

# Autonomies Checklist for New Small Schools and Small Learning Communities

First answer each question with a “yes” or a “no”. Then check whether the autonomies that you answered “yes” to can be met with Regular High School status. If not, then check the next column indicating that a special agreement with the school committee or the union or both is required. Then check whether the autonomy can be met with Pilot Status (In-District Charter), Dependent Charter High School Status, or Independent Charter Status.

<b>Autonomy</b> Does the new small high school or small learning community require...	<b>Re- quired ?</b>  Yes/no	<b>Regular High School</b> √	<b>Special Agree- ment?</b> √	<b>In- District Charter (Pilot)</b> √	<b>Depen- dent Charter</b> √	<b>Indepen- dent Charter</b> √
1. ... <b>school status</b> as opposed to a program or a school-within-a-school?						
2. ...a <b>governing board</b> independent from the school committee?						
3. ...the right to <b>hire, and fire, its principal or headmaster?</b>						
4. ...the right to <b>select teachers and other staff</b> , from within and outside the district, without regard for seniority?						
5. ...the right to <b>fire or otherwise remove (excess) teachers and other staff</b>						
6. ...budget autonomy through a <b>lump-sum per-pupil budget?</b>						
7. ...the right to <b>seek outside funding</b> and establish its own 501 (c)(3) foundation?						
8. ...the right to structure its own <b>curriculum, assessment, and graduation requirements</b> , distinct from those of the district?						
9. ...the right to set its own <b>policies</b> (promotion, graduation, attendance, discipline, evaluation instruments and procedures, working conditions, etc.)?						
10. ... <b>freedom from school board regulations and teacher union contract provisions?</b>						
11. ...the right to set its own <b>school day and school year?</b>						
12. ...the right to set its own <b>workday and work year for teachers and other staff?</b>						