

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
MEETING OF THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION**

JANUARY 16, 2014

A meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on January 16, 2014 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 5:38 p.m. by Dr. William Hite, Jr., Secretary of the School Reform Commission.

Members present: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Dr. Pritchett, Ms. Simms – 4

Members absent: 0

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that prior to today's public meeting, the School Reform Commission met in Executive Sessions on January 13, 2014 to discuss quasi judicial proceedings, personnel matters, labor relations, and investigations, and on January 16, 2014 to discuss personnel matters, labor relations, investigations, and purchase of real estate.

Dr. Hite asked for a motion to elect the Chairman Pro Tem Dr. Wendell Pritchett for tonight's meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Dworetzky and seconded by Commissioner Houston.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Ms. Simms – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett – 1

The minutes of the following School Reform Commission meetings were approved: December 19, 2013, and December 19, 2013 (*Intermediate Unit*).

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Dr. Pritchett, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

Dr. Hite provided opening remarks. He thanked all that participated in Monday's SPP meeting. Dr. Hite stated that the District is committed to improving the enrollment policy to ensure fairness and equity, and to meet the needs of students and parents. He stated that the District will be sharing its Action Plan 2.0 in a few weeks as it continues to create viable solutions for students and families. Dr. Hite announced that Central High School, Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School, and Carver High School received the Governors Award for Excellence in Academics. Dr. Hite stated that the School District will be participating in the National Day of Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that his term as a member of the School Reform Commission expires on Saturday, January 18, 2014 and this will be his last public meeting. He shared his "wishlist" for the District: (1) pay attention to the Renaissance Initiative, as it is one of the most important things that has happened in the District; (2) help to explain the structural problem that the Charter School law has created in Pennsylvania; (3) focus attention on how to fix neighborhood schools; and (4) there needs to be a more stable financial foundation for the District. Dr. Pritchett thanked Commissioner Dworetzky for his service.

Evelyn Sample-Oates, Chief, Family and Parental Engagement, provided the order of business for today's meeting of the School Reform Commission. She also stated that the proceedings of today's School Reform Commission meeting are being broadcast live on television and streamed live on the internet. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that the School District's recordings are protected by the copyright laws of the United States.

Ms. Sample-Oates also announced that kindergarten enrollment begins January 21, 2014 and ends May 30, 2014. She also announced that the elementary/middle school selection application deadline is January 17, 2014.

The Office Depot Seniors of the Month were awarded to Sarena Shuman, Science Leadership Academy, and Craig Thomas, Excel Academy. Dr. Hite introduced a video presentation which highlighted both recipients.

The Teacher of the Month was presented to Moronge Moronge, Motivation High School.

Paul Kihn, Deputy Superintendent, provided a presentation on proposed charter school actions. His presentation included an overview of the District's recommendations for the proposed amendment of the non renewal of Arise Academy High Charter High School, and the proposed renewals of Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages, Philadelphia Electrical and Technology Charter School, and Planet Abacus Charter School.

Mr. Kihn stated that for Arise, the School Reform Commission issued a notice of nonrenewal in 2012, but later in the same year decided to postpone and continue the nonrenewal to a date in 2013 provided that Arise implement certain programmatic and organizational changes. He stated that a review of Arise's academic performance and financial health during the year of postponement has resulted in a recommendation to resume the notice of nonrenewal. Mr. Kihn provided an overview of the school's demographics. He stated that in 2012 the non renewal recommendation was based on financial health, which was deemed to be unsound, failure to make AYP for 3 years, and PSSA scores that lagged behind State targets and District averages. Mr. Kihn also noted that there have been discussions in the press about \$211,000 in overpayments made by the District to Arise. He stated that payments for July through October are based on prior year's enrollment. Mr. Kihn stated that the District believes Arise behaved irresponsibly financially by knowingly receiving overpayments from the District of 30% more than what they should have been receiving. Mr. Kihn stated that the overpayment is being deducted from the school's monthly payment. In response to Commissioner Houstoun's request for clarification of excess payments made to the school, Peng Chao, Charter School Office, stated that there is an overpayment of \$211,000 which the District has been recovering from its monthly payments to the school.

Mr. Kihn stated that the School District is recommending a five-year renewal of Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages, commencing July 1, 2012. The recommendation is based on consistently high academic performance and changes to address financial impropriety, and organizational and financial concerns. Mr. Kihn provided an overview of the school's demographics. He also stated that the delay in renewal of the Charter, which ended June 30, 2012 was due to the Federal indictment of the CEO and the subsequent District investigation. Mr. Kihn noted that there are 24 conditions included in the resolution and charter agreement, which will be monitored by the District. With regard to the admissions process, Mr. Kihn stated that the application form has been shortened and can be received and submitted through several channels; the school will conduct a lottery; and there is no pre-admissions testing. Commissioner Houstoun, citing the admissions procedures on the school's website, questioned how the school reconciles statements made about non-discrimination and prior academic performance and the notion of a lottery.

Mr. Kihn stated that the School District is recommending a five-year renewal of Philadelphia Electrical and Technology Charter School, commencing July 1, 2012. He stated that the school was involved in a testing irregularities investigation, and the District now believes the school has taken affirmative steps to investigate and improve testing security. Mr. Kihn provided an overview of the school's demographics. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Mr. Kihn confirmed that the charter school's ELL population was 1% as compared to the School District's 8.9%. Lauren Thum confirmed that before this year, the school's admission's application was 12 pages. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Mr. Kihn stated that he believed the academic performance of the school meets the standard historically used for charter renewal, which is the District's average performance. With regard to the testing irregularities, Mr. Kihn stated that the role of the Charter School Office is to ensure that "cheating" will not happen going forward, and ensure that it is adequately monitored. He stated that he believes it is not in the Charter School Office's purview to make a recommendation for anything that is punitive based on testing irregularities beyond what the State or the school's Board may impose. Commissioner Dworetzky expressed that he is not sure he agrees with that position as it still relates to the academic issue. He stated that when you remove the academic performance of the years of testing irregularities 2009-2011, the academic performance is not equal to District schools.

Mr. Kihn stated that the School District is recommending a five-year renewal of Planet Abacus Charter School, commencing July 1, 2012. The recommendation is based on consistently high academic performance and changes to address financial impropriety, and organizational and financial concerns. Mr. Kihn provided an overview of the school's demographics. He also stated that the delay in renewal of the Charter, which ended June 30, 2012, was due to the Federal indictment of the CEO and the subsequent District investigation. Mr. Kihn noted that there are 25 conditions included in the resolution and charter agreement, which will be monitored by the District. With regard to the application process, Mr. Kihn stated that the application form has been shortened, and can be received and submitted through several channels; the school will conduct a lottery; and there is no pre-admissions testing.

A complete copy of Mr. Kihn's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.

The meeting was opened to the public for presentation of statements:

Allison Freund, student, presented a statement in support of Planet Abacus Charter School.

The following students presented statements in support of Arise Academy Charter School:

- John Perry
- Gregory Hickman
- Donna Varner

Commissioner Pritchett engaged the students in sharing their academic experiences at Arise Academy Charter School.

Rachel Atcheson, Philadelphia Director of The Humane League, suggested the School District implement Meatless Monday.

Ruth Garcia, Pennsylvania School Counselors Association, described the role of the school counselor, particularly the role of assisting students with completing high school and college applications. She also expressed concerns about “Universal Enrollment”.

Christina Hanright, parent, expressed concerns about safety at Forrest Elementary School. She stated that her son was missing at the school and it took 30-35 minutes to find him.

Rich Migliore, Democracy in Education, expressed concerns about “Universal Enrollment”.

Linda Freund, parent, expressed support of Planet Abacus Charter School.

Alison McDowell, parent, expressed concerns about “Universal Enrollment”.

