

February 24, 2021

AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE LEARN CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

Authorize renewal of the LEARN Charter School Agreement (the "Charter School Agreement") with conditions for an additional three-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: Lawndale Educational and Regional Network Charter School, Inc., an IL nfp corp.
3021 West Carroll Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60612
Phone: 773-584-4300
Contact Person: Vineeta Raketich, Board Chair

CHARTER SCHOOL: LEARN Charter School
3021 West Carroll Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60612
Phone: 773-584-4300
Contact Person: Greg White, President & CEO

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 01-0627-EX7) was for a term commencing July 15, 2001 and ending July 15, 2006, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 400 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 16, 2006 and ending July 15, 2011, serving no more than 1,125 students (authorized by Board Report 06-0222-EX14). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 16, 2011 and ending June 15, 2016, serving no more than 2,917 students (authorized by Board Report 11-0323-EX9). The charter and Charter School Agreement were amended and restated which extended the charter and Charter School Agreement to June 30, 2016 (authorized by Board Report 14-0528-EX7). The charter and Charter School Agreement were then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021, serving no more than 4,186 students (authorized by Board Report 16-0427-EX6). The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 18-0425-EX3: Authorized the (a) addition of grade 6 to the grades served at the Charles and Dorothy Campbell Campus and Excel Campus beginning in the fall of 2018 and (b) decrease in the at capacity enrollment at the Middle School Campus by 50 students to 575 students, thereby decreasing the overall at capacity enrollment of the charter school from 4,186 students to 4,136 students beginning in the fall of 2018.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Lawndale Educational and Regional Network Charter School, Inc. submitted a renewal proposal on July 31, 2020 to continue the operation of LEARN Charter School under a unified mission. The charter school shall continue to serve grades K through 8 with a maximum enrollment of 4,136 students at the following locations:

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	2020-2021 Enrollment	At Capacity Enrollment
Romano Butler	2001	1132 S. Homan	K-8	526	660
Excel	2008	3021 W. Carroll	K-6	427	525
Charles and Dorothy Campbell	2009	212 S. Francisco	K-6	415	600
South Chicago	2010	8914 S. Buffalo	K-8	438	596
Hunter Perkins	2011	1700 W. 83 rd Street	K-8	486	655
Middle School	2013	3021 W. Carroll	6-8	319	575
7 th	2013	3021 W. Carroll	K-5	168	525

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 LEARN 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 January 6, 2021 for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including LEARN 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, LEARN Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of LEARN Charter School's charter and Charter School Agreement is being extended for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024.

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 Lawndale Educational and Regional Network Charter School, Inc.

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.

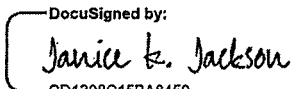
Approved for Consideration:

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
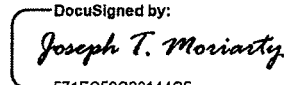
Bing A. Howell
Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved:

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Janice K. Jackson
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:


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Joseph T. Moriarty
General Counsel