

January 26, 2022

AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE EXCEL ACADEMY SOUTHWEST AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

Authorize renewal of the Excel Academy Southwest Agreement (the "Contract School Agreement") with conditions for an additional three-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's governing board within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. The Renewal and any related contracts must be executed by the current contract's expiration date in order for First Quarter funding to be released for the new contract term. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: Camelot Alt Ed-Illinois, LLC, an IL limited liability company
150 Rouse Boulevard
Suite 210
Philadelphia, PA 19211
Phone: (215) 526-4796
Contact: Kevin Sweetland, Regional Director

CONTRACT SCHOOL: Excel Academy Southwest
7050 S. Washtenaw Avenue
Chicago, IL 60621
Phone:
Contact: Jake Benke, Executive Director

OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation
42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: 773-553-1530
Contact Person: Sean Precious, Executive Director

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Contract School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 14-0625-EX4) was for a term commencing July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2019 and authorized the operation of a contract school serving no more than 375 students in grades 9 through 12. The school was designated as a contract school pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b.

The charter and Contract School Agreement were then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022 (authorized by Board Report 19-0123-EX12). The Contract School Agreement was subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 19-0424-EX8: Authorized the consolidation of the two locations for Excel Academy Southwest at 7014 S. Washtenaw Avenue and 7050 S. Washtenaw Ave. into one location at 7050 S. Washtenaw beginning in the fall of 2019.

CONTRACT RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Camelot Alt Ed-Illinois, LLC submitted a renewal proposal on July 30, 2021 to continue the operation of Excel Academy Southwest as a contract school. The contract school shall continue to be located at 7050 S. Washtenaw Avenue and shall continue to serve grades 8 through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 375 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 Excel Academy Southwest'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 6th, 2022 for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Excel Academy Southwest. 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, Excel Academy Southwest be authorized to continue operating as a contract school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of Excel Academy Southwest's agreement is being extended for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025.

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 Camelot Alt Ed-Illinois, LLC.

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 Operations Officer 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 2022-23 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY22 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: As a contract school operator, Camelot Alt Ed-Illinois, LLC 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:

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Ushma Shah
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Ushma Shah
Interim Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved:

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Pedro Martinez
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Pedro Martinez
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

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JG

DocuSigned by:
Joseph T. Moriarty
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Joseph T. Moriarty
General Counsel