

## **Pompano Beach Municipal Charter School (“PBMCS”) Frequently Asked Questions**

1. What is a Charter School?

Charter schools are independently operated public schools which are, although accountable to the Public-School District (i.e. Broward County Public School District), free to establish their own classroom curriculum and programs to specifically target and meet the needs of the students attending the charter school.

2. Who will serve as the School Board for the PBMCS?

Members of the City Commission will serve as the Governing Board for the PBMCS.

3. How much will it cost to attend the PBMCS?

The PBMCS will operate as a public school and as such, it will not cost anything for students to attend the school.

4. How will the PBMCS obtain its funding to operate the school?

As part of the public-school system, similar to other public schools in the City, the PBMCS will receive its primary funding from the Florida Education Finance Program, based on a formula calculated as an amount for each full-time student enrolled at the charter school. Charter schools may also raise additional funds through grants, a before and/or after care program, extra-curricular activities, fund raising and third-party sponsorships.

5. When is the PBMCS expected to open?

The PBMCS is expected to open for the 2024-2025 school year.

6. What grades will the PBMCS have?

Eventually the PBMCS will have grades kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. However, in an effort to grow our excellence, the City will be ramping up enrollment based on the following school operating years:

2024-2025 school year – grades K, 1, 2 and 6

2025-2026 school year – add grades 3 and 7

2026-2027 school year – add grades 4 and 8

2027-2028 – add grades 5

7. Who will be able to attend the PBMCS?

All residents of the City of Pompano Beach with the appropriate school aged children would have priority in attending the PBMCS. Should not enough residents apply to attend, then seats would be open to children in Broward County.

8. How will the PBMCS determine who gets to attend the Charter School if there are not enough seats based on applications received?

Should the number of available seats exceed the number of applications received, enrollments will be based on a secure and monitored lottery system. The lottery system will ensure fairness and equity when enrolling students.

9. How many students will the PBMCS eventually expect to enroll?

By the time the PBMCS is expected to be at full capacity (2027-2028 school year), it is estimated that there will be about 910 students.

10. Will parents be expected to actively participate in the PBMCS?

Yes. The PBMCS school will require parents to participate in flexible activities in order to ensure a commitment from both enrolled students and their parents to the each student's success, as well as the success of the PBMCS in achieving its high performing objectives.

11. What guidelines will the PBMCS have to follow regarding school safety protocols?

The PBMCS will be subject to a safety audit that meets the FL Department of Education School Safety Center standards and the City of Pompano Beach Fire Department Safety standards.

12. Will the PBMCS be accredited?

PBMCS will seek accreditation through Cognia just like other Broward County Schools. Cognia is a non-profit organization that offers accreditation and certification, assessment, professional services, and consulting to help schools drive continuous improvement. The organization focuses on innovation to provide more agile solutions for school improvement and to drive better outcomes for all students. Once established and in receipt of its first rating according to the State of Florida School Ranking System, PBMCS will also apply to become a Cambridge International School, which follows a high-performance curriculum. The PBMCS's objective is to achieve an "A" rating.

13. When will the PBMCS start accepting applications for enrolling students?

It is anticipated that the PBMCS will start accepting applications for grades K, 1, 2 and 6 for the 2024-2025 school year in late 2023 or early 2024.

14. How will the public become aware when the application for enrollment period opens for the PBMCS's 2024-2025 school year?

The PBMCS will be working on a marketing campaign and will utilize many means of outreach to ensure the public is aware of the enrollment opening period, as well as the process for submitting an application.