

April 25, 2018

AMEND BOARD REPORT 17-1206-EX16
AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT
WITH CONDITIONS

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the University of Chicago Charter School Agreement (the "Charter School Agreement") with conditions 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 2018 amendment is necessary to authorize (a) the consolidation of grade 7 offered at the Carter G. Woodson Campus with grade 7 at the Woodlawn Campus beginning in the fall of 2018; (b) the restriction of the Carter G. Woodson Campus to offering grade 8 in the 2018-2019 school year, with the campus closing completely by June 30, 2019; and (c) a campus wind down agreement for the Carter G. Woodson Campus. As a result of the campus closure, the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school shall decrease from 2,126 students to 1,586 students for the fall of 2019. 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, an IL not-for-profit corporation
 c/o Urban Education Institute
 1313 E. 60th Street
 Chicago, IL 60637
 Phone: 773-834-4354
 Contact Person: Sara Ray Stoelinga, Sara Liston Spurlark Director

CHARTER SCHOOL: University of Chicago Charter School
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OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation
 42 W. Madison Street, 3rd Floor
 Chicago, IL 60602
 Phone: 773-553-1530
 Contact Person: Mary K. Bradley, Executive Director

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 through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2008, serving not more than 450 students (authorized by Board Report 03-0225-EX05). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2013, serving no more than 1,966 students in grades K through 12 (authorized by Board Report 08-0326-EX11). The charter and Charter School Agreement were then renewed five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2018 (authorized by Board Report 13-0227-EX9). The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 13-0424-EX13: Approved the increase in the at capacity enrollment of the Woodlawn Campus by 60 students to 650 students, thereby increasing the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school to 2,026 students beginning in the fall of 2013.
- Board Report 17-0828-EX3: Approved the increase in the at capacity enrollment at the Woodlawn Campus by 100 students to 750 students, thereby increasing the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school to 2,126 students beginning in the fall of 2017. Also approved the consolidation of grade 6 at the Carter G. Woodson Campus with grade 6 at the Woodlawn Campus and the restriction of the Carter G. Woodson Campus to offer grades 7 and 8 beginning in the fall 2017. Additionally, approved the permanent relocation of the Woodlawn Campus to an independent facility at 6300 S. University Avenue beginning in January 2018 contingent upon the subsequent approval of the facility by the CPS Facility Department.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: University of Chicago Charter School Corporation submitted a renewal proposal on July 31, 2017 to continue the operation of University of Chicago Charter School under a unified mission. The charter school shall continue to serve grades K through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 2,126 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.

In February 2018, the University of Chicago Charter School Corporation submitted an application for amendment to (a) consolidate grade 7 offered at the Carter G. Woodson Campus with grade 7 at the Woodlawn Campus beginning in the fall of 2018; (b) restrict the Carter G. Woodson Campus to offering grade 8 in the 2018-2019 school year, with the campus closing completely by June 30, 2019; and (c) enter into a campus wind down agreement for the Carter G. Woodson Campus. As a result of the campus closure, the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school shall decrease from 2,126 students to 1,586 students for the fall of 2019.

A public hearing on the proposed grade consolidation and campus closure was held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The hearing was recorded and a summary report is available for review.

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	2017-2018 enrollment	At Capacity Enrollment
North Kenwood/Oakland	1998	1119 E. 46 th Street	K – 5 th	214	336
Donoghue	2005	707 E. 37 th Street	K – 5 th	539	500
Woodlawn	2006	6420 S. University Avenue (Until 1/2018) 6300 S. University Avenue (As of 1/2018)	6 th – 12 th	645	750
Carter G. Woodson	2008	4444 S. Evans Avenue	7 th – 8 th (in 2018-2019 school year)	214	540 (closed by June 30, 2019)

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 University of Chicago 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 November 6, 2017 for all contract and charter schools going through renewal to receive public comments, University of Chicago Charter School. 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, University of Chicago Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of University of Chicago Charter School's charter and 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 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 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 and campus wind down agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Charter School Agreement and campus wind down agreement. 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 as 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 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.

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:



Elizabeth Kirby
Chief of School Strategy and Planning



Janice K. Jackson
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



Joseph T. Moriarty
General Counsel