

**APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHICAGO ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY  
AND ENTERING INTO A SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH  
CENTER FOR POLYTECHNICAL EDUCATION, INC., AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT  
CORPORATION**

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

Approve the establishment of the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology ("CAAT") at a location to be determined, and approve entering into a School Management and Performance Agreement with the Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, for the operation of the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology. This approval is contingent upon the school operator 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 school. A written School Management and Performance Agreement is currently being negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written School Management and Performance Agreement is not executed by the Board and the school operator within the time specified in an amended Board Report approving the site of the proposed school. Information pertinent to this matter is stated below.

**SCHOOL OPERATOR:** Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc.  
3411 W. Diversey, Suite 10  
Chicago, Illinois 60647  
Phone: 773-278-5418 ext. 15  
Contact Person: Matt Hancock, Assistant Director

**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

**DESCRIPTION:**

School Designation: Pursuant to the Board's Renaissance Schools Policy, 07-0627-PO4, as amended ("Renaissance Policy"), Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology will open in the fall of 2009 as a Contract School as described in the Renaissance Policy. The Board hereby designates the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology as a Small School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

Public Hearings: Public hearings on the opening of the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology as a Renaissance Contract School were held on October 6, 2008 and October 15, 2008 at Board Chambers in accordance with the Renaissance Policy. The October 15<sup>th</sup> hearing was recorded and a summary report of both of the hearings is available for review.

Request for Proposals: In April 2008, the Office of New Schools issued a Request for Proposals to solicit responses from parties interested in starting schools under the Renaissance 2010 Initiative. Proposals to operate either a contract school, performance school or charter campus were submitted by interested parties to the Board on July 28, 2008. Proposals were evaluated pursuant to the standards set forth in the Renaissance Policy. Proposals were reviewed by the Office of New Schools and a Comprehensive Evaluation Team and recommendations were submitted to the Chief Executive Officer based upon those reviews and evaluations.

Enrollment: The Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology will enroll students through a city-wide lottery. CAAT will enroll approximately 150 students in grade 9 for the 2009 – 2010 school year. In subsequent years the school may serve up to 600 students in grades 9 through 12.

**Curriculum:** The Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology aims to provide a rigorous, college-prep and career-tech curriculum that will achieve measurably superior outcomes with all students, preparing graduates for success in college and careers in Information Technology-rich occupations. CAAT will help students develop the maturity, creativity and intelligence needed to become leaders in their community, economy and global society. CAAT will achieve measurably superior outcomes through: personalized instruction for all students; effective, evidence-based teaching practices; quality interactions between students and teachers; logically-sequenced, research-based curricula and learning objectives; teaching to mastery and fluency; progression through the curriculum based on demonstrated competency; and data-driven decision making based on moment-to-moment formative assessment.

**Advisory Body:** A school advisory body will be established in a timely manner pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b and the Board's Renaissance School Policy in the following manner: the CEO or his designee in consultation with the Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. shall develop the composition and duties of the advisory body for approval by the Board. Such requirements shall be included in the agreement with the Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. The members of the advisory body will be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of the CEO or his designee.

**School Management Description:** At a minimum, the School Management and Performance Agreement will address student academic outcomes and financial and management practices of the school and shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the school operator including, but not limited to, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations. In accordance with the Board's Renaissance Policy, contract schools may request exemptions from Board Rules and Policies or alternative policies subject to and upon Board approval.

**CONTINGENT APPROVAL:** The granting of a contract by the Board and the entering into a School Management and Performance Agreement is contingent upon any required subsequent public hearings and Board approval of a site for the school. Approval of the contract school application is also contingent upon the school operator meeting benchmarks established by the Office of New Schools including, but not limited to, refinement of the education plan including the curriculum choices and career prep program; clarification of the governance structure among CAAT, Center for Labor and Community Relations and the school operator; revision of the 5-year budget and identification of a school facility. These benchmarks will be communicated to the school operator in a formal Letter of Conditions with all deadlines to be met by April 15, 2009. The Office of New Schools will oversee the enforcement of these deadlines; failure to meet these deadlines may, at the option of the Board, result in the rescission of the authority granted herein and the denial of the contract school application. A final review of the contract school application will be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer on or before May 15, 2009. This final review will be conducted to determine compliance with the terms indicated above. The CEO's recommendation to approve the contract school application will be subject to Board approval as indicated by a subsequent amendment to this Board Report.

**TERM:** Upon final review of this contract school application and Board approval of the site for the proposed school, the term of the School Management and Performance Agreement shall commence July 1, 2009 and end June 30, 2014. The Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. and the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology's designation as a Renaissance Contract School will expire on June 30, 2014 unless renewed or terminated earlier by the Board.

**COMPENSATION:** The Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. will be paid on a per-pupil basis for the operation of the Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology. If the Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. applies to the Renaissance Schools Fund for funding for the new school and is not approved for funding, the Board shall provide a one-time payment to the school for planning positions in an amount not to exceed \$170,000.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to the school operator, in the written School Management and

Performance Agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the School Management and Performance Agreement.

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

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Not applicable.

**FINANCIAL:** Using current year financial data, the general fund cost of 150 students in 2009-10 (FY10) will be approximately \$1,158,600.00. The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the FY10 budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond the current FY09 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

**PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:** As a contract school, the Center for Polytechnical Education, Inc. will employ its own principal, teachers and staff.

**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-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.

**Approved:**



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**Barbara J. Eason-Watkins**  
Chief Education Officer

**Within Appropriation:**


  
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**Pedro Martinez**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Respectfully submitted:**



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**Arne Duncan**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Approved as to Legal Form:** 

  
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**Patrick J. Rocks**  
General Counsel