



**CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION
SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION**

Dr. Don Duran, Assistant Secretary of Education
CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION
December 8, 2009

<i>Name:</i> Amy Biehl High School	<i>Grades:</i> 9-12
<i>Enrollment Cap:</i> 300	<i>Location:</i> Albuquerque
<i>Contact Persons:</i> Mike May and Sandy Beery	
<i>Recommendation:</i> I recommend that the Public Education Commission RENEW the charter for Amy Biehl High School.	

Brief Overview of the School

Amy Biehl High School (ABHS) uses a thematic approach across subject areas and students are taught to apply and demonstrate skills and knowledge to analyze and address community needs. Through service, students are challenged to play meaningful roles in their communities while developing leadership skills.

ABHS is in its tenth year of existence and has been renewed by the Albuquerque Public Schools once in 2005. Each student at ABHS graduates having completed at least two college courses and a community-based service project. 95% of the graduates have been admitted to colleges. The academic data indicates that the school has made AYP in both Math and Reading from 2006 – 2009. Further, other data was presented that clearly indicates that students are achieving academically and that the school is meeting its charter goals.

Although there have been some audit findings over the term of the second renewal, none of the findings rise to a level of a material weakness. I am requesting that the school demonstrate to the PED School Budget and Finance Analysis Bureau that controls have been established and policies updated to ensure compliance with all applicable fiscal laws and rules, and generally accepted accounting procedures and to mitigate the risk of material misstatement of the school's financial statements. The School Budget and Finance Analysis Bureau will submit a report to the school and to the Charter Schools Division by June 2011.

I have used The End-of-Term Report to inform my decision for renewal. The Renewal Charter Analysis Tool (RCAT) has provided me information regarding proposed changes to the renewal charter. I have included both of these documents as part of my recommendation to the Commission.

Recommendation to Approve the following changes to the charter:

I recommend the approval of the following changes to the charter as requested by the school:

- 1. Organizational Goals**
- 2. Student performance goals**