

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



January 8, 2018

Mr. Robert Pitocco, Interim Principal Path Academy 832-842 Main Street Willimantic, CT 06226

Dear Mr. Pitocco:

Effective immediately, I am placing Path Academy on probation for a period of up to one year pursuant to Section 10-66bb(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). This action is taken due to Path Academy's inability to demonstrate it is operating in compliance with the terms of its charter or with applicable laws and regulations and providing effective leadership to oversee the operation of the school. The following terms of probation will apply:

- 1) Path Academy must immediately cease and desist operations at the Norwich satellite located at 309 Otrobando Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut.
- 2) Path Academy must ensure that any students currently assigned to the Norwich facility are offered the opportunity to attend school at the Windham location immediately and send the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) an attestation that all the offerings were made. In these circumstances, it is my expectation that the Path Academy will provide transportation for any such students who wish to attend school at the authorized location in Windham.
- 3) By January 15, 2018, Path Academy must report if it is operating any other satellite facilities or alternative locations, including the address, number of students and grades.

We must also require the school to file a corrective action plan pursuant to C.G.S. 10-66bb(h). Statute requires the charter school to file a corrective action plan to the Commissioner of the CSDE within 35 days after being put on probation.

The CSDE will closely monitor Path Academy's adherence to these terms and pursuant to C.G.S. 10-66bb(h) may withhold grant funds from the school for lack of compliance to the terms. It must be noted that if the need arises, the law permits the imposition of additional terms of probation on the charter school. Further, CSDE will contact you about specific monitoring activities and assistance.

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CSDE will be providing you with a notice to be distributed to families and guardians in accordance with C.G.S. 10-66bb(h). The school shall send the Commissioner's letter to all parents/guardians of students enrolled and send the CSDE an attestation that the letters have been sent.

I anticipate your immediate and full compliance to the terms indicated above. If you have any questions or specific concerns regarding this matter, please contact Chief Turnaround Officer Desi D. Nesmith at 860-713-6701.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education

DRW:rkc

cc:

Enid M. Rey, CEO, Our Piece of the Pie, Inc. George Hernandez, Chairperson, Path Academy

Ellen Cohn, Deputy Commissioner

Desi D. Nesmith, Chief Turnaround Officer