

AMEND BOARD REPORT 13-0227-EX9
**APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH
 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CHARTER SCHOOL CORPORATION**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with University of Chicago Charter School Corporation 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 University of Chicago Charter School Corporation to (a) approve an increase in the at capacity enrollment of the University of Chicago Charter School - Woodlawn Campus by 60 to an at capacity enrollment of 650 students and (b) increase the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter by 60 to 2,026 students beginning in the fall of 2013. 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: University of Chicago Charter School Corporation
 c/o of Urban Education Institute
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 Phone: 773-702-2797
 Contact Person: Tim Knowles

CHARTER SCHOOL: University of Chicago Charter School
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OVERSIGHT: ~~Office of New Schools~~ Office of Innovation and Incubation
 125 S. Clark, 10th Floor
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 (773) 553-1530
 Contact Person: ~~Carly Bolger, Executive Director~~
Sagar Gokhale, Interim Executive Director, Office of New Schools

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report (97-1217-EX22) 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 336 students in grades Pre-K - 8. 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-EX05) and authorized an increase in the maximum enrollment to 450 students in grades Pre-K - 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for an additional 5-year period commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013 (authorized by Board Report 08-0326-EX11) and authorized an increase in the maximum enrollment to 1,966 students in grades K - 12.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: The University of Chicago Charter School Corporation submitted a renewal proposal on September 4, 2012 to continue the operation of the University of Chicago Charter School under a unified mission to provide a technical career and college preparatory education. The charter school shall operate four (4) campuses and serve grades Kindergarten through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 1,966 students.

If the University of Chicago Charter School Corporation 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 University of Chicago Charter School Corporation 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 charter school is evaluated by the Board each year based on numerous factors related to its academic, financial and operational performance.

In January 2013 the University of Chicago Charter School Corporation submitted a material modification to (a) approve an increase in the at capacity enrollment of the University of Chicago Charter School - Woodlawn Campus by 60 to an at capacity enrollment of 650 students and (b) increase the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter by 60 to 2,026 students beginning in the fall of 2013. A public hearing on the proposed change was held on Monday, April 15, 2013. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

| Campus Name | Year Opened | Address | At Capacity Grades | 2012-2013 enrollment | At Capacity Enrollment |
|------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| North Kenwood/Oakland Campus | 1998 | 1119 E. 46 th Street | K – 5 th | 331 | 336 |
| Donoghue Campus | 2005 | 707 E. 37 th Street | K – 5 th | 490 | 500 |
| Woodlawn Campus | 2006 | 6420 S. University Avenue | 6 th – 12 th | 590 | 590 <u>650</u> |
| Carter G. Woodson Campus | 2008 | 4444 S. Evans Avenue | 6 th – 8 th | 385 | 540 |

CHARTER EVALUATION: After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of New Schools conducted a comprehensive evaluation of University of Chicago 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 University of Chicago Charter School. In addition to the foregoing, the Office of New Schools evaluated the school's student performance. From 2007-2008 to 2011-2012, the North Kenwood/Oakland Campus received 35 out of 52 high ratings and 10 out of 52 middle ratings, the Donoghue Campus received 29 out of 52 high ratings and 14 out of 52 middle ratings, the Woodlawn Campus received 17 out of 62 high ratings and 13 out of 62 middle ratings and the Woodson Campus received 24 out of 35 high ratings and 4 out of 35 middle ratings 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, University of Chicago Charter School's student attendance averaged approximately 96.2% at North Kenwood/Oakland, 94.9%

at Donoghue, 93.7% at Woodlawn and 95.0% at Woodson. In 2011-2012, the percentage of students meeting/exceeding state standards on the ISAT Composite at North Kenwood/Oakland was 86.8%, an increase of 12.2 percentage points from 2007-2008, at Donoghue was 76.5%, an increase of 4.1% from 2010-2011, and at Woodson was 82.7%, an increase of 12.2% from 2009-2010. In 2011-2012, the percentage of students meeting/exceeding state standards on the PSAE Composite at Woodlawn was 24.0%, an increase of 5.1 percentage points from 2010-2011. The committee recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria, University of Chicago Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of University of Chicago'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 University of Chicago Charter School Corporation.

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 written Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Interim Executive Director of the Office of New Schools 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 2014 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY13 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

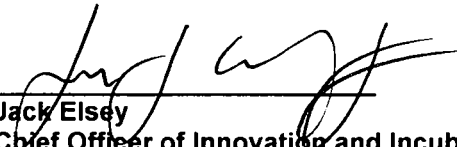
Inspector General - Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary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




Jack Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Approved:



Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



James Bebley
General Counsel