

APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHICAGO EXCEL ACADEMY AND ENTERING INTO A SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH CAMELOT SCHOOLS

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the establishment of Chicago Excel Academy at a location to be determined, and approve entering into a School Management and Performance Agreement with Camelot Schools, for the operation of Chicago Excel Academy. A written School Management and Performance Agreement will be negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written School Management and Performance Agreement is not executed by the Board and the school operator within the time specified in an amended Board Report approving the site of the proposed school. Information pertinent to this matter is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Camelot Schools
201 Lindenwood, Suite 211
Malvern, PA 19355
Phone: (215) 416-6739
Contact Person: Joseph Carter

CONTRACT SCHOOL: Chicago Excel Academy
Location to be determined
Phone: (215) 416-6739
Contact Person: Joseph Carter

OVERSIGHT: Portfolio Office
125 S. Clark, 10th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1530
Contact Person: Carly Bolger, Executive Director, Office of New Schools and Programs

DESCRIPTION:

School Designation: Pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-1.1, 105 ILCS 5/34-18(30) the Board's Renaissance Schools Policy, 07-0627-PO4, as amended ("Renaissance Policy"), and contingent upon subsequent Board approval as detailed below, Chicago Excel Academy will open in the fall of 2012 as a Contract School as described in the Renaissance Policy. The Board hereby designates the Chicago Excel Academy as a Contract School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the opening of Chicago Excel Academy as a Contract School was held on Monday, April 16, 2012 in the Board Chambers in accordance with the Renaissance Policy. The hearing was recorded and a summary report of the hearing is available for review.

Request for Proposals: In June 2011, the Office of New Schools and Programs issued a Request for Proposals to solicit responses from parties interested in operating schools to serve re-enrolled high school dropouts and students at risk of dropping out. Proposals to operate either a contract school or charter school were submitted by interested parties to the Board on August 22, 2011. Proposals were evaluated pursuant to the standards set forth in the Renaissance Policy. Proposals were reviewed by the Office of New Schools and Programs and a Comprehensive Evaluation Team and recommendations were submitted to the Chief Executive Officer based upon those reviews and evaluations.

Enrollment: Chicago Excel Academy will be a citywide school that will enroll students through testing to determine students' entry levels and interviews with Chicago Excel Academy team members, including the principal, to determine students' personal interests and commitment to obtaining a high school diploma. Students will be admitted on an ongoing basis provided that seats are available. If there will be

more applicants than seats available, applicants will be placed on a waiting list and a random student admissions lottery will be conducted on a quarterly basis. Chicago Excel Academy will accept for enrollment up to 375 students in grades 9-12 who will be recruited by Chicago Excel Academy for placement with the assent of the Office of New Schools and Programs and/or its designee.

Curriculum: Chicago Excel Academy will provide an alternative education program focused on youth who are at-risk or have dropped out of a traditional school. The program shall be designed to prepare students for graduation from high school and provide a post-secondary path. Chicago Excel Academy will issue diplomas to students who successfully complete the program in accordance with state and CPS requirements.

Advisory Body: A school advisory body will be established in a timely manner pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b and the Board's Renaissance School Policy in the following manner: the CEO or his designee in consultation with Camelot Schools shall develop the composition and duties of the advisory body for approval by the Board. Such requirements shall be included in the agreement with Camelot Schools. The members of the advisory body will be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of the CEO or his designee.

School Management Description: At a minimum, the School Management and Performance Agreement will address student academic outcomes and financial and management practices of the school and shall reflect resolution of any and all outstanding issues between the Board and the school operator including, but not limited to, enrollment, funding, educational program, financial controls and practices, academic accountability and evaluations. In accordance with the Board's Renaissance Policy, contract schools may request exemptions from Board Rules and Policies or alternative policies subject to and upon Board approval.

CONTINGENT APPROVAL: The granting of an agreement by the Board and the entering into a School Management and Performance Agreement are contingent upon any required subsequent public hearings and the approval of a school site. A final review of the contract school application will be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer on or before May 21, 2012. This final review will be conducted to determine compliance with the terms indicated above. The CEO's recommendation to approve the contract school application will be subject to Board approval as indicated by a subsequent amendment to this Board Report.

The site for the Chicago Excel Academy must be located in a high need community.

TERM: The term of the School Management and Performance Agreement shall commence July 1, 2012 and end June 30, 2017. Camelot Schools and Chicago Excel Academy's designation as a Renaissance Contract School will expire on June 30, 2017 unless renewed or terminated earlier by the Board.

COMPENSATION: Camelot Schools will be paid on a per-pupil basis for the operation of Chicago Excel Academy.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to the school operator, in the written School Management and Performance Agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written School Management and Performance Agreement.

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 2012-2013 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY12 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: As a contract school, Camelot Schools will employ its own principal, teachers and staff.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

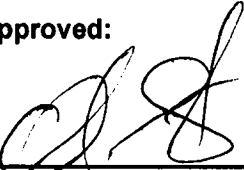
Inspector General – Each Party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary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



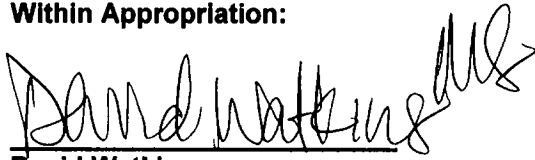
Oliver Sicat
Chief Portfolio Officer

Respectfully submitted:



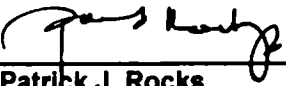
Jean Claude Brizard
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



David Watkins
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel