## APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY SERVICES WEST, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the renewal of the School Management and Performance Agreement with Community Services West, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, for the operation of the Community Services West Career Academy. The School Management and Performance Agreement with Community Services West will be renewed for an additional two year and ten month period. A new School Management and Performance Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be 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 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

**SCHOOL OPERATOR:** Community Services West

1239 S. Pulaski Road Chicago, Illinois 60623 Phone: (773) 762-2272

Contact Person: Myra Sampson

**CONTRACT SCHOOL:** Community Services West Career Academy

1239 S. Pulaski Road Chicago, Illinois 60623 Phone: (773) 522-5133

Contact Person: Bertha Buchanan, Principal

**OVERSIGHT:** Office of New Schools

125 S. Clark, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Chicago, IL 60603 (773) 553-1530

Contact Person: Carly Bolger, Executive Director

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT**: The original School Management and Performance Agreement (07-1114-EX3) was for a term commencing September 1, 2008 and ending August 31, 2013 and authorized the operation of an alternative contract school serving youth 16 to 21 years of age in grades 11 and 12 at a maximum enrollment of 200 students. The contract school was designated as an Alternative School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

**CONTRACT RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Community Services West submitted a renewal proposal on September 4, 2012, to continue the operation of Community Services West Career Academy, a career preparatory academy with a special focus on culinary arts. The contract school shall continue to be designated as an Alternative School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b and shall serve youth 16 to 21 years of age in grades 11 and 12 with a maximum enrollment of 200 students.

The agreement will incorporate an accountability plan in which the contract school is evaluated by the Board each year based on numerous factors related to academic, financial and operational performance.

**CONTRACT EVALUATION:** After receiving the contract renewal proposal, the Office of New Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Community Services West Career Academy's performance and operations. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, facilities surveys, financial analysis, and academic site visit of the high school in which student performance, teaching and learning, leadership and governance, and the learning communities were assessed. A public hearing was held on February 21, 2013 for all contract schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Community Services West Career Academy. In addition to the foregoing, the Office of New Schools

evaluated the school's student performance. The school was rated Level 3 with 15.3% of points in 2010-11 and Level 3 with 12.5% of points in 2011-2012 on the school absolute student indicators found in the framework put forth by the district for assessing contract school pupil performance, which did not accurately reflect Community Services West Career Academy's alternative school program. From 2008-2009 to 2011-2012, Community Services West Career Academy's student attendance averaged approximately 77.8%. The committee recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria, Community Services West Career Academy be authorized to continue operating as a contract school.

**RENEWAL TERM:** The term of the School Management and Performance Agreement is being extended for a two year and ten month term commencing September 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2016. Community Services West and Community Services West Career Academy's designation as a Renaissance Contract School will expire June 30, 2016 unless renewed or terminated earlier by the Board.

**ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the school and included as an attachment to the School Management and Performance Agreement with Community Services West.

**COMPENSATION:** Community Services West will continue to be paid on a per-pupil basis for the operation of the Community Services West Career Academy.

**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 written School Management and Performance Agreement.

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 2014 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY13 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

**PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:** As a contract school, Community Services West will continue to 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, 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 May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

**Approved for Consideration:** 

Jack Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Approved:

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley General Counsel