



Charter Schools Institute *The State University of New York*

Charter Schools Institute Names Jason L. Sarsfield Senior Analyst

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Albany - Charter Schools Institute Executive Director Jonas Chartock announced yesterday the return of Jason L. Sarsfield to the Institute. In his new role, Mr. Sarsfield will be responsible for reviewing applications for new and renewal charters, analyzing data obtained through various reports to identify critical issues for renewal visit teams, monitoring the development of all renewal recommendation reports and supporting the development, refinement, and revision of internal policies and practices of the Institute's renewal process. Mr. Sarsfield will also assist in the Institute's ongoing school evaluation process, provide technical assistance to schools as needed, and contribute to the Institute's research agenda.

"Jason comes to us with a strong and diverse record of experience, with accomplishments in public schools and at the policy level," said Chartock. "His firsthand knowledge of SUNY authorizing practices, as well as his recent experience working for a SUNY authorized charter school in New York City, makes him a valuable asset to the Institute. We are delighted to have Jason back as part of our team."

Mr. Sarsfield most recently served as the assessment/accountability coordinator at the Bronx Charter School for Better Learning in the Bronx, NY, where he supervised the administration of standardized assessments, conducted analysis of student achievement data for purposes of program evaluation, and oversaw the development and submission of reports to state, federal and local agencies. He also taught Social Studies and Basic Skills classes to 5th grade students. Prior to his service at the Bronx Charter School for Better Learning, he served as a Senior Analyst at the SUNY Charter Schools Institute, where he provided leadership for annual and informal school evaluation visits. Before moving to New York to work for the Institute, Mr. Sarsfield was a contract analyst for the Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University, where he evaluated the academic performance of authorized charter schools and provided technical assistance for school improvement initiatives and the analysis of student achievement data. Mr. Sarsfield also served as a teacher and coach for Bad Axe Public Schools in Michigan and was a teacher at a residential high school in rural Alaska.

"SUNY is known well for its high standards and rigorous processes, from application review to charter renewal," said Sarsfield. "I am excited about this opportunity to return to the Institute, under the leadership of Jonas Chartock, and to continue contributing to the valuable work of this nationally recognized charter school authorizer."

Mr. Sarsfield received his Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from Northern Michigan University and is completing the final requirements for the Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership at Central Michigan University.

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The Charter Schools Institute was created by the SUNY Board of Trustees to help it in carrying out its responsibilities under the Charter Schools Act. Guided by the rigorous standards set by the SUNY Board of Trustees, the Institute's oversight of SUNY authorized charter schools is comprehensive, including: evaluating initial applications for the opening of charter schools; providing technical assistance and guidance to schools where necessary; requiring schools to take remedial action or placing schools on probation; conducting a comprehensive evaluation when a school applies to renew its charter; and reporting to the school and the public on each school's performance and progress.

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