

**Merrill Area Public Schools
2020-2021
Charter School Authorizer Annual Report**

Authorizer Annual Report Checklist

When completing the Charter School Authorizer Annual Report, verify that:

- All sections of the report are present, and all schedules are completed and attached.
- For school district authorizers, the schedule of authorizer operating costs has been included as a supplement to the school district's annual audited financial statements submitted to DPI.
- The report has been completed at the authorizer level, rather than completed for an individual school.
- Authorizer operating costs have been identified in Section VI. This section should not be left blank.
- The operating costs reported in Section VI reflect **only** the costs the authorizing entity incurred while fulfilling the duties under Wis. Stat. s. 118.40 (3m)(a) to (e) which include:
 - Soliciting and evaluating charter school applications,
 - Considering the principles and standards for quality authorizing established by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers,
 - Giving preference in the awarding of contracts for the operation of charter schools that serve children at risk,
 - Approving high-quality charter schools that meet identified educational needs and promote a diversity of educational choices, and
 - Monitoring the performance and compliance with Wis. Stat. s. 118.40 of each charter school with which it contracts.

The operating costs in this section should **not** reflect the operating costs for the authorized charter school(s).

- The total amounts reported in Section VI and Section VII are not the same. As noted above, Section VI should only include operating costs the authorizing entity incurred while fulfilling the duties under Wis. Stat. 118.40 (3m)(a) to (e); while Section VII should include the costs of services the authorizing entity provided to the charter schools with which it contracts. **The expenditures in Section VI and Section VII should not match.**
- Costs reported in Section VII are only the costs of services provided to the charter school(s). Examples of the types of costs that should be reported in this section include but are not limited to: costs for business office services, costs for food services, curriculum services, professional development services, etc. **The expenditures in Section VI and Section VII should not match.**

For further instructions and requirements related to completing each section of this report see the charter school authorizer annual report technical assistance document at http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/charter_schools/information_authorizers.

SECTION I: AUTHORIZER INFORMATION

Authorizing Entity:	Merrill Area Public Schools
Authorizer Address:	1111 N. Sales St.
Authorizer Contact Person:	Dr. John Sample
Contact Person Title:	Superintendent
Contact Person Phone:	715-536-4581
Contact Person Email:	john.sample@mapsedu.org

SECTION II: CHARTER SCHOOL INFORMATION

(Add additional lines or attach additional sheets, if necessary.)

Charter Schools Currently Under Contract in 2021 -2022:			
School Name:	Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:	Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):	Grades Served:
Maple Grove Charter School	Maple Grove Governance Board	7/1/2017 – 6/30/2022	K-5
Bridges Virtual Academy	Bridges Virtual Academy Governance Board	7/1/2017 – 6/30/2022	4K-12
Merrill Adult Diploma Academy	Merrill Adult Diploma Academy Incorporated	7/1/2019 – 6/30/2021	9-12

Charter Schools with Non-renewed or Revoked Contract during 2020-2021:			
School Name:	Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:	Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx)*:	Reason for Non-renewal or Revocation:
N/A			

Charter Schools that Closed During or at the Conclusion of 2020-2021:			
School Name:	Date of School Closure:	Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):	Reason for Closure:
Maple Grove Charter School	Maple Grove Governance Board	7/1/2017 – 6/30/2022	Detachment to Athens S.D.

Charter Schools Currently Approved, But That Have Not Yet Begun to Operate:			
School Name:	Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:	Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):	Anticipated First Academic Year of Instruction (e.g. 22-23):
N/A			

SECTION III: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

Academic Performance of the Merrill Adult Diploma Academy (MADA)

Merrill Adult Diploma Academy is an Adult Alternative Education Program. For the 2020-21 school year, MADA students made adequate yearly progress toward goals established in the Charter Contract. 81% of the enrolled students made adequate progress while working through the pandemic. Of the 22 students enrolled at MADA, 121 assessments from the GED02 program were successfully completed.

Academic Performance of Bridges Virtual Academy (BVA)

Bridges Virtual Academy (BVA) scored **85.2, Significantly Exceeds Expectations**, on the Wisconsin School Report Card. This ranks BVA as the top rated virtual charter school in the state of Wisconsin for the 4th consecutive State Report Card cycle. This rating achieved our goal of being the “top rated virtual charter school in the state of Wisconsin”.

Bridges Virtual Academy students participate in the same state and local assessments as other MAPS district schools. Overall, BVA students performed above state and local averages in most assessments and subject areas. A brief summary is as follows:

Fastbridge

- 81% of students grades 1-8 were proficient in Reading (aReading test)
- 82% of students grade 1-8 were proficient in Math (aMath test)

Wisconsin Forward

- 33% of 3-8 students proficient or advanced in ELA
- 77% of 3-8 students basic or above in ELA

- 42% of 3-8 students proficient or advanced in math
- 28% of 3-8 students basic of above in math
- 69% of 4th grade students proficient and advanced in SS
- 56% of 8th grade students proficient and advanced in SS
- 75.5% of 10th grade students proficient and advanced in SS
- 68.8% of 4th grade students proficient and advanced in Science
- 65.1% of 8th grade students proficient and advanced in Science

ACT ASPIRE

- 89% of 9th and 10th grade students exceeding or ready in English
- 54% of 9th and 10th grade students exceeding or ready in Reading
- 46% of 9th and 10th grade students exceeding or ready in Science
- 39% of 9th and 10th grade students exceeding or ready in Math

ACT

- Overall Composite average 21.6

Our areas of improvement for 2021-22 are related to math growth at the late elementary and middle school level as well as continual improvement in specific aspects of literacy development in other content areas.

[2020-2021 Bridges Virtual Academy School Report Card](#)

Academic Performance of Maple Grove Charter (MGC) School

Maple Grove Charter School academic performance goal is: 80% of MGC students will score at or above the national average in reading and math on local FastBridge benchmark assessments. The same students will increase their proficiency on the same assessment when compared to their individual scores from the previous Fall to Spring.

For the 2020-2021 school year, Maple Grove Charter did not meet the academic performance goals. The end of spring benchmark assessment data showed that 40% of MGC students scored below average in reading and 30% scored average or above in reading. Math benchmark assessments.

[2020-2021 Maple Grove School Report Card](#)

SECTION IV: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

All charter schools have met the authorizer's expectations and contractual requirements

MAPS Charter School Expenses by Charter					
Function Purpose	Function #	Bridges Virtual Academy	Merrill Adult Diploma Academy	Maple Grove	Total
Undifferentiated Instruction	110000	\$ 2,372,607	\$ -	\$ 388,135	\$ 2,760,742
Regular Curriculum	120000	\$ 1,528,444	\$ 17,454	\$ 35,722	\$ 1,581,620
Vocational Curriculum	130000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Physical Curriculum	140000	\$ 248,987	\$ -	\$ 30,606	\$ 279,593
Special Education Curriculum	150000	\$ 308,574	\$ -	\$ 48,398	\$ 356,971
Other Special Needs	170000	\$ 96,987	\$ 101,069	\$ -	\$ 198,056
Pupil Services	210000	\$ 94,124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 94,124
Instructional Staff Services	220000	\$ 72,983	\$ -	\$ 9,232	\$ 82,216
School Building Administration	240000	\$ 569,842	\$ 25,369	\$ 116,087	\$ 711,298
Business Administration	250000	\$ 9,106	\$ 5,006	\$ 64,999	\$ 79,111
Central Services	260000	\$ 726,473	\$ 27	\$ 553	\$ 727,053
Other Support Services	290000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Purchased Instructional Services	430000	\$ 30,184	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,184
	Total	\$ 6,058,311	\$ 148,925	\$ 693,732	\$ 6,900,968

MAPS Charter School Expenses by Charter					
Object Purpose	Object #	Bridges Virtual Academy	Merrill Adult Diploma Academy	Maple Grove	Total
Salaries	100	\$ 2,802,911	\$ 90,434	\$ 471,555	\$ 3,364,900
Benefits	200	\$ 1,124,543	\$ 35,631	\$ 184,905	\$ 1,345,080
Purchased Services	300	\$ 1,164,966	\$ 5,571	\$ 17,717	\$ 1,188,254
Supplies	400	\$ 839,909	\$ 17,075	\$ 18,892	\$ 875,875
Equipment	500	\$ 97,567	\$ 203	\$ 148	\$ 97,918
Other Objects	900	\$ 28,415	\$ 10	\$ 515	\$ 28,940
	Totals	\$ 6,058,311	\$ 148,925	\$ 693,732	\$ 6,900,968

SECTION V: OTHER CONTRACT TERMS AND EXPECTATIONS (OPTIONAL)

N/A

SECTION VI: AUTHORIZER OPERATING COSTS

All central office departments play a role in executing the authorizer requirements because we are required to monitor open enrollment, special education services, staffing, the budget, and student achievement data. That includes the Superintendent, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Director of Human Resources, Director of Finance, and Director of Special Education & Pupil Services. We charged 5% of the total cost of those positions to the purpose of executing various parts of the authorizer requirements.

For the 2021 fiscal year there were exceptional legal costs affiliated with Maple Grove Charter

School as the authorizing entity wished to terminate the contract early. This led to a lot of time from many individuals to prepare for and testify as part of a trial.

Operational Expenses		
Object Type	Object #	Amount
Salaries	100	\$ 30,174.85
Benefits	200	\$ 9,297.45
Purchased Services	300	\$ 145,276.24
Total Operational		\$ 184,748.54

SECTION VII: SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHARTER SCHOOLS

The District provides administrative services to support all persons employed and all students enrolled at the Maple Grove Charter School in the same manner as provided to the persons employed and students enrolled in the noncharter schools in the District. District services are inclusive of but not limited to: purchasing, accounts payable, accounting, bookkeeping, risk management, auditing, cash management, payroll, benefits administration, pupil services, record keeping, reporting and other compliance monitoring and fulfillment, building and grounds maintenance (except custodial), and testing of students. The District shall act as the fiscal agent for purposes of administering grants made to and received by the Charter School and will allocate federal funding for which the charter school is eligible. To the extent that the District requires information needed to complete reporting and compliance monitoring requirements, Charter School shall provide such information in a timely manner.

To the Bridges Virtual Academy, the District provides accounts payable, accounting, bookkeeping, risk management, auditing, cash management, payroll, benefits administration, pupil services, record keeping, reporting and other compliance monitoring and fulfillment services, and testing of students. The district does not provide transportation, technology, food services, custodial or maintenance services to the school.

To the Merrill Adult Diploma Academy, the District provides purchasing, accounts payable, accounting, bookkeeping, risk management, auditing, cash management, payroll, benefits administration, pupil services, record keeping, reporting and other compliance monitoring and fulfillment, building and grounds maintenance, custodial, and testing of students. Transportation is not provided to the school.

Services Provided by MAPS					
Fund	Function	MADA	Maple Grove	BVA	Total
10	210000	\$ 619.28	\$ 2,884.79	\$ 25,192.69	\$ 28,696.77
10	230000	\$ 1,083.95	\$ 5,049.36	\$ 44,095.67	\$ 50,228.98
10	250000	\$ 593.46	\$ 2,764.48	\$ 24,142.00	\$ 27,499.94
10	270000	\$ 1,085.44	\$ 5,056.30	\$ 44,156.30	\$ 50,298.04
27	210000	\$ 1.07	\$ 4.96	\$ 43.34	\$ 49.37
27	220000	\$ 227.10	\$ 1,057.90	\$ 9,238.54	\$ 10,523.53
	Total	\$ 3,610.30	\$ 16,817.79	\$ 146,868.54	\$ 167,296.63

(MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

Section VI

SCHEDULE OF CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER OPERATING COSTS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING (JUNE, 2022)

OPERATING ACTIVITY	WUFAR OBJECT CODE	COST
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	100	\$30,174.85
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	200	\$9,297.45
PURCHASED SERVICES	300	\$145,276.24
NON-CAPITAL OBJECTS	400	\$0
CAPITAL OBJECTS	500	\$0
INSURANCE & JUDGEMENTS	700	\$0
OTHER (REPLACE OTHER WITH AN ACTIVITY NAME)	900	\$0
OTHER (REPLACE OTHER WITH AN ACTIVITY NAME)	900	\$0
TOTAL		\$184,748.54

(MERRILL AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

SECTION VII

SCHEDULE OF CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER SERVICES AND COSTS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING (JUNE, 2021)

SERVICES PROVIDED	FUNCTION CODE	COST
REGULAR CURRICULUM	120000	\$0
SPECIAL EDUCATION	150000	\$0
HEALTH SERVICES	214000	\$3,125.00
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	215000	\$25,571.77
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	221200	\$0
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING	221300	\$10,523.53
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	230000	\$50,228.98
BUILDING ADMINISTRATION	240000	\$0
BUSINESS SERVICES	252000	\$5,158.49
GENERAL OPERATIONS	253000	\$0
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	256000	\$22,341.45
TECHNOLOGY	266000	\$0
INSURANCE SERVICES	270000	\$50,298.04
TOTAL		\$167,296.63