



Via Email

October 24, 2025

To: SciTech Academy Board of Directors

Re: Concern Letter & Next Steps

Dear Board of Directors,

We have now entered the third year of SciTech Academy's current three-year conditional contract. It is absolutely crucial to finalize the requirements from the previous academic year. Addressing these requirements is vital for the Academy to resolve any as-yet-unmet goals and requirements from its Performance Improvement Plan (PIP), and mitigate the risk of potential closure upon the expiration of its current conditional contract on **June 30, 2026**.

After reviewing the responses received so far regarding SciTech's PIP and noting the lack of responsiveness and attentiveness between the school and its authorizer, the Guild continues to have serious concerns about SciTech's ability to fulfill its administrative and reporting responsibilities. As a fundamental tenet of the Minnesota charter school model, the authorizer has primary responsibility for overseeing a charter school's performance and compliance under Minnesota Statutes, Section 124E, and the charter contract terms between the authorizer and school board. While Guild oversight prioritizes and fully supports school autonomy and independence, the Guild is also required to notify a school's board when significant concerns arise and then take responsive and immediate corrective action to address those concerns. For more detailed information, please refer to your contract (*specifically Articles III & VI; Role of the Guild & Operating Requirements*), and [SciTech's Performance Improvement Plan \(PIP\)](#).

(1) Capacity Concern: Communications
<p>Background & General Feedback: There have been multiple instances where deadlines were not met. Communications from the Guild have not been followed. Examples include the school's renewal year application, the PIP format for past and current PIPs, and Fiscal Year School Annual Reports. Please see selected details below:</p>
Time Frame/Comments
<p>November 22, 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24.11.22 - SciTech-Concerns.doc <p>August 26, 2025 - present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please refer to the email thread beginning on August 26, 2025, titled "<i>FY26 SciTech PIP review: response requested,</i>" extending to the last communication sent by the MN Guild on October 2, 2025. ● Thread Link: FY26 E-mail Thread Guild-SciTech.pdf

(2) Capacity Concern: Performance Improvement Plan (PIP)

Background & General Feedback:


SciTech's contract was renewed for FY24 with a three-year term, primarily due to an incomplete Renewal Application. Because of the missing items, it was determined that SciTech should submit the documents and processes to be used moving forward, rather than those that the school had not included previously.

Information to date indicates insufficient progress toward meeting PIP indicators. If the PIP is not met, the school may face closure at the end of the current three-year conditional term, which is now in its third year.


Requests for information regarding the PIP have gone unanswered, and missed deadlines have persisted throughout this contract term.

Time Frame/Comments

November 22, 2024

-  24.11.22 - SciTech-Concerns.doc

September 23, 2025


- FY25 PIP Reporting and Updates Incomplete (linked here:  25.09-12 Scitech PIP Review).
- Guild Communication:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jim Zacchini** <jim.zacchini@guildschools.org>
Date: Tue, Sep 23, 2025 at 10:03 AM
Subject: Re: FY26 SciTech PIP review: response requested
To: Abdi Abdulle <aabdulle@scitechacademymn.org>
Cc: Glory Kibbel <gkibbel@gmail.com>, Lynn Nordgren <nordgren.lynn@gmail.com>, Buddy Ferrari <buddy.ferrari@guildschools.org>, Ubah Mohamad <ubah.mohamad@scitechacademymn.org>

Good morning Abdi,

Thank you for the updates and for your response. We have had the chance to review the data you provided. Please refer to the linked PIP review document below and respond or provide additional data for all sections *highlighted in red text*.

Please note specifically that we will still need the data related to Goal #5 for the reasons cited, despite the change in MDE requirements related to CACR. Please add the additional data and notes directly in this document by September 30, 2025.  25.09-12 Scitech PIP Review

Thank you as always for your hard work on behalf of the SciTech school community.

With appreciation, --Jim
Dr. James E. Zacchini, *Prosci-CP*
Executive Director | [Minnesota Guild](#)
323 Washington Ave N | Minneapolis, MN 55401
(612) 564-5115



The issues highlighted above reflect a long-standing pattern of delays and insufficient communication, necessitating urgent attention from SciTech's board and administration. Should the concerns outlined in this and previous correspondence remain unaddressed, it may result in further actions from the Minnesota Guild, including the potential termination of SciTech's charter contract, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 124E.10, and the agreement between the Minnesota Guild and SciTech. Please reference the table below for key next steps:

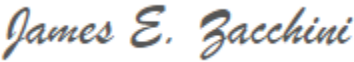
Timeline	Next Step
October 31, 2025	Please submit all requested PIP updates.
November 7, 2025	Please submit a SciTech Board Plan, which addresses the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Steps to be taken to avoid further delays. ● Supports to be offered to school leadership for addressing and closing out SciTech’s Performance Improvement Plan. ● Steps for Board Accountability to Address the School's Noncompliance.

The Minnesota Guild is deeply committed to the success of SciTech Academy and the students and families you serve. We are here to support your school so please do not hesitate to contact us as you address the areas identified in this letter. Please reach out to [Guild Executive Director Dr. James Zacchini](#) at your earliest opportunity with any questions you have as you move forward.

Sincerely,



Lynn Nordgren, Board Chair



Jim Zacchini, Executive Director



CC: Abdi Abdulle, SciTech Academy K-12 Principal
 Minnesota Guild Board of Directors