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1.0 Purpose

Pursuant to Utah Code 53A-16-101.5(9), the governing board of a charter school shall establish a council, which shall prepare a plan for the use of School LAND Trust Program money. The School LAND (Learning And Nurturing Development) Trust Program is established by the state to:

- (a) provide financial resources to public schools to enhance or improve student academic achievement and implement a component of a district school's school improvement plan or a charter school's charter agreement; and

- (b) involve parents and guardians of a school's students in decision making regarding the expenditure of School LAND Trust Program money allocated to the school.

2.0 Definition

Last Modified By: Enter Text

Last Modified On: Select Date

Page: 1

Document Owner: Enter Text

Original Date: Select Date



3.0 Policy Content

CREATION OF COUNCIL

WCS shall have a charter trust land council consistent with the requirements of Utah Code Section 53A-16-101.5(9). The governing board shall serve as the school’s charter trust land council, provided that the number of board members who are parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school exceeds all other members combined by at least two.

In the event that the number of board members who are parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school does not exceed all other board members by at least two, the school shall hold an election to fill the seats on the charter trust land council at the beginning of the school year. All parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school shall be eligible to run for election to the charter trust land council. In the event an election is necessary, the Board shall provide notice of the election and any vacancies on the charter trust land council at least 10 days prior to the election. The notice shall include the dates and times of the election, the positions that are up for election and instructions about becoming a candidate. Interested candidates must submit a written statement of candidacy to the Board. Ballots and voting will be required only in the event of a contested race. In the event of a contested race, all parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school shall be eligible to vote. Ballots shall be cast

Last Modified By:

Document Owner:

Enter Text

Enter Text

Last Modified On:

Original Date:

Select Date

Select Date

Page: 2



anonymously. Voting shall remain open for at least three consecutive school days and shall be completed no later than 35 days after the first day of school.

COUNCIL CHAIR

A parent or guardian of a student enrolled at the school shall serve as the chair of the charter trust land council.

PLAN

The charter trust land council shall prepare a plan for the use of the school’s allocation of School LAND Trust Program money to implement a component of the school’s charter agreement. The plan shall include:

- (a) the school’s identified most critical academic needs;
- (b) a recommended course of action to meet the identified academic needs;
- (c) a specific listing of any programs, practices, materials, or equipment which the school will need to implement a component of its school improvement plan to have a direct impact on the instruction of students and result in measurable increased student performance; and
- (d) how the school intends to spend its allocation of funds under this section to enhance or improve academic excellence at the school.

The charter trust land council shall create and vote to adopt a plan for the use of School LAND Trust Program money in a meeting of the council at which a quorum is present. If a majority of the quorum votes to adopt the plan, the plan shall be adopted. Any plan adopted by the charter trust land council is subject to approval by the school’s governing board and the State Charter School Board.

Last Modified By:	Enter Text	Last Modified On:	Select Date	Page:	3
Document Owner:	Enter Text	Original Date:	Select Date		



The charter trust land council shall post the adopted plan on the School LAND Trust Program website and include with the plan a report noting the number of council members who voted for or against the approval of the plan and the number of council members who were absent for the vote.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

The Board and school administration shall ensure that the School LAND Trust Program approved in accordance with this policy is implemented and provide ongoing support for the program.

The Board and school administration shall meet State Board of Education reporting requirements regarding financial performance accountability of the program.

The school shall prepare and post an annual report of the program on the School LAND Trust Program website each fall. The report shall detail the use of program funds received by the school and an assessment of the results obtained from the use of the funds. A summary of the report shall also be provided by parents and guardians of students attending the school.

TRAINING

The Board shall ensure that the Board and the charter trust land council receive annual training about their responsibilities regarding School LAND Trust Programs.

Last Modified By:	Enter Text	Last Modified On:	Select Date	Page:	4
Document Owner:	Enter Text	Original Date:	Select Date		



4.0 Relevant Procedures, Guidelines & Restrictions

5.0 Policy Owner

6.0 Exhibits / Appendices / Forms

7.0 Supporting Information

8.0 Document History

Last Modified By: Enter Text

Last Modified On: Select Date

Page: 5

Document Owner: Enter Text

Original Date: Select Date