As the authorized representative of [_ (name of charter school sponsor) _], I hereby certify that the stated charter school sponsor complies with all applicable South Carolina Charter Schools Act of 1996 requirements as submitted in this statement of assurances.

A. The sponsor of a charter school is the charter school's local education agency (LEA) and a charter school is a school within that LEA. The sponsor retains responsibility for special education and shall ensure that students enrolled in its charter schools are served in a manner consistent with LEA obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law as defined in section S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-40.

B. Adopt national industry standards of quality charter schools and shall authorize and implement practices consistent with those standards in order to promote the quality of charter school outcomes and oversight. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

C. Approve and decline charter applications as specified in S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-40-50, 59-40-60, and 59-40-70(C).

D. Conduct or require oversight activities that enable the sponsor to fulfill its responsibilities outlined in this chapter, including conducting appropriate inquiries and investigations, only if those activities are consistent with the intent of this chapter, adhere to the terms of the charter contract, and do not unduly inhibit the autonomy granted to public charter schools. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

E. Collect, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(H), an annual report from each of its sponsored charter schools and submit the reports to the Department of Education. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

F. Provide to parents and the general public information about charter schools authorized by the sponsor as an enrollment option within the district in which the charter school is located to the same extent and through the same means as the district in which the charter school is located provides and publicizes information about all public schools in the district. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

G. Will negotiate, execute, and monitor the terms of a contract between the charter school and the sponsor as defined in S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-40-55 and 59-40-60. Contracts must be submitted to the SCDE annually.

H. Will comply with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-70 (1996), which outlines charter school application hearing, approval, and appeal process.

I. Will adhere to all provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-100 pertaining to conversion charter schools, as applicable.

J. Notify the charter school of perceived problems if its performance or legal compliance appears to be unsatisfactory and provide reasonable opportunity for the school to remedy the problem, unless the problem warrants revocation and revocation timeframes apply. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

K. Take appropriate corrective actions or exercise sanctions short of revocation in response to apparent deficiencies in charter school performance or legal compliance. These actions or sanctions may include requiring a school to develop and execute a corrective action plan within a specified timeframe. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-55

L.   The sponsor annually shall evaluate the conditions outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-110. The annual evaluation results must be used in making a determination for nonrenewal or revocation and notify in writing the charter school's governing body of the proposed action. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-110(F)

M.   Shall permanently close any charter school at the conclusion of the school year after receiving the lowest performance level rating as defined by the federal accountability system for three consecutive years in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-110(E).

N.   Prior to any public charter school closure, the sponsor shall develop a public charter school closure protocol to ensure timely notification to parents, orderly transition of students and student records to new schools, and proper disposition of school funds, property, and net assets in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-110(K).

O.   Sponsors shall classify schools as Alternative Education Campuses (AEC) as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-111 and follow procedures as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-110(E) for automatic closure.

P.   Will receive and distribute state, county, and school district funds to a charter school as determined by the formula outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(A).

Q.   The South Carolina Public Charter School District or public or independent institution of higher learning sponsor shall receive and distribute state funds to the charter school as provided by the General Assembly as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(B).

R.   Will receive and distribute to the charter school federal funds which are allocated to the sponsor on the basis of the number of special characteristics of the students attending the charter school. These amounts must be verified by the State Department of Education before the first disbursement of funds as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(C).

S.   After receipt of federal or state categorical aid funds, sponsors shall, within ten business days, supply to the charter school the proportional share of each categorical fund for which the charter school qualifies as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(D).

T.   Shall provide technical assistance to persons and groups preparing or revising charter applications at no expense per S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-140(I).

U.   If a school district declares a building surplus and chooses to sell or lease the building, a charter school's board of directors or a charter committee operating or applying within the district must be given the first refusal to purchase or lease the building under the same or better terms and conditions as it would be offered to the public as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-170.

V.   Use its funding provided pursuant to this section exclusively for the purpose of fulfilling sponsor obligations in accordance with the South Carolina Charter Schools Act of 1996.

_____   _____
Signature of Sponsoring District Superintendent   Date