



New Hampshire Department of Education
Office of Charter Schools

Chartered Public School
Application for Charter Amendment

A chartered public school may submit an amendment to their charter contract with the state of New Hampshire in accordance with RSA 193-B:3, XI. This form, together with required attachments, is for use when applying for an amendment with the State Board of Education under Ed 318.12 (Issuance and Amendment of Charter).

Name of Chartered Public School: The Birches Academy of Academics and Art

Name of School Director: Christopher Smith

Street Address: 419 South Broadway

Town: Salem

Email: chrissmith@birchesacademy.org

Phone Number: 603-458-6399

Amendment Type:
(Select all that apply.)

- Grade Levels, Enrollment, Mission, Curriculum/Model, other

Description:
(Use this space to fully describe the area(s) in which you are requesting amendment(s).)

We would like to increase our enrollment by 75 students. This would bring our total student enrollment to a maximum of 300 students over the next 5 years. We are also seeking to add STEAM to our Charter in addition to our focus on Arts integration.

Reasoning:
(Use this space to fully describe the area(s) in which you are requesting amendment(s).)

We have a large waiting list of students and have had some students leave only to change their minds and try to come back but their spot had been filled. The additional slots would allow us to increase revenue without a significant need for school expenditures. Essentially we could absorb more students due to the structure of our middle school program where classes are generally well below the board suggested 25 students per class. We are looking to add a STEAM focus to our charter because we are already doing the work. While we want to ensure that we maintain our focus on arts-integration, we are equally focused on STEAM and feel it is important to spread the word to people that we are a viable candidate when they are in search of a STEAM school for their child.



New Hampshire Department of Education Office of Charter Schools

Impact Areas: <i>(Check all areas impacted upon amendment approval)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students/Families	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Goals <i>(academic, program, organizational)</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Staffing	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability Plan
	<input type="checkbox"/> other _____		

A copy of the last approved charter, with proposed amendment(s) shown via "red-lines" or "mark-ups", is required to be attached to any amendment application. **XCopy attached.**

Please include the following additional attachments as noted for specific impacts.

Students & Families:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detailed description of the impacts to students and families- see below <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan for communication of these impacts- see below
Staffing:	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed description of the impacts to staff members <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for communication of these impacts
Budget:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detailed description of the impacts to the budget- see below <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended next year budget- see below
Facilities:	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed description of the impacts to the facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Timeline for impacts
Goals:	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal revisions
Accountability Plan:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability plan revisions

By signing below, I certify that the information contained within this application for amendment is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Christie Horniolo
 Print Name:

6/23/2022
 Date:

Christie Horniolo
 Signature of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees



New Hampshire Department of Education Office of Charter Schools

Impact to students and Families:

Most of the additional students we would add would be absorbed into the middle school rotation; we currently have 61 students on our middle school wait list. Students and families should experience a minimal inconvenience, if they are impacted at all. Due to the way the middle school is set up, the classes I are generally smaller than in the younger grade levels. This is because middle school students move between four primary classes and electives, whereas students in the younger grades are with a single teacher or switch between a pair of teachers for their core classes.

If students are added to the elementary grade levels, that impact for the students and families should also be minimal. One additional student in a classroom has a small impact and doesn't necessitate any real change. One or two additional textbooks or online access licenses is not a significant financial burden.

On the plus side, the flexibility to add another student to a class or a small group of students in the middle school allows more students access to a school that might be an ideal match for their educational style. We have had students move to another school for sports or to be with their neighborhood friends, only to have the parents contact us soon after expressing that they had made a mistake and their child wanted to return to The Birches Academy. While we would like to have students back in these situations, we have often filled the child's former spot and have no flexibility to increase the number of students in the class as we have been operating at or near capacity.

If this enrollment increase is approved, families would be notified of the change through an email as well as a communication through our closed Facebook group. New families would be notified as part of the enrollment process.

As a side note, we have an additional 135 students on our wait list for kindergarten through 5th grade.

With regard to adding STEAM to our charter, it will impact prospective families because it will help them to make an informed decision about enrolling at the Birches. It also will help current families gain a better understanding of the programming at our school. The students should remain unaffected as it is already our current practice and they are familiar with our programming.



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Impact on Budget:

The benefit of adding 25 more students in year one is an increase of revenue which we would realize as we achieve economies of scale on a moderate level. While we would receive additional revenue, the additional students would not require the addition of any staff. There is minimal negative impact of adding 25 students to the school. We would have to purchase additional books and classroom materials, but the cost would not be significant.

Updated Budget with additional students taken into account year one:

New Hampshire State Department of Education
Office of School Finance
101 Pleasant Street, Concord NH, 03301-3860

2022-2023 Charter School Budget					
Charter School Name	Academy of Academics and Art: A Public		District #		
Budgeted Expenditures					
	Acct No	Total	Elementary	Middle	High
Instruction	1000-1999	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Regular Programs	1100-1199	1,066,769.07	1,066,769.07	0.00	0.00
Special Programs	1200-1299	49,000.00	49,000.00	0.00	0.00
Vocational Programs	1300-1399	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Programs	1400-1499	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Public Programs	1500-1599	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Adult & Community Programs	1600-1699	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Community/Jr Coll Ed. Programs	1700-1799	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Community Service Programs	1800-1899	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Support Services	2000-2999	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Student Support Services	2000-2199	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Instructional Staff Services	2200-2299	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Administration		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Collective Bargaining	0000-0000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Board Contingency	2310 / 840	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Other School Board	2310-2319	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Executive Administration		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Management Services	2320 / 310	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All Other Administration	2320-2399	520,519.00	520,519.00	0.00	0.00
School Admin Services	2400-2499	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Business	2500-2599	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operation & Maint. Of Plant	2600-2699	378,000.00	378,000.00	0.00	0.00
Student Transport	2700-2799	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Support Services Central/ Other	2800-2999	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Instructional Services		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Food Service Operations	3100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Enterprise Operations	3200	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Birches Academy Budget 22-23 state template- With Updated Student Count.xlsx

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New Hampshire Department of Education Office of Charter Schools

New Hampshire State Department of Education
Office of School Finance
101 Pleasant Street, Concord NH 03301-3860
2022-2023 Charter School Budget

Charter School Name	Acct No	Total	Elementary	Middle	High
Budgeted Expenditures					
Facilities, Acquisitions, Construction		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Site Acquisition	4100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Site Improvement	4200	0.00			0.00
Architectural/Engineering	4300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Educational Specification Develop	4400	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Building Acquisition/Constr.	4500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Building Improvement Services	4600	0.00			0.00
Other Facilities Acq. And Serv.	4900	0.00			0.00
Other Outlays	5000-5999	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Debt Service - Principal	5110	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Debt Service - Interest	5120	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Food Service	5220-5221	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Other Special Revenue	5222-5229	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Capital Projects	5230-5239	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Capital Reserve	5251	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Expendable Trust	5252	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Non-expendable Trust	5253	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Fiduciary Funds	5254	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Charter Schools	5310	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
To Other Agencies	5390	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Supplemental Appropriation	---	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Deficit Appropriation	---	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Total Budgeted Expenses		2,014,788.07	2,014,788.07	0.00	0.00
Budgeted Revenue					
Revenue	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Local Revenue	1111-1990	96,621.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
Tuition from NH LEA (Regular Program)	1321		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX

Birches Academy Budget 22-23 state template - With Updated Student Data

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New Hampshire Department of Education Office of Charter Schools

New Hampshire State Department of Education
Office of School Finance
101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301-3860
2022-2023 Charter School Budget

Charter School Name	Academy of Academics and Art: A Public		District #			
Budgeted Expenditures						
	Acct No	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	
Tuition From NH LEA (Special Program)	1322					
Tuition From NH LEA (Vocational Program)	1323					
Other Tuition (Individuals/Outside LEAs/Other)	1310/1330/1340	8,000.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Transportation Fees	1400	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Other Local Revenue (e.g. contributions)	1500-1990	86,621.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
State Revenue	3111-3900	1,832,791.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Adequacy State Revenue	3111	1,792,791.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Lease Aid State Revenue	3190	40,000.00				
Other State Revenue	3112-3900		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Federal Revenue	4100 - 4595	84,000.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Title 1	4520	10,000.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
All Other Title Grants Excluding Title 1	4530	14,000.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Federal CSP Start-up Grant	4590	0.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
ESSER	4595	60,000.00	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Other Federal Revenue						
Other Revenue	5110 - 5600		XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
Total Budgeted Revenue		2,013,412.00				
Surplus Statement						
Starting Balance		10,000.00				
Estimated Revenue		2,013,412.00				
Estimated Expenditures		-2,014,786.07				
Operational Balance Surplus/ (Deficit)		-1,376.07				
Ending Balance		8,623.93				