

AMEND BOARD REPORT 06-0816-EX2
AMEND BOARD REPORT 06-0125-EX2
APPROVE THE GRANTING OF A CHARTER AND ENTERING INTO A CHARTER SCHOOL
AGREEMENT WITH THE CHICAGO VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

Approve the granting of a charter and entering into a Charter School Agreement with the Chicago Virtual Charter School for a five-year period. The Charter School Agreement is currently being 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 agreement is stated below.

This amendment is necessary to change the school's address from 225 North Michigan, Suite 101 to 1 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite C-111.

This July 2007 amendment is necessary to authorize the Chicago Virtual Charter School to (a) expand by adding grades 9-12 and (b) change the current address of the Chicago Virtual Charter School from 1 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite C-111 to 38 South Peoria. A written amendment to the Charter School agreement is required. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written amendment is not executed by the Board and the charter school's governing board within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. The amendment authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education.

CHARTER

SCHOOL: Chicago Virtual Charter School
~~1 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite C-111~~ 38 South Peoria
 Chicago, IL ~~60604~~ 60607
 Phone: (406) 599-0769
 Contact Person: Peter Stewart

OVERSIGHT: ~~Department of New School Support~~ Office of New Schools
 125 S. Clark, 5th Floor
 Chicago, IL 60603
 Phone: 773-553-1535 0
 Contact Person: Beatriz Rendon, Executive Director

DESCRIPTION: The Charter Schools Law (105 ILCS 5/27A et seq.) provides that up to 30 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 5/34-27 A-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 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.

In July 2007 the Chicago Virtual Charter School submitted a material modification to expand by adding grades 9 – 12 and change their address. Starting in the fall of 2007, Chicago Virtual will add one grade level each year until it serves 600 students in grades K-12. The Chicago Virtual Charter School will now be located at 38 South Peoria, Chicago, IL 60607.

CHARTER APPLICATION PROPOSAL:

The Chicago Virtual Charter School proposal was submitted to the Chicago Board of Education on January 11, 2006. The mission of the Chicago Virtual Charter School is to provide a new and innovative

public school education option for students in the Chicago Public Schools. By adding a powerful model of meaningful parent/student/teacher involvement, the Chicago Virtual Charter School will provide high quality, innovative, and effective individualized public school education to students who, for a variety of reasons, choose to be, or must be, educated in a virtual setting. Students will range from the academically challenged to the academically gifted, including difficult to reach populations such as expelled and homebound (medium and long-term) students. The school will open in the fall of 2006 serving up to 600 students Kindergarten through eighth grade. The cost of 600 students in 2006-07 will be approximately \$3,045,000. These budget figures are based on the revised per pupil funding amounts released on August 31, 2005.

Curriculum: Chicago Virtual charter School will provide instruction to students via on-line courses. Depending on grade level, students will spend the majority of their school day online. Lessons are presented in a mix of print and multimedia to enhance the learning experience and address different learning styles. Parents or other responsible adults will guide students through their daily coursework in their own home or other small group setting. Teachers will review the student's daily assessments and provide individualized feedback to the student. The school will have a resource center located at 1 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite C-111, Chicago, IL 60604 for its administrative offices and provide conference rooms for student/teacher meetings and administering student assessments.

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the opening of Chicago Virtual Charter School as a Renaissance charter school was held on January 19, 2006 as required by statute. The hearing was recorded. A summary report of the hearing is available for review.

TERM: The term of the Chicago Virtual Charter School and agreement shall commence on July 1, 2006 and end on June 30, 2011.

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 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 Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Director of the Charter Schools to issue a letter notifying the Illinois State Board of Education of the actions 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 Agreement as required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the ~~2006—2007~~ 2007 – 2008 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY06 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 5/34-2.4b, 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 these investigations.

Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3.4b 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 June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), as amended from time to time shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

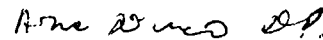
Contingent Liability – The Agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed to be a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved:



Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully submitted:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel