

**APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH
THE CHICAGO MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with the Chicago Math and Science Academy (CMSA) 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.

CHARTER SCHOOL: Chicago Math and Science Academy Charter School
1709 W. Lunt
Chicago, IL 60626
Phone : 773-761-8960
Contact Person: Ali Yilmaz, Principal

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

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 03-1217-EX2) was for a term commencing July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2009 and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 525 students in grades 6 – 12. The charter school was located at 1709 W. Lunt Street.

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: CMSA Charter School submitted a renewal proposal on September 5, 2008, to continue the operation of the CMSA Charter School under a unified mission. The Charter School shall serve grades 6-12 with a maximum student enrollment of 525 students.

CHARTER EVALUATION: After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of New Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of CMSA's performance and operations. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, facilities surveys, financial analysis, and academic site visit of the school in which teaching and learning, leadership and governance, learning community, and services provided to English Language Learners and students with special needs were assessed. A public hearing was conducted on Monday, February 9, 2009 to receive public comment on the application to renew the Charter School Agreement with CMSA Charter School for an additional five years. In addition, the Office of New Schools evaluated the school's student performance. In the middle school, the charter schools average attendance rate for the past four years was 96.1%. From 2004-2005 to 2007-2008, CMSA has shown four years of consistent gains in the percentage of students in grades 6 through 8 meeting/exceeding state standards on the ISAT Composite (from 74.1% to 78.9%). In the high school, CMSA's attendance rate has averaged to 93.4% for the past three years (from 2006 to 2008). In addition, 51.4% percent of students met/exceeded state standards on the PSAE Composite in 2008. The charter school also met Adequate Yearly Progress targets in 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. From 2004-2005 to 2007-2008, CMSA received 21 out of 28 high ratings and 7 out of 28 middle ratings on their absolute student indicators found in the framework put forth by the district for assessing charter school pupil

performance and can be categorized as meeting pupil performance standards. The committee recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria, CMSA be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of CMSA Charter School's charter status is being extended for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014.

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 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 2009-2010 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY10 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets. The cost of this enrollment will be approximately \$4,380,160.00 in 2009-2010.

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.

Approved:



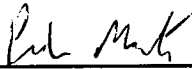
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully Submitted:



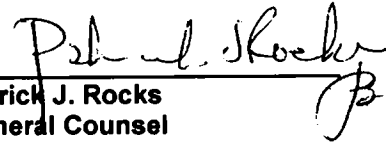
Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel