## APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH PROVIDENCE ENGLEWOOD SCHOOL CORPORATION

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Approve the renewal of the Charter School Agreement with Providence Englewood School Corporation 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 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:** Providence Englewood School Corporation

6515 S. Ashland Avenue Chicago, IL 60636 Phone: (773) 434-0202

Contact Person: Angela Johnson-Williams

CHARTER SCHOOL: Providence Englewood Charter School

6515 S. Ashland Avenue Chicago, IL 60636 Phone: (773) 434-0202

Contact Person: Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal

**OVERSIGHT:** Office of Innovation and Incubation

125 S. Clark, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Chicago, IL 60603 (773) 553-1530

Contact Person: Jack Elsey, Chief Officer

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT**: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 06-0322-EX5) was for a term commencing August 31, 2006 and ending June 30, 2011, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 500 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2014 (authorized by Board Report 11-0323-EX10).

**CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Providence Englewood School Corporation submitted a renewal proposal on September 3, 2013 to continue the operation of Providence Englewood Charter School (Providence Englewood). The charter school shall be located at 6515 S. Ashland Avenue and shall serve grades K through 8 with a maximum enrollment of 500 students.

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 New Schools within the Office of Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Providence Englewood's academic performance, financial viability, and legal and contract compliance. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, academic results, financial analysis, governance documents, parental issues, facilities surveys, and special education documentation. A public hearing was held on February 19, 2014 for all charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Providence Englewood. The committee recommends that, based on the school's academic performance and on other accountability criteria, as well as the school's demonstration of intent to satisfy the below "Additional Terms and Conditions", Providence Englewood be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

**RENEWAL TERM:** The term of Providence Englewood's charter and agreement is being extended for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017.

**ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Additional terms and conditions which are included as an attachment to the Charter School Agreement with Providence Englewood School Corporation are as follows:

- By July 1 of every year of this Agreement, the Charter School shall submit to the Office of Innovation and Incubation the following materials to provide evidence that it is in compliance with the Charter Schools Law: Student Code of Conduct, by-laws, and materials to be used for the upcoming academic year's student application, enrollment process and lottery, and school admission requirements.
- Based on each year's Financial Audit, the Charter School, at a minimum, must have scores of 3 for the following categories: Reporting: Quarterly Statements, Reporting: Federal/State/CPS Compliance Document Submissions, and Legal Compliance.

**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 Senior Director of the Office of New Schools 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.

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 2015 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY14 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:** 

Jack/Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Approved:

Barbara Byrd-Bennett

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley General Counsel

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