

**APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LITTLE BLACK PEARL ART AND DESIGN ACADEMY  
AND ENTERING INTO A SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH  
LITTLE BLACK PEARL WORKSHOP, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION**

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

Approve the establishment of the Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy at 1060 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street, and approve entering into a School Management and Performance Agreement with Little Black Pearl Workshop, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, for the operation of Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy. 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 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this matter is stated below.

**SCHOOL OPERATOR:** Little Black Pearl Workshop  
1060 East 47th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60653  
Phone: 773-285-1211  
Contact: Monica Haslip, Executive Director

**CONTRACTSCHOOL:** Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy  
1060 East 47th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60653  
Phone: 773-285-1211  
Contact: Monica Haslip, Executive Director

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

**DESCRIPTION:**

School Designation: Pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-1.1, 105 ILCS 5/34-18(30), the Board's Renaissance Schools Policy, 07-0627-PO4, as amended ("Renaissance Policy") and the contingent authority granted by the Board on January 23, 2013 in Board Report 13-0123-EX2, Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy will open in the fall of 2013 as a Contract School located at 1060 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street. The Board hereby designates the Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy as a Contract School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the opening of the Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy as a Contract School at 1060 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street was held on May 2, 2013 in the Board Chambers. The hearing was recorded and a summary report of the hearing is available for review.

Request for 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 school proposals, including alternative education school services. The Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy proposal was submitted by Little Black Pearl Workshop. in response to Call for Quality Schools. The proposal was 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 the proposal (Board Report 13-0123-EX2).

Enrollment: Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy will be a citywide school that will enroll students in grades 9-12 who are having challenges in the normal school setting or who may have dropped out of school or are at-risk of dropping out. Students will be admitted on an ongoing basis provided that seats

are available. If there are more applicants than seats available, applicants will be placed on a waiting list and a random student admissions lottery will be conducted on a quarterly basis. Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy will accept for enrollment up to 200 students in grades 9-12 who will be recruited by the school for placement with the assent of the Alternative Network and/or its designee.

**Curriculum:** Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy will offer a rigorous college-preparatory academic program with a focus on arts and technology training in the following disciplines: visual arts, music and technology. In addition to providing the range of CPS graduation requirements, the school will leverage community partnerships to offer students courses outside of the traditional curriculum in ceramics, dance, glass blowing, and music production. The Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy student will learn to break stereotypes by utilizing their creative thinking skills and to become more comfortable using multiple representations and cross-curricular thought. This blend of learning opportunities will challenge students to be critical thinkers in a safe learning environment while earning a high school diploma, pursuing post-secondary education, and career opportunities. Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy will issue diplomas to students who successfully complete the program in accordance with state and CPS requirements.

**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 Little Black Pearl Workshop 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 Little Black Pearl Workshop. 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 the student academic outcomes and financial and management practices of the school and will 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 Rule and Policies or alternative policies subject to and upon Board approval.

**TERM:** The term of the School Management and Performance Agreement shall commence July 1, 2013 and end June 30, 2018. Little Black Pearl Workshop and Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy's designation as a Renaissance Contract School will expire on June 30, 2018 unless renewed or terminated earlier by the Board.

**COMPENSATION:** Little Black Pearl Workshop will be paid on a per-pupil basis for the operation of the Little Black Pearl Art and Design 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 Council is not applicable to this report.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Not applicable.

**FINANCIAL:** 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 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, Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy 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-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:



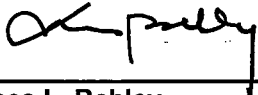
Jennifer D. Vidis  
Chief of Schools, Alternative Network

Approved:



Barbara Byrd-Bennett  
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



James L. Bebley  
General Counsel