Karel Kilmnik, expressed concerns about “Universal Enrollment” under the leadership of the Philadelphia Schools Partnership. She questioned the Philly Schools app. In response to Ms. Kilmnik, Dr. Hite provided an explanation of why there was a reduction in Head Start last year. He stated that the School District is still determining what the District’s work will be for its lowest performing schools.

Michael Powell, parent, expressed support of the Renaissance Initiative and Mastery at Pastorius.

Robert Toporek shared information on TeamChildren.Org.

Christopher Hoffer, teacher, expressed support of Planet Abacus Charter School.

Stephen George shared information on a life skills program, “Life Calisthenics”.

Tyra Dawson, parent of a student attending Grover Cleveland Mastery Charter School, expressed support of the Renaissance Initiative.

Lisa Haver, citing a policy on Constituent Services, stated that Commissioner Dworetzky and Commissioner Pritchett are in violation of the policy by sitting on the Great Schools Compact. She stated that they should not sit on that Committee. She also expressed concerns about the lack of school counselors available to assist students with college applications.

The following individuals expressed support of Philadelphia Electrical and Technology Charter School and described efforts to improve academic performance, financial health, governance and compliance, and customer satisfaction:

- Kevin McKenna, legal counsel
- Charles Gibbs, Board President

Mark Solomon, Board Member, expressed support of Arise Academy Charter School.

Orlando Acosta, parent, raised concerns about transportation and who is eligible to receive transpasses. He stated that families are not able to pay for transportation.

Deborah Grill, parent, expressed opposition to “Universal Enrollment”.

Mama Gail expressed concerns alleging about a staff member making inappropriate comments.

Paula Barnes, Disciplinarian, expressed support of Arise Academy Charter School.

Daniel Saidel, General Counsel for Planet Abacus Charter School, expressed support of the school, and shared a list of reasons for keeping the school open.

Barbara Dowdell, retired teacher, recited “Hope is the Thing with Feather” by Emily Dickinson, stating that she has hope for the School District.

Scott Withers, Solicitor for the Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages, expressed support of the charter school.

Gretchen Alston, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Planet Abacus Charter School, expressed support of the charter school. She also shared corrective actions taken by the school.

Dr. Claudia Lyles, CEO of Planet Abacus Charter School, expressed support of the charter school. She also shared corrective actions taken by the school.

Julie Bunt, CAO of the Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages, expressed support of the charter school.

Twanna Mae Hall, President, Board of Directors of Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages, expressed support of the charter school.

Dr. Hite introduced a presentation on Testing Integrity. He stated that in early 2012 the School District had been asked by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to investigate and assess the possibility of testing

impropriety, citing suspicious test results, in 19 public schools regarding the PSSA. Dr. Hite stated that though the investigation has been completed, the School District will continue to devote resources to the disciplinary process against those suspected of violating basic ethical, and moral standards in academic integrity. He stated that he is encouraged by the steps being taken by the School District.

Jessica Diaz, Office of General Counsel, provided background information on the PSSA Investigation of Tier II Schools. She stated that in the fall of 2011, a number of both public and charter schools located in Philadelphia were identified by the PDE as schools with suspicious standardized test results due to multiple statistical irregularities. Specifically, in these schools, the results of reading and/or math PSSA exams among various grades and classrooms illustrated an improbable high number of incorrect answers that were erased and changed to correct answers (“irregular erasures”). The irregular erasure analysis was performed by Data Recognition Corporation (“DRC”), the company that prints, packages, distributes and grades the PSSA tests on behalf of the PDE. Based on this irregular erasure analysis, the PDE divided schools into three Tiers (Tier I, Tier II and Tier III). PDE (in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Office of the Inspector General and on behalf of the Governor’s Office of General Counsel) investigated Tier I schools (which included 11 public and three charter schools) which began in October 2011. Based on PDE’s investigations of Tier I schools, PDE has filed and is pursuing actions against 69 current and former employees; The School District continues to support PDE’s efforts in this regard by responding to requests for information and providing general assistance when requested. In early 2012, the School District was asked to investigate and assess the possibility of testing improprieties at 19 public schools or those categorized as Tier II schools. The law firm of Morgan Lewis & Bochiuss, LLP (“Morgan Lewis”) graciously offered to assist the School District without charge for their expertise and services by agreeing to take on these investigations as part of their Pro Bono and Community Service Program. After receiving training and analyzing the irregular erasure data internally, Morgan Lewis attorneys began investigations of the 19 schools in earnest in September 2012. Since that time, 550 interviews were conducted. These interviews were coordinated with leadership of both the PFT and CASA to ensure union representation as required by collective bargaining agreements and in line with notice requirements. These interviews consisted of former and current teachers, test coordinators and principals who were assigned to any one of these 19 schools during 2009, 2010, and/or 2011. A limited number of students were also interviewed. In addition, investigative teams spent over 5,000 hours preparing for and conducting these interviews, assessing erasure data and the results of interviews, reviewing actual student test booklets in Harrisburg, visiting DRC’s facilities in Minnesota, and preparing reports of their findings. All investigations were completed and Investigation Reports for each school were submitted to the School District by Morgan Lewis in May 2013. Based on these investigations, three schools were cleared of wrongdoing, evidence was found to be inconclusive at 3 other schools but evidence of cheating was found at 13 of the 19 schools. At 13 of these schools, the conduct of a total of 69 individuals is believed to have violated basic testing integrity, and ethical and moral standards. Of these 69 individuals, 20 are/were administrators, 46 are/were teachers and 3 represent other school-based staff and include a school safety officer and guidance counselors. Today, only 40 are active employees while 29 others have since resigned, retired or were laid off. The School District’s Office of General Counsel is preparing Mandatory Complaint Forms and will refer all inactive employees to the PDE and the Governor’s Office of General Counsel for possible de-certification and other appropriate actions. Following the opening of schools and the return of staff, the School District’s Labor Relations Unit prioritized cases and began disciplinary actions against active employees. Of the active employees, 7 are administrators, 31 are teachers and 2 represent other school-based staff.

Naomi Wyatt, Chief Talent Officer, provided an overview of the disciplinary actions against active employees. She stated that the District divided the implicated employees into three groups. There were 20 employees in the first group for which the discipline process has been completed. The disciplinary process for represented employees, which includes teachers and principals, involves 2 levels of due process per the collective bargaining agreement. Ms. Wyatt stated that at the conclusion of due process, the findings and recommendations are memorialized in a letter to the employee, and termination actions are brought before the School Reform Commission. She stated that the initial due process actions have resulted in 4 discipline actions being considered based on the type and severity of the proven conduct and the desire to prevent future irregularities. The 4 actions considered are termination, suspension, barred from being a testing coordinator, and no action. Ms. Wyatt stated that in addition to finding evidence of erasures, termination was recommended if there was evidence of answer changing, providing answers or telling someone to violate protocols, or there was a lack of credibility regarding the employee’s involvement in the action. Suspension was recommended if there was a failure to report inappropriate conduct, or failed to actively supervise or monitor testing at the school where the cheating occurred. Individuals are barred from being a testing coordinator if the person was acting as a testing coordinator where irregularities may have occurred but there was no evidence of the person’s involvement, or the bar is being taken as a precautionary action to prevent future irregularities. No action is recommended where there is no evidence of the employee’s involvement in irregular activities, although cheating may have occurred, and the employee presents creditable evidence. Ms. Wyatt stated that she will update the School Reform Commission as due process actions continue.

The following resolutions were presented for formal action by the School Reform Commission:

I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION

SRC-1

Proposed Student Expulsion – T. J.

RESOLVED, that Student T.J. shall be *permanently expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia effective December 4, 2013, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student T.J.’s permanent record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the school and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

SRC-2

Proposed Student Expulsion – D. L.

RESOLVED, that Student D.L. shall be *permanently expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia effective December 4, 2013, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student D.L.’s permanent record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the school and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

SRC-3

Proposed Student Expulsion – S. L.

RESOLVED, that Student S.L. shall be *permanently expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia effective December 4, 2013, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student S.L.’s permanent record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the school and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

SRC-4

Proposed Student Expulsion – D. T.

RESOLVED, that Student D.T. shall be *permanently expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia effective December 4, 2013, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student D.T.’s permanent record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the school and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, noted that Commissioner Simms will recuse herself from discussions on resolution SRC-5 due to a personal conflict. Mr. Davis also noted that he will recuse himself from discussions as his son was formerly employed at Arise. Miles Shore, Deputy General Counsel, sat in for Mr. Davis.

SRC-5

Proposed Amended Notice of Nonrenewal – Arise Academy High Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, ARISE ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL (“Arise”) sought renewal of its Charter whose term ended on June 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission (“SRC”), by Resolution No. SRC-11, approved on April 19, 2012, resolved that there were substantial grounds for nonrenewal of Arise’s Charter and that before the SRC would take formal action of nonrenewal, the SRC would conduct a public hearing on nonrenewal of Arise’s Charter; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the nonrenewal was scheduled to begin on August 16, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the SRC, by Resolution No. SRC-2, approved on October 17, 2012, postponed and continued the public hearing on the nonrenewal of Arise’s Charter until a date no earlier than September 1, 2013, provided that the Arise implement certain programmatic and organizational changes; and

WHEREAS, members of The School District of Philadelphia (“School District”) staff have reviewed the performance of Arise during the period of postponement and continuance of the public hearing on nonrenewal, have determined that Arise has failed to implement such programmatic and organizational changes to the satisfaction of the School District and that there are grounds to move forward with the nonrenewal, and have concluded that there are grounds for the SRC to amend its notice to Arise of nonrenewal of Arise’s Charter; and

WHEREAS, the following are causes for nonrenewal of Arise’s Charter and termination of the charter agreement:

1. Arise has failed to make adequate yearly progress (“AYP”) during the last three years of its Charter term for which AYP was determined, as required under 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4, the No Child Left Behind Act, the Accountability Workbook and Pennsylvania law.
2. Arise’s PSSA proficiency scores have been consistently lower than State targets, the School District average and the Charter School average in both math and reading during the term of the Charter. In 2012, at Arise, Math proficiency was 6.1% and Reading proficiency was 18.2%.
3. In 2013, under the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s School Performance Profile, Arise received the federal accountability designation of “Priority”, meaning that Arise is in the lowest 5% of Title I schools or a Title I school receiving School Improvement Grant funds.
4. Arise’s School Performance Profile Academic Score issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education was 31.8 out of 100 for the 2012-13 school year.
5. Arise’s graduation rate, attendance rate and test participation rates over the Charter term have been below the State standards.
6. During the 2012-13 school year, Arise failed to meet its goals set forth in its one-year performance plan dated November 21, 2012 regarding student attendance, retention, promotion, and assessment.
7. Arise’s Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (“PVAAS”) and Accountability Growth Index (“AGI”) data establish that Arise students are not meeting the Pennsylvania standards for academic growth.
8. Due to retention and/or attendance issues, Arise is testing insufficient numbers of students to include reportable data.
9. Prior to 2012, Arise reduced its graduation requirements from 23.5 credits to 19.5 credits without authorization from the School District to do so. Commencing sometime in 2012, Arise instituted a transition plan to return to the 23.5 credit requirement gradually with each class, as indicated in Arise’s November 12, 2012 submission to the School District.
10. Arise has enrolled non-foster care students, in violation of terms of the Charter.
11. Arise has failed to meet the academic goals, objectives and standards stated in its original charter application.
12. Arise has been under-enrolled and has had significant student turnover within the school years and from school year to school year. Arise was overpaid for the months of July, August, September and October 2013 by \$211,824.39, because payments for those months are based on the June 2013 payment, the last payment of the prior school year.
13. Arise has had significant staff turnover, including in the administration.
14. Arise has failed to meet the 100% highly qualified teacher requirement, as required by the No Child Left Behind Act and the Charter.
15. Arise has failed to meet the 75% certified teacher requirement, as required by the Charter School Law and the Charter.
16. Arise has failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management:
 - a. Arise had a \$(43,869) fund balance at end of FY11.
 - b. Arise had \$(416,241) fund balance at end of FY12.

