible for selecting and retaining the Academy's independent auditor.

The Board is responsible for designating the Chief Administrative Officer of the Academy pursuant to the Uniform Budget and Accounting Act, MCL 141.422b. If the Academy employs a superintendent or a person having general administrative control, then the Board may designate that employee as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Academy. If the Academy does not employ a superintendent or a person having general administrative control, then the Board shall designate a Board member as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Academy, but an employee of the Contractor may assist the Chief Administrative Officer in carrying out their responsibilities.

**G.** The Academy's Depository Account. In accordance with applicable law, all funds received by the Academy must be placed in the Academy's depository account. The signatories on the Academy Board accounts shall solely be the Board members or properly designated Board employee(s). Interest earned on Academy accounts shall accrue to the Academy.

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# ARTICLE VI PERSONNEL & TRAINING

Subject to recommendation by Contractor and approval of the Board:

- **A. Principal.** Contractor will, consistent with state law, select, hire, and supervise the Principal, establish employment terms, and hold him or her accountable for the success of the Academy. The Academy School Board will be part of the interview process for the Academy's School Leader and will be involved in the final hiring decision for selection of the Academy's School Leader. The Principal and Contractor, in turn, will have similar authority to select and hold accountable the teachers in the Academy. The Principal shall be an employee of the Contractor.
- B. <u>Teachers</u>. Prior to commencement of the 2025-2026 school year and from time to time thereafter, Contractor shall determine the number of teachers and the applicable grade levels and subjects required for the operation of the Academy consistent with the Board-approved budget. Contractor shall provide the Academy with such teachers, qualified in the grade levels and subjects required, as are required by the Academy. Contractor shall also establish employment terms. These teachers may, at the discretion of Contractor, work at the Academy on a full or part time basis. If assigned to the Academy on a part time basis, such teachers may also work at other schools operated by Contractor. Each teacher assigned to the Academy shall hold a valid teaching certificate issued by the state board of education under the Code, to the extent required under the Code, or meet Code provisions for non-certified teachers. Unless otherwise agreed, teachers shall not be employees of the Academy.
- C. <u>Support Staff.</u> Prior to commencement of the 2025-2026 school year by the Academy and from time to time thereafter, Contractor shall determine the number and functions of support staff required for the operation of the Academy consistent with the Board-approved budget and establish employment terms. Contractor shall provide the Academy with such support staff, qualified in the areas required, as are required by the Academy. Such support staff may, at the discretion of Contractor, work at the Academy on a full or part time basis. If assigned to the Academy on a part time basis, such support staff may also work at other schools operated by Contractor.
- D. <u>Board Liaison</u>. The Academy Board may employ and pay for an independent Board Liaison to act as a liaison among the Academy, Contractor, and the University in order to ensure a smooth relationship among the entities. The Board shall have the right to employ the Board Liaison full or part time, as the situation warrants. Contractor agrees to cooperate with the Board Liaison in the performance of his duties as liaison.
- E. <u>Employer of Personnel</u>. Unless otherwise agreed or required by law or the Contract, except for the Board Liaison, staff and personnel at the Academy will be employees or subcontractors of Contractor. Contractor accepts full liability and is responsible for

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compensation of all employees of the Academy, irrespective of whether Contractor receives an advancement of its costs or the payment of services from the Academy. The Academy shall reimburse Contractor for the compensation Contractor pays its employees or subcontractors of Contractor in the performance of services on behalf of the Academy. For purposes of this Agreement, compensation shall include salary, workers' compensation, fringe benefits, and training including, without limitation, retirement planning and state and federal tax withholdings. Contractor will inform the Academy Board of the level of compensation and fringe benefits provided to the employees of the Contractor. Contractor shall be solely responsible for selection, evaluation, discipline, and termination. During the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall not enter into any agreement with the Academy or any employee restricting or prohibiting the Academy from hiring such person, and any such agreement shall, for the purpose of this Agreement, be of no force or effect. During the term of this Agreement, the Board shall perform sufficient due diligence to ensure an Agreement that provides employees to the Academy shall qualify as employee leasing.

- F. <u>Training</u>. Contractor shall provide training in its Board-approved curriculum, program, and technology to all teaching personnel on a regular and continuous basis. Instructional personnel shall receive such training as required under the Code. Non-instructional personnel shall receive such training as Contractor determines reasonable and necessary under the circumstances.
- G. <u>Non-Competition</u>. This Agreement shall prohibit Contractor from executing contracts with staff assigned to the Academy including, but not limited to, administrators, teachers, or counselors that contain non-compete clauses or agreements of any sort.

# ARTICLE VII ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

The services provided by Contractor to the Academy under this Agreement consist of the Educational Program during the school year and school day and age and grade level, as set forth in the Contract, as such school year, school day, and age and grade level may change from time to time. Contractor may, in its discretion but subject to the approval of the Board not to be unreasonably withheld, provide additional programs, such as adult and community education, which are not a part of the Academy's program as of the effective date of this Agreement. In such cases, the Contractor and the Board shall enter into a separate agreement governing the provision of these programs.

# ARTICLE VIII TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

A. <u>Termination by Contractor</u>. Contractor may terminate the Agreement with cause prior to the end of the term specified in Article I in the event the Academy fails to remedy a material breach of this Agreement within sixty (60) days after notice from Contractor. A material breach may include, but is not limited to, failure to make payments to Contractor as required by this Agreement or unreasonable failure to adhere to the personnel, curriculum,

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program, or similar material recommendations of Contractor, etc. Upon such termination, Contractor shall have the option to reclaim any usable property or equipment (e.g., copy machines, personal computers) installed by Contractor and not paid for by the Academy or to reclaim the depreciated cost of such equipment.

- B. Termination by the Academy. The Academy may terminate this Agreement with cause prior to the end of the term in the event that Contractor should fail to remedy a material breach of this Agreement within sixty (60) days after notice from the Academy; provided, however, that in the event such breach cannot be cured within such sixty day period, Contractor may have an additional amount of time reasonably necessary to effect such cure so long as Contractor commences such cure within the initial sixty day period and diligently pursues said cure thereafter. Material breach may include, but is not limited to, failure to account for its expenditures or to pay operating costs (providing funds are available to do so) or unreasonable failure to meet performance standards where such failure resulted from circumstances within its control. Any action or inaction by the Contractor which causes the Contract of the Academy to be revoked, terminated, or suspended or which results in the Academy receiving official notification from CMU, Superintendent of Public Instruction, or other authorized body or official of the commencement or an intent to initiate proceeding for the termination, revocation, or suspension of the Contract shall be designated a material breach, which shall be grounds for the termination of the ESP agreement by the Academy. Upon such a termination, Contractor shall have the option to reclaim any usable property or equipment (e.g., copy machines, personal computers) installed by the Contractor and not paid for by the Academy or to reclaim the depreciated cost of such equipment. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything else herein, the Academy shall have the right to terminate this Agreement without penalty or cause on the third anniversary hereof.
- C. <u>Termination by University Board</u>. This Agreement may be terminated by the University Board if directed as part of reconstitution, as provided by the Revised School Code.
- D. <u>Revocation or Termination of Contract</u>. If the Academy's Contract issued by CMU is revoked, terminated, or a new charter contract is not issued to the Academy after expiration of the Academy's Contract, this Agreement shall automatically terminate on the same date as the Academy's Contract is revoked, terminated, or expires without further action of the parties.
- E. <u>Minor Breaches</u>. A breach of this Agreement that would otherwise not be material may become material if the breaching party does not act in good faith to cure the breach after notice or if multiple breaches occur in a time period or under such circumstances that lack of good faith is indicated.

Termination of the ESP Agreement mid-year is strongly discouraged. The Academy and ESP should make all efforts necessary to remedy a breach of the ESP Agreement in order to continue school operations until completion of the then-current school fiscal year. If a breach cannot be remedied, the Academy Board and Contractor agree to work cooperatively to transition management and operations of the school without disrupting the school's operations.

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- F. Change in Law: Requirement of CMU. If any federal, state, or local law or regulation or court decision, or any requirement properly imposed by CMU under the Code or the Contract has a material adverse impact on the ability of either party to carry out its obligations under this Agreement, then either party, upon written notice, may request renegotiation of the Agreement; and if the parties are unable or unwilling to renegotiate the terms within 90 days after the notice, the party requiring the renegotiation may terminate this Agreement on 120 days further written notice.
- G. <u>Effective Date of Termination</u>. In the event this Agreement is terminated by either party prior to the end of the term specified in Article I absent unusual and compelling circumstances, the termination will not become effective until the end of the school year following the notice of termination.
- H. **Expiration.** Upon expiration of this Agreement, and in the event the parties do not wish to renew the Agreement, Contractor shall have the right to reclaim any usable property or equipment (e.g., copy machines, personal computers) it provided the Academy at its expense or the depreciated cost of such equipment.
- I. Obligations Upon Termination And Expiration. Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement or if the Agreement is terminated due to revocation, reconstitution, termination, or non-renewal, Contractor shall, without additional charge: (i) close the financial records on the then-current school fiscal year which includes, but is not limited to, the completion and submission of the annual financial audit, state and federal grant reporting, and all other associated reporting within required timelines established by the appropriate local, state, or federal authority; (ii) organize and prepare student records for transition to the new ESP, self-management, or in the case of a school closure, transfer to a student's new school as designated by the student's parent/legal guardian, or to a person or entity authorized to hold such records; (iii) provide for the orderly transition of employee compensation and benefits to the new ESP or self-management without disruption to staffing or, in the case of school closure, final payment of all employee compensation, benefit, and tax obligations related to services provided by the Contractor to the Academy; (iv) organize and prepare the Academy's records, both electronic and hard copy, for transition to the new ESP, self-management, or dissolution; and (v) provide for the orderly transition to the new ESP, selfmanagement, or dissolution of all Academy-owned assets including, but not limited to, furniture, fixtures, equipment, real estate, and other items such as keys, log-in information, and passwords related to any Academy asset.
- J. <u>Amendment Caused By Academy Site Closure or Reconstitution</u>. In the event that the Academy is required (i) to close an Academy site pursuant to a notice issued by the Michigan Department of Education under Section 507 of the Code, MCL 380.507;, or (ii) to undergo a reconstitution pursuant to Sections 507 of the Code MCL 380.507, and the Contract, and such closure of an Academy site or reconstitution causes an amendment to or termination of this ESP Agreement, the parties agree that this ESP Agreement shall be amended or terminated to implement the Academy site closure or reconstitution with no cost or penalty to the Academy.

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and the Contractor shall have no recourse against the Academy or the University Board for implementing such site closure or reconstitution.

### ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

- A. <u>Indemnification of Contractor</u>. To the extent permitted by law, the Academy shall indemnify and save and hold Contractor and all of its employees, officers, members, subcontractors, and agents (collectively "employees") harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability that may arise out of, or by reason of, the negligence of the Academy or its Board, employees, subcontractors, or agents or any noncompliance by the Academy with any agreements, covenants, warranties, or undertakings of the Academy contained in or made pursuant to this Agreement. In addition, the Academy shall reimburse Contractor for all reasonable expenses and costs (including legal) associated with the defense of any such claim, demand, or suit. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the Academy shall not be required to waive its governmental immunity or to indemnify Contractor in circumstances where doing so would constitute a waiver of governmental immunity. Furthermore, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as requiring the Academy to assert, waive, or not waive its governmental immunity.
- B. <u>Indemnification of Academy</u>. Contractor shall indemnify and save and hold the Academy and its Board and all of its employees, subcontractors, and agents harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability that may arise out of, or by reason of, the negligence of the Contractor or any of its agents, employees, or subcontractors or any noncompliance by the Contractor with any agreements, covenants, warranties, or undertakings of the Contractor contained in or made pursuant to this Agreement. In addition, Contractor shall reimburse the Academy for all reasonable expenses and costs (including legal) associated with the defense of any such claim, demand, or suit.
- C. Indemnification of Central Michigan University. The parties acknowledge and agree that CMU, its Board of Trustees, and its members, officers, employees, agents, or representatives (collectively "University") are deemed to be third party beneficiaries for purposes of this Agreement. As third party beneficiaries, Contractor hereby promises to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the University from and against all demands, claims, actions, suits, causes of action, losses, judgements, liabilities, damages, fines, penalties, demands, forfeitures, or any other liabilities or losses of any kind whatsoever, including costs and expenses (not limited to reasonable attorney fees, expert, and other professional fees) of settlement and prosecution imposed upon or incurred by the University and not caused by the sole negligence of the University which arise out of or are in any manner connected with the University Board's approval of the Academy's application, the University Board's consideration of or issuance of a Contract, the Contractor's preparation for or operation of the Academy, or which are incurred as a result of the reliance by the University upon information supplied by the Contractor, or which arise out of the Contractor's failure to comply with the Contract or applicable law. The parties expressly acknowledge and agree that the University may commence legal action against the Contractor to enforce its rights as set forth in this Section of the Agreement.

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D. **Waiver of Subrogation.** Each party to this Agreement waives all rights and claims against each other for all losses covered by their respective insurance policies and, to the extent permitted by their respective policies, waives all rights of subrogation of their respective insurers. The parties agree that their respective insurance policies are now, or shall be, endorsed so that such waivers of subrogation shall not affect their respective rights to recover thereunder.

# ARTICLE X INSURANCE

Contractor will secure and maintain such policies of insurance as required by the Contract and the Michigan Universities Self Insurance Corporation ("M.U.S.I.C."). In the event CMU or M.U.S.I.C. requests any change in coverage by Contractor, Contractor agrees to comply with any change in the type of or amount of coverage, as requested, within thirty (30) days after notice of the insurance coverage change. Contractor shall name the Academy as an additional insured on a separate general liability and umbrella insurance coverage in amounts and on such terms as the Academy may require. Each party shall maintain such insurance as shall be necessary to indemnify the other as provided in this Agreement. Each party shall, upon request, present evidence to the other that it maintains the requisite insurance in compliance with the provisions of this paragraph. Contractor shall comply with any information or reporting requirements applicable to the Academy under the Academy's policy with its insurer(s) to the extent practicable. Contractor's insurance is separate from and in addition to the insurance the Academy Board is required to obtain under the Contract.

## ARTICLE XI WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS

The Academy and Contractor each represent that it has the authority under law to execute, deliver, and perform this Agreement and to incur the obligations provided for under this Agreement, that its actions have been duly and validly authorized, and that it will take all steps reasonably required to implement this Agreement. The Academy and Contractor mutually warrant to the other that there are no pending actions, claims, suits, or proceedings to its knowledge, threatened or reasonably anticipated, against or affecting it which, if adversely determined, would have a material adverse effect on its ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

# ARTICLE XII RECORDS AND OTHER PROPERTY OF THE ACADEMY

Contractor acknowledges that all financial, educational, and student records relating to the Academy are and shall remain property of the Academy, and that such records are subject to the provisions of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act. All Academy records shall be physically or electronically available, upon request, at the Academy's physical facility. Throughout the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall be deemed a temporary custodian of these records and shall be responsible for the safeguarding of said records unless the Board provides otherwise. In the event of any

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termination of this Agreement, Contractor shall deliver said records to the Board or its agents. Contractor shall keep such records available to the public and CMU in accordance with the Revised School Code and other applicable law.

Contractor shall obligate each of its employees to sign an agreement pledging their obligation to keep confidential any and all records of the Academy unless otherwise required by law. Contractor shall further obligate each of its employees to acknowledge that all educational materials developed on behalf of the Academy during the term of this Agreement shall be the property of the Academy. Upon the reasonable request of the Board, Contractor shall make available to the Board copies of all educational materials prepared by Contractor or its employees in connection with the undertakings described herein.

### ARTICLE XIII ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Any and all disputes between the parties concerning any alleged breach of this Agreement or arising out of or relating to the interpretation of this Agreement or the parties' performance of their respective obligations under this Agreement shall be resolved by arbitration and such procedure shall be the sole and exclusive remedy for such matters. Unless the parties agree upon a single arbitrator, the arbitration panel shall consist of three persons. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association, with such variations as the parties and arbitrator unanimously accept. The final decision rendered shall be in the form of a cause opinion (written explanation). The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools (the "Center") shall be notified of said decision and, upon the Center's request, the opinion shall be made available.

# ARTICLE XIV INTERPRETATION

The parties are entering into this Agreement to enable the Academy to carry out its obligations under the Code and the Contract in an efficient and economical manner. Accordingly, this Agreement shall in all respects be subject to, and construed in accordance with, the Code and the Contract. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the requirements of the Code or the Contract, the Code or the Contract, as the case may be, shall govern and shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Agreement. The parties also acknowledge that the Academy anticipates qualifying for exemption for federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Article XIV, this Agreement shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Academy's status as an exempt organization. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted as delegating the Board's ultimate authority and responsibility with respect to the operation and management of the Academy to the Contractor.

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### ARTICLE XV MISCELLANEOUS

- A. <u>Sole Agreement: Severability.</u> This Agreement supersedes and replaces any and all prior agreements and understandings between the Academy and Contractor. The invalidity of any of the covenants, phrases, or clauses in this Agreement shall not affect the remaining portions of this Agreement, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid covenant, phrase, or clause had not been contained in this Agreement.
- B. **Force Majeure.** Neither party shall be liable if the performance of any part or all of this contract is prevented, delayed, hindered, or otherwise made impracticable or impossible by reason of any strike, flood, riot, fire, explosion, war, act of God, sabotage, accident, or any other casualty or cause beyond either part's control and which cannot be overcome by reasonable diligence and without unusual expense.
- C. <u>Notice</u>. All notices, demands, requests, and consents under this Agreement shall be in writing, shall be delivered to each party, and shall be effective when received by the parties or mailed to the parties at their respective addresses set forth below or at such other address as may be furnished by a party to the other party

If to contractor:

Global Educational Excellence 2455 S. Industrial Hwy., Suite A Ann Arbor, MI 48104

With a copy to:

Eby, Conner, Smillie & Bourque, PLLC. 320 Miller Suite 190 Ann Arbor, MI 48103

If to Academy:

Unity Academy 27800 Dequindre Rd Warren, MI 48092 Attention: Board President

With a copy to:

Aimee Gibbs Dickinson Wright, PLLC 350 S Main St Suite 300 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

- D. <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns.
- E. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement is the entire agreement between the parties relating to the services provided and the compensation for such services. Any modification to this Agreement must be made in writing, approved by the Board and Contractor, and signed by a duly authorized officer. In addition, any modification must be done in accordance with the Center's Educational Service Provider Policies before any modification to this Agreement can become effective.
- F. <u>Non-Waiver</u>. No failure of a party in exercising any right, power, or privilege under this Agreement shall affect such right, power, or privilege, nor shall any single or partial exercise thereof preclude any further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power, or privilege. The rights and remedies of the parties under this Agreement are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies which any of them may otherwise have.
- G. <u>Assignment</u>. This Agreement shall not be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party and prior notification to the Center. Any assignable party shall be considered an educational service provider as defined by the policies set forth in the Center's educational service provider policies. As such, any assignable party shall follow the requirements set forth in the Center's Educational Service Provider's policies.
- H. <u>Survival of Termination</u>. All representations, warranties, and indemnities made herein shall survive termination of this Agreement.
- I. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Agreement shall be governed by and enforced in accordance with the law of the State of Michigan. The parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Service Agreement as of the date set forth above.

Ву:	SelimAlisa	, President, Board of Directors
Date:	06 / 13 / 2025	

UNITY ACADEMY

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### GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE, L.L.C.

By:	Hopeino Misse	Director
Dy.		, Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BLOOMFIELD 24785-2 2173106v1

# CONTRACT SCHEDULE 6 PHYSICAL PLANT DESCRIPTION

### PHYSICAL PLANT DESCRIPTION

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article XI, Section 11.5, the Academy is authorized to operate at the physical facility or facilities outlined in this schedule. The Academy shall not occupy or use any facility until approved for occupancy by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' Bureau of Construction Codes.

Physical Plant Description	6-1
Site Plan(s)	
Floor Plan(s)	
Lease Agreement(s)	
Certificate(s) of Use and Occupancy	

- 1. Applicable Law requires that a public school academy application and contract must contain a description of and the address for the proposed physical plant in which the public school academy will be located. See MCL 380.502(3)(i) and 380.503(6)(f);
- 2. The address and a description of the site and physical plant (the "Site") of Unity Academy (the "Academy") is as follows:

Address: 27800 Dequindre Rd. Warren, MI 48092

Description:

The Academy's facility is a former commercial property that has been partially converted for K-8 educational purposes, with a two-hour rated partition separating the operational academic wing from the remainder of the vacant building. Phase One of the project includes approximately 33,214 square feet comprising 21 classrooms, administrative offices, restrooms, and a small indoor play area.

The Academy's facility is surrounded by a large parking lot that encircles the building, providing ample spaces for staff and visitors, as well as safe areas for student drop-off and pick-up. The facility is situated adjacent to a shopping center and backs up to a residential neighborhood. Additionally, landscaped walkways near entrances improve overall safety and aesthetics.

<u>Configuration of Grade Levels</u>: Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

<u>Term of Use</u>: Term of Contract.

Name of School District and Intermediate School District:

Local: Warren Consolidated Schools

ISD: Macomb

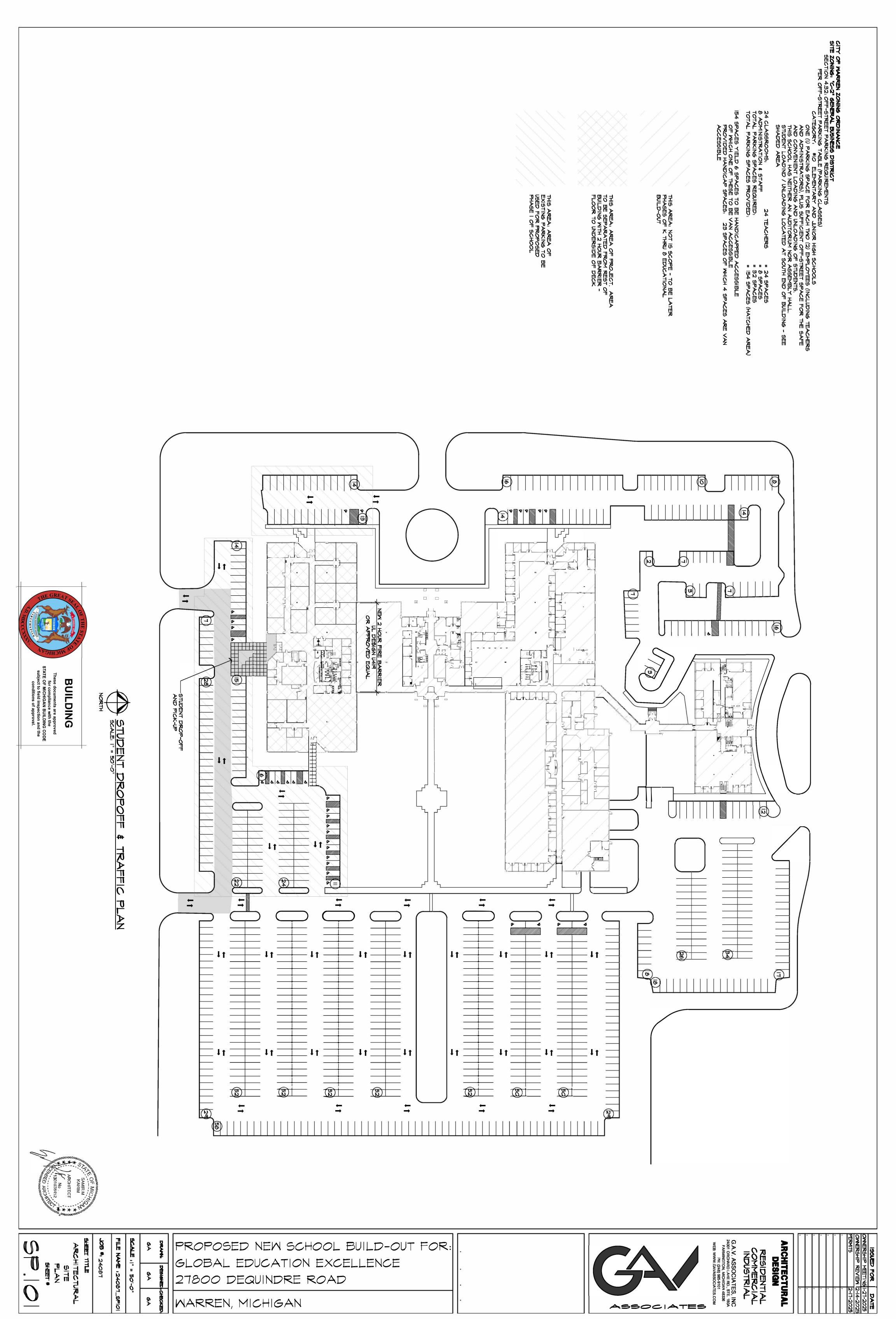
- 3. It is acknowledged and agreed that the information identified below, about this Site, is provided on the following pages, or must be provided to the satisfaction of the University Board or its designee, before the Academy may operate as a public school in this state.
  - A. Narrative description of physical facility
  - B. Size of building
  - C. Scaled floor plan
  - D. Copy of executed lease or purchase agreement
- 4. In addition, the Academy and the University Board hereby acknowledge and agree that this Contract is being issued to the Academy with the understanding that the Academy cannot conduct classes as a public school academy in this state until it has obtained the necessary fire, health and safety approvals for the above-described physical facility. These approvals must be provided and be acceptable to the University Board or its designee prior to the Academy operating

Schedule 6-1 Unity Academy

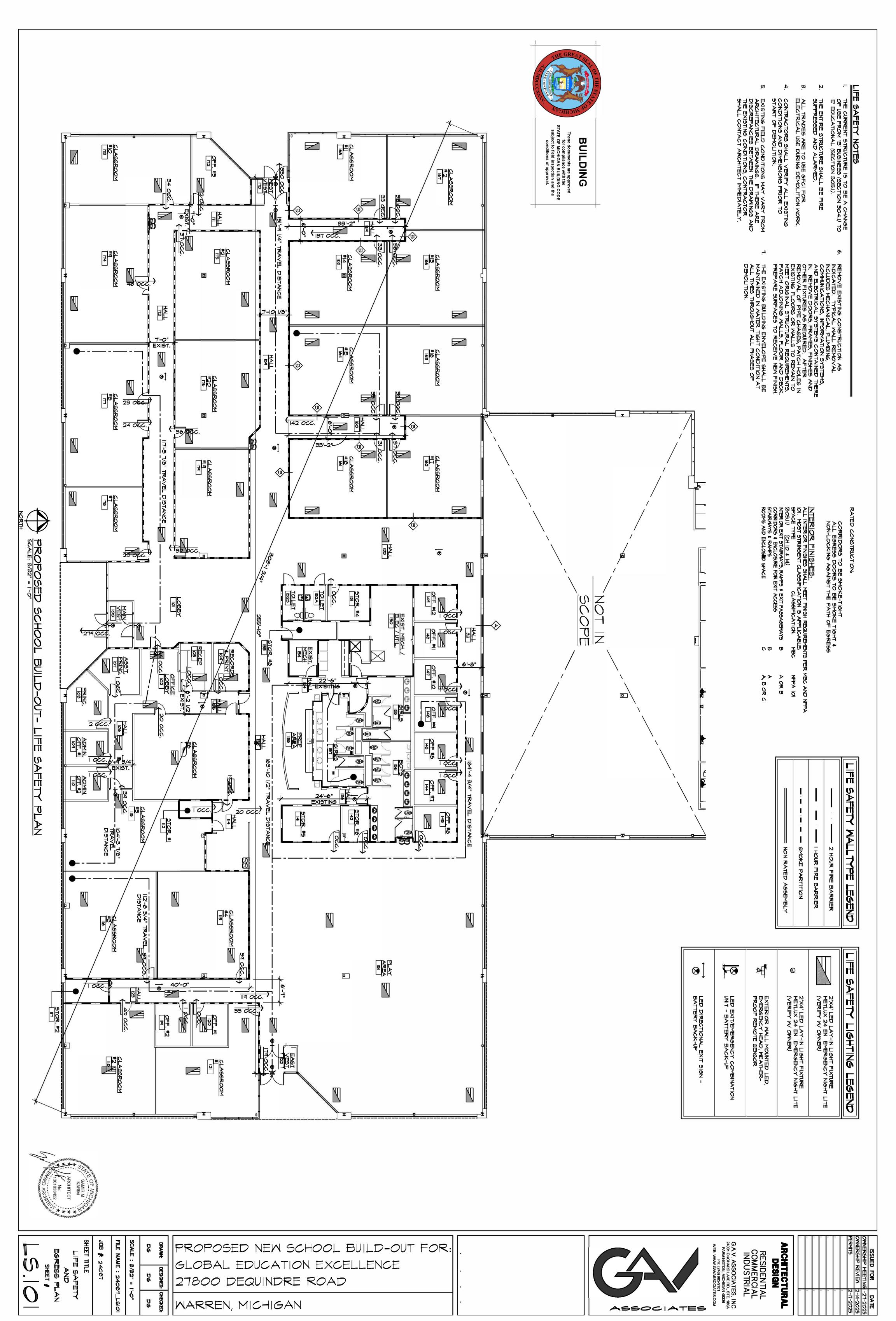
as a public school. In cases of disagreement, the Academy may not begin operations without the consent of the University Board or its designee.

- 5. If the Site described above is not used as the physical facilities for the Academy, then Schedule 6 of this Contract between the Academy and the University Board must be amended pursuant to Article IX of the Terms and Conditions of Contract, to designate, describe, and agree upon the Academy's physical facilities. The Academy must submit to the University Board or its designee complete information about the new site to be actually used. This information includes that described in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this Schedule 6. It is acknowledged and agreed that the public school academy cannot conduct classes as a public school in this state until it has submitted all the information described above, to the satisfaction of the University Board or its designee, and the amendment regarding the new site has been executed.
- 6. Any change in the configuration of grade levels at the Site requires an amendment to this Schedule 6 pursuant to Article IX of the Terms and Conditions of Contract set forth above.

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Schedule 6-3



Schedule 6-4

The fully executed lease agreement(s) for the facility located at 27800 Dequindre Rd., Warren, MI 48092, shall be inserted here.

