

March 26, 2008

**AMEND BOARD REPORT 07-1024-EX4**  
**AMEND BOARD REPORT 07-0523-EX6**  
**APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH**  
**PERSPECTIVES CHARTER SCHOOL**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with Perspectives Charter School for an additional five-year period. A new Charter School Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be 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 renewal is stated below.

This October 2007 amended Board Report is necessary to (a) authorize the Perspectives Charter School to increase the at capacity enrollments from 500 to 540 at the following campuses for the 2007 — 2008 school year: Calumet High School Campus, the Calumet Middle School Campus, and the Calumet School of Technology; and (b) increase the enrollment cap of Perspectives Charter School for all campuses by 120 students to 2020 for the 2007 — 2008 school year. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Charter School Agreement is not executed within 120 days of the date of this amended Board Report. The agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

This October 2007 amended Board Report is also necessary to (a) authorize Perspectives Charter School to add two new campuses in the fall of 2008, the Math and Science Academy Campus at a location yet to be determined with an enrollment cap of 580 and the Chicago Lawn Campus at a location yet to be determined with an enrollment cap of 600; and (b) increase the enrollment cap of Perspectives Charter School for all campuses by 1180 students to 3200 students for the 2008 — 2009 school year. The addition of the new campuses and the corresponding changes to enrollment is contingent upon the charter school meeting certain benchmarks established by the Office of New Schools as detailed below, any required public hearings and Board approval of the location of the new campuses. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment to the Charter School Agreement is not executed within the time specified in an amended Board Report(s) approving the site(s). The amended agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

This March 2008 amendment is necessary to (a) identify a site for the Math and Science Academy Campus opening in the Fall of 2008 and (b) authorize Perspectives Charter School to change the opening of the Chicago Lawn Campus to open in the Fall of 2009. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Charter School Agreement is not executed within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. The amended agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Further Board approval will be required to approve the site for the Chicago Lawn Campus.

**CHARTER SCHOOL:** Perspectives Charter School  
601 South LaSalle Street, Suite  
700 Chicago, Illinois 60605  
(312) 604-2123

**OVERSIGHT:** Office of New Schools  
125 S. Clark, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60603  
(773) 553-1530  
Contact Person: Josh Edelman, Executive Officer

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:** The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 97-0122-EX4) was for a term commencing July 1, 1997 and ending June 30, 2002 and authorized the operation of

a charter school focusing on college preparation and character development for students in grades 6-12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2007 (authorized by Board Report 01-1128-EX2), and subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 05-0727-EX11: Approved the expansion into a new facility located at 1930 South Archer Avenue and increased the maximum student enrollment to 400.
- Board Report 05-1116-EX11: Approved the establishment of an additional campus located at 8131 S. May Street (Perspectives Calumet High School) to open in the Fall of 2006 and to increase the school's enrollment cap by 756, for a maximum enrollment cap of 1156 students.
- Board Report 06-0222-EX13: Approved a change in the opening enrollment number and grades of the Perspectives Calumet High School from 216 students in grades 6 and 9 to 270 students in grades 7 and 9 and changed the grades to be served from 6 to 12 to 7 to 12 .
- Board Report 06-0524-EX8: Approved the establishment of two additional campuses to open in the Fall of 2007 contingent upon renewal of the Charter Agreement: a) the Perspectives Charter School - Calumet Middle School Campus to open with 375 students in grades 7 - 8 and a future maximum enrollment of 500 students and b) the Perspectives Charter School - Calumet School of Technology to open with 200 students in grades 9 and 10 and a future maximum enrollment of 500 students in grades 9 - 12; and an increase in the school's enrollment cap to 1900 students.

The agreement incorporates an accountability plan where the school is evaluated by the board each year based on numerous factors related to its academic, financial and operational performance.

**CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Perspectives submitted a renewal proposal on December 1, 2006, to continue the operation of the Perspectives Charter School under a unified mission. Perspectives has since modified its renewal proposal to include commitments to operate four (4) 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. The Charter School shall serve grades 6-12 with a maximum student enrollment of 1,900.

On August 6, 2007 Perspectives submitted a Renaissance Proposal to (a) establish two new campuses in the fall of 2008 and (b) to increase their at capacity enrollment by 1180 students to 3080 students. The Perspectives Charter School - Math and Science Academy Campus will open in 2008 and serve approximately 243 students in grades 6,7 and 9. The Perspectives Charter School - Chicago Lawn Campus will open in 2008 and serve approximately 600 students in grades 6-8 and 10-12. A public hearing was held on October 13, 2007.

In October 2007, Perspectives also submitted a material modification to (a) increase the at capacity enrollment from 500 to 540 students at the following campuses: Calumet High School Campus, Calumet Middle School Campus and Calumet School of Technology Campus and (b) increase the enrollment cap by 120 students to 2020 for the 2007 - 2008 school year. 2007 - 2008 maximum enrollment for the listed campuses is indicated below.

In February 2008, Perspectives submitted a material modification to (a) identify a site for the Math and Science Academy Campus to be located at 3663 S. Wabash Avenue and (b) to change the opening of the Chicago Lawn Campus from 2008 to 2009. A public hearing as required by statute was held on March 18, 2008 at 3663 S. Wabash. The hearing was recorded and a summary report of the hearing is available for review.

**CONTINGENT APPROVAL:** The addition of the two new campuses anticipated to open in the fall of 2008 and the corresponding changes to enrollment is contingent upon any required subsequent public hearings and Board approval of the proposed sites for the new campuses. Approval of the 2008 campuses is also

contingent upon Perspectives Charter School meeting benchmarks established by the Office of New Schools on or before April 15, 2008. The Office of New Schools will oversee the enforcement of these deadlines. Failure by Perspectives Charter School to meet these deadlines, at the option of the Board, may result in the rescission of the authority granted herein and the denial of the approval of the 2008 campuses. A final review of the charter school proposal for the 2008 campuses will be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer on or before May 15, 2008. This final review will be conducted to determine compliance with the terms indicated above. The CEO's recommendation to approve the 2008 campuses will be subject to Board approval as indicated by a subsequent amendment to this Board Report.

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	2007 - 2008 Enrollment	At Capacity Enrollment
South Loop Campus	1997	1930 S. Archer	6 - 12	352	400
Calumet High School Campus	2006	8131 S. May Street	7 - 12	258	540
Calumet Middle School Campus	2007	8131 S. May Street	7 - 8	391	540
Calumet School of Technology Campus	2007	8131 S. May Street	9 - 12	209	540
Math and Science Academy Campus	2008	TBD 3663 S. Wabash Avenue	6 - 12	243 (in 2008-09)	580
Chicago Lawn Campus	2008 2009	TBD	6 - 12	600 (in 2008-09) (in 2009 - 10)	600

**CHARTER EVALUATION:** After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of New Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Perspective's performance and operations. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, facilities surveys, financial analysis, and academic site visits of both Perspectives campuses in which teaching and learning, leadership and governance, and the learning community were assessed. In addition to the foregoing, the Office of New Schools evaluated the school's student performance. From 2002 to 2006, Perspectives received 36 out of 73 high ratings and 30 out of 73 middle ratings on their student absolute indicators. In 2006, 68% of Perspectives students met or exceeded state standards on the ISAT. Finally, the school experienced a high attendance rate of 93.1% in 2005-2006. The committee recommends that, based on the schools performance on these and other accountability criteria, that Perspectives be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

**RENEWAL TERM:** The term of Perspectives charter status is being extended for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2012.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to the charter school, 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 Interim Executive Officer of the Office

of New 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.

**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 2008 -2009 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY08 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets. The cost of this enrollment will be approximately \$4,342,275.00 1,910,223.00 in 2008-2009.

**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-P03), 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.

**Approved:**



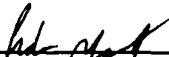
**Barbara Eason-Watkins**  
Chief Education Officer

**Respectfully Submitted:**



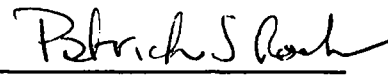
**Arne Duncan**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Within Appropriation:**



**Pedro Martínez**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Approved as to Legal Form.** 



**Patrick J. Rocks**  
General Counsel 