

AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ALAIN LOCKE CHARTER AGREEMENT SCHOOL WITH CONDITIONS**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

Authorize renewal of the Alain Locke Charter School Agreement (the "Charter School Agreement") with conditions for an additional two-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. The Renewal and any related contracts must be executed by the current contract's expiration date in order for First Quarter funding to be released for the new contract term. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Alain Locke Charter School, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation
833 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60607
Phone: 312-216-1700
Contact Person: Claire Hartfield

CHARTER SCHOOL: Alain Locke Charter School
3141 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60612
Phone: 773-265-7230
Contact Person: Patrick Love, Principal

OVERSIGHT: Office of Portfolio Management
42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: 773-553-1530
Contact Person: Alfonso Carmona, Chief Portfolio Officer

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, 2004, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 750 students in grades K through 12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2009 (authorized by Board Report 04-0225-EX2). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014 (authorized by Board Report 09-0422-EX5) serving no more than 617 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2021 (authorized by Board Report 17-0628-EX2) serving no more than 617 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2026 (authorized by Board Report 21-0127-EX3). The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Resolution 22-0525-RS5: Resolved that the renewal term for Alain Locke Charter School shall be reduced to a 2-year term commencing on July 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2023, and it is further resolved that any future authorization to renew Alain Locke Charter School beyond June 30, 2023 shall require Alain Locke's assent to a common accountability plan set forth by the Board of Education of the City of Chicago.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Alain Locke Charter School submitted a renewal proposal on October 14, 2022 to continue the operation of Alain Locke Charter School. The charter school shall be located at 3141 West Jackson Boulevard and shall serve grades K through 8 with a maximum enrollment of 617 students.

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

CHARTER EVALUATION: After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Alain Locke Charter School's academic performance, financial viability, and legal and contract compliance. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, academic results, financial performance, governance documents, parental issues, facilities surveys, and special education documentation. A public hearing was held on January 10, 2023 for all charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Alain Locke Charter School. The Office of Innovation and Incubation recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria, Alain Locke Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of Alain Locke Charter School's charter and agreement is being extended for a two (2) year term commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the charter school by the Chief Executive Officer or his designee in a formal Letter of Conditions and will be included as an attachment to the Charter School Agreement with Alain Locke Charter School. Authorization to renew the charter and Charter School Agreement is conditioned on Alain Locke Charter's assent to a common accountability plan set forth by the Board of Education of the City of Chicago.

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. 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. Authorize the General Counsel to further negotiate and execute any amendments to the Charter School Agreement required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

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

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2023-24 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY23 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:

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Alfonso Carmona
Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved:

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Pedro Martinez
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Pedro Martinez
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 

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Joseph T. Moriarty
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Joseph T. Moriarty
General Counsel