

CSRB Meeting: May 2026

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Title: **Mountain Discovery Charter School's Request to Amend Mission Statement**

### **Detailed Item Description**

Mountain Discovery Charter School ("MDCS") is a public charter school in Swain County that has operated since 2002 and currently serves around 220 students in grades K–8. The Board of Directors is requesting approval from the Charter Schools Review Board (CSRB) for a revised mission statement. At the start of the 2018–19 school year, MDCS experienced a leadership transition and subsequently engaged in a multi-year strategic planning process involving board members, staff, and families. Through this process, the school refined its vision, mission, and guiding principles, ultimately adopting a mission grounded in Outward Bound philosophy and experiential education, emphasizing student ownership of learning and active engagement. Although the board approved the revised mission in 2019, the change was not formally submitted as an amendment during subsequent leadership transitions and the COVID-19 period. MDCS leadership and the Governing Board are now formally requesting approval of the mission statement revision.

### **ORIGINAL MISSION STATEMENT**

We believe that empowering our students empowers our community.

### **REVISED MISSION STATEMENT**

To inspire students to enjoy and lead their own learning.

### **Input Process**

Mountain Discovery Charter School stakeholders, school leadership, and the Board of Directors

### **Documents**

All required documents have been submitted to the Office of Charter Schools.