

**RESCIND THE PRE-APPROVED STATUS AND APPROVE
WITHDRAWAL OF THE RENAISSANCE 2010 SCHOOL
PROPOSAL OF THE ASPIRA CHARTER SCHOOL
TO ADD ADDITIONAL CAMPUSES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Board rescind the pre-approved status and approve the withdrawal of the Renaissance 2010 school proposal for the ASPIRA Charter School to establish two new campuses to open in the fall of 2008 (Board Report 06-1115-EX3).

BACKGROUND:

In May 2006, the Board made available a request for proposals to solicit responses from parties interested in starting schools under the Renaissance 2010 initiative. The ASPIRA Charter School proposal was submitted to the Board on September 5, 2006. On November 15 2006, the proposal was reviewed and evaluated to be high quality based on the educational merits, and ASPIRA Charter School was authorized to establish two campuses to open in the fall of 2008, the Rosa Parks Communications and Technology High School Campus and the Trade Technical High School Campus. The addition of campuses to open in 2008 was contingent upon i) the renewal of the Charter School agreement with ASPIRA Inc. of Illinois upon expiration of the current renewal term ending June 30, 2008 and ii) the ability of ASPIRA Charter School – Rosa Parks Communications and Technology High School Campus and ASPIRA Charter School – ASPIRA Trade Technical High School Campus to meet benchmarks detailed by the Office of New Schools (ONS). These benchmarks were communicated to the ASPIRA Charter School team on November 13, 2006 with deadlines to meet by November 30, 2007.

ASPIRA Charter School did not meet all requirements by the November 30, 2007 deadline in preparation for opening the two aforementioned campuses; specifically, the requirements regarding acquisition and site control were not met.

Accordingly, due to ASPIRA's inability to meet the November 30, 2007 deadline, ASPIRA would like to withdraw its proposal for the additional campuses to open in the fall 2008.

Approved:



Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully Submitted:

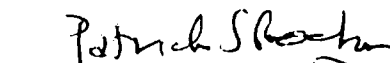


Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form 

Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel