

August 28, 2017

AMEND BOARD REPORT 16-0427-EX11
AMEND BOARD REPORT 15-0527-EX17
AMEND BOARD REPORT 14-0528-EX5
AMEND BOARD REPORT 13-0424-EX14
AMEND BOARD REPORT 13-0227-EX10

**APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH
 UNO CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK N/K/A ACERO CHARTER SCHOOLS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with UNO Charter School Network for an additional five-year period. A new Charter School Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be negotiated. 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 Board Report. The agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

This April 2013 amendment is necessary to authorize the UNO Charter School Network to (a) change the name of UNO Charter School - Northside Elementary School Campus to UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus, (b) expand the grades offered at UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus to include grades 9 to 12, (c) increase the at capacity enrollment at the UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus from 630 to 1,340 students, thereby increasing the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 710 to 10,950 students, (d) change the name of UNO Charter School - 51st and St. Louis Charter High School Campus to UNO Charter School - Soccer Academy High School Campus, (e) change the address of UNO Charter School - Soccer Academy High School Campus from 51st Street and South St. Louis Avenue to 5025 South St. Louis Avenue, (f) change the start dates of the UNO Charter School - UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School - UCSN 17 Campus from fall of 2013 to fall 2014, (g) correct the address of the UNO Charter School - Elementary School Campus from 5050 W. Homan Avenue to 5050 S. Homan Avenue, and (h) identify the independent facility at 4420 S. Fairfield as the location for the UNO Charter School - UCSN 15 Campus. 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.

This May 2014 amendment is necessary to change the start dates of the UNO Charter School – UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School – UCSN 17 Campus from fall 2014 to fall 2015. No written amendment to the Charter School Agreement is required.

This May 2015 amendment is necessary to rescind the authority to open the UNO Charter School – UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School – UCSN 17 Campus in the fall of 2015 as sites for these campuses have not been identified.

This April 2016 amendment is necessary to (a) correct the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school from 10,950 to 9,750 students and (b) change the student enrollment capacity for the charter school from the individual campus-level to the network-level beginning in the fall 2016. The overall network-level at capacity enrollment of the charter school will remain unchanged at 9,750 students. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment to the 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.

This August 2017 amendment is necessary to authorize UNO Charter School Network to (a) change the name of the school operator from UNO Charter School Network to Acero Charter Schools, (b) change the name of the charter school from UNO Charter School to Acero Charter Schools, and (c) change the name of the following campuses: (1) from Elementary School Campus to Jovita Idár Campus, (2) from

Soccer Academy High School Campus to Victoria Soto Campus, (3) from Rogers Park Campus to Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Campus, (4) from Near West Elementary Campus to Roberto Clemente Campus and (5) from UCSN 15 Campus to Brighton Park Campus. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment to the 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.

SCHOOL OPERATOR/ UNO Charter School Network n/k/a Acero Charter Schools

CHARTER SCHOOL: 209 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 500

Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: (312) 637-3900

Contact Person: Matthew Moeller, Chief of Schools

Helena Stangle, Chief External Affairs Officer

OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation

42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor

Chicago, IL 60602

(773) 553-1530

Contact Person: Mary K. Bradley, Executive Director

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 97-1217-EX2) was for a term commencing July 1, 1998 and ending June 30, 2003 and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 800 students in grades K – 8 on two campuses. The campus serving K – 3 was located at 2651 W. 23rd Street. The campus serving grades 4 – 8 was located at 2401 W. Congress. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2008 (authorized by Board Report 03-0225-EX7) and authorized an increase in the maximum student enrollment to permit 1,060 students in grades Pre-K – 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were renewed for an additional term commencing on July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013 (authorized by Board Report 08-0602-EX7). The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 08-0924-EX8: Approved the establishment of two new campuses, an elementary campus in 2009 and a high school campus in 2010, to be located in a new facility at the intersection of South Homan Avenue and 51st street; the increase in the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 1,200 to 5,830; and the clarification of the relationship of any pre-kindergarten program to the charter school.
- Board Report 09-0826-EX8: Approved the change in names of the UNO Charter School – Archer Heights Campuses, identification of a temporary location for the UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Primary and Intermediate Campuses for the 2009-2010 school year only, temporary adjustment in the at capacity enrollment for each of the Octavio Paz campuses, and the change in the start date for the UNO Charter School – Gage Park Campus.
- Board Report 09-1123-EX7: Approved the establishment of a new elementary school campus in the fall of 2011 at a facility to be determined, increase in the overall at capacity enrollment at the charter school by 600 to 6,430 students for the 2011-2012 school year, and the clarification of the authority period for the change in start date of the UNO Charter School – Gage Park Campus.
- Board Report 10-0428-EX2: Approved the identification of the independent facility at 2744 W. Pershing Avenue as the location for the UNO Charter School – Gage Park Campus, identification of the independent facility at 2651 W. 23rd Street as the permanent location for the UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Campus, and the consolidation of the UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Primary Campus and the UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Intermediate Campus into one attendance center serving grades K-8.

