

AMEND BOARD REPORT 05-1116-EX12
AMEND BOARD REPORT 05-0727-EX13
AMEND BOARD REPORT 05-0126-EX6
AMEND BOARD REPORT 04-0428-EX4
AMEND BOARD REPORT 01-1219-EX2
APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH
CHICAGO CHARTER SCHOOL FOUNDATION
(CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL)

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with Chicago Charter School Foundation (CCSF) for an additional 5-year period. A new Charter School Agreement applicable to this renewal term is currently being negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Charter School Agreement is not executed by the Board and the CCSF governing board within 120 days of the date of this Report. The renewal agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

This Board Report is necessary to amend the Chicago Charter School Foundation's Charter School Agreement to (a) permit the school to add a Pre-K program and (b) authorize the funding of the Pre-K program. A written amendment to the Charter School Agreement is required. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment is not executed by the Board and the CCSF governing board within 120 days of the date of this Report. The amended agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

This second Board Report is necessary to further amend the Chicago Charter School Foundation's Charter School Agreement to a) increase the enrollment cap and b) permit the school to add an additional campus. A written amendment to the Charter School Agreement is required. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment is not executed by the Board and the CCSF governing board within 120 days of the date of this amended Report. The amended agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

This amendment is necessary to a) authorize the Chicago Charter School Foundation to establish new campus to be located at 8130 S. California b) establish a new address for the Avalon/South Shore campus and c) increase the enrollment cap to 6211.

This November 2005 amendment is necessary to authorize the Chicago Charter School Foundation to establish a new campus at 8494 8001 S. Honore and increase the enrollment cap by 900 students to 7111. Also, pre-approve an additional campus to open in Fall 2006 at an address on the southside of Chicago to be identified by February 28, 2006 and to further increase the enrollment cap by 900 students to 8011.

This fifth amendment is necessary to a) Correct the address for the Ralph Ellison Campus b) Authorize the Chicago Charter School Foundation to operate the campus to be located at 8001 South Honore, the "Ralph Ellison Campus," in a different facility during the 2006-2007 school year. A written amendment to the Charter School Agreement is required. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment is not executed by the Board and the Chicago Charter School governing board within 120 days of the date of this Report. The amended Agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

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 228 South Wabash, Suite 600
 Chicago, Illinois 60604
 Phone: (312) 455-7894
 Contact Person: Dr. Elizabeth Purvis, Director

OVERSIGHT: ~~Charter Schools Office~~ Department of New School Support
125 S. Clark, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1535
Contact Person: ~~Genita C. Robinson~~ Beatriz Rendon, Executive 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 and authorized CCSF to operate three campuses with a total enrollment of 5,560. 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. The agreement was amended on April 2, 2001 (authorized by Board Report 00-0223-Ex3) to approve the establishment of a fourth campus, a reduction in the total maximum enrollment to 5,000 students and the use of two comprehensive school management companies, American Quality Schools (AQS) and Edison Schools Inc. (Edison). CCSF operates all campuses under the name of "Chicago International Charter School" with a current enrollment of approximately 2350 students. The following three campuses are currently managed by AQS: St. Edmund's campus (grades K-5) 6501 S. Michigan, Bucktown campus (grades K-8) 2235 N. Hamilton, and Prairie campus (grades K-8) 11530 S. Prairie Ave. CCSF's Longwood campus (grades K-12) 1309 W. 95th Street, is managed by Edison.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: CCSF submitted a renewal proposal on October 15, 2001 to continue the operation of the 4-campus Chicago International Charter School under a unified mission, using AQS and Edison to provide comprehensive school management. CCSF's proposal also requests approval to open three (3) additional campuses for the 2002-2003 school year, of which, two campuses would be managed by Edison and one campus would be managed by AQS. CCSF has since modified its renewal proposal to include commitments to operate all seven (7) campuses as one unified school through the use of uniform assessment plans and performance standards, curriculum and school calendar alignment, as well as standard governance, operational, employment, educational and admissions policies. CCSF's modifications to its renewal proposal also apply to CCSF's previous proposal to utilize two comprehensive school management companies, and therefore all such modifications will also be incorporated into CCSF's current Charter School Agreement. The Chicago Charter School Foundation submitted a Material Modifications proposal on February 17, 2004, to request an amendment to their Charter School Agreement that would allow for the addition of Pre-K and the Board agrees to the addition of the Pre-K program. The Chicago Charter School Foundation submitted a Renaissance 2010 proposal on November 22, 2004, to request a new elementary school campus called Avalon/ South Shore at 1501 E. 83rd Place, Chicago, IL 60619 and increase their enrollment cap by 426 students. The campus will open in the fall of 2005 with 278 students in grades K - 4. In successive years, the school will serve up to 426 students in grades K - 8. A public hearing, as required by statute, was held on January 6th, 2005 and an additional public hearing was held at the South shore Library on January 19th 2005. On June 24, 2005, The Chicago Charter School Foundation submitted a material modification to add a new campus at 8130 S. California and to increase their enrollment cap by 785 students. The new campus will be managed by Civitas. The new campus will open in the fall of 2005 with 486 students in grades K - 6 and will grow to serve K - 8 and at full capacity will serve 785 students. A public hearing was held June 29, 2005. The CCSF new enrollment cap will be 6211 students, and it will operate a total of nine campuses in 2005-2006.

