

**As Passed by the House**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**Am. H. B. No. 178**

**Representatives Brent, Callender**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Grim, Brennan, Upchurch, McNally, Brewer, Hillyer, Miller, J., Thomas, C., Miller, A., Abdullahi, Brown, Young, T., Baker, Carruthers, Dell'Aquila, Denson, Dobos, Forhan, Humphrey, Isaacsohn, Jarrells, Liston, Lorenz, Mohamed, Piccolantonio, Plummer, Ray, Robinson, Russo, Sims, Skindell, Weinstein, White, Whitted, Williams, Willis**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3314.03, 3326.11, and 3328.24 and 1  
to enact section 3319.48 of the Revised Code to 2  
enact the Creating a Respectful and Open World 3  
for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act to prohibit 4  
discrimination by a public school against an 5  
individual based on hair texture and protective 6  
hair styles and to amend the version of section 7  
3314.03 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to 8  
take effect January 1, 2025, to continue the 9  
changes on and after that effective date. 10

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 3314.03, 3326.11, and 3328.24 be 11  
amended and section 3319.48 of the Revised Code be enacted to 12  
read as follows: 13

**Sec. 3314.03.** A copy of every contract entered into under 14  
this section shall be filed with the director of education and 15

workforce. The department of education and workforce shall make 16  
available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed 17  
contract filed with the director under this section. 18

(A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the 19  
governing authority of a community school shall specify the 20  
following: 21

(1) That the school shall be established as either of the 22  
following: 23

(a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter 24  
1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8, 25  
2003; 26

(b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter 27  
1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003. 28

(2) The education program of the school, including the 29  
school's mission, the characteristics of the students the school 30  
is expected to attract, the ages and grades of students, and the 31  
focus of the curriculum; 32

(3) The academic goals to be achieved and the method of 33  
measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those 34  
goals, which shall include the statewide achievement 35  
assessments; 36

(4) Performance standards, including but not limited to 37  
all applicable report card measures set forth in section 3302.03 38  
or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the 39  
school will be evaluated by the sponsor; 40

(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the 41  
Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised 42  
Code; 43

(6) (a) Dismissal procedures;	44
(b) A requirement that the governing authority adopt an attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically withdrawing a student from the school if the student without a legitimate excuse fails to participate in seventy-two consecutive hours of the learning opportunities offered to the student.	45 46 47 48 49 50
(7) The ways by which the school will achieve racial and ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves;	51 52
(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of state. The contract shall require financial records of the school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the auditor of state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 117.10 of the Revised Code.	53 54 55 56 57 58
(9) An addendum to the contract outlining the facilities to be used that contains at least the following information:	59 60
(a) A detailed description of each facility used for instructional purposes;	61 62
(b) The annual costs associated with leasing each facility that are paid by or on behalf of the school;	63 64
(c) The annual mortgage principal and interest payments that are paid by the school;	65 66
(d) The name of the lender or landlord, identified as such, and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the operator, if any.	67 68 69
(10) Qualifications of employees, including both of the following:	70 71

(a) A requirement that the school's classroom teachers be licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code, except that a community school may engage noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours or forty hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code;	72 73 74 75 76
(b) A prohibition against the school employing an individual described in section 3314.104 of the Revised Code in any position.	77 78 79
(11) That the school will comply with the following requirements:	80 81
(a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred twenty hours per school year.	82 83 84
(b) The governing authority will purchase liability insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of the school.	85 86 87
(c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.	88 89 90 91
(d) The school will comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 109.65, 121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.472, 3313.50, 3313.539, 3313.5310, 3313.5318, 3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.609, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6015, 3313.6020, 3313.6024, 3313.6025, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 3313.6029, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69,	92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 101  
3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 102  
3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 3319.073, 103  
3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.238, 3319.318, 3319.321, 104  
3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.46, 105  
3319.48, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.13, 106  
3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 3322.20, 3322.24, 107  
3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 5502.262, 5502.703, and 108  
5705.391 and Chapters 117., 1347., 2744., 3365., 3742., 4112., 109  
4123., 4141., and 4167. of the Revised Code as if it were a 110  
school district and will comply with section 3301.0714 of the 111  
Revised Code in the manner specified in section 3314.17 of the 112  
Revised Code. 113

(e) The school shall comply with Chapter 102. and section 114  
2921.42 of the Revised Code. 115

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 116  
3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.617, 3313.618, and 3313.6114 of the 117  
Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for 118  
the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 119  
3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must 120  
successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to 121  
receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the 122  
curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community 123  
school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of 124  
the Revised Code or any rules of the department. Beginning with 125  
students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after 126  
July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 127  
of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the 128  
curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school 129  
diploma shall be met by completing the requirements prescribed 130  
in section 3313.6027 and division (C) of section 3313.603 of the 131

Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or 132  
(F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for 133  
awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject 134  
area competency, and beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, 135  
with the updated plan that permits students enrolled in seventh 136  
and eighth grade to meet curriculum requirements based on 137  
subject area competency adopted by the department under 138  
divisions (J) (1) and (2) of section 3313.603 of the Revised 139  
Code. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school shall 140  
comply with the framework for granting units of high school 141  
credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency 142  
through work-based learning experiences, internships, or 143  
cooperative education developed by the department under division 144  
(J) (3) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 145

(g) The school governing authority will submit within four 146  
months after the end of each school year a report of its 147  
activities and progress in meeting the goals and standards of 148  
divisions (A) (3) and (4) of this section and its financial 149  
status to the sponsor and the parents of all students enrolled 150  
in the school. 151

(h) The school, unless it is an internet- or computer- 152  
based community school, will comply with section 3313.801 of the 153  
Revised Code as if it were a school district. 154

(i) If the school is the recipient of moneys from a grant 155  
awarded under the federal race to the top program, Division (A), 156  
Title XIV, Sections 14005 and 14006 of the "American Recovery 157  
and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115, 158  
the school will pay teachers based upon performance in 159  
accordance with section 3317.141 and will comply with section 160  
3319.111 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 161

(j) If the school operates a preschool program that is 162  
licensed by the department under sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of 163  
the Revised Code, the school shall comply with sections 3301.50 164  
to 3301.59 of the Revised Code and the minimum standards for 165  
preschool programs prescribed in rules adopted by the department 166  
under section 3301.53 of the Revised Code. 167

(k) The school will comply with sections 3313.6021 and 168  
3313.6023 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district 169  
unless it is either of the following: 170

(i) An internet- or computer-based community school; 171

(ii) A community school in which a majority of the 172  
enrolled students are children with disabilities as described in 173  
division (A) (4) (b) of section 3314.35 of the Revised Code. 174

(l) The school will comply with section 3321.191 of the 175  
Revised Code, unless it is an internet- or computer-based 176  
community school that is subject to section 3314.261 of the 177  
Revised Code. 178

(12) Arrangements for providing health and other benefits 179  
to employees; 180

(13) The length of the contract, which shall begin at the 181  
beginning of an academic year. No contract shall exceed five 182  
years unless such contract has been renewed pursuant to division 183  
(E) of this section. 184

(14) The governing authority of the school, which shall be 185  
responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract; 186

(15) A financial plan detailing an estimated school budget 187  
for each year of the period of the contract and specifying the 188  
total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for each such year. 189

(16) Requirements and procedures regarding the disposition 190  
of employees of the school in the event the contract is 191  
terminated or not renewed pursuant to section 3314.07 of the 192  
Revised Code; 193

(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all 194  
or part of an existing public school or educational service 195  
center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is 196  
a converted public school or service center building, 197  
specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer 198  
that the board of education or service center governing board 199  
that operated the school or building before conversion is 200  
delegating to the governing authority of the community school 201  
with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided 202  
the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining 203  
agreement applicable to such employees; 204

(18) Provisions establishing procedures for resolving 205  
disputes or differences of opinion between the sponsor and the 206  
governing authority of the community school; 207

(19) A provision requiring the governing authority to 208  
adopt a policy regarding the admission of students who reside 209  
outside the district in which the school is located. That policy 210  
shall comply with the admissions procedures specified in 211  
sections 3314.06 and 3314.061 of the Revised Code and, at the 212  
sole discretion of the authority, shall do one of the following: 213

(a) Prohibit the enrollment of students who reside outside 214  
the district in which the school is located; 215

(b) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in 216  
districts adjacent to the district in which the school is 217  
located; 218



(c) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in any other district in the state.	219 220
(20) A provision recognizing the authority of the department to take over the sponsorship of the school in accordance with the provisions of division (C) of section 3314.015 of the Revised Code;	221 222 223 224
(21) A provision recognizing the sponsor's authority to assume the operation of a school under the conditions specified in division (B) of section 3314.073 of the Revised Code;	225 226 227
(22) A provision recognizing both of the following:	228
(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in compliance with health and safety laws and regulations;	229 230 231 232
(b) The authority of the department as the community school oversight body to suspend the operation of the school under section 3314.072 of the Revised Code if the department has evidence of conditions or violations of law at the school that pose an imminent danger to the health and safety of the school's students and employees and the sponsor refuses to take such action.	233 234 235 236 237 238 239
(23) A description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students including both classroom-based and non-classroom-based learning opportunities that is in compliance with criteria for student participation established by the department under division (H) (2) of section 3314.08 of the Revised Code;	240 241 242 243 244 245
(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to	246 247

be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall	248
be taken by the sponsor of the school.	249
(25) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the school	250
will open for operation not later than the thirtieth day of	251
September each school year, unless the mission of the school as	252
specified under division (A) (2) of this section is solely to	253
serve dropouts. In its initial year of operation, if the school	254
fails to open by the thirtieth day of September, or within one	255
year after the adoption of the contract pursuant to division (D)	256
of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code if the mission of the	257
school is solely to serve dropouts, the contract shall be void.	258
(26) Whether the school's governing authority is planning	259
to seek designation for the school as a STEM school equivalent	260
under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code;	261
(27) That the school's attendance and participation	262
policies will be available for public inspection;	263
(28) That the school's attendance and participation	264
records shall be made available to the department, auditor of	265
state, and school's sponsor to the extent permitted under and in	266
accordance with the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	267
of 1974," 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, as amended, and any	268
regulations promulgated under that act, and section 3319.321 of	269
the Revised Code;	270
(29) If a school operates using the blended learning	271
model, as defined in section 3301.079 of the Revised Code, all	272
of the following information:	273
(a) An indication of what blended learning model or models	274
will be used;	275
(b) A description of how student instructional needs will	276

be determined and documented;	277
(c) The method to be used for determining competency,	278
granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level;	279
(d) The school's attendance requirements, including how	280
the school will document participation in learning	281
opportunities;	282
(e) A statement describing how student progress will be	283
monitored;	284
(f) A statement describing how private student data will	285
be protected;	286
(g) A description of the professional development	287
activities that will be offered to teachers.	288
(30) A provision requiring that all moneys the school's	289
operator loans to the school, including facilities loans or cash	290
flow assistance, must be accounted for, documented, and bear	291
interest at a fair market rate;	292
(31) A provision requiring that, if the governing	293
authority contracts with an attorney, accountant, or entity	294
specializing in audits, the attorney, accountant, or entity	295
shall be independent from the operator with which the school has	296
contracted.	297
(32) A provision requiring the governing authority to	298
adopt an enrollment and attendance policy that requires a	299
student's parent to notify the community school in which the	300
student is enrolled when there is a change in the location of	301
the parent's or student's primary residence.	302
(33) A provision requiring the governing authority to	303
adopt a student residence and address verification policy for	304

students enrolling in or attending the school. 305

(B) The community school shall also submit to the sponsor 306  
a comprehensive plan for the school. The plan shall specify the 307  
following: 308

(1) The process by which the governing authority of the 309  
school will be selected in the future; 310

(2) The management and administration of the school; 311

(3) If the community school is a currently existing public 312  
school or educational service center building, alternative 313  
arrangements for current public school students who choose not 314  
to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not 315  
to teach in the school or building after conversion; 316

(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy 317  
of the school; 318

(5) Internal financial controls. 319

When submitting the plan under this division, the school 320  
shall also submit copies of all policies and procedures 321  
regarding internal financial controls adopted by the governing 322  
authority of the school. 323

(C) A contract entered into under section 3314.02 of the 324  
Revised Code between a sponsor and the governing authority of a 325  
community school may provide for the community school governing 326  
authority to make payments to the sponsor, which is hereby 327  
authorized to receive such payments as set forth in the contract 328  
between the governing authority and the sponsor. The total 329  
amount of such payments for monitoring, oversight, and technical 330  
assistance of the school shall not exceed three per cent of the 331  
total amount of payments for operating expenses that the school 332

receives from the state. 333

(D) The contract shall specify the duties of the sponsor 334  
which shall be in accordance with the written agreement entered 335  
into with the department under division (B) of section 3314.015 336  
of the Revised Code and shall include the following: 337

(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all 338  
laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the 339  
contract; 340

(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal 341  
performance and the organization and operation of the community 342  
school on at least an annual basis; 343

(3) Report on an annual basis the results of the 344  
evaluation conducted under division (D)(2) of this section to 345  
the department and to the parents of students enrolled in the 346  
community school; 347

(4) Provide technical assistance to the community school 348  
in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the 349  
contract; 350

(5) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to 351  
correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare 352  
the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 353  
3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the 354  
school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or 355  
terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 356  
of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor; 357

(6) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the 358  
event the community school experiences financial difficulties or 359  
closes prior to the end of a school year. 360

(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under 361  
this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the 362  
approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that 363  
contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not 364  
ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor 365  
finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and 366  
terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the 367  
academic goals prescribed in the contract have been 368  
satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division 369  
remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, 370  
and 3314.073 of the Revised Code. 371

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation 372  
within one year after the contract entered into under this 373  
section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 374  
of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the 375  
expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the 376  
school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A 377  
school shall not be considered permanently closed because the 378  
operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 379  
3314.072 of the Revised Code. 380

**Sec. 3319.48.** (A) As used in this section: 381

(1) "Public primary or secondary school" includes both of 382  
the following: 383

(a) A preschool as defined in section 2950.034 of the 384  
Revised Code, but excludes private institutions or centers; 385

(b) A school operated by a city, local, or exempted 386  
village school district, a joint vocational school district, a 387  
community school established under Chapter 3314., a STEM school 388  
established under Chapter 3326., or a college-preparatory 389

boarding school established under Chapter 3328. of the Revised 390  
Code. 391

(2) "Race" includes traits associated with an individual's 392  
race, including hair texture and protective hair styles, such as 393  
braids, locks, and twists. 394

(B) No public primary or secondary school shall 395  
discriminate against any student with respect to any program or 396  
activity on account of the student's traits that are associated 397  
with the student's race. 398

(C) Any student alleging that a public primary or 399  
secondary school has violated this section may bring a civil 400  
action in any court of competent jurisdiction. 401

**Sec. 3326.11.** Each science, technology, engineering, and 402  
mathematics school established under this chapter and its 403  
governing body shall comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 109.65, 404  
121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 2921.42, 2921.43, 405  
3301.0714, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.14, 406  
3313.15, 3313.16, 3313.18, 3313.201, 3313.26, 3313.472, 3313.48, 407  
3313.481, 3313.482, 3313.50, 3313.539, 3313.5310, 3313.5318, 408  
3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6015, 409  
3313.6020, 3313.6021, 3313.6024, 3313.6025, 3313.6026, 410  
3313.6028, 3313.6029, 3313.61, 3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.615, 411  
3313.617, 3313.618, 3313.6114, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 412  
3313.6413, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 413  
3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 414  
3313.673, 3313.69, 3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 415  
3313.7112, 3313.7117, 3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.801, 416  
3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 417  
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3319.35, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.45, 3319.46, 420  
3319.48, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.05, 421  
3321.13, 3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 3321.191, 422  
3322.20, 3322.24, 3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 5502.262, 423  
5502.703, and 5705.391 and Chapters 102., 117., 1347., 2744., 424  
3307., 3309., 3365., 3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 4167. of 425  
the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 426

**Sec. 3328.24.** A college-preparatory boarding school 427  
established under this chapter and its board of trustees shall 428  
comply with sections 102.02, 3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, 429  
3301.0714, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.5318, 3313.5319, 430  
3313.6013, 3313.6021, 3313.6024, 3313.6025, 3313.6026, 431  
3313.6029, 3313.617, 3313.618, 3313.6114, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 432  
3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 3313.721, 433  
3313.753, 3313.89, 3319.073, 3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.318, 434  
3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.46, 3319.48, 435  
3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3323.251, and 5502.262, and Chapter 436  
3365. of the Revised Code as if the school were a school 437  
district and the school's board of trustees were a district 438  
board of education. 439

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3314.03, 3326.11, and 440  
3328.24 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 441

**Section 3.** That the version of section 3314.03 of the 442  
Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 443  
2025, be amended to read as follows: 444

**Sec. 3314.03.** A copy of every contract entered into under 445  
this section shall be filed with the director of education and 446  
workforce. The department of education and workforce shall make 447  
available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed 448  
contract filed with the director under this section. 449



(A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the governing authority of a community school shall specify the following:

(1) That the school shall be established as either of the following:

(a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8, 2003;

(b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003.

(2) The education program of the school, including the school's mission, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grades of students, and the focus of the curriculum;

(3) The academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments;

(4) Performance standards, including but not limited to all applicable report card measures set forth in section 3302.03 or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the school will be evaluated by the sponsor;

(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised Code;

(6) (a) Dismissal procedures;

(b) A requirement that the governing authority adopt an attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically

withdrawing a student from the school if the student without a 478  
legitimate excuse fails to participate in seventy-two 479  
consecutive hours of the learning opportunities offered to the 480  
student. 481

(7) The ways by which the school will achieve racial and 482  
ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves; 483

(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of 484  
state. The contract shall require financial records of the 485  
school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial 486  
records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the auditor of 487  
state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 488  
117.10 of the Revised Code. 489

(9) An addendum to the contract outlining the facilities 490  
to be used that contains at least the following information: 491

(a) A detailed description of each facility used for 492  
instructional purposes; 493

(b) The annual costs associated with leasing each facility 494  
that are paid by or on behalf of the school; 495

(c) The annual mortgage principal and interest payments 496  
that are paid by the school; 497

(d) The name of the lender or landlord, identified as 498  
such, and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the 499  
operator, if any. 500

(10) Qualifications of employees, including both of the 501  
following: 502

(a) A requirement that the school's classroom teachers be 503  
licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the 504  
Revised Code, except that a community school may engage 505

noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours or forty 506  
hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code; 507

(b) A prohibition against the school employing an 508  
individual described in section 3314.104 of the Revised Code in 509  
any position. 510

(11) That the school will comply with the following 511  
requirements: 512

(a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a 513  
minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred 514  
twenty hours per school year. 515

(b) The governing authority will purchase liability 516  
insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of 517  
the school. 518

(c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, 519  
admission policies, employment practices, and all other 520  
operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or 521  
religious institution. 522

(d) The school will comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 523  
109.65, 121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 3301.0710, 524  
3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 525  
3313.472, 3313.50, 3313.539, 3313.5310, 3313.5318, 3313.5319, 526  
3313.608, 3313.609, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6015, 527  
3313.6020, 3313.6024, 3313.6025, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 528  
3313.6029, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 529  
3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 530  
3313.6610, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69, 531  
3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 532  
3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 533  
3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 3319.073, 534

3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.238, 3319.318, 3319.321, 535  
3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.46, 536  
3319.48, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.13, 537  
3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 3322.20, 3322.24, 538  
3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 5502.262, 5502.703, and 539  
5705.391 and Chapters 117., 1347., 2744., 3365., 3742., 4112., 540  
4123., 4141., and 4167. of the Revised Code as if it were a 541  
school district and will comply with section 3301.0714 of the 542  
Revised Code in the manner specified in section 3314.17 of the 543  
Revised Code. 544

(e) The school shall comply with Chapter 102. and section 545  
2921.42 of the Revised Code. 546

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 547  
3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.617, 3313.618, and 3313.6114 of the 548  
Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for 549  
the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 550  
3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must 551  
successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to 552  
receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the 553  
curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community 554  
school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of 555  
the Revised Code or any rules of the department. Beginning with 556  
students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after 557  
July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 558  
of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the 559  
curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school 560  
diploma shall be met by completing the requirements prescribed 561  
in section 3313.6027 and division (C) of section 3313.603 of the 562  
Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or 563  
(F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for 564  
awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject 565

area competency, and beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, 566  
with the updated plan that permits students enrolled in seventh 567  
and eighth grade to meet curriculum requirements based on 568  
subject area competency adopted by the department under 569  
divisions (J) (1) and (2) of section 3313.603 of the Revised 570  
Code. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school shall 571  
comply with the framework for granting units of high school 572  
credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency 573  
through work-based learning experiences, internships, or 574  
cooperative education developed by the department under division 575  
(J) (3) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 576

(g) The school governing authority will submit within four 577  
months after the end of each school year a report of its 578  
activities and progress in meeting the goals and standards of 579  
divisions (A) (3) and (4) of this section and its financial 580  
status to the sponsor and the parents of all students enrolled 581  
in the school. 582

(h) The school, unless it is an internet- or computer- 583  
based community school, will comply with section 3313.801 of the 584  
Revised Code as if it were a school district. 585

