

January 27, 2021

AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE URBAN PREP CHARTER ACADEMY FOR YOUNG MEN HIGH SCHOOL – ENGLEWOOD CAMPUS AGREEMENT WITH PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS AND CONDITIONS

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men High School – Englewood Campus Agreement (the “Charter School Agreement”) with performance benchmarks and conditions for an additional one-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 Charter School Agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Urban Prep Academies, an IL not-for-profit corporation
420 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: 312-276-0259
Contact Person: Tim King, Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer

CHARTER SCHOOL: Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men High School – Englewood Campus
6201 South Stewart Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60621
Phone: 773-535-9724
Contact Person: Dennis Lacewell, Chief Academic Officer

OVERSIGHT: Office of Portfolio Management
42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: 773-553-1530
Contact Person: Bing A. Howell, Chief Portfolio Officer

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 05-1116-EX14) was for a term commencing September 29, 2006 and ending June 30, 2011, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 598 students in grades 9 through 12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2015 (authorized by Board Report 11-0427-EX12). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018 (authorized by Board Report 15-0527-EX9). The charter and Charter School Agreement were then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021 (authorized by Board Report 17-1206-EX17).

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Urban Prep Academies submitted a renewal proposal on August 2, 2020 to continue the operation of the Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men High School – Englewood Campus (“Urban Prep-Englewood”). The charter school shall continue to be located at 6201 South Stewart Avenue and shall continue to serve grades 9 through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 598 students.

The Charter School 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 Urban Prep-Englewood’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 January 6, 2021 for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Urban Prep-Englewood. 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 "Performance Benchmarks" and "Additional Terms and Conditions" referred to herein below, Urban Prep-Englewood be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of Urban Prep-Englewood's charter and Charter School Agreement is being extended for a one (1) year term commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. This charter and Charter School Agreement shall have one (1) option to renew for a period of one (1) year.

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS: The Charter School Agreement will contain specific performance benchmarks with deadlines determined by the Board. Failure to meet any of the performance benchmarks within the deadlines set forth in the Charter School Agreement may result in the non-renewal of the charter and Charter School Agreement.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the charter school by the Chief Executive Officer or her designee in a formal Letter of Conditions and will be included as an attachment to the Charter School Agreement with Urban Prep Academies.

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. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Charter School Agreement. Authorize the Chief Portfolio Officer 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 2021-2022 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY21 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:

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Bing Howell
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Bing A. Howell
Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved:

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Janice K. Jackson
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Janice K. Jackson
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

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Joseph T. Moriarty
General Counsel