- Board Report 10-0526-EX5: Approved the change of the start date of the UNO Charter School – Academy High School Campus from fall 2010 to fall 2011 and the modification of the at capacity enrollments of certain UNO Charter School Campuses.
- Board Report 11-0126-EX6: Approved the establishment of one new campus to open in the fall of 2011 at a location to be determined and the corresponding increase in the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 630 to 7,060 students in the fall of 2011; establishment of two new campuses to open in the fall of 2012 at locations to be determined and the corresponding increase in the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 1,260 to 8,320 students in the fall of 2012; change in the name of the Academy High School Campus to the 51st and St. Louis Charter High School Campus; change in the start date of the UNO Charter School – Academy High School Campus from fall 2011 to fall 2012; increase in the grades served at the Academy High School Campus to serve grades 6 through 12; increase in the at capacity enrollment at the Academy High School Campus by 120 to a new at capacity enrollment of 720 students; and the increase in the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 120 to 8,440 students in the fall of 2012.
- Board Report 11-0525-EX7: Approved the identification of the independent facility at 3434 W. 51st Street as the location for the UNO Charter School – Elementary School Campus and the identification of the independent facility at 2510 W. Cortez as the location for the UNO Charter School – UNO Elementary School Campus.
- Board Report 11-1214-EX6: Approved the establishment of three new elementary school campuses in the fall of 2013 at locations to be determined and the increase in the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 1,800 to 10,240 students in the fall of 2013.
- Board Report 12-0725-EX3: Approved the change of the name of the Gage Park Campus to Sandra Cisneros Campus, identification of the independent facility at 2050 N. Natchez as the location for the UNO Charter School – Near West Elementary School Campus, identification of the independent facility at 7416 N. Ridge Blvd as the location for the UNO Charter School – Northside Elementary School Campus, and the change in the start date of the UNO Charter School – 51st and St. Louis Charter High School Campus from fall 2012 to fall 2013.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: UNO Charter School Network submitted a renewal proposal on September 4, 2012 to continue the operation of the UNO Charter School under a unified mission. The charter school shall serve grades Kindergarten through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 10,240 students.

If the UNO Charter School Network is authorized to operate a pre-kindergarten program in the same building as the charter school, the children enrolled in the pre-kindergarten will not be included in the enrollment of the charter school and the pre-kindergarten program will not be governed by the Charter School Agreement. To the extent the Board provides funding for the pre-kindergarten program, that program will be subject to a separate agreement with and separate funding authorized by the Office of Early Childhood Education. A material breach of any contract between the Board and the UNO Charter School Network for the operation of a pre-kindergarten program or the charter school may be treated as a breach of the other contract.

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

In January and April 2013 UNO Charter School Network submitted a material modification to (a) change the name of UNO Charter School - Northside Elementary School Campus to UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus, (b) expand the grades offered at UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus to include grades 9 to 12, (c) increase the at capacity enrollment at the UNO Charter School - Rogers Park Campus from 630 to 1,340 students, thereby increasing the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 710 to 10,950 students, (d) change the name of UNO Charter School - 51st and St. Louis

Charter High School Campus to UNO Charter School - Soccer Academy High School Campus, (e) change the address of UNO Charter School - Soccer Academy High School Campus from 51st Street and South St. Louis Avenue to 5025 South St. Louis Avenue, (f) change the start dates of the UNO Charter School - UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School - UCSN 17 Campus from fall of 2013 to fall 2014, (g) correct the address of the UNO Charter School - Elementary School Campus from 5050 W. Homan Avenue to 5050 S. Homan Avenue, and (h) identify the independent facility at 4420 S. Fairfield as the location for the UNO Charter School - UCSN 15 Campus. A public hearing on the proposed changes was held on Monday, April 15, 2013. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review. In February 2014, UNO Charter School Network submitted a material modification to change the start dates of the UNO Charter School – UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School – UCSN 17 Campus from fall 2014 to fall 2015. A public hearing on the proposed changes was held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

In May 2015, Board Report 15-0527-EX17 rescinded the authority for the charter operator to open the UNO Charter School – UCSN 16 Campus and UNO Charter School – UCSN 17 Campus in the fall of 2015. Removal of the campuses' enrollment decreased the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school by 1,200 to 9,750 students. The overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school is being corrected to reflect these changes.

In January 2016, the UNO Charter School Network submitted an application to request a change in the student enrollment capacity for the charter school from the individual campus-level to the network-level beginning in the fall of 2016. The overall network-level at capacity enrollment of the charter school will remain unchanged at 9,750 students.

A public hearing on the proposed changes was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

In February 2017, the UNO Charter School Network submitted an application for amendment to (a) change the name of the school operator from UNO Charter School Network to Acero Charter Schools, (b) change the name of the charter school from UNO Charter School to Acero Charter Schools, and (c) change the name of the following campuses: (1) from Elementary School Campus to Jovita Idár Campus, (2) from Soccer Academy High School Campus to Victoria Soto Campus, (3) from Rogers Park Campus to Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Campus, (4) from Near West Elementary Campus to Roberto Clemente Campus and (5) from UCSN 15 Campus to Brighton Park Campus. A public hearing on the proposed changes was held on Monday, August 21, 2017. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	2012 – 2013 enrollment	Estimated At Capacity Enrollment*
Octavio Paz	1998	2651 W. 23 rd Street	K – 8	445	620
Rufino Tamayo	2005	5135 S. California	K – 8	288	315
Bartolome de las Casas	2006	1641 W. 16 th Street	K – 8	288	315
Carlos Fuentes	2006	2845 W. Barry	K – 8	562	630
Officer Donald J. Marquez	2007	2916 W. 47 th Street	K – 8	576	630
SPC Daniel Zizumbo	2008	4248 W. 47 th Street	K – 8	638	670
PFC Omar E. Torres	2008	4248 W. 47 th Street	K – 8	635	670

Major Hector P. Garcia MD	2008	4248 W. 47 th Street	9 – 12	636	720
Sandra Cisneros	2010	2744 W. Pershing	K – 8	574	630
Soccer Academy High School Victoria Soto	2013	5025 South St. Louis Avenue	6 – 12	720 (in 13- 14)	720
Elementary School Jovita Idár	2011	5050 S. Homan Avenue	K – 8	574	630
Esmeralda Santiago	2011	2510 W. Cortez	K – 8	270	630
Near West Elementary Roberto Clemente	2012	2050 N. Natchez	K – 8	555	630
Rogers Park Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz	2012	7416 N. Ridge Blvd	K-12	486	1340
UCSN-15 Brighton Park	2013	4420 S. Fairfield	K – 8	600 (in 13-14)	600

*At cap enrollment at individual campuses may fluctuate but overall network-level at cap enrollment will remain unchanged.

CHARTER EVALUATION: After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of New Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of UNO Charter School's performance and operations. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, facilities surveys, financial analysis, and academic site visit of the 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 charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including UNO Charter School. In addition to the foregoing, the Office of New Schools evaluated the school's student performance. Eight campuses currently have performance ratings, with four rated Level 1 (Paz, Marquez, Zizumbo, and Torres), two rated Level 2 (Fuentes and Garcia), and two rated Level 3 (Tamayo and Casas) based on data from school year 2011-2012 on the school absolute student indicators found in the framework put forth by the district for assessing charter school pupil performance. From 2007-2008 to 2011-2012, UNO Charter School's student attendance averaged approximately 96.6% at the elementary schools and 96.2% at the Garcia Campus, the high school. In 2011-2012, the average percentage of students meeting/exceeding state standards on the ISAT Composite was 81.4%, an increase of 5.6 percentage points from 2008-2009. In 2011-2012, the percentage of students meeting/exceeding state standards on the PSAE Composite was 39.5%. The committee recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria, UNO Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of UNO Charter School's charter and agreement is being extended for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2018.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the charter school and included as an attachment to the Charter School Agreement with UNO Charter School Network.

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 and amendment, which shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the governing body of the charter school including, but not limited to: site location, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations. Authorize

the President and Secretary to execute the written Charter School Agreement and amendment. Authorize the Executive Director of the Office of 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.

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 fiscal year 204617-204718 budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY4618 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.

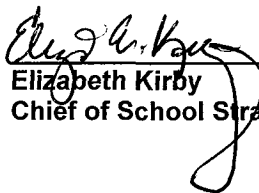
Conflicts - The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the Provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3, which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

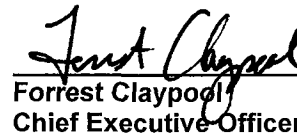
Indebtedness - The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

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.

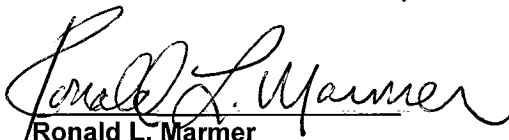
Approved for Consideration:

Approved:


Elizabeth Kirby
Chief of School Strategy and Planning


Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 


Ronald L. Marmer
General Counsel