(i) If the school is the recipient of moneys from a grant 586  
awarded under the federal race to the top program, Division (A), 587  
Title XIV, Sections 14005 and 14006 of the "American Recovery 588  
and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115, 589  
the school will pay teachers based upon performance in 590  
accordance with section 3317.141 and will comply with section 591  
3319.111 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 592

(j) If the school operates a preschool program that is 593  
licensed by the department under sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of 594  
the Revised Code, the school shall comply with sections 3301.50 595

to 3301.59 of the Revised Code and the minimum standards for 596  
preschool programs prescribed in rules adopted by the department 597  
of children and youth under section 3301.53 of the Revised Code. 598

(k) The school will comply with sections 3313.6021 and 599  
3313.6023 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district 600  
unless it is either of the following: 601

(i) An internet- or computer-based community school; 602

(ii) A community school in which a majority of the 603  
enrolled students are children with disabilities as described in 604  
division (A) (4) (b) of section 3314.35 of the Revised Code. 605

(l) The school will comply with section 3321.191 of the 606  
Revised Code, unless it is an internet- or computer-based 607  
community school that is subject to section 3314.261 of the 608  
Revised Code. 609

(12) Arrangements for providing health and other benefits 610  
to employees; 611

(13) The length of the contract, which shall begin at the 612  
beginning of an academic year. No contract shall exceed five 613  
years unless such contract has been renewed pursuant to division 614  
(E) of this section. 615

(14) The governing authority of the school, which shall be 616  
responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract; 617

(15) A financial plan detailing an estimated school budget 618  
for each year of the period of the contract and specifying the 619  
total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for each such year. 620

(16) Requirements and procedures regarding the disposition 621  
of employees of the school in the event the contract is 622  
terminated or not renewed pursuant to section 3314.07 of the 623

Revised Code;	624
(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all	625
or part of an existing public school or educational service	626
center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is	627
a converted public school or service center building,	628
specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer	629
that the board of education or service center governing board	630
that operated the school or building before conversion is	631
delegating to the governing authority of the community school	632
with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided	633
the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining	634
agreement applicable to such employees;	635
(18) Provisions establishing procedures for resolving	636
disputes or differences of opinion between the sponsor and the	637
governing authority of the community school;	638
(19) A provision requiring the governing authority to	639
adopt a policy regarding the admission of students who reside	640
outside the district in which the school is located. That policy	641
shall comply with the admissions procedures specified in	642
sections 3314.06 and 3314.061 of the Revised Code and, at the	643
sole discretion of the authority, shall do one of the following:	644
(a) Prohibit the enrollment of students who reside outside	645
the district in which the school is located;	646
(b) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in	647
districts adjacent to the district in which the school is	648
located;	649
(c) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in any	650
other district in the state.	651
(20) A provision recognizing the authority of the	652

department to take over the sponsorship of the school in 653  
accordance with the provisions of division (C) of section 654  
3314.015 of the Revised Code; 655

(21) A provision recognizing the sponsor's authority to 656  
assume the operation of a school under the conditions specified 657  
in division (B) of section 3314.073 of the Revised Code; 658

(22) A provision recognizing both of the following: 659

(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to 660  
inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities 661  
closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in 662  
compliance with health and safety laws and regulations; 663

(b) The authority of the department as the community 664  
school oversight body to suspend the operation of the school 665  
under section 3314.072 of the Revised Code if the department has 666  
evidence of conditions or violations of law at the school that 667  
pose an imminent danger to the health and safety of the school's 668  
students and employees and the sponsor refuses to take such 669  
action. 670

(23) A description of the learning opportunities that will 671  
be offered to students including both classroom-based and non- 672  
classroom-based learning opportunities that is in compliance 673  
with criteria for student participation established by the 674  
department under division (H) (2) of section 3314.08 of the 675  
Revised Code; 676

(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 677  
3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to 678  
be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall 679  
be taken by the sponsor of the school. 680

(25) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the school 681



will open for operation not later than the thirtieth day of 682  
September each school year, unless the mission of the school as 683  
specified under division (A) (2) of this section is solely to 684  
serve dropouts. In its initial year of operation, if the school 685  
fails to open by the thirtieth day of September, or within one 686  
year after the adoption of the contract pursuant to division (D) 687  
of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code if the mission of the 688  
school is solely to serve dropouts, the contract shall be void. 689

(26) Whether the school's governing authority is planning 690  
to seek designation for the school as a STEM school equivalent 691  
under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code; 692

(27) That the school's attendance and participation 693  
policies will be available for public inspection; 694

(28) That the school's attendance and participation 695  
records shall be made available to the department, auditor of 696  
state, and school's sponsor to the extent permitted under and in 697  
accordance with the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act 698  
of 1974," 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, as amended, and any 699  
regulations promulgated under that act, and section 3319.321 of 700  
the Revised Code; 701

(29) If a school operates using the blended learning 702  
model, as defined in section 3301.079 of the Revised Code, all 703  
of the following information: 704

(a) An indication of what blended learning model or models 705  
will be used; 706

(b) A description of how student instructional needs will 707  
be determined and documented; 708

(c) The method to be used for determining competency, 709  
granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level; 710

(d) The school's attendance requirements, including how	711
the school will document participation in learning	712
opportunities;	713
(e) A statement describing how student progress will be	714
monitored;	715
(f) A statement describing how private student data will	716
be protected;	717
(g) A description of the professional development	718
activities that will be offered to teachers.	719
(30) A provision requiring that all moneys the school's	720
operator loans to the school, including facilities loans or cash	721
flow assistance, must be accounted for, documented, and bear	722
interest at a fair market rate;	723
(31) A provision requiring that, if the governing	724
authority contracts with an attorney, accountant, or entity	725
specializing in audits, the attorney, accountant, or entity	726
shall be independent from the operator with which the school has	727
contracted.	728
(32) A provision requiring the governing authority to	729
adopt an enrollment and attendance policy that requires a	730
student's parent to notify the community school in which the	731
student is enrolled when there is a change in the location of	732
the parent's or student's primary residence.	733
(33) A provision requiring the governing authority to	734
adopt a student residence and address verification policy for	735
students enrolling in or attending the school.	736
(B) The community school shall also submit to the sponsor	737
a comprehensive plan for the school. The plan shall specify the	738

following:	739
(1) The process by which the governing authority of the school will be selected in the future;	740 741
(2) The management and administration of the school;	742
(3) If the community school is a currently existing public school or educational service center building, alternative arrangements for current public school students who choose not to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not to teach in the school or building after conversion;	743 744 745 746 747
(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy of the school;	748 749
(5) Internal financial controls.	750
When submitting the plan under this division, the school shall also submit copies of all policies and procedures regarding internal financial controls adopted by the governing authority of the school.	751 752 753 754
(C) A contract entered into under section 3314.02 of the Revised Code between a sponsor and the governing authority of a community school may provide for the community school governing authority to make payments to the sponsor, which is hereby authorized to receive such payments as set forth in the contract between the governing authority and the sponsor. The total amount of such payments for monitoring, oversight, and technical assistance of the school shall not exceed three per cent of the total amount of payments for operating expenses that the school receives from the state.	755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764
(D) The contract shall specify the duties of the sponsor which shall be in accordance with the written agreement entered	765 766

into with the department under division (B) of section 3314.015 767  
of the Revised Code and shall include the following: 768

(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all 769  
laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the 770  
contract; 771

(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal 772  
performance and the organization and operation of the community 773  
school on at least an annual basis; 774

(3) Report on an annual basis the results of the 775  
evaluation conducted under division (D) (2) of this section to 776  
the department and to the parents of students enrolled in the 777  
community school; 778

(4) Provide technical assistance to the community school 779  
in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the 780  
contract; 781

(5) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to 782  
correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare 783  
the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 784  
3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the 785  
school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or 786  
terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 787  
of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor; 788

(6) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the 789  
event the community school experiences financial difficulties or 790  
closes prior to the end of a school year. 791

(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under 792  
this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the 793  
approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that 794  
contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not 795

ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor 796  
finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and 797  
terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the 798  
academic goals prescribed in the contract have been 799  
satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division 800  
remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, 801  
and 3314.073 of the Revised Code. 802

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation 803  
within one year after the contract entered into under this 804  
section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 805  
of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the 806  
expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the 807  
school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A 808  
school shall not be considered permanently closed because the 809  
operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 810  
3314.072 of the Revised Code. 811

**Section 4.** That the existing version of section 3314.03 of 812  
the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 813  
2025, is hereby repealed. 814

**Section 5.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act take effect on the 815  
later of January 1, 2025, or the effective date of this section. 816

**Section 6.** This act shall be known as the Creating a 817  
Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act. 818