

April 27, 2016

**AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE CHICAGO VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT
WITH CONDITIONS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the Chicago Virtual 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.

SCHOOL OPERATOR/ CHARTER SCHOOL: Chicago Virtual Charter School
38 S. Peoria Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607
Phone: 312-267-4486
Contact Person(s): Farland Jenkins, Board Liaison
Elizabeth Roth, Interim Head of School

OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation
42 W. Madison, 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 06-0125-EX2) was for a term commencing August 16, 2006 and ending June 30, 2011 and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 600 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed (authorized by Board Report 11-0427-EX11) for a term commencing July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2016, serving grades K through 12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 13-0424-EX2: Approved the increase in the K-8 enrollment of the charter school by 80 to 680 students beginning in the fall of 2013.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Chicago Virtual Charter School submitted a renewal proposal on October 19, 2015 to continue the operation of Chicago Virtual Charter School. The charter school shall continue to be located at 38 S. Peoria Street, and to serve grades K through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 680 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 Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Chicago Virtual 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 April 19, 2016 for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Chicago Virtual 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, Chicago Virtual Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of Chicago Virtual Charter School's charter and agreement is being extended for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Chicago Virtual Charter School's charter and agreement shall be recommended for renewal with the following conditions to be included in the agreement:

- On or before July 15, 2016, the school must present evidence to the Office of Innovation and Incubation (I&I) of a student application form consistent with state charter law.
- On or before July 15, 2016, the school must submit evidence to I&I of completion of Open Meetings Act (OMA) training for all current board members.
- On or before January 1, 2017, and thereafter every January 1, the school must show evidence to I&I that it is and shall remain in compliance with state and federal requirements governing English Learners as demonstrated on formal compliance reports from Board's Office of Language and Cultural Education (OLCE). Chicago Public Schools has designated OLCE to conduct school visits and make a determination of compliance with state and federal requirements regarding English Learner Programs.
- On or before June 1, 2017, and thereafter every June 1, the school must show evidence to I&I that it is and shall remain in compliance with CPS Diverse Learner expectations of timely completion of evaluations/Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and Related Service Provider (RSP) service documentation as measured by the Board's Office of Diverse Learners and Support Services (ODLSS).
- On or before October 1, 2017, the school must demonstrate to I&I full resolution of facility and ADA issues.

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 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 2016-2017 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY16 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.

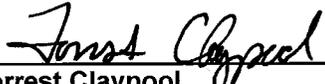
Ethics - The Board's Ethics Code adopted May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Approved for Consideration:



Elizabeth Kirby
Chief of School Strategy and Planning

Approved:



Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



Ronald L. Marmer
General Counsel