

# Charter School Quality Policy Presentation

October 28, 2015 Board Meeting



# Charter School Quality Policy

## *New Policies for Low-Performing Charters*

At the heart of the policy, CPS will codify a rigorous charter Academic Warning List intended to put low performing charters on notice that they will be closed if they do not significantly improve. Charter schools will be placed on the Academic Warning List for the following reasons:

- A Level 3 SQRP rating
- A two-year SQRP point value average of 2.5 or lower
- A Level 2 rating in three consecutive years

Charters placed on the warning list will be required to submit a written remediation plan to rectify the problems that led to the school's poor performance. If a school does not meet the terms of its remediation plan in one year, it will be recommended for charter revocation. Under the new policy, a charter will also be recommended for revocation if it is on the Warning List for two consecutive years.



Charters on the Academic Warning List also face the possibility of not being renewed at the end of their contract. A charter school will be recommended for non-renewal for the following reasons:

- It is both on the Academic Warning List when its contract is up for renewal and it has a two year SQRP rating below 2.5.
- It was on the Academic Warning List for two years during its contract, and it is not at least a Level 2+ school in the final year of its charter agreement.



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## *Schools Immediately Impacted*

If the Board should adopt the new charter accountability policy, the following ten (10) charters will immediately be placed on the Academic Warning List:

- Amandla Charter High School\*\*
- ASPIRA – Early College High School
- Betty Shabazz – Barbara A. Sizemore Academy Elementary School\*\*
- Bronzeville Lighthouse Charter Elementary School\*\*
- CICS – ChicagoQuest High School
- CICS – Larry Hawkins High School\*\*
- Galapagos Elementary Charter School
- Instituto – Justice Lozano High School
- Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School
- Prologue – Joshua Johnston Charter High School



# Charter School Quality Policy

## *Implications for Charter Expansion & Replication*

In addition to holding low-performing charters accountable, this policy aims to ensure that only high-performing charter operators are allowed to expand and replicate.

- Charter operators that operate a single-site charter school will have their applications for expansion recommended to the Board only if their existing school has a current two-year SQRP point value average of 3.2
- Charter operators that operate two or more charter schools or campuses will have their applications for expansion recommended to the Board only if all of the operator's schools or campuses have a combined, current two-year SQRP point value average of 3.2 **and** if the school or campus the operator is seeking to expand is not on the Academic Warning List.



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## *Implications for Charter Expansion & Replication*

The policy also sets clear standards for replicating charters that propose new campuses in Chicago. These high standards will ensure that only the best charters are allowed to replicate and meet unmet demand throughout the city.

- Charter operators that operate a single-site charter school will have their applications for replication recommended to the Board only if their existing school has a current two-year SQRP point value average of 3.5
- Charter operators that operate two or more charter schools or campuses will have their applications for replication recommended to the Board only if all of the operator's schools or campuses have a combined, current two-year SQRP point value average of 3.2.



Quality school options – regardless of type – are essential for both social justice and ensuring continued academic improvement.

A high-quality charter sector is a crucial part of sustaining the District's academic progress.

We believe this policy, if enacted, sufficiently ensures charters are held accountable to the same academic performance standards as District-managed schools.



# New Charter School Recommendations



# 2014-2015 New Schools RFP Proposal and Recommendation Overview

In April 2015, CPS received 10 new school proposals to open a total of 19 new charter schools and/or campuses and expand 1 existing campus

Over the course of the proposal evaluation process, applicants withdrew requests for 8 schools or campuses.

Of the remaining seven new school proposals to open 11 charter schools/campuses and expand one existing campus,

The CEO recommends:

- The denial of five proposals for nine campuses
- The approval of two proposals for two campuses and one expansion of an existing campus



## 2014-15 New Schools RFP: Proposed CEO Recommendations

School	CEO Rec	#
New Life Academy	Deny	1 new school
Perseid	Deny	1 new school
STARS Project Engineering Academy	Deny	1 new school
YCCS*	Deny	Add 1 campus to existing agreement



\*Proposals to serve “alternative” (i.e. at-risk or dropout) student populations.

## 2014-15 New Schools RFP: Proposed CEO Recommendations

School	CEO Rec	#
Connected Futures Academy #1*	Deny	Campus #1
Connected Futures Academy #2*	Deny	Campus #2
Connected Futures Academy #3*	Deny	Campus #3
Connected Futures Academy #4*	Deny	Campus #4
Connected Futures Academy #5*	Deny	Campus #5



\*Proposals to serve “alternative” (i.e. at-risk or dropout) student populations.

## 2014-15 New Schools RFP: Proposed CEO Recommendations

School	CEO Rec	#
KIPP Chicago	Approve	1 new campus, expand grade levels at 1 existing campus
Noble Street	Approve	Add 1 campus to existing agreement



# Appendix



## 2014-15 New Schools RFP: Proposals Received and Withdrawn

Proposal	# of Schools or Campuses Requested in April 2015	# of Schools or Campuses Withdrawn	# of Schools or Campuses Under Consideration by the Board	CEO Recommendation
1. New Life Academy	1	0	1	Deny
2. Perseid	1	0	1	Deny
3. STARS	1	0	1	Deny
4. YCCS*	2	1	1	Deny
5. Connected Futures* Academies	5	0	5	Deny
6. KIPP Chicago	1 new school 1 expansion of existing school	1	1 new school 1 expansion of existing school	Approve
7. Noble Street	3	2	1	Approve
8. International School of Languages	1	1	0	NA
9. Intrinsic Schools	1	1	0	NA
10. Key	2	2	0	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>NA</b>

\*Proposals to serve "alternative" (i.e. at-risk or dropout) student populations.

## 2014-2015 New Schools RFP Proposals Overview

There are **7 proposals** for 11 individual schools and 1 existing school expansion that the Board must vote to approve or deny:

Applicant	# of Schools	Grade Levels	NAC Region	Neighborhood	Opening Year
<b>Charter schools to serve a “traditional” K-12 student population</b>					
<b>1. KIPP Chicago</b>	3				
<i>KIPP #5</i>		K-8	W	Humboldt Park	2016
<i>KIPP Create Expansion</i>		K-4	W	Austin	2016
<b>2. New Life Academy</b>	1	7-12	S	Grand Crossing	2016
<b>3. Noble Network</b>	1	9-12	SW	Brighton Park	2016
<b>4. Perseid</b>	1	K-8	S	Pullman, Roseland, Washington Heights	2016
<b>5. STARS Project Engineering Academy</b>	1	9-12	W & SW	Little Village, Brighton Park, Archer Heights	2016
<b>Charter schools to serve an “alternative” Options population</b>					
<b>6. Connected Futures Academy</b>	5				
<i>Campus #1</i>		9-12	S	Chatham / Greater Grand Crossing	2016
<i>Campus #2</i>		9-12	S	Grand Boulevard	2016
<i>Campus #3</i>		9-12	SW	Chicago Lawn	2017
<i>Campus #4</i>		9-12		TBD	2018
<i>Campus #5</i>		9-12		TBD	2019
<b>7. YCCS</b>	1	9-12	NW	Belmont Cragin, Hermosa, Avondale	2016

# 2014-15 New Schools RFP

## How is a charter proposal approved?

