

**APPROVE THE PRE-QUALIFICATION STATUS OF VARIOUS SCHOOL OPERATORS
AND SCHOOL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS TO PROVIDE TURNAROUND SERVICES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the pre-qualification status of various school operators and school management consultants to provide turnaround services beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. School operators and consultants were selected on a competitive basis pursuant to a Request for Proposals for Turnaround Services. If awarded a subsequent agreement authorized by the Board, school operators and consultants and the Board will negotiate a School Management Consulting Agreement. No services shall be provided by any school operator prior to the execution of the School Management Consulting Agreement. Information pertinent to this matter is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATORS:

1. Academy for Urban School Leadership
3400 N. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60634
Phone: (773) 534-3885
Contact Person: Laura Couchman
School Type and Grade: Performance, high school and elementary
2. ChicagoRise
228 S. Wabash, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Phone: 312-651-5018
Contact Person: Simon Hess
School Type and Grade: Contract, elementary school
3. Chicago Alliance for School Excellence (CASE)
In partnership with Victory Schools, Inc.
6446 South Dorchester, Unit 1
Chicago, IL 60637
Phone: (312) 502-6292
Contact Person: Phillip Styles
School Type and Grade: Contract, elementary school

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

BACKGROUND:

In the fifth year of launching the Renaissance 2010 review process, ONS issued a Request for Proposals on April 2, 2008 that featured an evaluation process (called the Turnaround RFP) for school operators experienced in successful school turnaround services. The purpose of the Turnaround RFP is to enhance the District's ability to efficiently employ multiple strategies to turnaround low-performing schools. By creating a pipeline of experienced school operators and consultants, each pre-qualified to provide turnaround services, the District will have the flexibility to designate identified school operators to handle such situations in an efficient and strategic manner.

Measured on academic and operational performance criteria, ONS extended invitations to select school operators and consultants to submit proposals to provide turnaround services beginning in 2009. School "Turnaround" refers to a situation where an operator or consultant with strong leadership, experience, and infrastructure is asked to partner with the District to transform a school that has been historically underperforming. The school operator or consultant will serve an existing school population in an existing CPS building with all grades operating in the first turnaround year. The school operators and consultants identified in this Board Report are being recommended based upon a review and evaluation of the submitted proposals.

TERM OF PRE-QUALIFICATION: The term of this pre-qualification period shall commence on January 1, 2009 and shall end December 31, 2009. The Board shall have the right to terminate the pre-qualification status of a school operator or consultant in its discretion.

USE OF PRE-QUALIFIED POOL OF SCHOOL OPERATORS: Award of a subsequent agreement to a school operator or consultant may be contingent upon the school operator or consultant participating in community forums and public hearings and providing any other information requested by the Board. The award of an agreement and the provision of turnaround services is also contingent upon further Board approval via a Board Report and such other contingencies including, but not limited to, District needs, demographics, the school operator's or consultant's continued demonstration of organizational, educational and financial capacity, and satisfaction of eligibility criteria. A school operator or consultant is not guaranteed the award of an agreement, and if awarded an agreement is not guaranteed any given number of seats in any given year or any community as such matters are based on community input, available CPS resources, and other such conditions. A subsequent agreement with each school operator or consultant will be negotiated only after Board authorization pursuant to a Board Report is obtained.

FINANCIAL: There is no cost to the Board as a result of designating these school operators and consultants as pre-qualified.

PUBLIC HEARING: If the Board decides to proceed with the award of an agreement and the provision of turnaround services, the school operator or consultant will be required to participate in a public hearing prior to the award of that agreement. Any additional public hearings required by state law or district policy prior to the utilization of any seats referenced herein shall be held in a timely and compliant manner.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to conduct abbreviated request for proposal, request for additional information, or similar processes subject to further Board review and approval prior to award.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not Applicable

LCS REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

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, 2006 (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.

Contingent Liability - The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved:



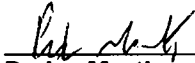
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully submitted:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel