

For Immediate Release

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CMU Center for Charter Schools Recognized for Effective Oversight

MT. PLEASANT, MI (April 16, 2015) – The Michigan Department of Education Assurances and Verification Review of documents and procedures has confirmed once again that The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University has successfully met the 16 critical public school academy oversight processes. The MDE also commended the Center for its sharing of authorizing best practices.

Cindy Schumacher, the Center’s executive director, said, “We are dedicated to implementing an effective and fair oversight system that holds our 62 charter public schools accountable. While oversight is our legislative mandate, we strive to ensure that our 31,000 students are successful academically.”

The graduation rate of CMU-authorized charter public schools is 81 percent, compared to the statewide average of 79 percent. Data shows that continuously enrolled students in CMU charter schools, for at least three years nearly meet or exceed the statewide average in reading and math MEAP scores.

In addition to the MDE verification, CMU has been recognized by the Center for Education Reform “as one of the top charter school authorizers in the country,” and by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers as a “model authorizer.”

MDE completes charter school authorizer assurance and verification reviews of each authorizer every three years. CMU’s last review was in 2012.

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About The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools

CMU, the first university authorizer of charter public schools, is a state and national leader in the charter school movement, with 20 years of experience launching, supporting and overseeing charter public schools. CMU created The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools to support the schools it charters. The university currently authorizes 62 schools serving nearly 31,000 students throughout the state. For more information, please visit www.TheCenterForCharters.org.