



POLICY

REPLICATION OF HIGH QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS

I. PURPOSE:

Volunteers of America-Minnesota (VOA-MN) Authorizing Program believes in the creation of more high quality charter schools based on the replication of successful school models, especially replication of models within its existing network of authorized charter schools.

II. DEFINITION:

Aligned with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA), VOA-MN defines ‘replication’ as *the practice of a single charter school board opening additional school sites based on the same academically successful school model*. VOA-MN expands the NACSA definition of ‘replication’ to include leaders of an existing successful charter school “franchising” their school model by serving on the start-up board of a separate new charter school planning to develop an identical school model.

III. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

VOA-MN measures the quality of a school by conducting longitudinal data analysis of its academic, financial, governance and operational performance. Another important part of the analysis is determining if a school has the capacity to replicate or franchise successfully while sustaining the results of its existing school.

VOA-MN encourages replication through its New Charter School Application and School Expansion Application documents which both contain a preference weighting for the replication and expansion of a high quality charter school.

Replication proposals are required to participate in the same rigorous VOA-MN application review process as all new school or expansion proposals before a determination is rendered on approval. VOA-MN determines when consecutive replication proposals require separate applications and separate governance boards.