## AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE INSTITUTO JUSTICE AND LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy Charter High 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: Institute for Latino Progress, Inc., an IL not-for-profit corporation

2520 S. Western Avenue Chicago, IL 60608 Phone: 773-890-0055

Contact: Andrea Saenz, Board Chair and

Alejandra Garza, Interim President and CEO

CHARTER SCHOOL: Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy Charter High School

2570 S. Blue Island Avenue

Chicago, IL 60608 Phone: 773-890-0055

Contact: Andrea Saenz, Board Chair and

Alejandra Garza, Interim President and CEO

**OVERSIGHT:** Office of Innovation and Incubation

42 W. Madison Street, 3rd Floor

Chicago, IL 60602 Phone: 773-553-1530

Contact Person: Hal Woods, Executive Director

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:** The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 12-0425-EX6) was for a term commencing July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2017 and, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27A-4(b), authorized the operation of a multi-campus charter school that is devoted exclusively to reenrolled high school dropouts and/or students 15 or 16 years old at risk of dropping out of school. The Charter School Agreement also limited their enrollment to no more than 165 students for grades 9 through 12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2020 serving no more than 330 students (authorized by Board Report 16-1207-EX7). The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

 Board Report 17-0828-EX11: Authorized the consolidation of the Rudy Lozano Campus and the Rudy Lozano Leadership Academy – Mastery Campus into one campus named the Rudy Lozano Leadership Academy Campus with an at capacity enrollment of 165 students, effective September 1, 2017. Students from the original Rudy Lozano Leadership Academy – Mastery Campus at 2520 S. Western Avenue moved one block away to the consolidated campus located at the current independent facility for the original Rudy Lozano Campus at 2570 S. Blue Island Avenue.

**CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Institute for Latino Progress, Inc. submitted a renewal proposal on August 23, 2019 to continue the operation of Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy Charter High School ("Instituto Justice"). The charter school shall continue to serve grades 9 through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 165 students at the following location:

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	2019-2020 Enrollment	At Capacity Enrollment
Rudy Lozano Leadership Academy	2017 (consolidated campuses)	2570 S. Blue Island Avenue	9-12	97	165

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 Instituto Justice'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 9, 2020 for all contract and charter schools going through renewal to receive public comments, including Instituto Justice. 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, Instituto Justice be authorized to continue operating as a charter school.

**RENEWAL TERM:** The term of Instituto Justice's charter and Charter School Agreement is being extended for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023.

**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 the Institute for Latino Progress, 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 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 2020-2021 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY20 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:** 

Bing A. Howell

Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

Joseph T. Moriany General Counse Approved:

Janick K. Jackson

Chief Executive Officer