I have reviewed the renewal proposal from Cape Coral Preparatory and Fitness Academy, and I make the following recommendations:

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE, ASSESSMENT, AND EVALUATION**

The goals described in the first table on p. 12 of the renewal application are written in such a way as to be relative to the average score of students in other schools in the same attendance zone. While I understand the ambition to do better than one’s peers, doing so in this kind of formal evaluation is less effective than focusing on the students actually being served by Cape Coral Preparatory and Fitness Academy. I recommend that this goal be rewritten with the current performance as a baseline, and with a logical growth rate applied for future years.

The school grade goal and the student retention goal on this page are effectively written and do not require revision.
Dear colleagues,

The current charter contracts for two of our currently-operating charter schools will expire on June 30th of this year. These applications may be found online at [http://www.leeschools.net/renewals](http://www.leeschools.net/renewals). (The applications appear at the bottom of the page).

**YOUR RECOMMENDATION NEEDED**

As part of the District’s expert review panel, you are being asked to review the current renewal applications for one or more charter schools. After reviewing the application package as explained below, please reply directly to this e-mail message specifying your decision for each school. Instructions for how to review these applications are highlighted below.

**SCHOOLS IN REVIEW**

- Cape Coral Preparatory & Fitness Academy
- City of Palms Charter High School

**BASIS OF REVIEW**

Recommending a renewed charter agreement is an important event, and your expert advice is needed to determine whether a renewal should be recommended. With consideration of your official areas of responsibility; your position in the District; and your experience and expertise with charter school law, issues, and operations, I am requesting that you review these application and advise me if there any reasons for which you believe we should not renew the charter.

According to § 1002.33(8)(a), F.S., sponsors can choose to not renew a charter for one or more of these reasons:

- Failure to participate in the state’s education accountability system or failure to meet the requirements for student performance stated in the charter.
- Failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management.
- Violation of law.
- Other good cause shown.

**REVIEW AUTHORITY**

There is no currently-approved state format or protocol for consideration of a charter school’s application for renewal. Therefore, we will only consider the renewal requirements in School Board Policy 2.28 and the statutory reasons for non-renewal as listed above.

**STRUCTURE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION**

Our renewing charter schools are instructed to submit a renewal application that includes the following four items:
REQUEST FOR RENEWAL: A written request to the sponsor seeking renewal for a specified period of time.

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR RENEWAL: Written documentation showing how each of the criteria established in §1002.33(7)(a)(1-16), F.S. have been met, and verifying that none of the causes for termination established in § 1002.33(8)(a), F.S. exist;

PLANS FOR RENEWAL: A description of any planned variation from the current approved application or current approved renewal plan. (Note that if the school proposes no major changes to its original application, these plans may be quite brief.)

JUSTIFICATION FOR RENEWAL: A written case for renewal based on the service of the school and the performance of its students during the previous charter period.

HOW TO REPLY

Please submit your review by replying to this e-mail message. For each school applying for a renewal, provide one of the following responses:

- A statement that you have no objections to renewing the charter, or
- A statement that you object to the renewal, followed by your reasoning (and documentation, if available) and specifying any changes you would need make in the application before approving it.

Please specify your approval or objection for each school by name.

Note that the entirety of your reply will be published online for viewing by the general public.

REVIEW DEADLINE

Please reply to me via e-mail no later than the close of business on Friday, March 11.

TECHNICAL MATTERS

A current version of certain software products may be necessary to open some of these files. If you find any error in accessibility, searchability, page sequence, page orientation, etc., please let me know so I can see if it can be corrected.

Kind regards,
Jeff