



## Statement of School Autonomy

The Minnesota Guild recognizes its purpose in charter school authorizing is to improve all pupil learning and all student achievement. To do so, the Guild will engage in responsible oversight of charter schools by ensuring that authorized schools have the autonomy and independence to which they are entitled while being held accountable to statutory and contractual expectations. To this end, the Guild will:

- Approach authorizing deliberately and thoughtfully with the intent to improve the quality of public school options in Minnesota;
- Support and advance the Minnesota charter school law;
- Be a catalyst for charter school development to satisfy unmet educational needs;
- Ensure clarity, consistency, and transparency in developing and implementing its authorizing policies and procedures;
- Be a source of accurate, intelligible, performance-based data and other information about the schools it oversees;
- Not manage or operate any charter school;
- Be responsible not for the success or failure of individual schools, but for holding authorized schools accountable for their performance;
- Require actions of schools only in response to deficiencies directly related to contractual expectations or statutory requirements;
- Use objective, consistent, and verifiable measures of student achievement as the primary measure of school quality;
- Offer only voluntary technical assistance to authorized schools;
- Clarify the Guild's authorizer role and the authorizer-school relationship when the Guild receives requests that may infringe upon school autonomy;
- Support parents and students in making decisions and staying informed about quality education provided in charter schools in general and Guild authorized charter schools specifically;
- ***Make the well-being of students the fundamental value in forming all decision-making and subsequent actions taken.***