

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



1996-97
CHARTER SCHOOLS
ANNUAL REPORT

DIVISION OF
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

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HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

In December 1993, the Michigan Legislature passed Public Act 362, Part 6, the first charter school law. This law allowed four educational entities in the state of Michigan to authorize and issue charters for public school academies: public universities, community colleges, intermediate school districts and local school districts. The law was challenged in the courts in 1994 and was found unconstitutional in the lower courts.

During the fall of 1994, the legislature passed new legislation, Public Act 416 (Part 6B), under which most charters were issued during the following two years. During the summer of 1997, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that both Parts 6 of Public Act 362 and 6B of Public Act 416 were indeed constitutional. The public act places a limitation on the number of charters issued by Michigan's 15 public universities. For 1996, the limit was 85. The limit was increased to 100 for 1997, 125 for 1998 and 150 for 1999. Currently there is no limit on the number of charters issued by all other authorizing entities.

During the fall of 1995, Eastern Michigan University began to make plans to create a Charter School Office. Dr. Joseph F. Pollack, former school superintendent in Ypsilanti and Flint, Michigan, and Evanston, Illinois, was appointed as consultant to create the new Charter School Office. In January 1996, the

new Charter School Office at Eastern Michigan was opened with Dr. Pollack as the interim director. During the first six months of operation, the office interviewed 27 groups, individuals, and schools that were interested in establishing public school academies. Following these interviews, 21 applications were mailed to those parties that received additional consideration. Of that number, 11 responses were received by the April 10, 1996, deadline. The major obstacles to the applicants were the acquisition of school facilities that could be approved under the present Michigan School Code, and financial constraints, particularly in the area of start-up costs.

During the spring of 1996, the University appointed a broad-based review committee to assist Dr. Pollack in recommending applicants for approval to the Board of Regents. The committee members included Dean Jerry Robbins, College of Education; Dr. Susan Kattelus, professor of accounting in the College of Business; Dr. Thomas Fleming, representing the Provost's Office; and Dr. Pollack. In April 1996, the committee reviewed four final applications for approval and selected two schools to be the first charter schools approved by Eastern Michigan University's Board of Regents.

C RITERIA FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS

The state law lists the following rationale for creating charter schools:

1. To improve pupil achievement for all students.
2. To stimulate innovative teaching methods.
3. To create new professional opportunities for teachers in the new type of public school.
4. To achieve school accountability per pupil education performances by placing the responsibility at the school site level.
5. To provide parents and pupils with greater choice among public schools both within and outside their existing school districts.
6. To determine whether state educational funds can be more effectively and efficiently utilized by allocating directly to the school rather than through a school district.
2. **Open enrollment** — A charter school may not screen students, but may limit the number it serves. It must conduct a lottery through a random selection process if applications exceed its enrollment quota.
3. **Core curriculum** — Although the state has not mandated a core curriculum, it has been recommended as a framework for all public schools.
4. **State laws and regulations** — As public schools, charter schools are subject to all laws and regulations that apply to public schools, including parts 6A and 6B of the School Code.
5. **Charter school funding** — Charter schools receive the state foundation grant at a per pupil basis. The foundation grant per pupil during 1996-97 was \$5,850. This level of funding cannot exceed the amount received by the local school district. In addition, charter schools cannot charge tuition.

The state law allows the establishment of charter schools and sets criteria for their operation. These include:

1. **Certified teachers** — Teachers must be certified just as they are at other public schools.
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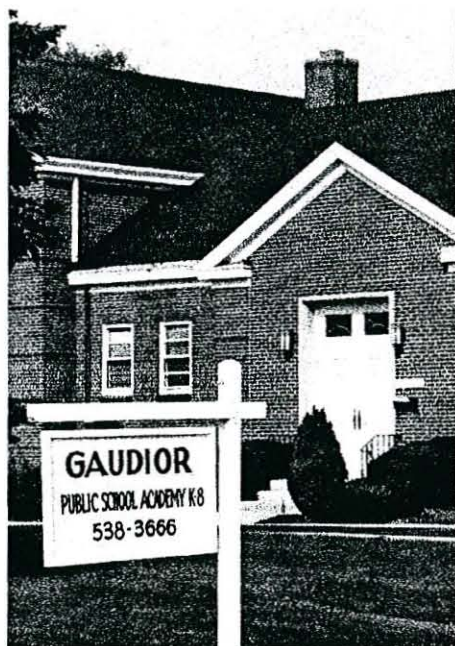
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S CHARTER SCHOOLS

Gaudior Academy

In May 1996, the Board of Regents approved a charter for the Gaudior Academy of Redford, Michigan, as Eastern Michigan University's first charter school. Gaudior received its contract (charter) in July 1996. Gaudior is a K through 8 theme-based, innovative school which initially enrolled 75 students. During the current year, Gaudior has moved to Inkster, Michigan, has enrolled 175 students, and still maintains a waiting list. Gaudior experienced great success during the 1996-97 school year. It was able to meet the educational goals which had been set to develop innovative programs for its students. The Michigan Education Assessment Program Test (MEAP) was given six weeks after the school opened. The students scored below state average, reflecting their past experiences in other schools. Following the issuance of the MEAP scores, Gaudior held a series of teacher workshops in reading and math during the spring in conjunction with the Collaborative Education Department at Eastern Michigan University. We expect the MEAP scores to be significantly higher during their second year of operation. Gaudior is in

good financial condition, having achieved the five percent fund balance which the University had requested in the charter.

During 1996-97, Gaudior's teaching staff included six certificated teachers and one principal-teacher. The student body was 33 percent African-American, 60 percent Caucasian, and seven percent other (including Hispanic and Asian). For the 1997-98 school year the staff has increased to 17 certified teachers. The student body is 46 percent African-American, 44 percent Caucasian, and ten percent other.

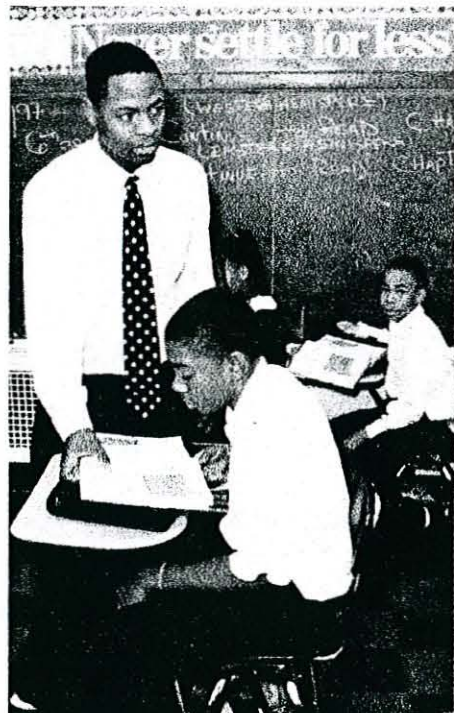
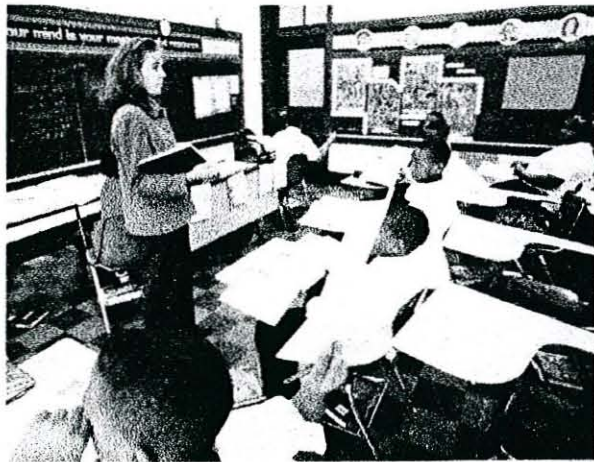


Commonwealth Community Development Academy

The second charter school approved by the Board of Regents was the Commonwealth Community Development Academy of Detroit, Michigan, in June 1996. This school received its contract (charter) in August of 1996 from the University. During the 1996-97 school year, Commonwealth Academy enrolled 175 students in grades 6 through 8 in a middle school program which stresses math and science for its students, some of whom are at-risk students. During the current year, Commonwealth Academy has enrolled 280 students. Commonwealth Academy also had lower than state average MEAP test scores. Again, MEAP tests were administered after only six weeks of operation during the 1996-97 school year. For the present school year, Commonwealth has hired reading

and math teachers to assist students in achieving higher MEAP test scores and greater achievement in academic areas. Commonwealth Academy experienced a slight deficit due to a decision to operate a summer program for at-risk students. The state at-risk money is given through Section 31. The grant was received late in June 1997 and caused a deficit for the 1996-97 operating year budgets.

During 1996-97 Commonwealth's teaching staff included nine certificated teachers, a principal, and an executive director for business. The student body was 98 percent African-American, and two percent other. For the 1997-98 school year, the staff has increased to 14 certified teachers. The student body composition remains the same.



Common Elements

These first two charter schools were characterized by various common elements. They had a shared vision for their teachers and parents and a common philosophy to develop their own unique approach to education. In addition, both schools offer broad choice for parents and are able to attract from a broad geographical area. Both Gaudior and Commonwealth are independent schools that offer site-based management and develop their own governing structure, budget, instructional design, and professional development plans. In both schools, the school community is directly involved in participating in the school life. Since they are relatively small, they preserve this sense of community in their educational approach.

Academy for Business and International Studies

During the fall of 1996, the Review Committee met again to look at potential charter schools for Eastern Michigan University for the 1997-98 school year. In October 1996, the committee approved the Academy for Business and International Studies in Dearborn Heights to be recommended to the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents. The Academy for Business and International Studies is a grade 7 through 12 secondary school which specializes in international business and foreign languages. The Board of Regents approved this academy at its November 1996 meeting. The Academy of Business and International Studies signed a contract (charter) with the University in February 1997. The school opened in September 1997 and currently enrolls 145 students with a staff of six certified teachers and a school principal. The student body is 55 percent Caucasian and 45 percent African-American.

Great Lakes Academy

In February 1997, the Review Committee recommended a fourth charter school to be approved by the Board of Regents. The Great Lakes Academy in Pontiac, Michigan, is a K through 3 elementary school which specializes in early elementary curriculum stressing reading and math, as well as creative arts. Eastern Michigan University's Board of Regents approved Great Lakes Academy at its March 1997 meeting. The Great Lakes Academy signed a contract (charter) with the University in May 1997, and the academy opened in September 1997 with 192 students, consisting of 92 percent African-American and eight percent Caucasian. The staff includes eight certified teachers and a principal.

CornerStone Academy

In July 1997, the Board of Regents approved the CornerStone Academy of Tecumseh, Michigan. CornerStone was unable to begin operation in September of 1997 due to financial difficulties. Financing continues to plague many charter schools, particularly in their start-up situations. In October 1997, the Academy applied for, and has been assured of, a grant from the Herrick Foundation. It plans to begin operation in September 1998 with 300 students.

Demands for applications continue to be very high. The three most recent charter schools were selected from a group of 25 inquiries and applications which the University received. On almost a daily basis, we are contacted by individuals and groups wishing to begin work on charters. Presently, there are 18 applicants for two or three additional charters by Eastern Michigan University.

FUTURE ISSUES IN AUTHORIZING CHARTER SCHOOLS

There are many issues which face the authorization of charter schools by state universities. The major obstacle remains the "cap" on the number of charters which can be issued. For the current year of 1997-98, there are only 25 additional charters for all state universities. There are at least ten times that number of applicants as we have discovered in meetings with other institutions. The universities and other authorizers conduct round table meetings on a monthly basis to review the status of applicants and are attempting to request that the legislature lift the current limitation on charters authorized by state universities. The Michigan Association of Public School Academies, an independent state organization, has been instrumental in making these requests to the governor and state legislators.

Another major issue facing charter schools is academic achievement as reported in the media. The Michigan Education Assessment Program is a high profile testing program which is required by the state of Michigan. Since charter schools have just begun their operations, test scores do not reflect the progress or lack of progress by students in charter schools. As stated in the charters of the school, a period of two to three years is needed before test scores will reflect the accomplishments of the academic programs

in charter schools. Nevertheless, charter schools are accountable for student progress just as any other public school.

Finally, additional legislation designed to increase the oversight from state universities and other authorizers continues to be discussed in Lansing. Although the current school code is very specific in defining oversight, some of the current legislation would create problems for the charter schools and their authorizers if the compliance issues go beyond what regular public school districts are required to do. Charter schools were created to reduce regulations and be directly accountable to the families they serve. The monthly round table meeting participants are currently discussing this issue.

UNIVERSITY OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

With the University's authorization of charter schools, the Charter School Office became responsible for the oversight of these schools as pointed out in the legislation which created the public school academies. Among the oversight responsibilities are:

1. To issue a valid contract that lists all the terms of the charter school agreement between Eastern Michigan University and the academy.
2. To serve as the fiscal agent to process state aid payment.
3. To recommend to the Board of Regents the academy's Board of Directors and replacement members for vacancies on that board.
4. To conduct a review of the Academy's Annual Financial Report and to require Quarterly Financial Reports.
5. To review and evaluate the Annual Operating Budget.
6. To monitor all applicable school code requirements, including approvals by the fire marshal and health officials, and all insurance documents.
7. To monitor certification of teaching staff.
8. To review the Annual Education Report/School Improvement Plan, as well as MEAP test results as stated in the educational goals of the school.
9. To assist the charter school with consultants and resources in helping them achieve their educational mission.
10. To work with various governmental units, including the Michigan Department of Education and intermediate school districts.
11. To provide training, when requested, for staff/administrator/board members on an as-needed basis.
12. To maintain open lines of communication between Eastern Michigan University and the charter school.

In order to maintain a charter contract, the public school academy must:

1. Meet educational goals.
2. Maintain an adequate enrollment.
3. Remain in compliance with state and federal laws.
4. Be financially solvent.
5. Fulfill all terms of the contract.
6. Provide information upon request by the University, i.e., school board meeting minutes, financial audit, purchase bid contracts, etc.

As authorizer, Eastern Michigan University must provide sufficient oversight to charter schools to ensure compliance with state statutes, rules, terms of the contract, and applicable law. An administrative fee of three percent of state aid funds is charged for providing oversight of the charter.

APPENDIX

A

1997-98 CHARTER SCHOOL GOALS

- 1 To create and provide oversight for two new public school academies for the 1997-98 school year, and to recruit and develop two to three additional charter schools for the 1998-99 school year.
- 2 To present an Annual Report on Charter Schools (1996-97) to the Board of Regents and to develop appropriate policies and assessments for charter schools.
- 3 To create partnerships with our Charter Schools as education centers in collaboration with Eastern Michigan University's colleges and departments.

APPENDIX

B

CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZERS ROUND TABLE MEMBERS

Central Michigan University
Blanche Fraser, Director

Eastern Michigan University
Joseph F. Pollack, Director

Grand Valley State University
Patrick Sandro, Director

Northern Michigan University
Margaret Goldthorpe, Director

Oakland University
Angela Melhado, Director

Saginaw Valley State University
Wayne Vasher, Director

Wayne RESA
Kathleen Cummins, Director

Governor's Office
David Winters, Director

**Michigan Association of Public
School Academies**
James Goenner, Director

APPENDIX

C

**APPROVAL LETTERS
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

July 30, 1996

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Vice President
Dorothy Beardmore
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Barbara Roberts Mason
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Kathleen N. Straus
NABE Delegate
Ruth A. Braun
Sharon A. Wise
Gary L. Wolfram

GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
Ex Officio



ARTHUR E. ELLIS
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Dr. Joseph F. Pollack
Director, Charter Schools Office
Eastern Michigan University
207 Welch Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Dear Dr. Pollack:

Please be advised that the Gaudior Academy, approved to be operated by the Board of Trustees of Eastern Michigan University by agreement dated July 30, 1996, is a Michigan public school academy.

I have instructed my Accounting Division to prepare the necessary paperwork to process state school aid. The code number for Gaudior Academy is 82911.

Congratulations and best wishes on a successful venture. My compliments to you and the Eastern Michigan University for your leadership in this educational endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur E. Ellis'.

Arthur E. Ellis

C: Rosemarie J. Gonzales



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

September 9, 1996

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SABE Delegate
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Sharon A. Wise
Gary T. Wolfram

GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
Ex Officio



ARTHUR E. ELLIS
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Dr. Joseph F. Pollack
Director
Charter Schools Office
Eastern Michigan University
207 Welch Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Dear Dr. Pollack:

Please be advised that the Commonwealth Community Development Academy, approved to be operated by the Board of Trustees of Eastern Michigan University by agreement dated September 4, 1996, is a Michigan public school academy.

I have instructed my Accounting Division to prepare the necessary paperwork to process state school aid. The code number for the Commonwealth Community Development Academy is 82919.

Congratulations and best wishes on a successful venture. My compliments to you and the Eastern Michigan University for your leadership in this educational endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur E. Ellis'.

Arthur E. Ellis



ARTHUR E. ELLIS
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

February 13, 1997

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Treasurer
Herbert S. Moyer
NASBE Delegate
Clark Durant
Sharon A. Wise
Gary L. Wolfram

GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
Ex Officio

Dr. Joseph F. Pollack
Director, Charter Schools Office
Eastern Michigan University
207 Welch Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Dear Dr. Pollack:

Please be advised that the Academy for Business and International Studies, approved to be operated by the Board of Trustees of Eastern Michigan University by agreement dated January 31, 1997, is a Michigan public school academy.

I have instructed my Accounting Division to prepare the necessary paperwork to process state school aid. The code number for the Academy for Business and International Studies is 82921.

Congratulations and best wishes on a successful venture. My compliments to you and the Eastern Michigan University for your leadership in this educational endeavor.

Sincerely,

Arthur E. Ellis

C: Nagi Musleh, Academy for Business and International Studies
Wayne County RESA

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

June 20, 1997



ARTHUR E. ELLIS
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

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Clark Durant
Sharon A. Wise
Gary L. Wolfram

GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
Ex Officio

Dr. Joseph F. Pollack
Director, Charter Schools Office
Eastern Michigan University
207 Welch Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Dear Dr. Pollack:

Please be advised that the Great Lakes Academy, approved to be operated by the Board of Trustees of Eastern Michigan University by agreement dated May 30, 1997, is a Michigan public school academy.

I have instructed my Accounting Division to prepare the necessary paperwork to process state school aid. The code number for Great Lakes Academy is 63907.

Congratulations and best wishes on a successful venture. My compliments to you and Eastern Michigan University for your leadership in this educational endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Arthur E. Ellis'.

Arthur E. Ellis

c: William Gray, Great Lakes Academy
Oakland Intermediate School District



APPENDIX

D

**CHARTER SCHOOLS
ACROSS MICHIGAN**

CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS MICHIGAN

A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School,
Southfield

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy for Business and International Studies,
Dearborn Heights

Authorizer: Eastern Michigan University

Academy for Plastics Manufacturing Technology, Port
Huron

Authorizer: St. Clair ISD

Academy for Technology and Enterprise, Saginaw

Authorizer: Saginaw ISD

Academy of Detroit East, Oak Park

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy of Detroit Oak Park, Oak Park

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy of Detroit Southfield, Southfield

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy of Detroit West, Detroit

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy of Detroit Westland, Westland

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Academy of Health and Science, Grand Rapids

Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Academy of Michigan, Ferndale

Authorizer: Oakland University

Aisha Shule/W.E.B. Dubois Preparatory Academy,
Detroit

Authorizer: Detroit Public Schools

Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy, Sault
Ste. Marie

Authorizer: Northern Michigan University

Bay Arenac Community High School Academy,
Essexville

Authorizer: Bay-Arenac ISD

Benito Juarez Academy, Saginaw

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Black River Public School, Holland

Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Casman Alternative Academy, Manistee

Authorizer: Manistee Area Public Schools

Central Academy, Ann Arbor

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Cesar Chavez Academy, Detroit

Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Chandler Park Academy, Detroit

Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Chatfield School (The), Lapeer

Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Colin Powell Academy, Detroit

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Commonwealth Community Development Academy,
Detroit

Authorizer: Eastern Michigan University

Concord Academy, Petoskey

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Concord Academy Boyne, Boyne City

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Countryside Charter School, Benton Harbor

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Creative Learning Academy of Science, Mathematics
and Humanities, Beaverton

Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Cross Creek Charter Academy, Byron Center

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Curtis House Academy, Frankenmuth

Authorizer: Saginaw ISD

da Vinci Institute (The), Jackson

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Dearborn Academy (The), Dearborn

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences, Detroit

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Detroit Community High School, Detroit

Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Detroit School of Industrial Arts, Detroit

Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Discovery Elementary School, Fennville

Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Dove Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Oakland University

Eagle's Crest Charter Academy, Holland
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz Academy, Lansing
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Elbert T. Clark Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Oakland University

Excel Charter Academy, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Gateway Middle High School, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Gaudior Academy, Inkster
Authorizer: Eastern Michigan University

Grattan Academy, Belding
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Great Lakes Academy, Pontiac
Authorizer: Eastern Michigan University

Heart Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Henry Ford Academy of Manufacturing, Arts & Science, Dearborn
Authorizer: Wayne RESA

Honey Creek Community School, Ann Arbor
Authorizer: Washtenaw ISD

Horizons Community High School, Wyoming
Authorizer: Wyoming Public Schools

Island City Academy, Eaton Rapids
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

King Academy, Inkster
Authorizer: Inkster Public Schools

Knapp Charter Academy, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Lake Bluff Academy - Brethren, Manistee
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Lakeshore Public Academy, Hart
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Learning Center Academy (The), Byron Center
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Livingston Developmental Academy, Howell
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Livingston Technical Academy, Howell
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Macomb Academy, Clinton Township
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Martin Luther King, Jr. Education Center Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Detroit Public Schools

Marvin L. Winans Academy of Performing Arts, Detroit
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Michigan Automotive Academy, Taylor
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Michigan Early Elementary Center, Lansing
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Michigan Health Academy, Southgate
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Mid-Michigan Public School Academy, Lansing
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Midland Academy of Advanced and Creative Studies (The), Midland
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Morey Charter School, Shepherd
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Mosaica Academy of Saginaw, Saginaw
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Nah Tah Wahsh Public School Academy, Wilson
Authorizer: Northern Michigan University

Nataki Talibah Schoolhouse of Detroit, Detroit
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

New Branches Academy, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

New Directions Institute, Pontiac
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

New School for Creative Learning, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Northside Preparatory School, Kalamazoo
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Northwest Academy, Charlevoix
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Nsoroma Institute, Highland Park
Authorizer: Oakland University

Oasis Academy, Southfield
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Pansophia Academy, Coldwater
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Plymouth Educational Center Charter School, Detroit
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Questar Academy, Flint
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Renaissance Public School Academy, Mt. Pleasant
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Saginaw County Transitional Academy, Saginaw
Authorizer: Saginaw ISD

Sankofa Shule, Lansing
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Sauk Trail Academy, Hillsdale
Authorizer: Hillsdale ISD

SER Casa Environmental and Technological Academy,
Detroit
Authorizer: Wayne RESA

Sierra Leone Educational Outreach Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

St. Clair County Learning Academy, Port Huron
Authorizer: St. Clair ISD

Summit Academy, Flat Rock
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Sunrise Educational Center, Tawas
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Thomas Gist Academy, Westland
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Threshold Academy, Greenville
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Traverse Bay Community School, Traverse City
Authorizer: Saginaw Valley State University

Tri-High, Ishpeming
Authorizer: Northern Michigan University

TriValley Academy, Muskegon
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Turtle Island Learning Circle, Redford
Authorizer: Oakland University

University Public School, Detroit
Authorizer: Wayne State University

Vanderbilt Academy, Holland
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Vanguard Charter Academy, Wyoming
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Vista Charter Academy, Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Walden Green Day School, Spring Lake
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Walker Charter Academy, Walker
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

Walter French Academy of Business and Technology,
Lansing
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Warwick Pointe Academy, Grand Blanc
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Washtenaw Technical Middle College, Ann Arbor
Authorizer: Washtenaw Community College

West Michigan Academy for Arts & Academics,
Grand Haven
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

West Michigan Academy for Hospitality Sciences,
Grand Rapids
Authorizer: Grand Valley State University

West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science,
Walker
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

Windover High School, Midland
Authorizer: Midland County ISD

Woodward Academy, Detroit
Authorizer: Central Michigan University

APPENDIX

E

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOL MEDIA RELEASES**

Eastern Michigan University

Public Information Office (313) 487-4400
18 Welch Hall, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

 Daily Audio Tape Service NEWSLINE 487-2460

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 21, 1996
CONTACT: Pat Mroczek

REGENTS AUTHORIZE EMU'S FIRST CHARTER SCHOOL IN REDFORD

YPSILANTI — The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents authorized Gaudior Academy in Redford as the University's first charter school at its regular meeting today (May 21).

In addition, the board appointed a five-member board of directors and authorized EMU President William E. Shelton to negotiate and execute a contract with Gaudior Academy, currently located in the lower level of St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile Road in Redford. The academy leases space from the church, but is not affiliated with it.

Board members appointed are Christine Allard McCreary, a Gaudior teacher from Southfield; Valorie Robinson, a tax accountant with BDO Seidman and Gaudior parent from Detroit; Michael Schira, building center manager for Canfield Community Center, from Dearborn Heights; Terri Shapiro, president and owner of Terri Shapiro Public Relations, from Farmington Hills; and Elaine Whisenand, an internship psychotherapist from Birmingham. The terms of appointment for the initial board members range from one to three years, although subsequent board appointments will be for three years each.

Charter schools are public schools of choice, which are legally independent and operate under contract to an authorized public body. Under Michigan legislation, they are created to develop benchmarks to improve all public schools through competition for students.

Schools receive \$5,700 per student. Charter schools may not charge tuition and must employ certified teachers. Charter schools also must comply with all state and federal statutes, the Michigan School Code and all civil rights standards.

In 1994, EMU's Board of Regents was authorized by Act No. 416 to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies, also known as charter schools. In 1996, EMU hired consultant Dr. Joseph Pollack, former superintendent of the Ypsilanti, Flint and Evanston, Ill., school districts, to assist with both establishing a process and making recommendations for the authorization of one or more public school academies. After meeting with 27 interested groups, individuals and schools and mailing 21 applications, EMU received seven applications by the April 10 deadline.

A review committee consisting of Pollack; Dr. Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education; Dr.

-more-

Thomas Fleming, special assistant to the provost; and Dr. Susan Katellus, professor of accounting, reviewed applications and recommended authorization of Gaudior Academy as a public school academy. The committee also recommended continuing negotiations with two other applicants.

Gaudior is a teacher-directed school founded five years ago on the philosophy that "children learn best when they are actively involved in the learning process." Academy officials expect to enroll 50 to 60 students in kindergarten through eighth grades during the 1996-97 academic year. The academy's curriculum uses investigative studies presented in multiple-age classes, with a student-teacher ratio of about 15-1.

Students will be grouped in four age divisions: 5-7 years, 7-9 years, 9-11 years and 10-13 years. Currently, the school has five classrooms and an administrative office.

Gaudior Academy is expected to open as a charter school Sept. 4, 1996, and provide 181 days of instruction through June 13, 1997. There will be a full-time administrator and four new teachers to supplement the three teachers currently on staff with specialties in science, language arts and music. The school will be seeking two full-time homeroom teachers and two part-time teachers with specialties in art and Spanish.

EMU will receive an administrative fee of \$8,550 to \$10,260 as Gaudior's authorizing public body.

Eastern Michigan University

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 18, 1996
CONTACT: Pat Mroczek

EMU REGENTS AUTHORIZE CHARTER FOR 'AT-RISK' MIDDLE SCHOOL IN DETROIT

YPSILANTI — The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents authorized Commonwealth Development Community Public School Academy in Detroit as the University's second charter school during its regular meeting today (June 18). The Commonwealth Academy will be targeted at, but not limited to, at-risk students in grades six through eight and will use a curriculum focused on mathematics and science.

In addition, the board appointed a five-member board of directors and authorized EMU President William E. Shelton to negotiate and execute a contract with Commonwealth Development Community Public School Academy, which will be located at 8809 Schoolcraft in Detroit.

Board members appointed are Brian P. Grady, Novi resident and divisional controller for Edw. C. Levy Co. in Dearborn; Jeannette Dickens Hale, Detroit resident, substitute teacher at The Foreign Language Immersion and Cultural Studies School (a specialized elementary school) in Detroit and a Commonwealth Academy parent; Stephanie Denise Shepherd, Detroit resident and claims specialist with State Farm Insurance Co. in Livonia; Joseph H. Williams, Detroit resident and instructor at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit; and Kathryn J. Yanez, Troy resident and manager/assistant vice president of First of America Bank Michigan in Detroit. The terms of appointment for the initial board members range from one to three years, although subsequent board appointments will be for three years each.

Charter schools are public schools of choice, which are legally independent and operate under contract to an authorized public body. Under Michigan legislation, they are created to develop benchmarks to improve all public schools through competition for students.

Schools receive \$5,700 per student. Charter schools may not charge tuition and must employ certified teachers. Charter schools also must comply with all state and federal statutes, the Michigan School Code and all civil rights standards.

In 1994, EMU's Board of Regents was authorized by Act. No. 416 to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies, also known as charter schools. In 1996, EMU hired consultant

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Dr. Joseph Pollack, former superintendent of the Ypsilanti, Flint, and Evanston, Ill., school districts, to assist with both establishing a process and making recommendations for the authorization of one or more public school academies. After meeting with 27 interested groups, individuals and schools and mailing 21 applications, EMU received seven applications by the April 10 deadline. EMU Regents authorized Gaudior Academy in Redford as its first charter school May 21.

A review committee consisting of Pollack; Dr. Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education; Dr. Thomas Fleming, special assistant to the provost; and Dr. Susan Katellus, professor of accounting, reviewed applications and recommended the authorization of Commonwealth Development Community Public School Academy.

The academy is expected to enroll 250 students by fall 1996 and have a gradual increase to 500 students by its fifth year. The academy will employ 12 teachers, including a music/art teacher, physical education teacher and special education teacher. The anticipated student/teacher ratio is 21:1.

The school will be housed in a two-story, 20-classroom building and will include a separate multipurpose building, which will be used as a cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium. The academy will endeavor to develop basic competencies in communications, inquiry, analysis and problem solving and the development of moral and humane character. The focus will be on the scientific processes to "become knowledgeable, creative and diverse thinkers in a multicultural, multidimensional world." Students at the academy will be responsible for exhibiting "high self-esteem, high morals, high values, mental and physical health and computer literacy."

Academy officials expect to open the school Sept. 3, 1996, and provide 181 days of instruction through June 18, 1997.

As Commonwealth's authorizing public body, and based on a first-year enrollment of 250 students, EMU is expected to receive an administrative fee of \$42,750 in 1996-97.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Nov. 19, 1996
CONTACT: Pat Mroczek

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ACADEMY BECOMES EMU'S THIRD CHARTER SCHOOL

YPSILANTI — The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents, at its regular meeting today (Nov. 19), authorized the Academy for Business and International Studies in Dearborn Heights as the University's third charter school.

In addition, the board appointed a seven-member board of directors and authorized EMU President William E. Shelton to negotiate and execute a contract with the Academy for Business and International Studies, which will be located at 26123 McDonald in Dearborn Heights.

Board members appointed are James K. Burd, Livonia resident and procurement planning analyst for Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn; Barbara A. Grimm, Inkster resident and administrative manager for Staff Builders Health Care Services in Southfield; Suzanne R. Hamilton, Farmington Hills resident and career counselor for Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills; Mary Ray Brophy, Rochester Hills resident and attorney for Clark Hill P.L.C. in Birmingham; Charmaine Darnell Johnson, Detroit resident and research assistant for the Detroit Public Schools Office of Research, Evaluation and Testing; Barbara Sulik, Dearborn Heights resident and high school music teacher for Detroit Public Schools; Margaret E. Wilke, Redford Township resident and an Academy for Business and International Studies parent. The terms of appointment for the initial board members range from one to three years, although subsequent board appointments will be for three years each.

Charter schools are public schools of choice, which are legally independent and operate under contract to an authorized public body. Under Michigan legislation, they are created to develop benchmarks to improve all public schools through competition for students.

Schools receive an estimated \$6,000 per student. Charter schools may not charge tuition and must employ certified teachers. Charter schools also must comply with all state and federal statutes, the Michigan School Code and all civil rights standards.

In 1994, EMU's Board of Regents was authorized by Act No. 416 to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies, also known as charter schools. In 1996, EMU hired consultant Dr. Joseph Pollack, former superintendent of the Ypsilanti, Flint, and Evanston, Ill., school districts, to assist with both establishing a process and making recommendations for the authorization of one or

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more public school academies. In May, EMU Regents authorized Gaudior Academy in Redford as its first charter school, and in June, authorized Commonwealth Development Community Public School Academy in Detroit as its second charter school.

A review committee consisting of Pollack; Dr. Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education; Dr. Thomas Fleming, special assistant to the provost; and Dr. Susan C. Kattelus, assistant professor of accounting, reviewed applications and recommended the authorization of the Academy for Business and International Studies.

The school will be housed in a two-story, 13-classroom building and will be designed as a four-year high school program. The academy will strive to: prepare students for higher education in international studies and business with special emphasis on mathematics, science, economics, and traditional and non-traditional languages; prepare students for the world of work in international trade and foreign service; and train students in the fast-changing technological business sector in coordination with local school districts' Career Technical Centers.

Academy officials expect to open the school Aug. 18, 1997, and provide 194 days of instruction through June 12, 1998.

The Academy for Business and International Studies expects to enroll 300 students for 1997-98, which would result in an administrative fee of \$54,000 to be paid to EMU.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 18, 1997
CONTACT: Pat Mroczek

GREAT LAKES ACADEMY BECOMES EMU'S FOURTH CHARTER SCHOOL

YPSILANTI — The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents, at its regular meeting today (March 18), authorized the Great Lakes Academy in Pontiac as the University's fourth charter school. The academy is an elementary school that motivates students in core academic curriculum areas and targets an appreciation for art, music, drama, dance and technology.

In addition, the board appointed six members of the seven-member board of directors. The board also authorized EMU President William E. Shelton to negotiate and execute a contract with the Great Lakes Academy, which will be housed in the former Weaver School, 204 W. New York, in Pontiac.

Board members appointed are Harebell Childress, a Holly resident and former principal of the Will Rogers Elementary School in Pontiac; William S. Gray, a Bloomfield Hills resident and vice president of the First of Michigan Corporation; Mattie McKinney Hatchett, a Pontiac resident and former principal and former coordinator of schools and field services for Oakland University; John Kobasa, a Lake Orion resident and vice president of engineering and construction operations at CMS Gas Transmission and Storage; Richard Manner, a Canton resident and director of automotive operations at Adistra Automotive; and Samuel Moti, a Grosse Pointe Farms resident and president of Moti Enterprises International. The seventh director, a parent, will be named at a later date. The terms of appointment for the initial board members range from one to three years; subsequent board appointments will be for three years each.

Charter schools are public schools of choice, which are legally independent and operate under contract to an authorized public body. Under Michigan legislation, they are created to develop benchmarks to improve all public schools through competition for students.

Schools receive an estimated \$6,000 per student. Charter schools may not charge tuition and must employ certified teachers. Charter schools also must comply with all state and federal statutes, the Michigan School Code and all civil rights standards.

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In 1994, EMU's Board of Regents was authorized by Act. No. 416 to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies, also known as charter schools. In 1996, EMU hired Dr. Joseph Pollack, former superintendent of the Ypsilanti, Flint and Evanston, Ill., school districts, to assist with both establishing a process and making recommendations for the authorization of one or more public school academies. In May 1996, EMU Regents authorized Gaudior Academy in Redford as its first charter school; in June, approved Commonwealth Development Community Public School Academy in Detroit as its second charter school; and in November, authorized the Academy for Business and International Studies in Dearborn Heights as its third charter school.

A review committee consisting of Pollack; Dr. Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education; Dr. Thomas Fleming, special assistant to the provost; and Dr. Susan C. Kattelus, assistant professor of accounting, reviewed applications and recommended the authorization of the Great Lakes Academy.

The school will be housed in a 13-classroom building and is designed as an elementary school consisting of grades K-3. The academy will strive to provide an environment which promotes and provides practical knowledge to become productive and responsible citizens in the 21st century and will prepare students to function in a complex, ever-changing world by cultivating habits which promote a positive self-concept.

Academy officials expect to open the school Aug. 25, 1997, and provide 183 days of instruction through June 12, 1998.

The Great Lakes Academy expects to enroll 192 students in grades K-3 for 1997-98, which would result in an administrative fee of \$34,560 to be paid to EMU. The academy expects to enroll 240 students in K-4 in 1998-99 and 288 students in grades K-5 in 1999-2000.