

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY AND  
RIVIERA BEACH MARITIME ACADEMY, CORP.**

The School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida ("School Board") and the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy, Corp. ("Charter School"), hereby agree to amend the charter agreement entered into between the parties on April 19, 2006 (the "Charter") as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Charter School offers a unique opportunity for students desiring to train and work in the marine trades industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board desires to permit students to attend the Charter School on a part-time basis for the purpose of providing access to the Charter School's career training; and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter School has provided background information concerning the need and arrangements for a part-time partnership (see attached Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS**, the parties desire to modify the terms of the Charter; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual covenants and terms herein set forth, the parties agree as follows:

1. The recitals as set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The name of the Charter School on the cover page is hereby deleted and replaced with "Riviera Beach Maritime Academy, Corp." In the introductory paragraph on Page 4, the name "Believers Academy Charter School" is hereby deleted and replaced with "Riviera Beach Maritime Academy."
3. The following section is hereby added to Section 2.0, entitled "Students to be Served":
  - D. The School Board shall permit any eligible high school student in Palm Beach County to attend the Charter School on a part-time basis for the purpose of participating in specialized training in the marine trades program. The Charter School shall enroll students on a part-time basis only at the beginning of each semester. Transportation shall be provided by the student's home school, and the Charter School and the student's home school shall work cooperatively to determine the schedule and pick-up and drop-off locations. Students who attend the Charter School on a part-time basis shall be eligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities at their home school.
4. The following section is hereby added to Section 18.0, entitled "Revenue":
  - W. The Charter School shall be entitled to receive funding for each student enrolled on a part-time basis. The Charter School shall be funded for each student based on a percentage of the number of minutes each student spends in class at the Charter School based on the proportion of those minutes as compared to the entire academic day. For example, if a student is in class for six hours per day (or 360 minutes), and two of those hours (or 120 minutes) are spent in class at the Charter School, the Charter School shall receive timely reimbursement of one-third of all funding for which that student is eligible.
5. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this First Amendment and the Charter, the terms of this First Amendment shall control.

**[SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE NEXT PAGE]**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed this Charter Amendment as of the day and year first written.

FOR THE SPONSOR:

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Schools

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the School Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_


Reviewed and Approved as to  
Legal Form and Sufficiency:

By: A. Denise Sagerholm 11/20/06  
A. DENISE SAGERHOLM, ESQ.  
ASSOC. COUNSEL

FOR THE CHARTER SCHOOL:

ATTEST:

**RIVIERA BEACH MARITIME ACADEMY, CORP.**

By:   
Print Name: Gerard D. Straub, Sr.

Title: President  
Date: 11/13/06

Signed before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2006

Notary: Kathy Ofeldt  
KATHY OFELDT

**KATHY OFELDT**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY**  
**My Commission Expires Apr. 17, 2010**

## **Charter School Amendment**

The Riviera Beach Maritime Academy, a Charter School in Palm Beach County, is requesting to amend its charter. The purpose of this amendment is to provide the students of Palm Beach County who are interested in a career in the Marine Industries an option of attending on a fulltime basis or attending the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy on a part time basis while still attending their resident high school (Dual Enrollment). Currently, our charter does not include a share timed (Dual Enrollment) clause with each high school. Under this amendment students wanting to attend the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy as a dual enrollment student would remain at their resident high school for their academic subjects and then be transported to Riviera Beach Maritime Academy where they will receive specialized training in the Marine Industries. This concept of shared time (Dual Enrollment) has and continues to be used throughout the country with great success. For some students this will be the best of both worlds. In order to provide the students with easy movement from their resident high school to Riviera Beach Maritime Academy we would also like to include as part of this amendment that students be transported to the resident district where they will be picked up by Riviera Beach Maritime Academy and be transported both to and from the resident high school and the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy. Under this arrangement we would need a pickup and drop off location at each of the resident high schools. We would work with each high school administrator to identify a location that is safe and secure for the students. This requested amendment is one that will provide more educational choices for the students of Palm Beach County. Along with providing choices it also provides options for students in planning their educational program and career. By providing choices and options to students we believe that we and the county school district can provide students with thorough and efficient education that will prepare them for the world upon completing their education.