On August 19, 2005, The Chicago Charter School Foundation submitted a Renaissance proposal to add 2 new campuses. CCSF also submitted a material modification application in November 2005 for the two new campuses and to increase their enrollment cap by 1800 students. One campus will be located at 8404 8001 S. Honore and the other campus will be located at an address to be determined. The new campuses will be managed by Civitas. Both new campuses will open in the fall of 2006. The 8404 8001 South Honore campus will open with approximately 400 students in grades 9 & 10 and will grow to serve grades 9 - 12 at full capacity serving 900 students. The pre-approved southside campus will serve approximately 900 students at capacity. A public hearing was held October 3, 2005 and November 8, 2005 for the 8404 8001 S. Honore site. A public hearing will be held for the pre-approved campus once

the site is finalized. The CCSF new enrollment cap will be 8011 students, and it will operate a total of 11 campuses in 2006-07. The cost of 800 additional students in 2006-07 will be approximately \$5,340,000. These budget figures are based on the revised per pupil funding amounts released on August 31, 2005.

The November 2005 amendment inaccurately listed the address for the Ralph Ellison Campus as 8101 S. Honore instead of the correct address of 8001 S. Honore. Additionally, in Fall 2006, CCSF will open the "Ralph Ellison Campus" in a shared facility with the "Wrightwood Campus" at 8130 South California. In subsequent school years, the "Ralph Ellison Campus" will relocate to operate in the facility at 8001 South Honore.

CHARTER EVALUATION: The Charter Schools Office Review Committee ("Committee") has reviewed and evaluated CCSF's renewal proposal as well as the school's past academic, financial and operational performance. During the last school year, Chicago International has met the academic, financial and operational accountability requirements that are measured by the Board under the original agreement. The Committee has determined, based on these accountability criteria that Chicago International Charter School is making reasonable progress towards achievement of the academic standards identified in its charter agreement and should be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of CCSF's charter is being extended for five (5) years commencing July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2007. CCSF shall be authorized during the renewal term to operate a 7-campus charter school with a total maximum enrollment of 5,000 students. CCSF shall be authorized to operate its 7-campus charter school in accordance with CCSF's revised renewal proposal with Edison managing three campuses and AQS managing four campuses. Any changes in the total maximum enrollment, the number or location of campuses or comprehensive school management companies or their campus management assignments require prior Board approval.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions in the written Charter School Agreement which shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the governing body of the charter school including, but not limited to: site locations, additional campuses, enrollment, funding, educational program, comprehensive school management companies, campus President to execute the Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Executive Director of Charter Schools the Department of New School Support to issue a letter notifying the Illinois State Board of Education of the action(s) approved hereunder and to submit the approved proposal and signed Charter School Agreement 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.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2002-2003 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY02 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets. The cost of 40 Pre-K students in 2004-05 will be approximately \$120,000. The cost of 278 students in 2005-06 will be approximately \$1,684,680. These budget figures are based on the revised per pupil funding amounts released on November 10, 2004. The financial implications of this material modification will be addressed during the development of the 2005-2006 fiscal year budget. The financial implications of this material modification will be addressed during the development of the 2006-2007 fiscal year budget.

APPROPRIATION: Charge to Charter Schools Office: \$2,818,800.00 Fiscal Year: 2006
Budget Classification: TBD Source of Funds: General Education Fund

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.

Approved:



Barbara J. Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully submitted:




Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel