

# **Charter Agreement Reedsport School District #105 (Charter Law ORS Chapter 338)**

**1) Applicant:** Reedsport Community Charter School, an Oregon nonprofit corporation

**2) Name of School:** Reedsport Community Charter School (“RCCS”)

**3) Philosophy and Mission of Charter School: Quality Education. Personalized.**

Reedsport Community Charter School is a seventh through twelfth grade school that provides a truly personalized education for students of the South Central Coast through basic education, career technical education, college preparation, and essential life skills.

**4) Description of the Curriculum:** The curriculum of Reedsport Community Charter School fully incorporates Oregon State Content Standards. RCCS offers a unique student centered education that takes advantage of staff expertise, coastal community resources, partnerships, and on-line opportunities to guide the curricular content. Students are encouraged to work with staff to create unique learning opportunities that are aligned with their personal education plans.

**5) Description of Expected Results:**

The expected results of RCCS are as follows:

- Enable all students to learn to their fullest potential
- Achieve graduation and career/college readiness
- Provide a variety of learning opportunities for students
- Meet individual student academic needs and interests
- Build strong working relationships among educators, parents, and other community members
- Incorporate different and innovative teaching and learning methods
- Create new professional development opportunities for staff members

**6) Governance Structure of the Charter School:**

The governing board of Reedsport Community Charter School is the elected/appointed Reedsport School District Board of Directors (#105).

The RCCS Advisory Board—consisting of the School Director, two Reedsport School District Board Directors, two RCCS staff members, three community members, and two students—holds regular board meetings and reports to the District Board.

Reedsport Community Charter School operates under Charter Law ORS Chapter 338 and the written charter agreement as approved by the District Board. The District Board will oversee all aspects of RCCS’s business.

**7) Enrollment and Grades Served:**

RCCS serves students in grades 7-12, from current enrollment to a maximum of 500. Student enrollment is voluntary. Students who choose not to attend Reedsport Community Charter School have the option of being home schooled, attending the Reedsport Academy Online School if there are openings, or attending the Reedsport Educational Alternative Program (REAP), a private non-profit organization focusing on at-risk youth, teen parents, and other youth who need special assistance to complete their schooling. Any student who resides within

the district boundary but has opted out of attendance at Reedsport Community Charter School will be released by Reedsport School District #105 to the school of their choice. Students released under this provision will be provided transportation to and from the district boundary nearest their residence as part of a regularly scheduled route. Arranging transportation from this point to their school of choice will be the responsibility of the parent at no cost to Reedsport Community Charter School or to Reedsport School District #105. If the schedule of transportation provided by Reedsport Community Charter School is not convenient for the student, parent, or receiving district, it will be the responsibility of the student, parent, and receiving district to arrange and provide transportation at no cost to Reedsport Community Charter School or to Reedsport School District #105.

**8) Target Population of Students Served:**

RCCS's population consists of students residing on or near Oregon's south central coast.

**9) Distinctive Learning and Teaching Techniques to Be Used:**

Reedsport Community Charter School is committed to utilizing the following instructional methods:

**(a) Differentiated instruction & learning:** An organized yet flexible way of proactively adjusting teaching and learning to accommodate each student's learning needs and preferences in order to achieve his or her maximum growth as a learner

**(b) Integrated/multi-disciplinary:** Curriculum aligned around integrated interdisciplinary subjects with an emphasis on reading, writing, math, and presentation skills

**(c) Project-based instruction & learning:** Hands-on, engaging, standards-focused projects

**(d) Proficiency-based teaching & learning:** Systems of instruction, assessment, grading, and academic reporting based on students demonstrating understanding or mastery of the knowledge and skills they are expected to learn

**(e) Community partnerships:** Connections among community partners and resources, students, and RCCS through such things as apprenticeships, mentors, job shadows, registered teachers, etc.

**(f) Online courses:** May include Advanced Placement, college classes, core subjects, electives, credit retrieval, and remedial instruction

**10) Legal Address, Facilities, and Physical Location:** 2260 Longwood Drive, Reedsport, Oregon 97467

**11) Description of Admissions Policy:** In the event that more students apply for admission to Reedsport Community Charter School than can be accommodated, an objective, confidential lottery will be held to determine enrollment. Students who turn down the invitation to enroll or drop from the program after enrolling will be replaced by the next student in order of lottery selection. Preferences will be given to families with one or more students already enrolled in RCCS.

**12) Applicable Statutes and Rules:** All applicable federal and state laws and Oregon Administrative Rules apply to Reedsport Community Charter School.

**13) Proposed Budget and Financial Plan:**

RCCS operates under the budget approved by the Reedsport School District Board. Evidence of financial soundness is found in the existing budget and financial plan currently in place and utilized by Reedsport School District #105.

It is agreed that Reedsport Community Charter School will be cost neutral to the District and that allocated administrative and/or overhead expenditures will be reviewed annually to achieve cost neutrality. Journal entries to adjust administrative and/or overhead expenditures will be entered annually to balance expenditures with revenue received by RCCS.

**14) Standards of Behavior and Discipline:** RCCS follows all adopted policies in use by Reedsport School District #105. These policies are available for review at the school district office or on the district web page.