When the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy originally wrote its charter application its intentions were to accept students on a full time basis. As the application process progressed we found ourselves in a position with one particular high school that wanted to use dual enrollment for some of the students. The logic presented was sound. There was concern that some of the students may not be able to get the required courses they needed for high school graduation. We agreed with the concerns that were expressed and agreed in the best interest of the students and their education to provide a dual enrollment program for students. As we proceeded with recruitment we discovered that a large number of students were interested in the marine industries as a career. However, the high school students were reluctant to transfer to our school because of lost ties to their resident high school. They were torn and in some cases scared to make the move to Riviera Beach Maritime Academy although they were extremely interested in a career in the marine industries. The resident high school provided students with comfort. It also provided students with the opportunity to still remain close to their friends and participate in a number of activities provided by the resident high school. As we entered the current school year many of the students that were attending Riviera Beach Maritime Academy

adjusted well to the transition. However, a few students were not making the adjustment well and requested that they attend our school on a dual enrollment basis or return full time to their resident high school. In interviewing the students their primary reason for a change was to spend more time in school that they were familiar with as well as to be close to their friends. However, the students felt strongly that they were receiving a quality education and getting any necessary help they needed to do well in their academic classes. A dual enrollment program with the resident high school will provide the opportunity to the student to still maintain the close knit relations that had been established over the years as well as the opportunity to prepare for a career in the marine industry. Potentially after a year of dual enrollment the student will make the commitment to attend Riviera Beach Maritime Academy on a full time basis. A dual enrollment program could give the student time to adjust to a new school environment and develop ties with other students at the Academy. For this type of student a dual enrollment agreement is a win, win situation.

The Riviera Beach Maritime Academy believes that the timing for such an amendment is on target and timely with the passing and signing of House Bill 7087. Under a portion of this Bill, students entering high school during the 2007-2008 school year will be required to select a high school major. The state has identified and approved many majors, one of the approved state majors is career and technical education of which our marine industries education is based on. Under this new law students are provided the opportunity to also select a career minor. Under his legislation students also have the opportunity to evaluate their career major annually and make changes if the student chooses to do so. By providing students the opportunity to participate in our program under a dual enrollment with there resident high school students can explore the many career opportunities in the marine industries while taking required academic classes at their resident high school. If they chose at the completion of a year they can easily adjust their career major and continue at the resident school on a full time basis. If the student decides during the school year that the program is just not working for them and a need exists to return to the resident high school the transition of a dual enrollment student back to the resident high school will be significantly easier then if the student was full time at our school and decided to return. If the student finds that a career in the marine industry is for them, they would have the option to attend the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy on a fulltime basis.

The legislation as mentioned earlier provides the student to select a career minor. For those students wanting a career minor a dual enrollment status would be perfect situation for them. A student who would select the marine industries as a minor will be able to attend that portion of the marine industries curriculum, while having all of their academic requirements as well as the required coursework in their selected major. Should the student decide to switch his minor of marine industries to the major, the student will not be out of course sequence and there would be no change in the academics as a dual enrollment student. A good example for dual enrollment is a student who wants to major in the sciences and minor a career in marine industries. This student would take the academic and science career major at the resident high school. The student would then be transported to the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy for the minor in marine

industries career. This would appear to be a perfect arrangement under this new law. This would definitely be a win, win for the student.

Currently the only dual enrollment program in force in Palm Beach County is with Palm Beach Community College. We at Riviera Beach Maritime Academy would like to implement a dual enrollment with all the high schools in the county. In researching the topic on dual or shared time enrollment we have not found any laws or legislation that would prevent our school from providing a dual enrollment program with all the high schools. In addition a review of the Palm Beach County School Districts policies shows that no Board policy has been written regarding dual enrollment with any organization.

A dual enrollment agreement with Riviera Beach Maritime Academy and the Palm Beach County school District will provide positive financial impact for the County School District. First of all it could eliminate or reduce the need to provide duplicate programs at the county high schools. Students throughout the county would be eligible to attend Riviera Beach Maritime Academy and their resident high school. With the implementation of House Bill 7087 school districts throughout Florida, including Palm Beach County School District will struggle financially and educationally to put in place courses to meet this bill. By reducing or eliminating the need to replicate a program the District can realize savings from not having to purchase equipment and supplies to operate the program. There will be additional savings by not having to hire staff to teach the program. In addition to savings gained by not having to develop and open another program implementing, a dual enrollment program can provide for more students being served using the current classroom space. Thereby, increasing the cost efficiency for both the county high schools and Riviera Beach Maritime Academy. In addition a dual enrollment could provide some help with the required class size reduction. By having students attend the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy on a dual enrollment basis it opens up more classroom space for students or if no new students enter it then reduces the class size. Finally, in implementing a dual enrollment agreement a formula currently exist for FTE. Under this formula students attending as dual enrollment both the districts high schools and Riviera Beach Maritime Academy receive a percentage of the FTE. As the current formula exists high schools in the county receive a greater benefit of the FTE then does Riviera Beach Maritime Academy. So the bottom line is that even though the FTE is split the Palm Beach School District is in a better financial situation due to the fact that students spend less time in the high schools. As a result the cost of education for a student is reduced, thereby technically providing the district with extra funds.

It is the expressed belief of Riviera Beach Maritime Academy and it Board of Governors that this charter Amendment will be extremely valuable in providing a quality education for students in Palm Beach County especially in light of House Bill 7087. The education of our youth today provides the leaders of tomorrow and we need to do everything and anything possible to prepare our students for the future.