

FAILED OF ADOPTION

14-0122-EX13

January 22, 2014

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FOR CHARTER AND CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT SUBMITTED BY CONNECTED FUTURES ACADEMIES, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

Consideration of a proposal for charter and Charter School Agreement submitted by Connected Futures Academies. If approved, the term of the Charter School Agreement would be for a five-year period, beginning July 1, 2014. 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 by June 30, 2014. The agreement presented for consideration herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Information pertinent to this matter is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Connected Futures Academies
4124 S. Ellis
Chicago, Illinois 60653
Phone: 312-523-3377
Contact: Ronald Giles, Design Team Leader

CHARTER SCHOOL: Connected Futures Academies Options Charter School
Locations to be Determined
Phone: 312-523-3377
Contact: Ronald Giles, Design Team Leader

OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation
125 S. Clark, 10th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1530
Contact Person: Jack Elsey, Chief Officer

DESCRIPTION: The Charter Schools Law (105 ILCS 5/27A-1 et seq., as amended) provides that the City of Chicago may authorize up to but no more than 5 charter schools devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts and/or students 15 or 16 years old at risk of dropping out. Such charter schools may operate up to 15 campuses within the City of Chicago. Proposals to operate charter schools are submitted to the Board for evaluation pursuant to the standards set forth in 105 ILCS 5/27A-8, and the Board convenes a public meeting to obtain information to assist in its decision to grant or deny each proposal and report its action to the Illinois State Board of Education. The State Board determines whether the approved charter school proposal and the proposed contract satisfy the provisions of the Charter Schools Law and, if so, certifies the charter school.

CHARTER APPLICATION PROPOSAL: The Connected Futures Academies Options Charter School proposal was submitted by Connected Futures Academies and received by the Board in two tiers: a Tier 1 proposal was due in September 2013, and a Tier 2 proposal completed the proposal in accordance with the Charter Schools Law, in December 2013. Connected Futures Academies proposes to operate an alternative options charter school that will create an academic and career based integrated educational environment designed to blend the rigor of high academic standards and next generation skills students exiting the school must obtain to meet high demand employment opportunities aligned to City Colleges of Chicago career focuses. Connected Futures Academies in collaboration with post-secondary partners, business and community leaders will focus on preparing its graduates for career pathway opportunities offered by the City Colleges of Chicago.

If approved, the charter is slated to open 5 alternative options campuses in the fall of 2014 at locations to be determined. In year 1 each campus will serve 165 students ages 15-21. Also, if approved, the identification of a facility will be required to be submitted to the Board for consideration.

A community meeting and a public hearing on charter school submissions submitted in 2013 were held on December 16, 2013 and January 7, 2014, respectively.

TERM: If approved, the term of the Connected Future Academies charter and agreement shall commence July 1, 2014 and end June 30, 2019.

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. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Senior Director 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 Council is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY15 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

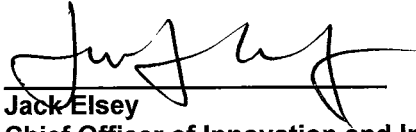
Inspector General - Each Party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary 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.

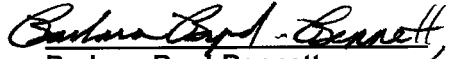
Ethics — The Board's Ethics Code adopted May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), as amended from time to time shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Submitted for Consideration:



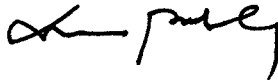
Jack Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Submitted for Consideration:



Barbara Byrd-Bennett /RAB
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



James L. Bebley
General Counsel