**15) School Calendar:** The school calendar will be the responsibility of the District Board to adopt on an annual basis.

**16) Staffing/Qualifications:** Staffing levels and qualifications are determined by the District Board.

**17) Dates of Contract:** July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019

**18) Special Education Arrangements:** Reedsport School District #105 and Reedsport Community Charter School provide for the needs of those enrolled students who qualify under state and federal Special Education. RCCS actively identifies those students who qualify and works with the South Coast Education Service District through resolution services to ensure maintenance of effort.

**19) Parent/Community Involvement:** Parent involvement is highly valued at RCCS. Parent and community representatives have the opportunity to serve on the Reedsport Community Charter School Advisory Board and various other volunteer committees that function within the school. Additionally, staff and community members have the opportunity to propose supplemental course offerings to the RCCS Advisory Board covering subjects in which they have a particular interest and expertise. All supplemental course proposals will be evaluated by the School Director with input from the Advisory Board to ensure compatibility with RCCS's philosophy and mission.

**20) Term of the Charter:** The renewed term of the charter will be five years.

**21) Plan for Performance Bonding/Insurance:** The agreements, policies, and coverage with agencies currently insuring Reedsport School District #105 are maintained by Reedsport Community Charter School.

**22) Placement of Students, Staff, and Property Upon Termination/Non-Renewal of Charter:** Termination of the charter shall not abridge Reedsport School District's legal authority to operate as a non-chartered (regular) public school district. In the event of termination or non-renewal of this charter, Reedsport School District shall follow the reduction in force provisions in any applicable collective bargaining agreements for licensed and classified employees or as otherwise provided by the Reedsport School District. If, as a result of termination or non-renewal of this charter, a determination is made to reconstitute the school as a regular public school, the District Board will, as staffing requirements permit and funding allows, and on the recommendation of the Superintendent, make every effort to rehire all staff employed by Reedsport Community Charter School at the time of its reconstitution as a regular public school.

If the school is reconstituted as a regular public school, all students currently enrolled will become enrolled students of the reconstituted school. Students currently attending outside the district will be allowed to continue with the existing inter-district agreements in place for one additional year. At the end of that school year, they will be considered resident students of the

Reedsport School District and must either re-enroll or establish a new transfer agreement with the district.

All non-resident students may continue to be enrolled in the Reedsport School District for one additional year. At the end of that school year, they will be considered resident students of the district in which their custodial parent resides and must do one of three things: 1) enroll in a school within their residential district; 2) establish a transfer agreement with their resident district allowing them to enroll in the Reedsport School District; or 3) establish an agreement with the Reedsport School District to enroll without a release from their resident district.

In the event of a termination of this charter, all assets, equipment, supplies, and other items provided to Reedsport Community Charter School which were the property of Reedsport School District #105 prior to this charter or were added after the fact with funds belonging to Reedsport School District #105 or are of a nature that their loss or absence would prevent the operation of the district or its programs after termination of this charter, shall be returned to or retained by Reedsport School District #105. All other assets shall be given to the State Board of Education with a request that they then be transferred to School District #105.

**23) Program Review/Fiscal Audit:** The District Board conducts the program review and may ask for the assistance of the Superintendent. The District Board reviews student performance through assessment scores, state report cards, and other measures. The District Board evaluates student behavior, community satisfaction, and concerns. These reviews are based on interviews and assessment analysis, and may also include staff, student, and community surveys. The results of reviews will be published annually in the form of a written report presented by RCCS Advisory Board members at a Reedsport School District board meeting and filed with the District Board and the Oregon Department of Education.

The School Director will develop a balanced operating budget to be approved by the District Board as part of the budgetary process. RCCS Advisory Board members will be encourage to apply for openings on the Reedsport School District's Budget Committee. Reedsport Community Charter School will share Reedsport School District's designated auditor. Reedsport Community Charter School will report in writing to the district the manner in which RCCS intends to address any deficiencies in the audit. The Reedsport School District will maintain accounting records and keep all such records during the course of this agreement.

**24) a) Employment practices, policies, and agreements:** Reedsport Community Charter School uses the existing practices of Reedsport School District #105 regarding the selection and hiring, training, discipline, and firing of its teaching, administrative, and operations staff with the exception of those changed by waiver or mutual consent of parties in a collective bargaining agreement. Reedsport Community Charter School implements policies in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and collective bargaining agreements in effect at the time this agreement regarding recruitment, promotion, discipline, and termination of personnel; methods for evaluating performance; and a plan for resolving employee-related problems, including complaint and grievance procedures shall remain in effect for the remaining length of the agreement. Employees' payroll is processed through the office manager of RCCS according to existing Reedsport School District #105 payroll procedures unless changed during the life of this charter.

**b) Employee assignment:** Employees are assigned by administrative staff. All contracts and agreements with staff members in effect at the acceptance of this contract shall remain in effect for the remaining term of such contract or agreement.

Approved this 19<sup>h</sup> day of March, 2014.

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Patty Laskey, District Board Vice-Chair

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Kristen Zetsche, Charter Board Chair

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Jim Thomas, Superintendent