APPROVE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS PROVIDERS FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM SERVICES

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve entering into agreements with the providers listed below for Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) Services. Written agreements for services are being negotiated. No services shall be provided by any provider and no payment shall be made to any provider prior to the execution of such provider's written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind as to each provider in the event a written agreement for such provider is not executed within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to these agreements is stated below.

PROVIDERS:

Banner Learning Corp.
1243 S. Wabash Avenue, Suite 503
Chicago, Illinois 60605
Contact: Eric Carlton, President
Contact Phone: 773-934-2328

Pathways in Education – Illinois, Inc.
320 N. Halstead Street, Ste. 210
Pasadena, California 91107
Contact Name: Jamie Hall, President
Contact Phone: 626-204-2550

Edison Learning, Inc.
900 S. Gay, Suite 1000
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902
Contact Name: Chris Wilberding, Vice President Operations - Alternative Education Solutions
Contact Phone: 201-630-2861

Ombudsman Educational Services, LLC
1585 N. Milwaukee Ave., Suite 2
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
Contact Name: Mark Claypool, President & CEO
Contact Phone: 615-361-4000

OVERSIGHT:

Alternative Network
4655 S. Dearborn Street, Room 309A
Chicago, IL 60609
Contact: Jennifer Vidis, Chief of Schools
Contact Phone: 773-535-8500

ALOP PROPOSALS: In June 2012, the CEO made available the Call for Quality Schools to solicit responses from parties interested in providing a range of new alternative option school and program proposals, including proposals for ALOP services. ALOP proposals were submitted by Banner Learning Corp., Pathways in Education – Illinois, Inc. and Edison Learning, Inc. in response to the Call for Quality Schools. The proposals were evaluated using the criteria and standards set forth in the Call for Quality Schools and on January 23, 2013, the Board provided contingent approval of these proposals (Board Report 13-0123-EX2). In addition, to create additional capacity to serve out-of-school and at-risk students, the CEO made available a Request for Proposals for New Options in January 2013 to solicit additional proposals for alternative options schools and programs. As a result, an ALOP proposal was submitted by Ombudsman Educational Services, LLC and evaluated using the criteria and standards set forth in the RFP.

SERVICES: Providers shall provide the following ALOP services pursuant to Section 13B of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/13B-1 et seq): High quality, comprehensive education program services for middle and high school aged youth who have been out-of-school, are significantly off-track for graduation, are chronically truant or are otherwise at-risk for academic failure. The providers will deliver a rigorous academic program that complies with CPS and state graduation and promotion requirements and is fully aligned to IL standards but is also tailored to meet the needs of individual students. Personalized learning plans, comprehensive social-emotional supports, and intensive post-secondary planning will be provided to all ALOP students.

Providers will be approved to serve the following number of students in SY13-14: Banner Learning Corp. (up to 275 students), Pathways in Education – Illinois, Inc. (up to 600 students), Edison Learning, Inc. (up to 300 students) and Ombudsman Educational Services, LLC (up to 1,200).

At a minimum, the agreements will address the requirements of the ALOP statute and regulations and student academic outcomes, and will also reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the providers including, but not limited to, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written agreements. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written agreements. Authorize the Chief of Alternative Network to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate the written agreements.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL: Funding for the program services will be consistent with per pupil funding models used by the Board for charter and contract high schools. The details of the financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY13 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

This board report proposes to increase the current level of ALOP seats by 1,712 for a total of 2,375 seats. We estimate that roughly 50% of students in ALOP programs are recovered students who had previously dropped out, rather than transfers from other district schools, and therefore increase the overall enrollment of the district.

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 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:

Jennifer D. Vidis  
Chief of Schools, Alternative Network

Approved:

Barbara Byrd-Bennett  
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James L. Bebley  
General Counsel