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EDUCATION

*Office of the Minister*

AR114480

**FEB 10 2021**

Ms. Arlene Huhn  
Chair of the Board of Directors  
Aurora Academic Charter School  
12245 - 131 Street  
Edmonton AB T5L 1M8

Dear Ms. Huhn:

Thank you for your November 27, 2020 letter and supporting documents regarding Aurora School Ltd.'s application for charter amendments and a 15-year charter renewal.

Alberta Education has reviewed the proposed amendments to Aurora Academic Charter School's charter. I am of the view that the revisions contained in the amended charter do not change the essence of the charter. I hereby approve the amended charter as submitted on November 27, 2020.

Alberta Education has also reviewed the application using the charter renewal criteria in the *Charter Schools Regulation* for the renewal term of 15 years. Based on this review, I am pleased to grant Aurora Academic Charter School a renewal term of 15 years to operate a school for students receiving sequenced instruction in a student-centered environment with a focus on academic rigour and mastery. I understand that the school presently serves students from Kindergarten to Grade 9 within the context of a charter that also includes Grade 10 to 12, should the board wish to pursue adding to its program offerings. The renewal period with the newly amended charter will take effect September 1, 2021 and continue through to August 31, 2036.

The charter renewal process also provides us an opportunity to review and acknowledge the accomplishments of charter boards. I am pleased to recognize Aurora Academic Charter School's student accomplishments on Provincial Achievement Test results, as well as high stakeholder satisfaction with the quality of education offered at the school based on the Accountability Pillar surveys.

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I am aware that Alberta Education staff evaluated Aurora Academic Charter School in March 2019, and your school continues to work on an action plan based on the recommended changes provided in the evaluation report, including:

- the focus on student-centered instruction practice that includes assessment;
- exploration of enhanced student supports, including access to counselling supports;
- encouragement and support teacher-driven action research;
- implementation of a communication plan to support broad and sustained levels of stakeholder engagement; and
- work to clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of the Board and administration.

I understand there has been significant progress on the action plan, and I would like to commend Aurora Academic Charter on the efforts to create a culture of continuous improvement.

I expect Aurora Academic Charter School will continue working on the recommended changes in the action plan and discuss ongoing progress with Maurice Trottier, Field Services Manager, Central Services Branch, at [maurice.trottier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:maurice.trottier@gov.ab.ca) or 780-427-6714.

I look forward to learning more about Aurora Academic Charter School's successes and accomplishments in the future as the school progresses on a path of continuous improvement.

Sincerely,



Adriana LaGrange  
Minister

cc: Janet Rockwood, Acting Superintendent  
Aurora Academic Charter School