

AMEND BOARD REPORT 06-1115-EX2
AMEND BOARD REPORT 03-0225-EX04
APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT
WITH NORTH LAWDALE COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School 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 charter school's governing board within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. The agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

This amended Board Report is necessary to a) increase the enrollment cap, b) permit the school to add an additional campus located at 1313 South Sacramento Drive, Chicago, IL 60623, and c) reflect the correct address of the current campus as 1615 South Christiana, Chicago, IL 60623. 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 North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School 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 November 2007 amendment is necessary to (a) increase the at capacity enrollment at North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School at the 1615 South Christiana Campus from 400 to 425 for the 2007-2008 school year; and (b) increase the at capacity enrollment of North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School for both campuses from 900 to 925 for the 2007-2008 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 North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School governing board within 120 days of the date of this amended Board Report. The amended agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

CHARTER SCHOOL: North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School
 1615 South Christiana
 Chicago, IL 60623
 Phone: (773) 542-1490
 Contact Person: John Horan, Director of Planning

OVERSIGHT: Office of New Schools
 125 S. Clark St., 5th Floor
 Chicago, IL 60603
 Phone: (773) 553-1535-0
 Contact Person: ~~Beatriz Rendon, Executive Director~~
Josh Edelman, Executive Officer

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 97-1217-EX2) is for a term commencing July 1, 1998 and ending June 30, 2003. The agreement authorizes the operation of a single facility Charter High School serving no more than 400 students. The school is located at 1615 South Christiana where it shares a building with the Catalyst Charter School – Howland Campus. 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 PROPOSAL: North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School submitted a renewal proposal on December 16, 2002 to continue the operation of the school under the

same mission and educational programs at the same location. The proposal requested no increase in the maximum student enrollment. North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School submitted a Renaissance 2010 proposal on September 5, 2006, to add a new high school campus (the North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School - Collins Campus). The new campus will uphold the school's college preparatory focus, preparing students for postsecondary successes both in colleges and careers. The new campus will be located at 1313 South Sacramento Drive, Chicago, IL 60623 and will open in the fall of 2007 with up to 150 students in grade 9. In subsequent years the Collins Campus will serve up to 500 students in grades 9 - 12. The new enrollment cap for North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School will be 900 students. Public hearings on Renaissance 2010 charter school submissions submitted in 2006, as required by statute, were held on July 21, 2006 and October 18, 2006. An additional public hearing was held on November 8, 2006. The cost of 150 additional students in 2007-08 will be approximately \$1,812,500. These budget figures are based on the revised per pupil funding amounts released on October 12, 2006.

In October of 2007, North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School submitted a material modification to increase their at capacity enrollment at the 1615 South Christiana Campus from 400 students to 425 students for the 2007 – 2008 school year. The campus located at 1615 South Christiana Avenue will now serve an at capacity enrollment of 425 students in grades 9-12. The new enrollment capacity for North Lawndale College Preparatory Charter High School for both campuses will be 925 students.

CHARTER EVALUATION: The Charter School's Office Review Committee ("Committee") has reviewed and evaluated North Lawndale's renewal proposal as well as the school's past academic, financial and operational performance. The Committee determined that the school has a complex and mixed performance situation that, in the final analysis, merits renewal. While only 8% of North Lawndale's freshmen and sophomores are reading at national norms, the school produced significantly more than a year of growth (1.32 years) for these students in 2002. In addition, while only 15% of North Lawndale's juniors met or exceeded state standards on the PSAE, the percentage would not place the school on probation under the CPS accountability system. Finally, the school has high attendance (91%) and graduation (86%) rates and a low mobility rate. The school is also very well managed. The charter school performed better than CPS neighborhood schools on 4 of the 6 student performance measures reviewed. Consequently the committee recommends, based on these accountability measures and results, that North Lawndale be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of the North Lawndale's charter status is being extended for five (5) years commencing July 1, 2003 and ending in June 30, 2008.

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 location, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Director of Charter Schools 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 the Agreement required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

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

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY07 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets. The cost of 25 additional students in 2007-08 will be approximately \$185,900.00. These budget figures are based on the revised per pupil funding amounts released in October 2007.

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 June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), 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:



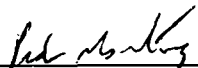
**Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer**

Respectfully submitted:



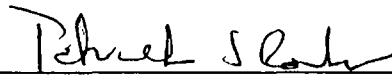
**Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer**

Within Appropriation:



**Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer**

Approved as to Legal Form:



**Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel**