

December 6, 2017

**AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE CHICAGO TECH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL AGREEMENT  
WITH CONDITIONS****THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

Authorize renewal of the Chicago Tech Academy High School Agreement (the "Contract School Agreement") with conditions for an additional five-year period. A new Contract School Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Contract School Agreement is not executed by the Board and the school operator within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

**SCHOOL OPERATOR:** Chicago Tech Academy, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation  
1301 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Phone: 773-534-7755  
Contact Person: Lance Russell, Chief Executive Officer

**CONTRACT SCHOOL:** Chicago Tech Academy High School  
1301 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Phone: 773-534-7755  
Contact Person: Linnea Garret, Principal

**OVERSIGHT:** Office of Innovation and Incubation  
42 W. Madison Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Phone: 773-553-1530  
Contact Person: Mary K. Bradley, Executive Director

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:** The original Contract School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 08-1022-EX15) was for a term commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014 and authorized the operation of a contract school serving no more than 600 students in graded 9 through 12. The school was designated as a contract school pursuant 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b. The Contract School Agreement was subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015 (authorized by Board Report 14-0528-EX12). The Contract School Agreement was then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018 (authorized by Board Report 15-0527-EX13).

**CONTRACT RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Chicago Tech Academy submitted a renewal proposal on July 31, 2017 to continue the operation of Chicago Tech Academy High School ("ChiTech") as a contract school. The contract school shall continue to be located at 1301 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street and shall continue to serve grades 9 through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 600 students.

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

**CONTRACT SCHOOL EVALUATION:** After receiving the contract renewal proposal, the Office of Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of ChiTech'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 November 6, 2017 for all contract and charter schools going through renewal to receive public comments, including ChiTech. The Office of Innovation and Incubation recommends that, based on the school's performance on these and other

accountability criteria, as well as the school's demonstration of intent to satisfy the "Additional Terms and Conditions" referred to herein below, ChiTech be authorized to continue operating as a contract school.

**RENEWAL TERM:** The term of ChiTech's agreement is being extended for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2023.

**ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the contract school by the Chief Executive Officer or his designee in a formal Letter of Conditions and will be included as an attachment to the Contract School Agreement with Chicago Tech 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 Contract School Agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Contract School Agreement. Authorize the Chief of Nutrition & Facilities Operations to execute any ancillary documents related to food services in connection with the operation of the school.

**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 2018-2019 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY18 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

**PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:** As a contract school operator, Chicago Tech Academy will continue to 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, 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.

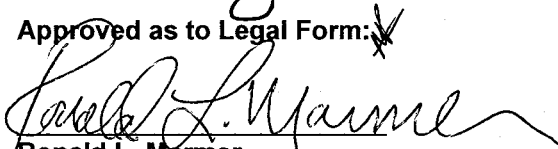
**Approved for Consideration:**

**Approved:**

  
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Elizabeth Kirby  
Chief of School Strategy and Planning

  
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Forrest Claypool  
Chief Executive Officer

**Approved as to Legal Form:** 

  
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Ronald L. Marmer  
General Counsel