Schedule 6-5 Unity Academy

# CERTIFICATE OF USE AND OCCUPANCY PERMANENT

### Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Bureau of Construction Codes/Building Section P.O. Box 30254 Lansing, MI 48909 Authority: 1972 PA 230 517-241-9313

**Building Permit No: BLDG25-01156** 

27800 DEQUINDRE RD WARREN, MI 48092 COUNTY: MACOMB

The above named building of Use Group E, Education and Construction Type 2B is approved for use and occupancy.

THIS APPROVAL IS GRANTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SECTION 13 OF ACT 230 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1972, AS AMENDED, BEING §125.1513 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 111.0 OF THE STATE BUILDING CODE. THIS SHALL SUPERSEDE AND VOID ANY PREVIOUS APPROVAL OF USE AND OCCUPANCY.

Print Date: 08/14/2025

Schedule 6-6 Unity Academy

## **CONTRACT SCHEDULE 7**

## REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

## **SCHEDULE 7**

## REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

<u>Required Information for a Public School Academy</u>. This Schedule contains information required by the Code and the Contract. The required information for the Academy is contained in this Schedule 7.

Section a.	Gov	zernance St	ruc	<u>ture</u> .	The governance structure of					
	the	Academy	is	set	forth	in	Section	a	of this	S
	Sch	edule.								

Section b. <u>Educational Goal and Related Measures</u>. The educational goal and related measures of the Academy are set forth in Section b of this Schedule.

Section c. <u>Educational Programs</u>. The educational programs of the Academy are set forth in Section c of this Schedule.

Section d. <u>Curriculum.</u> The curriculum of the Academy is set forth in Section d of this Schedule.

Section e. <u>Methods of Pupil Assessment.</u> The methods of pupil assessment of the Academy are set forth in Section e of this Schedule.

Section f. <u>Application and Enrollment of Students</u>. The Academy's criteria for the application and enrollment of students is set forth in Section f of this Schedule.

Section g. <u>School Calendar and School Day Schedule</u>. The school calendar and school day schedule procedures are set forth in Section g of this Schedule.

Section h. <u>Age or Grade Range of Pupils</u>. The age or grade range of pupils to be enrolled by the Academy is set forth in Section h of this Schedule.

# SECTION A GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

## **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

The People of Michigan through their Constitution have provided that schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged and have authorized the Legislature to maintain and support a system of free public elementary and secondary schools. All public schools are subject to the leadership and general supervision of the State Board of Education and the Legislature has authorized an alternative form of public school designated a "public school academy" to be created to serve the educational needs of pupils and has provided that pupils attending these schools shall be eligible for support from the State School Aid Fund. The Legislature has delegated to the governing boards of state public universities, community college boards, intermediate school district boards and local school district boards, the responsibility for authorizing the establishment of public school academies. The University Board has approved the issuance of a contract conferring certain rights, franchises, privileges, and obligations of a public school academy to the Academy Board.

The Academy is incorporated as a Michigan nonprofit corporation, organized on a non-stock, directorship basis for the purpose of operating as a Michigan public school academy. The Academy shall conduct its affairs as a governmental entity exempt from federal income taxes under Section 115 of the United States Internal Revenue Code or any successor law. The Academy is a body corporate and is not a division or part of Central Michigan University. The relationship between the Academy and the University Board is based solely on the applicable provisions of the Code and the terms of this Contract.

The Academy Board shall have at least five (5), but no more than nine (9) members, as determined by the University Board. Academy Board members shall be appointed according to the terms of the Method of Selection, Appointment and Removal Resolution adopted by the University Board. The Academy Board has all the powers and duties permitted by law to manage the business, property and affairs of the Academy and for adopting policies by which the Academy shall be governed. The Academy Board is responsible for assuring that the Academy operates according to the Terms and Conditions of this Contract and Applicable Law. Contract Schedule 2: Bylaws, set forth a further description of the Academy Board's governance structure.

Academy Board members shall serve in their individual capacity, and not as a representative or designee of any other person or entity. The Academy Board shall ensure compliance with Applicable Law relating to conflicts of interest and prohibited familial relationships, including Article IV, Sections 4.4 and 4.5 of the Terms and Conditions of this Contract.

Pursuant to applicable law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article III, Section 3.6, the Academy Board may employ or contract for personnel according to the position information outlined in Schedule 5. Before entering into an agreement with an Educational Service Provider or an employee leasing company to provide services or to provide personnel to perform services or work at the Academy, the Academy Board must first comply with the Educational Service Provider Policies issued by the Center.

Schedule 7a-1 Unity Academy

# SECTION B <u>EDUCATIONAL GOAL AND RELATED MEASURES</u>

### EDUCATIONAL GOAL AND RELATED MEASURES

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.2, the Academy shall achieve or demonstrate measurable progress for all groups of pupils toward the achievement of the educational goal identified in this schedule. Although an increase in academic achievement for all groups of pupils as measured by assessments and other objective criteria is the most important factor in determining the Academy's progress toward the achievement of the educational goal, the Center also considers other factors. Upon request, the Academy shall provide the Center with a written report, along with supporting data, assessing the Academy's progress toward achieving this goal. In addition, the University expects the Academy will meet the State of Michigan's accreditation standards pursuant to state and federal law.

#### **Educational Goal to be Achieved**

Prepare students academically for success in college, work and life.

## Measures to Assist In Determining Measurable Progress Toward Goal Achievement

To assist in determining whether the Academy is achieving measurable progress toward the achievement of this goal, the Center will annually assess the Academy's performance using the following measures.

## **Measure 1: Student Achievement**

The academic achievement of all students who have been at the academy for one or more years<sup>1</sup> in grades 3-8 will be assessed using the following measures and targets:

Sub Indicator	Measure	Metric	Target
Against a Standard:	The percentage of students meeting or surpassing the current, spring, grade-level national norms <sup>2</sup> on the NWEA Growth reading and math tests administered in the spring.	Distribution (which will be in the form of percentages): Exceeds $\geq 70.0\%$ Meets $\geq 50.0\%$ Approaching $\geq 30.0\%$ Does not meet $< 30.0\%$	50%
	t performance against the standard falls below the this goal" will be defined using the following many the f	nese required expectations, "measurable progress towards t neasures and targets:	he
Over Time:	The percentage of students meeting or surpassing spring grade-level national norms over time (CY-AVG(PY1+PY2+PY3)).	Trend score (which will be in the form of $-x$ to $+x$ ): Exceeds $\geq 6.0\%$ Meets $\geq 3.0\%$ Approaching $\geq 1.0\%$ Does not meet $< 1.0\%$	3.0%
Comparison Measure:	The percentage of students categorized as proficient or advanced on the most recent state assessment will surpass the school's Composite Resident District (CRD) percentage.	Portfolio Distribution (which will be in the form of $-x$ to $+x$ ):  Exceeds $\geq 10.0\%$ Meets $\geq 5.0\%$ Approaching $\geq 0.0\%$ Does not meet $< 0.0\%$	5.0%

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<sup>1</sup> One or more years students (also called 1+ students) are students who are enrolled in the academy on or before count day and are still enrolled at the end of a given academic year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Grade level national norms are updated periodically by NWEA following comprehensive norming studies. The Center will use the most updated national norms published by NWEA and will inform the Academy when the norms are updated and how the updated norms may impact analysis and performance reporting.

<u>Measure 2: Student Growth</u>

The academic growth of all students in grades 3-8 at the Academy will be assessed using the following measures and targets:

Sub Indicator	Measure	Metric	Target
Standard: reflecting fall-to-spring scaled score growth on the reading and math NWEA Growth tests.		MGP: Exceeds $\geq$ 65th Meets $\geq$ 50th Approaching $\geq$ 45th Does not meet $<$ 45th	Reading: 50 Math: 50
	performance against the standard falls below these requithis goal" will be defined using the following measures a		ards the
Over Time:	The percentage of students making at least one year's growth over time (CY-AVG(PY1+PY2+PY3)).	Trend score (which will be in the form of $-x$ to $+x$ ): Exceeds $\geq 6.0\%$ Meets $\geq 3.0\%$ Approaching $\geq 1.0\%$ Does not meet $< 1.0\%$	3.0%
Comparison Measure:	The mean student growth percentile reflecting growth on the two most recent state assessments will surpass the school's Composite Resident District.	Portfolio Distribution (which will be in the form of $-x$ to $+x$ ):  Exceeds $\geq 10.0\%$ Meets $\geq 5.0\%$ Approaching $\geq 0.0\%$ Does not meet $< 0.0\%$	5.0%

Schedule 7b-2 Unity Academy

# SECTION C <u>EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS</u>

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.3, the Academy shall implement, deliver and support the educational programs identified in this schedule.

#### Mission

Unity Academy's ("Academy") mission is to promote lifelong learning by nurturing academic excellence, positive character and an appreciation of cultures.

## **Beliefs**

- All students are entitled to reach their highest potential and must be encouraged to strive for excellence through a meaningful educational experience.
- Academic work must be challenging for all students, taking them above and beyond state standards and tapping into their diverse learning styles.
- The Academy should provide an environment where students are comfortable with their unique heritage regardless of their ethnicity, religion, race or background.
- Learning is enhanced by diversity and the Academy must promote multicultural awareness.
- To be effective, the Academy must provide a safe, orderly and positive learning environment.
- Parents are partners in the learning process and educational success is most often achieved when parents seize opportunities for involvement and support.
- The Academy and community should be in a partnership that shares the responsibility of educating its citizens.
- Learning is a lifelong process.

## Introduction

The Michigan Academic Standards ("MAS") were used to guide the research, development and ultimate adoption of grade level curriculum across disciplines as well as a framework used by all Global Educational Excellence ("GEE") academies for prescribing instructional resources, methods and progressions.

Michigan adopted the Common Core State Standards ("CCSS") for mathematics and English language arts ("ELA") in June, 2010. All GEE academies have adopted guaranteed and viable curriculum resources. That is, adopted curriculum resources covering all grade level standards, and there is adequate time created within Academy master schedules each day to implement the curriculum with fidelity. In addition to ELA and math, all GEE academies have adopted guaranteed and viable curriculum resources for science (NGSS), social studies (C3s) and Arabic.

## MODEL OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

GEE's Model of Continuous Improvement requires teams of teachers and administrators to examine student performance data, to design and implement instruction and monitor results. The curriculum review process uses a parallel process of continuous improvement that includes the examination of curriculum, driven by student results over time, to determine what students should know, be able to do and understand, when content should be taught, and when and how student mastery will be assessed.

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Curriculum development and renewal is a dynamic and continuous process in which the Curriculum and Instruction team plans with a content committee representing teachers, instructional coaches, administrators, curriculum directors and academic coordinators. The team evaluates the educational programs in a systematic and data-driven way. This process helps ensure that the curricula expectations for the Academy are rigorous, relevant and transparent. In addition, it guarantees that the curriculum is aligned with state and national standards. The GEE Curriculum Review and Renewal Plan outlines the process.

## 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

21st century skills refers to a broad set of knowledge, skills, work habits, and character traits that are believed—by educators, school reformers, college professors, employers and others—to be critically important to success in today's world, particularly in collegiate programs and contemporary careers and workplaces. Generally speaking, 21st century skills can be applied in all academic subject areas, and in all educational, career and civic settings throughout a student's life.

The following list provides a brief illustrative overview of the knowledge, skills, work habits and character traits commonly associated with 21st century skills, which are woven throughout the fabric of all GEE core curriculum, at all grade levels:

- Critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning, analysis, interpretation, synthesizing information
- Research skills and practices, interrogative questioning
- Creativity, artistry, curiosity, imagination, innovation, personal expression
- Perseverance, self-direction, planning, self-discipline, adaptability, initiative
- Oral and written communication, public speaking and presenting, listening
- Leadership, teamwork, collaboration, cooperation, facility in using virtual workspaces
- Information and communication technology ("ICT") literacy, media and internet literacy, data interpretation and analysis, computer programming
- Civic, ethical, and social-justice literacy
- Economic and financial literacy, entrepreneurialism
- Global awareness, multicultural literacy, humanitarianism
- Scientific literacy and reasoning, the scientific method
- Environmental and conservation literacy, ecosystems understanding
- Health and wellness literacy, including nutrition, diet, exercise, and public health and safety

## MULTI-TIERED INSTRUCTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The Multi-Tiered System of Supports ("MTSS") model is predicated on the notion that all students can make adequate growth and that core programs should meet the needs of at least 80% of the student population. If this is not the case, the team needs to strategize to close the gap toward grade level expectations. This means the School-wide MTSS team must evaluate the curriculums for implementation with fidelity, course assignments/schedules, time on task, classroom data and classroom climate. The team then engages in difficult yet productive conversations about whether the implementation of the curriculum is meeting the needs of 80% of all students, and plan prevention making sure that all students have access to high-quality developmentally appropriate tasks and intervention activities that target areas which data analysis suggests need attention (e.g.,

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professional development, re-teaching of foundational skills, consistently re-emphasizing school rules and expectations, etc.).

The district academic and behavioral program is a multi-tiered plan, which includes three tiers of support designed to meet the instructional and behavioral needs of all children. Each level targets a specific group of learners, is supported by evidence-based instructional materials, provides differentiated instruction and routine monitoring of progress. Instructional decisions regarding level of services are based on student performance outcomes on the MTSS Screener and class assessments.

#### **CHAMPS**

The CHAMPS program, a classroom management system that encourages students to be motivated, engaged, and responsible, outlines expected behavior for students in each activity throughout the daily schedule. The acronym CHAMPS describes C-Conversation (Voice Level), H-Help (What to do if you need help), A-Activity (What tasks the students should be doing), M-Movement (What is the level of movement required), P-Participation (How can teacher tell if they are participating in the activity), and S-Success (If teacher can tell that students are meeting these expectations then they achieve success). Teachers review the CHAMPS expectations for each activity throughout the school day to ensure that students are clear on what the teacher expects of them.

## SHELTERED INSTRUCTION PROTOCOL ("SIOP")

SIOP is a research-based method of instruction targeted toward meeting the academic needs of English Learners ("ELs"). SIOP is an instructional model that contains 8 components and 30 features used to ensure ELs have their content and language needs met in mainstream classrooms.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES**

The K-12 GEE instructional coach team is composed of educational leaders who train teachers and provide resources, feedback, modeling ("I do, We do, You do"), and professional development to help schools meet instructional goals and school improvement goals. All GEE core teachers, across all GEE academies and grades, have an instructional coach whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Providing full-time, on-site, job-embedded professional development for classroom teachers.
- Providing awareness sessions at each school so that all staff members are informed of the Coach Program
- Collaborating with teachers to analyze student assessment data including achievement tests, classroom assessments, and student work samples through the data teams and MTSS teams
- Assisting in the establishment of building goals, strategies, and action steps, based on data analysis and work with staff.
- Documenting work performed, maintaining schedules, collecting data, and completing all other program requirements.
- Implementing GEE instruction and assessment strategies as presented in the PD sessions.
- Providing professional development for teachers through pre- and post-lesson conference

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sessions, team teaching, analysis of student work and assessment data, and discussion of researched-based practices.

- Assisting teachers in learning content, pedagogy, and assessment strategies to improve student learning and achievement.
- Attending all professional development sessions in their entirety each month.
- Honoring confidentiality of teacher and student data, documents, and communication.
- Informing teachers and Principal at least 24 hours before a change in schedule if possible.
- Providing awareness and facilitating attendance at professional development.

## MOODLE

All GEE academies use Moodle as their universal Learning Management System ("LMS"). Instructional coaches and principals need only learn and support one LMS. Master Moodle courses have been created by a GEE teacher team of master Moodle course creators. Over 10,000 daily Moodle lessons have been created for each core subject at each grade K-12. Master Moodle courses are available to all teachers, paraprofessionals and substitutes. All GEE teachers are expected to begin their lesson planning using their grade/subject(s) master Moodle lessons and then modify/differentiate in accordance with their students' unique learning needs.

## **CURRICULUM RESOURCES**

Curriculum Resource	Online/Print	Grade Levels						
English Language Arts								
Benchmark Advance®	Online/Print	K-5						
Lexia <sup>®</sup> Core 5 <sup>®</sup>	Online	K-5						
Heggerty	Online/Print	K-2						
Learning A to Z	Online	K-5						
Lexia Power Up Literacy®	Online	6-8						
McGraw-Hill StudySync® ELA	Online/Print	6-8						
Mathematics	Mathematics							
Bridges <sup>™</sup> in Mathematics	Online/Print	K-5						
Dreambox	Online	K-8						
Amplify Desmos Math	Online/Print	6-8						
Science								
Amplify	Online/Print	K-8						
Social Studies								
Savvas myWorld Interactive	Online/Print	K-5						
TCI <sup>™</sup> Social Studies	Online/Print	6-8						

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EL Teacher Resources							
NatGeo Reach Higher	Online/Print	K-8					
Vista Get Ready!	Online/Print	K-8					
Arabic							
GEE Arabic Curriculum	Online/Print	K-8					
Art							
GEE Art Curriculum	Online/Print	K-8					
PE/Health							
Michigan Model for Health <sup>™</sup>	Online	K-8					

## CORE CURRICULUM GRADES K-8

## K-5 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

## Benchmark Advanced

Benchmark Literacy program is a comprehensive, research-proven program that empowers both experienced and beginning teachers with best-practice tools for vertically aligned K-5 reading, writing, speaking, listening and language instruction:

- Pre-, ongoing, and post-assessment
- Gradual-release mini-lessons with built-in choice
- High-quality informational, narrative, and opinion/argument texts
- Complex texts for close reading applying text-dependent strategies
- Differentiated support for English learners and special needs students
- Customized professional development services
- State-of-the-art interactive technology
- Builds foundational skills—such as phonics, word study and fluency-to produce proficient readers
- Scaffolds ALL students to access complex informational and literary texts during wholegroup lessons
- Guides students to use text evidence in close reading
- Provides opportunities for students to develop collaborative conversations
- Develops writers by teaching writing process and writing to sources

## Lexia Core 5

Lexia Reading Core5 provides a personalized, data-driven approach through a system of student-driven learning online, and targeted instruction by a teacher or paraprofessional. It empowers students of all abilities in grades pre-K-5 to build fundamental literacy skills through technology and direct instruction.

Lexia Reading Core5 covers the six areas of reading instruction (phonological awareness, phonics, structural analysis, automaticity, vocabulary and comprehension), including activities focused on academic vocabulary through structural analysis. This begins with oral language and listening

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comprehension, building to reading comprehension. The program aligns to rigorous reading standards, including the Common Core State Standards.

## Heggerty K-2

Heggerty Phonemic Awareness lessons supplement the Benchmark Advance curriculum. Lessons are taught consistently each day with explicit teacher modeling and scaffolded support, so teachers see improvement in students' reading, spelling, and writing, as the students learn to hear the sounds in words.

Heggerty lessons cover all consonants, short vowels, digraphs, blends, vowel words and rime patterns. In addition, lessons cover long vowels, R-controlled vowels, special vowel sounds, multisyllabic words and include decoding and increased complexity of words and tasks for multiple skills.

Heggerty Phonemic Awareness also includes systematic phonemic awareness intervention lessons for students during remediation block time. These lessons are used in small groups or with individual students who struggle to decode words automatically.

## Learning A to Z K-5

Raz-Plus is a blended learning platform that combines teacher-led whole-class and small-group instruction with technology-enabled resources for personalized reading practice. Learning A to Z is a suite of literacy applications with: leveled and interactive e-books; personalized differentiated reading instruction and practice, and assessment.

## 6-8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

## McGraw-Hill StudySync ELA

StudySync is a complete ELA curriculum designed to meet the rigorous academic needs of today's classroom. In print or online, StudySync is designed to engage every student, because every student deserves the same opportunity and access in the classroom, regardless of his or her native language, learning level or physical, social and emotional ability.

StudySync's unique blend of contemporary and classic literature comes together with the program's rigorous reading routines to dynamically instruct students toward mastery. Embedded skill lessons ensure students build foundational language and comprehension skills, as well as reading, writing, and research on inquiry skills every day. Resources are organized around a first read, a close read, and an associated skill lesson. ELL skill lessons emphasize explicit vocabulary instruction, language acquisition, and reading comprehension. Extended Writing Projects ("EWP") guide students through the process of writing multi-paragraph essays in a variety of forms. Explicit writing instruction through a combination of writing process and skill lessons, guide students through the stages of planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing. Self, peer and teacher evaluations are embedded in every unit lesson to provide teachers a wide variety of short and longer cycle formative assessment options. End-of-unit summative assessments combine progress monitoring tools and targeted lessons for re-teaching and remediation to meet the needs of all learners. The peer review platform creates a community of writers giving students an authentic audience to provide immediate feedback every time they write. Anonymous peer review helps build students into skilled writers and critical thinkers.

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## Lexia Power Up

Lexia PowerUp Literacy is designed to help students in grades 6 and above become proficient readers and confident learners. PowerUp helps educators simultaneously address gaps in fundamental literacy skills while helping students build the higher-order skills they need to comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and compare increasingly complex literary and informational texts. Blending online student-driven explicit instruction with offline teacher-delivered lessons and activities, Lexia PowerUp empowers secondary teachers to:

- Address the instructional needs of a wide range of reader profiles
- Engage, challenge, and motivate students to take ownership of their learning
- Help students develop the skills they need to succeed in content-area classes

## **K-5 MATH**

## **Bridges in Mathematics**

The elementary Bridges in Mathematics program lays the groundwork for mathematical literacy at an early age. The students are introduced to strands in algebra, data and probability, geometry, measurement, numeration, patterns and functions. The instruction is structured to provide multiple exposures to topics and frequent opportunities to review and practice skills.

Bridges in Mathematics is a comprehensive K-5 curriculum that equips teachers to fully implement the MAS for mathematics in a manner that is rigorous, coherent, engaging and accessible to all learners.

The curriculum focuses on developing students' deep understandings of mathematical concepts, proficiency with key skills and ability to solve complex and novel problems. *Bridges* blends direct instruction, structured investigation and open exploration. It taps into the intelligence and strengths of all students by presenting material that is as linguistically, visually and kinesthetically rich as it is mathematically powerful.

## 6-8 MATH

## 6-8 Amplify Desmos Math

Amplify Desmos Math helps teachers cultivate a classroom of eager, collaborative learners by starting with student ideas and building to robust grade-level learning for every student every day. Desmos Math combines interactive problem-based lessons with explicit instruction, reinforcement, and practice to enable students to develop math proficiency that lasts. Lessons set a strong foundation in procedural and fact fluency, deepen understanding of concepts, and enable students to apply learning to real-world tasks. The program offers a problem-based approach that gets results by developing deep conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and application. Technology connects the classroom, fostering collaboration, discourse and perseverance in problem solving. Students' natural curiosity leads to deep understanding and math learning that lasts a lifetime.

## **DREAMBOX**

DreamBox is a supplemental K-8 digital math program designed to complement both Bridges and AgileMind and is used in grades 9-12 when appropriate. The DreamBox platform combines a rigorous, research-based, pedagogically sound curriculum aligned to the MAS with a highly

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motivating learning environment. Gaming fundamentals are leveraged to motivate students to persist and progress, which leads to increased understanding and achievement. The Intelligent Adaptive Learning technology tracks each student interaction and evaluates the strategies used to solve problems. It then immediately adjusts the lesson and the level of difficulty, scaffolding, sequencing, number of hints, and pacing as appropriate. This allows students, whether struggling, at grade level, or advanced, to progress at a pace that best benefits them and deepen conceptual understanding.

## K-5 SOCIAL STUDIES

## Savvas

Savvas's myWorld Interactive series inspires students to develop global competencies for active, informed citizenship. The series emphasizes project-based learning to explore the world's places, systems, and cultures. The programs include strong ELA/literacy connections and multiple teaching options. Lessons promote critical thinking, problem solving, evidence-based reasoning, and communications skills. myWorld Interactive is the student-centered curriculum that helps implement the MAS and the College, Career, and Civic Life ("C3") Framework for Social Studies to create active, responsible citizens who can make a difference.

## 6-8 SOCIAL STUDIES

## TCI

The *TCI Social Studies* curriculum provides various print and online support tools to meet teacher needs and the unique learning needs of students. Each lesson includes adjustments to support English Learners, Learners with Special Education Needs, Learners Reading and Writing Below Grade Level, and Advanced Learners. TCI's programs are designed with one primary goal: to help students master the essential skills and knowledge. To this end, every unit includes primary sources and activities to make the lessons more inquiry-based and to help students develop critical-thinking skills. TCI's curriculum is aligned with Michigan MC3 state standards.

## K-8 SCIENCE

## Amplify

Amplify Science is a K–8 science curriculum that blends hands-on investigations, literacy-rich activities, and interactive digital tools to empower students to think, read, write, and argue like real scientists and engineers. The program engages students in scientific inquiry. Students use inquiry to develop questions and apply skills to plan how to find answers to the questions. This leads to opportunities such as conducting investigations through research, experiments and interviews with experts. Students then reflect on the learning, make connections between content and their everyday lives and share the outcomes of discoveries.

## Arabic Language

The Academy has developed a comprehensive kindergarten through eleventh grade standards-based Arabic curriculum focused on Michigan's 5 Cs (i.e. Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons and Communities). The Arabic language courses provide students with the tools necessary to communicate in real-life situations, to enhance cultural awareness and to inspire lifelong learning in a global society.

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Arabic is offered to all students on a daily basis. Proficiency levels are based on American Council of the Foreign Languages' ("ACTFL") pyramid beginning with novice (e.g., low, mid and high), continuing on to intermediate (e.g., low, mid and high) and ending with pre-advanced (e.g., low, mid and high).

Arabic thematic unit materials have been developed and are used in the classrooms. One theme per month is covered for eight consecutive months, allowing the month of June for review. Arabic language skills are developed sequentially and progressively from letters to words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs and final essay compositions. Unit assessments are teacher-made assessments and used with every unit. Furthermore, two proficiency assessments are given to measure annual progress in listening, reading and writing language skills.

## The Arabic language curriculum:

- 1. Provides assessment goals at each proficiency level aligned with national and state standards.
- 2. Provides a progression of communicative functions in the target language.
- 3. Recommends opportunities for authentic practice in communication.
- 4. Provides resources on a variety of cultural topics.
- 5. Promotes divergent and critical thinking.
- 6. Identifies cross-curricular activities.
- 7. Supports academic achievement in other disciplines.
- 8. Reinforces skills in the students' first language (reading comprehension, grammar/mechanics and writing/speaking).
- 9. Promotes awareness of a diverse multicultural society.
- 10. Provides opportunities for interpersonal interaction using the target language with native speakers.
- 11. Prepares the students to be global citizens by broadening the students' understanding of the world.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Co-curricular and the extra-curricular programs are integral parts of the Academy and provide a rich variety of activities for children to participate in after the academic program has finished, and during school hours. Sports, clubs, and activities are encouraged to enhance the personal, social, and physical skills of students as well as to support students as they explore various global cultures and strengthen their cognitive skills. Based on student interest, some of the offerings may include soccer, science, special art workshops, speech and debate teams, personality development classes, Foreign Language as well as other sports based on student and parent interest. Current GEE coand extracurricular activities at the Academy include: Art, Honor Society, National Honor Society, Robotics, Environmental Awareness, Student Council, Peer Mediation and numerous athletic opportunities, both inter- and intra-scholastic. Some activities are held weekly while others are offered periodically or as community resources and opportunities present themselves to enrich the students' experience.

The Academy students in the upper grades are encouraged to work in the local community as a part of the character education program in the curriculum. This not only prepares the older students for the world of work and higher education, but also gives back to the community.

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#### TECHNOLOGY

The Academy's guidelines for technology instruction are designed to equip students with the technology skills to use 21st Century tools to develop learning skills. The Academy has identified key computer technology topics with which students will demonstrate proficiency as students progress through the grades.

Code.org is dedicated to expanding access to computer science in schools and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. Every student in every academy has the opportunity to learn computer science, just like biology, chemistry or algebra, Code.org provides the leading curriculum for K-8 computer science in the largest school districts in the United States and Code.org also organizes the annual <u>Hour of Code</u> campaign which has engaged 10% of all students in the world.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The physical education curriculum is based on Michigan's physical education content expectations. The Academy uses the GEE Physical Education curriculum which is aligned to national and state standards. This curriculum is developed to instruct students in physical education and promote lifelong physical activity. The health education program includes requirements set forth by the State of Michigan. The Academy uses the Michigan Model for Health, which has been developed by Michigan educators to meet the state requirements for teaching health.

#### ART CURRICULUM

The art curriculum follows the MAS for Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Theatre for credit guidelines. To ensure students have a foundation and experience in the creative/artistic process, the units are developed as either stand-alone units or units that are incorporated into the core content curriculum. Each unit includes opportunities to engage in the dynamic artistic process using questions, problems, reflections and revisions to craft and shape the artistic vision. Students explore the history of artistic expression from a variety of time periods and cultures to develop a critical stance. Additionally, students use a variety of mediums (e.g., sculpture, painting, photography, calligraphy, graphic arts and textile design) to draft preliminary designs and revise/edit the preliminary work to meet the demands of a particular technique or concept. Students also engage in collaborative discussion and critiques to better refine creative work.

## **EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

The State of Michigan requires schools to provide an opportunity for students to begin developing an Educational Development Plan ("EDP") in Grade 7 and requires that every student has an EDP before entering high school. By preparing the initial EDP in middle school, students can better plan their high school curriculum to meet their post- school goals. The EDP is a secondary/postsecondary planning tool to direct the student's educational plan and career planning activities. The Academy uses a Web-based system, Xello, to help students write their education and career goals, including strategies and high school classes that will help them reach these goals. The development of the EDP is completed with the assistance of a school counselor, adept in career development facilitation. All students in grade 7 are required to develop an EDP with guidance from school advisors which is reviewed again in grade 8. When applicable, parents and community contacts are also included. EDPs are "living" documents, updated as student interests and abilities

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become more obvious and focused. A student's EDP is reviewed and updated on at least an annual basis. An EDP process could also include yearly work samples that document the student's progress toward anticipated goals and accomplishments. The academy establishes times to annually review EDPs and update them as students choose and change high school courses or career pathways.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

When making educational placement decisions for students with disabilities, the Academy will ensure that parents are contributing members of the Individualized Educational Program ("IEP") team and together the team will make decisions that are subject to requirements regarding provision of the least restrictive environment. When determining how services will be delivered to students with disabilities, the Academy will follow all Special Education Rules as issued by the Michigan Department of Education. If a child with a current IEP enrolls in the Academy, the Academy will implement the existing IEP to the extent possible or will provide an interim IEP agreed upon by parents until a new IEP can be developed. IEPs will be developed, revised and implemented in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act ("IDEIA") and state law and regulations.

