

Chicago Public Schools

Renaissance 2010

<http://www.ren2010.cps.k12.il.us/>

Chicago Public Schools' Office of New Schools (ONS) is committed to creating new and innovative schools that will provide high-quality educational options to serve the diverse needs of Chicago's public school students. ONS works to recruit, develop, and support new schools and, ultimately, hold them accountable to high performance measures. At the moment, ONS manages a portfolio of 86 schools that consists of charter and contract schools developed through Renaissance 2010 and all charter schools opened prior to 2005. Its partners are the Illinois Facilities Fund, the Renaissance Schools Fund, the Illinois Network of Charter Schools, and SchoolWorks. Each of the 86 schools in ONS portfolio falls into one of three categories: charter schools (independently operated public schools that are not subject to the same state laws, district initiatives, and board policies as traditional public schools); contract schools (independently operated public schools under Renaissance 2010), and performance schools (operated by Chicago Public Schools and employing CPS teachers and staff). Contract schools have an advisory body comprised of parents, community members, and staff. In lieu of Local School Councils, performance schools have an Alternative Local School Council (ALSC), which allows parents, community members, and staff to be involved in all aspects of the school's activities. Community involvement is a vital part of Renaissance 2010. Historically, community members have participated in the new school creation process by serving on a Transition Advisory Council (TAC). In 2009, CPS formed TACs in the following communities, Englewood, Riverdale, and South Chicago. TACs facilitate the community outreach process and collect stakeholder input by acting as liaisons in their respective communities. These councils consist of parents, students, aldermen, educators, area residents, school alumni, and representatives from faith-based/community-based organizations. TAC members carefully review proposals for new schools, host community forums, and make recommendations to CPS about the educational option they feel is best suited for the community.

Potential School Operators: 2010 New School Application Process

<http://www.ren2010.cps.k12.il.us/potential.shtml#pso4>

This webpage links to documents for applying for new schools, key documents, and links to state legislation, teachers' union documents, and additional funding sources.

Overview of Three School Types

http://www.ren2010.cps.k12.il.us/docs/2010_RFQ_3_School_Types.pdf

This document goes into greater detail of the three types of schools—charter, contract, and performance schools—that are part of Renaissance 2010.

Chicago Public Schools Policy Manual

<http://policy.cps.k12.il.us/documents/302.7.pdf>

This Policy Manual outlines the establishment of Renaissance Schools, the RFP process, school governance, autonomy, board policies, accountability, facilities, funding, etc.

Chicago Public Schools: New School Probation and Remediation Policy

<http://policy.cps.k12.il.us/documents/302.6.pdf>

This policy outlines the criteria for placing a school on remediation or probation, and also establishes the means to provide remedial assistance to schools with insufficient levels of achievement.

School Closing Guidelines

<http://www.cps.edu/Pages/Schoolclosingguidelines.aspx>

Documents linked on this webpage and related to the closing of schools include a Student Bill of Rights, school board policies, closing criteria, recommendations from hearings on potential closures, dates of hearings, school closing guidelines, and descriptions of the kinds of support offered to families impacted by a school closure (support teams, educational supports, homeless, disabled and other special needs students, additional school transfer options, transportation, receiving school support, student safety).

Existing School Operators

<http://www.ren2010.cps.k12.il.us/existing.shtml#eso1>

“ONS recruits, selects and supports high quality school operators to run charter, contract and performance schools under Renaissance 2010. After approval, all new schools (charter, contract, performance, and professional development) enter the Incubation phase of new school development during which they receive professional development and trainings. It is also after school approval that the Accountability team begins to track school compliance.” This webpage provides a timeline for 2010 and 2011 school openings, a charter compliance chart, contract accountability plan, compliance chart rubric, contract school accountability plan, lottery guidelines for four types of schools, and information on charter renewals.