

**APPROVE THE TERMINATION OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH
TRIUMPHANT CHARTER SCHOOL**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the termination of the Charter School Agreement with Triumphant Charter School. Information pertinent to this termination is stated below.

CHARTER SCHOOL: Triumphant Charter School
1540 W. 84th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60609
312-653-6667
Contact Person: Carolyn Clift, Chairperson of the Board

OVERSIGHT: Charter Schools Office
125 S. Clark, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1535
Contact Person: Genita C. Robinson, Director

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 97-0122-EX4) is for a term commencing July 1, 1997 and ending June 30, 2002. The agreement authorizes the operation of a single facility Charter School focusing on over-aged students and students who have experienced prior academic difficulties in grades 6-8. The school opened at 4953 S. Seeley with an enrollment of approximately 170 students. The Agreement incorporates an accountability plan whereby the school is evaluated by the Board each year based on numerous factors related to its academic, financial and operational performance.

CHARTER RENEWAL: Triumphant Charter School submitted a renewal proposal on September 5, 2001 to continue the operation of the school under the same mission and educational programs at the same location. The Renewal (authorized by Board Report 01-1128-EX3) extended the Triumphant's charter status for five (5) years commencing July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2007, and increased the school's enrollment cap to 195 students.

In the summer of 2004, Triumphant relocated its school to 1540 W. 84th Street, a facility owned by the Board of Education

TERMINATION: Under Paragraph 22 of the Renewal of Charter and Charter School Agreement, the Charter School Agreement may be terminated prior to its expiration by (a) the mutual consent of the parties or (b) revocation of the charter of the Charter School pursuant to Section 13 hereof. Termination of this Agreement for any reason shall serve to immediately revoke the charter granted hereby. On July 16, 2005, Triumphant provided the Charter School Office with notice of its intent to terminate its charter with the Board.

Under Article II, Section 2.2 of the Building Lease between the Board and Triumphant Charter School, the lease term shall end on June 30, 2012, but if Triumphant ceases to operate, the lease shall terminate on the date Triumphant ceases to operate.

The Charter Schools Office has made the following transition plans for the students who attended Triumphant Charter School:

- Hosted an all-parent meeting on July 21, 2005, at Triumphant, 1540 W. 84th Street, to allow parents to meet and ask questions regarding the termination of Triumphant Charter School and student transfer options; and

- Notified the Area Instructional Officers of the neighborhood schools from which Triumphant drew students that some students may opt to return to those neighborhood schools.
- Informed the parents that pending Board and ISBE approval, a new campus for the Betty Shabazz Charter School will operate at the site currently being served by Triumphant and this campus will offer another option for students to apply for transfer.

The Charter Schools Office is taking the following steps to facilitate the closure of the charter school: (1) will ensure that Triumphant completes an audit of the school's finances and property; (2) is working with Triumphant to transfer temporary student records to the students' new schools and to store permanent student records at a CPS storage site; (3) has notified staff, parents, and students.

The charter and the charter school agreement with Triumphant shall terminate immediately effective upon approval of this board report.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the Director of Charter Schools to issue a letter notifying the Illinois State Board of Education of the action(s) approved hereunder. Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions in a written termination agreement if such agreement is required or advisable. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute such termination agreement.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL: Not applicable.

GENERAL CONDITIONS: Not applicable.

Approved:



Barbara J. Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully submitted:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Malorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel