

May 28, 2014

AMEND BOARD REPORT 14-0122-EX18
**CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FOR CHARTER AND CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT
 SUBMITTED BY GREAT LAKES ACADEMY, INC., AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

Consideration of a proposal for charter and Charter School Agreement submitted by Great Lakes Academy, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. 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.

This May 2014 amendment is necessary to (a) authorize the final approval of this charter school proposal, (b) authorize the disbursement of one-time incubation and startup funds to Great Lakes Academy, Inc. for the new charter school, and (c) identify the independent facility at 8401 S. Saginaw Avenue as the location of the charter school. 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 amended Board Report. The agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Great Lakes Academy, Inc.
 415 E. North Water Street, Apartment 604W
 Chicago, Illinois 60611-5613
 Phone: 773-599-3614
 Contact: Katherine Myers, Executive Director

CHARTER SCHOOL: Great Lakes Academy Charter School
~~Location To Be Determined~~
8401 S. Saginaw Avenue
Chicago, IL 60617
 Phone: 773-599-3614
 Contact: Katherine Myers, Executive Director

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 up to 70 charter schools may be operated in 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 Great Lakes Academy Charter School (Great Lakes Academy) proposal was submitted by Great Lakes Academy, Inc. 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. Great Lakes Academy's mission is to prepare K-8 students to excel in high school and college, and live a life of great opportunity through rigorous academics and development of character. Great Lakes Academy's school model draws from the

best practices at the highest performing schools serving low-income, urban students across the country, focusing on recruiting, hiring, coaching, and retaining outstanding classroom teachers; building a fiercely positive school culture that holds staff and students to high expectations through positive reinforcement; a focus on foundational literacy and mathematics instruction; an extended school day; and promoting a safe and secure school environment with clear directions and structures. The school is slated to open in the fall of 2014 serving a maximum of 128 students in grades K-1. The school will add grades in subsequent years with an at capacity enrollment of 576 students in grades K-8. The school will be located at a location to be determined. 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. On January 22, 2014, the Board provided contingent approval of the proposal (Board Report 14-0122-EX18) upon Great Lakes Academy, Inc. identifying a facility.

If approved, the identification of a facility will be required to be submitted to the Board for consideration.

In April 2014, Great Lakes Academy, Inc. identified the independent facility at 8401 S. Saginaw Avenue as the location for Great Lakes Academy Charter School. A public hearing on the proposed facility was held on Tuesday, May 13, 2014. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

TERM: If approved, the term of the Great Lakes Academy 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~~ Innovation and Incubation 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. Authorize the Chief Innovation and Incubation Officer to execute any documents related to the disbursement of the one-time incubation and startup funds for the Great Lakes Academy Charter School.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

INCUBATION: Upon final approval of this charter school proposal and the submission of an Incubation Budget Plan by Great Lakes Academy, Inc., the Board will disburse an amount not to exceed \$160,000 in incubation funding for the Great Lakes Academy Charter School. The use of the funding will be outlined by the Office of Innovation and Incubation.

STARTUP FUNDING: Upon the execution of the Charter School Agreement with Great Lakes Academy, Inc., the Board will disburse an amount not to exceed \$346,939 in startup funding for Great Lakes Academy Charter School. The use of the funding will be outlined by the Office of Innovation and Incubation.

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:

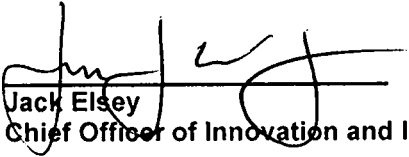
Inspector General - Each Party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary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

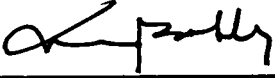
Submitted for Consideration:


Jack Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Approved:


Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 


James L. Bebley
General Counsel