The Academy will fully comply with federal laws and regulations governing children with disabilities as follows:

- 1. The Academy is responsible for providing a free, appropriate public education to children with disabilities enrolled in the Academy that have been determined through an IEP to require Special Education programs and services.
- 2. The Academy will ensure that children who are suspected of having disabilities are properly evaluated by a multidisciplinary team, as defined in the Michigan Special Education Rules, and that children who have already been identified are re-evaluated by the multidisciplinary team at least every three years.
- 3. When a multidisciplinary team determines that a special education student requires Special Education programs and services, the Academy will ensure that the IEP is fully implemented in accordance with IDEIA and reviewed on an annual basis or more frequently as determined by the IEP team.

## **EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT PLAN**

<b>Grade Level</b>	Assessment	When Administered
K-8	WIDA	Spring
K-8	NWEA® MAP® Growth <sup>™</sup> reading and math	Fall, Winter and Spring
K-8	Unit Common Assessments	Ongoing
3-8	Applicable State Assessment (MSTEP)	Spring
8	PSAT	Fall and Spring

Assessments are used to guide instruction for teachers, students and parents to plan learning throughout the school year. Each assessment provides teachers, students and parents with targets that prepare students for the challenges of college, work and life. The assessments are given at designated times throughout the school year and students receive regular feedback on academic progress. The Academy-based summative and formative assessments include developed pre- and

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post-unit assessments for all core content areas to determine students' progress in mastering the MAS. In addition, teachers meet biweekly in data teams to review students' progress toward the mastery of standards and develop tiered instruction to meet the needs of both struggling students and students who need to be challenged.

The NWEA® MAP® Growth™ assessment is the primary diagnostic and interim assessment used to determine the academic strengths and weaknesses of students. The detailed reports inform the administrator, teacher, parent and student of the areas of strength as well as areas where academic support is needed. Teachers and students develop an individual learning plan with annual goals for each student after the administration of the NWEA MAP assessment. The NWEA MAP assessment assists teachers and students in determining the focused areas of study for improvement during the year. Students are then assessed in the winter and spring of the same school year to determine academic progress. This data is also used in the classroom and with online programs, such as *Dreambox*, *Lexia Core 5* and *Power Up*. The online programs, accessed both at Academy and home, are used to improve mastery of concepts on specific standards.

In addition to standardized assessments and teacher-created formative and/or summative assessments, students are encouraged to ask questions, to inquire, explore and research in order to develop a broader sense of the world. With the support of instructional staff, students are able to make connections between the theoretical learning of the classroom and the application required in the community outside the Academy.

#### CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Academy places an emphasis on character development and cultural awareness on a global scale. Students learn about the values of Respect, Responsibility, Appreciation, Commitment, Cooperation, Creativity, Curiosity, Empathy, Integrity, Tolerance, which are integrated into the curriculum. In addition to character education, we are integrating SEL programs that focus on social emotional learning e.g. K-5 is using Second Step and 6-8 is using Ripple Effects.

## K-5 Social Emotional Learning Program: Second Step

Second Step is a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program designed to help students develop essential life skills such as empathy, emotion management, problem-solving, and responsible decision-making. It is widely used both side-wide and in classrooms. Second Step offers age-appropriate curricula for K-5 classrooms.

The program includes engaging lessons, interactive activities, and digital resources to support educators in fostering a positive classroom environment. Second Step aims to improve student behavior, and enhance overall academic success by equipping students with the tools to navigate social and emotional challenges effectively.

## 6-8 Social Emotional Learning Program: Ripple Effects

Ripple Effects is a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program that provides digital, personalized intervention and skill-building tools for students. It is designed to support behavior management, mental health, and equity by addressing individual student needs through interactive, multimedia content.

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The program covers a wide range of topics, including self-regulation, conflict resolution, resilience, and trauma-informed care. It uses adaptive technology to deliver tailored interventions, helping students develop emotional intelligence and coping strategies. Ripple Effects is commonly used in schools for both prevention and intervention, supporting students' social-emotional growth and overall well-being.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GEE believes that teaching is a unique combination of art and science requiring an understanding of the interrelationship of students, subject matter, school, and community. A growing body of research describes the science of teaching by delineating practices, philosophies, and dispositions that have proven to be effective in enhancing student learning and development.

When teachers consider their professional growth and development, it is important to reflect on the subtleties and nuances of the art of teaching while examining the skills and techniques of the science of teaching. An appreciation of both the art and science of teaching is at the heart of understanding the complexities of the profession.

Dialogue, reflection, and feedback about teaching are of utmost importance to the growth and development of teachers. GEE academies use the *Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching* for teachers and the *Marzano School Leader Evaluation Model* for principals.

In addition to the daily training afforded by the instructional coaching staff, GEE provides timely, job-embedded and targeted professional development ("PD") on the continuum:

- August PD days are held in "mini-conference" break-out session format wherein teachers select from myriad PD topics for which sessions are created and led by master teachers, consultants and/or instructional coaches.
- Three hours are reserved each Friday for needs-assessment-based PD (Curriculum, Instruction, Classroom management, content specific et al) and/or Teacher Collaboration Time.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM EVALUATION**

The Academy employs various methods to evaluate its education program to ensure it meets academic standards, student needs, and MICIP goals. As outlined above, these methods include:

The Academy uses standardized and normed tests such as NWEA and MSTEP to measure student achievement in core subjects like math, reading, and other core subjects. These tests provide quantitative data on student performance and help assess the effectiveness of curriculum and instruction.

Academy teachers regularly administer formative assessments (e.g., quizzes, classwork) to gauge student understanding and adjust instruction accordingly. Summative assessments (e.g., end-of-unit tests, final exams) are used to evaluate student learning longitudinally.

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The Academy ensures that curriculum content aligns with academic standards and learning objectives. Curriculum scope and sequence pacing guides help Academy teachers track the implementation of the curriculum with fidelity across grade levels and subjects.

The Academy principal, the instructional leader, conducts regular walkthroughs, classroom observations and teacher evaluations to assess instructional quality, adherence to curriculum standards, and the implementation of the ambitious instructional practices. Feedback from these evaluations informs professional development efforts.

Academy MTSS-Data teams analyze student performance data to identify trends, strengths, and areas for improvement. This also includes disaggregating data by demographic groups to address achievement gaps and ensure equity.

The Academy gathers feedback each spring from parents and students through surveys to assess satisfaction with the educational program, school climate, and extracurricular offerings. This input helps identify areas of success and areas needing improvement.

The Academy engages stakeholders, including parents, students, teachers, administrators, and community members in the evaluation process through principal coffees, Open Houses, Curriculum Nights and some committees that include parents and members of the community. These additional perspectives make for better informed decision-making and program improvement efforts.

The Academy reviews and audits the education program by external evaluators and accrediting agencies, such as Cognia<sup>®</sup> and the Academy's Authorizer, which provides an independent assessment of program effectiveness and compliance with Authorizer and Michigan Department of Education regulations.

The Academy uses data-driven decision-making processes, guided by the Academy's MTSS-Data Team Handbook to inform instructional strategies, resource allocation, and policy/program development. This approach ensures that decisions are grounded in/on both research and evidence and aimed at improving student outcomes.

The Academy has long established a cycle of continuous improvement through the work of its MICIP team, job-embedded professional development offerings, and its regular MTSS-Data cycles throughout each school year, wherein evaluation findings drive ongoing changes to its education program. This cyclical process, which also includes the curriculum research and renewal 5-year cycle for all core disciplines, ensures that the education program evolves in response to emerging needs and challenges.

By employing a combination of these evaluation methods, the Academy assesses the effectiveness of its education program comprehensively and makes informed decisions to enhance student learning and success.

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## SECTION D

## **CURRICULUM**

## **CURRICULUM**

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.4, the Academy shall implement, deliver, and support the curriculum identified in this schedule.

The Academy has adopted Benchmark Advance<sup>®</sup> English language arts ("ELA") for grades K-5; McGraw-Hill StudySync<sup>®</sup> ELA for grades 6-8; Bridges<sup>™</sup> in Mathematics for grades K-5; Amplify Desmos Math for grades 6-8; Amplify science for grades K-8; Savvas MyWorld Interactive social studies curriculum for grades K-5; TCI<sup>™</sup> Social Studies curriculum for grades 6-8; GEE Arabic curriculum for grades K-8; Michigan Model for Health<sup>™</sup>, and Exemplary Physical Education Curriculum ("EPEC<sup>™</sup>") as a curriculum.

The curriculum for all core subjects has been received, reviewed and approved by the Center.

•	Benchmark Education	https://gee-edu.benchmarkuniverse.com/
•	Study Sync	https://www.studysync.com/products/ela
•	Bridges In Mathematics	https://bridges.mathlearningcenter.org
•	Amplify Desmos Math	https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-desmos-math/
•	Amplify Science	https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-science/
•	Savvas My World/Realize	https://www.savvas.com/index.cfm?locator=PSZu4e
•	TCI Social Studies	https://www.teachtci.com/social-studies/
•	Michigan Model for Health	https://www.michiganmodelforhealth.org/
•	EPEC	http://www.michiganfitness.org/epec/

## **Elementary**

The following subjects/courses are offered at the Academy.

Course	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
IB PYP	X	X	X	X	X	X			
English Language Arts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mathematics	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Science	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Social Studies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Health	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Physical Education	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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## SECTION E METHODS OF PUPIL ASSESSMENT

## METHODS OF PUPIL ASSESSMENT

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.5, the Academy shall properly administer all state-mandated academic assessments identified in the Code, as applicable, and all academic assessments identified in the Public School Academy Chartering Policies adopted by the University Board, as applicable, in accordance with the requirements detailed in the Master Calendar annually issued by the Center.

The Academy shall authorize the Center to have access to the Academy's Student/School Data Applications through the Center for Educational Performance and Information and to the electronic reporting system administered by the Michigan Department of Education to access the Academy's state assessment results, as applicable. The Academy shall ensure that those involved with the administration of these assessments are properly trained and adhere to the ethical standards and testing procedures associated with these assessments.

#### **Academic Assessments to Be Administered:**

Assessments as identified in Schedule 7b of this Contract and all state-mandated assessments.

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# SECTION F <u>APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS</u>

## APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Sections 6.6 and 6.16, the Academy shall comply with the application and enrollment requirements identified in this Schedule.

## **Enrollment Limits**

The Academy will offer kindergarten through eighth grade. The maximum enrollment shall be 500 students. The Academy Board will annually adopt maximum enrollment figures prior to its application and enrollment period.

## Requirements

Section 504 of the Code provides that public school academies shall not charge tuition and shall not discriminate in its pupil admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a student with a disability, or any other basis that would be illegal if used by a Michigan school district. However, a public school academy may limit admission to pupils who are within a particular range of age or grade level or on any other basis that would be legal if used by a Michigan school district and may give enrollment priority as provided below.

- Academy enrollment shall be open to all individuals who reside in Michigan. Except for a foreign exchange student who is not a United States citizen, a public school academy shall not enroll a pupil who is not a Michigan resident.
- Academy admissions may be limited to pupils within a particular age range/grade level or on any other basis that would be legal if used by a Michigan school district.
- The Academy shall allow any pupil who was enrolled in the Academy in the immediately preceding school year to enroll in the Academy unless the appropriate grade is not offered.
- No student may be denied participation in the application process due to lack of student records.
- If the Academy receives more applications for enrollment than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected for enrollment through a random selection drawing.

The Academy may give enrollment priority to one (1) or more of the following:

- A sibling of a pupil enrolled in the Academy.
- A pupil who transfers to the Academy from another public school pursuant to a matriculation agreement between the Academy and other public school that provides for this enrollment priority, if all of the following requirements are met:
  - 1. Each public school that enters into the matriculation agreement remains a separate and independent public school.
  - 2. The Academy shall select at least 5% of its pupils for enrollment using a random selection process.
  - 3. The matriculation agreement allows any pupil who was enrolled at any time during elementary school in a public school that is party to the matriculation agreement and who was not expelled from the public school to enroll in the public school academy giving enrollment priority under the matriculation agreement.

Schedule 7f-1 Unity Academy

• A child, including an adopted child or legal ward, of a person who is employed by or at the Academy or who is on the Academy Board.

## **Matriculation Agreement**

- The Academy Board may enter into a matriculation agreement with another public school pursuant to section 504(4) of the Code.
- However, before the Academy Board approves a matriculation agreement, the Academy shall provide a draft copy of the agreement to the Center for review.
- Any matriculation agreement entered into by the Academy shall be added to this Schedule 7f through a contract amendment approved in accordance with Article IX in the Terms and Conditions of this Contract.

## **Application Process**

- The Academy shall make reasonable effort to advertise its enrollment openings.
- The Academy's open enrollment period shall be a minimum of two weeks (14 calendar days) in duration and shall include evening and weekend times.
- The Academy shall accept applications all year. If openings occur during the academic year, students shall be enrolled. If openings do not exist, applicants shall be placed on the official waiting list. The waiting list shall cease to exist at the beginning of the Academy's next open enrollment period.
- In the event there are openings in the class for which students have applied, students shall be admitted according to the official waiting list. The position on the waiting list shall be determined by the random selection drawing. If there is no waiting list, students shall be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The Academy may neither close the application period nor hold a random selection drawing for unauthorized grades prior to receipt of written approval from the Center.

## **Legal Notice or Advertisement**

- The Academy shall provide legal notice or advertisement of the application and enrollment process in a local newspaper of general circulation. A copy of the legal notice or advertisement shall be forwarded to the Center.
- At a minimum, the legal notice or advertisement must include:
  - 1. The process and/or location(s) for requesting and submitting applications.
  - 2. The beginning date and the ending date of the application period.
  - 3. The date, time, and place the random selection drawing(s) will be held, if needed.
- The legal notice or advertisement of the application period shall be designed to inform individuals that are most likely to be interested in attending the Academy.
- The Academy, being an equal opportunity educational institution, shall be committed to good-faith affirmative action efforts to seek out, create and serve a diverse student body.

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## **Re-enrolling Students**

- The Academy shall notify parents or guardians of all enrolled students of the deadline for notifying the Academy that they wish to re-enroll their child.
- If the Academy Board has a sibling preference policy, the re-enrollment notice must also request that the parent or guardian indicate whether a sibling(s) seeks to enroll for the upcoming academic year.
- An enrolled student who does not re-enroll by the specified date can only apply to the Academy during the application period for new students.
- An applicant on the waiting list at the time a new application period begins must reapply as a new student.
- After collecting the parent or guardian responses, the Academy must determine the following:
  - 1. The number of students who have re-enrolled per grade or grouping level.
  - 2. The number of siblings seeking admission for the upcoming academic year per grade.
  - 3. If space is unavailable, the Academy must develop a waiting list for siblings of re-enrolled students.
  - 4. The number of spaces remaining, per grade, after enrollment of current students and siblings.

## **Random Selection Drawing**

A random selection drawing is required if the number of applications exceeds the number of available spaces. Prior to the application period, the Academy shall:

- Establish written procedures for conducting a random selection drawing.
- Establish the maximum number of spaces available per grade or age grouping level.
- Establish the date, time, place and person to conduct the random selection drawing.
- Notify the Center of both the application period and the date of the random selection drawing, if needed. The Center may have a representative on-site to monitor the random selection drawing process.

The Academy shall use a credible, impartial individual who is not employed by, under contract with, a member of the Board of, or otherwise affiliated with the Academy to conduct the random selection drawing. Further, the Academy shall:

- Conduct the random selection drawing in a manner that is open to parents, community members and members of the public who want to observe the process.
- Use numbers, letters, or another system that guarantees fairness and does not give an advantage to any applicant.

The Academy shall notify applicants not chosen in the random selection drawing that they were not selected and that their name has been placed on the Academy's official waiting list for openings that may occur during the academic year. Students shall appear on the official waiting list in the order they were selected in the random selection drawing.

Schedule 7f-3 Unity Academy

# SECTION G SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

## SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.7, the Academy shall comply with the school calendar and school day schedule requirements identified in this Schedule.

## School Calendar

The Academy's school calendar shall comply with Sections 1175, 1284, and, if applicable, 1284a and 1284b, of the Code. The Academy's school calendar shall also comply with the minimum requirements set forth in Section 101 of the School Aid Act of 1979 (MCL 388.1701). The Academy Board must submit a copy of the Academy's school calendar to the Center in accordance with the Master Calendar.

## School Day Schedule

The Academy Board must structure the Academy's school day schedule to meet the required number of instructional days and hours. The Academy Board must submit the school day schedule to the Center prior to the commencement of each academic year.

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## SECTION H AGE OR GRADE RANGE OF PUPILS

## AGE OR GRADE RANGE FOR PUPILS TO BE ENROLLED

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article VI, Section 6.8, the Academy shall comply with the age or grade ranges as stated in this Schedule.

The Academy will enroll students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The Academy may add grades with the prior written approval of the authorizing body.

Students of the Academy will be children who have reached the age of 5 by the dates outlined in the Code.

Schedule 7h-1 Unity Academy

## **CONTRACT SCHEDULE 8**

INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND THE CENTER

## INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND THE CENTER

Pursuant to Applicable Law and the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article XI, Section 11.9, the Academy shall comply with this Schedule.

#### Information Available to the Public and the Center

The Code provides that the board of directors of a public school academy shall make information concerning its operation and management available to the public and to the Center in the same manner as is required by state law for school districts.

The Code provides that the board of directors of a public school academy shall collect, maintain, and make available to the public and the Center, in accordance with Applicable Law and the Contract, at least all of the following information concerning the operation and management of the Academy:

- 1. A copy of the Academy's Charter Contract.
- 2. A list of currently serving members of the Academy Board, including name, address, and term of office.
- 3. Copies of policies approved by the Academy Board.
- 4. The Academy Board meeting agendas and minutes.
- 5. The budget approved by the Academy Board and of any amendments to the budget.
- 6. Copies of bills paid for amounts of \$10,000.00 or more, as submitted to the Academy Board.
- 7. Quarterly financial reports submitted to the Center.
- 8. A current list of teachers and administrators working at the Academy that includes individual salaries as submitted to the Registry of Educational Personnel.
- 9. Copies of the teaching or administrator's certificates or permits of current teaching and administrative staff.
- 10. Evidence of compliance with the criminal background and records checks and unprofessional conduct check required under sections 1230, 1230a, and 1230b of the Code for all teachers and administrators working at the Academy.
- 11. Curriculum documents and materials given to the Center.
- 12. Proof of insurance as required by the Contract.
- 13. Copies of facility leases or deeds, or both.
- 14. Copies of any equipment leases.
- 15. Copies of any management contracts or services contracts approved by the Academy Board.
- 16. All health and safety reports and certificates, including those relating to fire safety, environmental matters, asbestos inspection, boiler inspection, and food service.
- 17. Annual financial audits and any management letters issued as part of the Academy's annual financial audit, required under Article VI, Section 6.11 of the Terms and Conditions of this Contract.
- 18. Any other information specifically required under the Code.

## Information to be Provided by the Academy's Educational Service Provider (if any)

Pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of this Contract, including Article III, Section 3.6, the University Board authorizes the Academy Board to employ or contract for personnel according to the position information outlined in Schedule 5. Any Educational Service Provider Management Agreement entered into by the Academy must contain a provision requiring the Educational Service Provider to provide to the Academy Board information concerning the operation and management of the Academy (including without limitation, but not limited to, the items identified above and annually the information that a school district is required to disclose under Section 18(2) of the State School Aid Act of 1979, MCL 388.1618) available to the Academy Board in order to enable the Academy to fully satisfy its obligations under Section 11.9(a) of the Terms and Conditions of Contract.

Schedule 8-1 Unity Academy