

December 17, 2003

**APPROVE, DENY AND EXTEND CONSIDERATION OF CHARTER SCHOOL PROPOSALS****THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve and deny charter school proposals as indicated in Appendices A and B with the approvals being contingent upon the execution of a Charter School Agreement, and extend consideration of proposals as indicated in Appendix C. The Charter School agreements shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board of Education and the governing body of each charter school. The approved charter schools shall commence operations in the 2004-05 school year. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind as to each approved charter school in the event a written Charter School Agreement for such approved charter school is not executed by the Board and the charter school within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Each Charter School Agreement shall only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Consideration for proposals in Appendix C shall be extended for 75 days.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Charter Schools Law (105 ILCS 5/27A-1 et. seq.) provides that up to 30 charter schools may be operated in the City of Chicago. Proposals to operate charter schools are to be submitted to the Board of Education for evaluation pursuant to the standards set forth in 105 ILCS 5/27A-8, and the Board of Education is to convene a public meeting to obtain information to assist in its decision to grant or deny each proposal and report its action to the State Board of Education. The State Board determines whether the approved charter school proposal and the proposed contract satisfy the provisions of the Charter School law and, if so, certifies the charter school. The Board of Education has received and evaluated twenty-five charter school proposals. The Board hereby approves the charter school proposals indicated in Appendix A and hereby denies the charter school proposals indicated in Appendix B and hereby extends consideration for proposals in Appendix C to enable the further evaluation of each proposal. Proposals listed in Appendix D have been withdrawn by the applicants.

**TERM OF CHARTER SCHOOLS:** The term of the agreement for each approved charter school shall be from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2009.

**LSC REVIEW:** Approval of Local School Councils is not applicable to this report.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

**ACTION STATUS:** Not applicable.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions in the written Charter School Agreements which shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the governing body of each charter school including, but not limited to: site location, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the Charter School Agreements. Authorize the Director of Charter Schools to issue a letter notifying the Illinois State Board of Education of the actions approved hereunder and to submit the approved proposals and signed Charter School Agreements to the Illinois State Board of Education for certification. Authorize the General Counsel to further negotiate, and execute any amendments to each Agreement as required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

**FINANCIAL:** The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2004-2005 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY04 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General – Each Party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

**Conflicts** – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the Provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

**Indebtedness** – The Board's indebtedness Policy adopted July 26, 1995 (95-0726-EX3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

**Ethics** – The Board's Ethics Code adopted September 27, 1995 (95-0927-RU3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

**Contingent Liability** – The Agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed to be a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

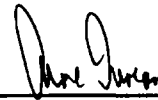
Approved for Consideration:



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Barbara J. Eason-Watkins  
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



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Arne Duncan  
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



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John Maiorca  
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



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Ruth Moscovich  
General Counsel

**Appendix A - Charter School Applications Approved**

Name of Applicant Organization	Name of Proposed School	Address	Term
Chicago Mathematics & Science Academy Charter School	Chicago Mathematics and Science Academy Charter School	1709 W. Lunt 60626	2004 - 2009
Namaste Charter School, Inc.	Namaste Charter School	3540 S. Hermitage 60609	2004 - 2009

**Appendix B - Charter School Applications Denied**

Name of Applicant Organization	Name of Proposed School	Address	Reasons for Denial Weaknesses in:
Center for Entrepreneurship & Economic Development	Academy of Business and Entrepreneurship	7550 S. Phillips Ave. 60649	Curriculum, management.
Boys Choir of Harlem, Inc.	Boys Choir of Chicago Charter School	8708 S. Colfax 60617	Curriculum, facility, finances, governance.
	Chicago Career Center Charter School	Not identified	Facility.
John Spry Community School	Community Links Charter School	2400 S. Marshall Blvd. 60623	Finances, management.
Phoenix Educational Foundations, NFP	Excel Fine Arts Secondary and College Charter School	1145 W. Wilson Ave. 60640	Finances, governance, management.
	Expansions Charter School	849 N. Leamington 60651	Curriculum, management.
Quality Behavioral Care, Inc.	Leaning Success Vocational Charter School	849 N. Leamington 60651	Curriculum, facility, finances, governance.
LuMar Technology & Communications Charter School	LuMar Technology & Communications Charter School	9501 S. King Drive 60628	Finances, governance, management, accountability.
Native Foundations, Inc.	Native Foundations Charter High School	4849 North Milwaukee Ave. #407-409 60630	Curriculum, governance, management, accountability.
Quest Charter School Management Group	Quest Charter School	820 N. Central 60651	Facility, finances, governance, management.
	The Bridge International Charter School	5120 N. Broadway, 1124-1134 W. Ainslie Street 1108-1114 W. Foster Ave 60640	Curriculum, finances, governance.
Two Dimensions Preparatory Academy, Inc.	Two Dimensions Charter School at Chicago	8738 S. Aberdeen 60620	Facility, finances, governance, educational program.
Urban Prep Academies	Urban Prep Charter Academy		Curriculum, facility, finances.
Little Black Pearl Workshop	Voices and Visions Charter School	1060 E. 47th Street 60653	Curriculum, finances, governance.
West Englewood United Organization	WEUO Charter School	1650 W. 62nd Street 60636	Incomplete application.

**Appendix C - Charter School Application Extensions**

Name of Applicant Organization	Name of Proposed School	Address
Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council	Construction Industry Charter High School	5410 S. State 60609
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago	YMCA Elementary Charter School	1001 W. Roosevelt 60608

**Appendix D - Charter School Applications Withdrawn**

Name of Applicant Organization	Name of Proposed School	Address	Status
Aspira	Benito Juarez Computer Science	2435 N. Western 60647	Application withdrawn.
The DaVinci Foundation	DaVinci Academy	850 N. Halsted 60622	Application withdrawn.
New Original Ministries	The Faulkner Classical Charter School	7110 S. Coles Ave. 60649	Application withdrawn.
CRMD Education Company	The Learning Center Charter School	Not identified	Application withdrawn.
Human Resources Development Institute	Vivian E. Summers Preparatory Charter School	253 E. 113th Street 60628	Application withdrawn.
Umoja Student Development Corporation	Umoja Student Development Charter School	Not identified	Application withdrawn.