COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Hearing Regarding Cyber Charter School Application

Notice is hereby given that the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) previously scheduled six dates for a public hearing regarding cyber charter school applications anticipated to be received prior to, or on, October 1, 2015. PDE only received one application, Advance Cyber Charter School, and will hold the hearing on Monday, November 2, 2015.

The other hearing dates have been canceled:

- November 5, 2015  Canceled
- November 9, 2015  Canceled
- November 12, 2015  Canceled
- November 18, 2015  Canceled
- November 20, 2015  Canceled

The Monday, November 2, 2015 will be held Heritage Room A on the lobby level of 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The hearing will pertain to Advance Cyber Charter School, which is seeking to operate a cyber charter school beginning in the 2016-17 school year. The purpose of the hearing is to gather information from the applicant about the proposed cyber charter school, as well as receive comments from interested individuals regarding the applications. The name of the applicant, copy of the application and the hearing date and time scheduled for Advance Cyber Charter’s application can be viewed on PDE’s website after October 1, 2015, at www.education.pa.gov.

Individuals who wish to provide comments on Advance Cyber Charter School’s application during the hearing must provide a copy of their written comments to PDE and the applicant on or before October 27, 2015. Comments provided by this deadline and presented at the hearing will become part of the certified record. Failure to comply with this deadline will preclude the individual from providing comments at the hearing. Verbal comments may be limited based on the number of individuals requesting time to provide comments and may be limited if the comments are duplicative or repetitive of another individual’s comments. Persons who are unable to attend the hearing may also provide PDE and the applicant with written comments on or before October 27, 2015. Any written comments provided to PDE by this deadline will also become part of the certified record.

During the public hearing, Advance Cyber Charter School will have 30 minutes to present information about the proposed cyber charter school. The hearing will be conducted by a panel of individuals who have completed an initial review of the application. The panel members may question the applicant on issues identified during their review, as well as issues raised in the written comments filed by the deadline. Panel members may also question individuals who offer verbal comments. Commentators will not be permitted to question either the applicant or the panel members.

Comments sent to PDE should be addressed to Steven P. Carney, Charter Schools Office, 333 Market Street, 10th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333. Hearing agendas will be prepared after October 27, 2015, when PDE is aware of the number of individuals who wish to provide verbal comments at each hearing. The hearing agenda will provide the order of presentation, as well as specify the amount of time allotted to each commentator. Hearing agendas will be posted under Charter School Administration on PDE’s website at the following link: http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Charter%20Schools/Pages/Charter-Applications.aspx

For questions regarding these hearings, please contact Steve Carney at 717.787.9744 or charterschools@pa.gov.

Pedro Rivera
Secretary of Education