- c. Arise had \$(314,395) net assets at end of FY12.
- d. Arise's cash balance at the end of FY12 was \$8,357.
- e. Arise has failed to submit timely audits in violation of its Charter and the Charter School Law:
 - i. Arise's FY12 audit was not completed until August 2013.
 - ii. Arise's FY 13 audit has not been completed yet.
- f. Arise has failed to keep current on its required contributions to the Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS") during the term of its Charter. As of October 30, 2013, Arise owed PSERS \$24,432.50 in employer contributions to PSERS.

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed findings and recommendations of School District staff; now be it

RESOLVED, that there are substantial grounds for nonrenewal of the Charter; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC will conduct a public hearing on nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter on an expedited basis commencing on February 24, 2014, at which time the School District will present evidence in support of the grounds for nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter, and the Charter School will be given the reasonable opportunity to present the Charter School's witnesses and evidence in support of reasons why the Charter School's Charter should be renewed; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC, pursuant to section 6-696(i)(3) of the Public School Code, partially suspends Section 17-1729-A(c) of the Charter School Law that provides that the local board of school directors shall conduct such public hearing, and hereby delegates its authority to conduct such public hearing either to a single Commissioner, to a Committee of two Commissioners or to a Hearing Officer to be appointed by the Chairman of the SRC. All other provisions of Section 1729-A(c) shall remain in full force and effect; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC will take formal action on the nonrenewal or renewal of the Charter following the hearing at a public meeting and after the public has had thirty (30) days to provide comments.

Steve Warner, Chairman of the Board, stated that there needs to be a better solution to serve the Arise Academy student population. He made a recommendation to close the school in 2015 and not now to allow time to develop a solution.

Commissioner Houston stated that she was the one that instigated the delay in the nonrenewal process due to her deep concern for children in the foster care and child welfare system. She stated that it is not about not caring for this group of children.

In response to Commissioner Houston, Miles Shore, Deputy General Counsel, provided an overview of the nonrenewal process.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Simms – 1

Commissioner Dworetzky provided a chronology of voting actions. He stated that over his objection it was agreed to continue the process for a year. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that 21 months have passed and Arise Academy is not working as a charter school.

Commissioner Pritchett stated it pains his to think that it could be perceived that his vote for this resolution is against the children. He stated that he agrees with Commissioner Dworetzky that this model of a charter school is not working and that we all need to work together to develop one that does.

Citing resolutions SRC-6 and SRC-8, Commissioner Dworetzky stated that he was recusing himself from those matters.

SRC-6

Proposed Charter School Renewal – Laboratory Charter School of Communications and Languages
 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of LABORATORY CHARTER SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES ("Charter School") to operate a charter school commencing in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the SRC renewed the Charter School's Charter in 2007 for a five-year term; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has agreed to certain terms and conditions in connection with the renewal of the Charter and has submitted a charter agreement signed by the Charter School ("Charter Agreement") to the School District setting forth the agreed terms and conditions of renewal; and

WHEREAS, School District staff have recommended to the SRC that the SRC renew the Charter School's Charter based on the renewal report for the Charter School and on the terms and conditions of the Charter Agreement signed by the Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed the Charter School's request for renewal, the Charter Agreement, the information sought during the renewal process, and the renewal report for the Charter School; now be it

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2017, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School shall comply with the following conditions:

1. The Board of Trustees of the Charter School acknowledges and agrees that on July 31, 2013, the Board approved a resolution confirming that the Board: (i) suspended the former Chief Executive Officer of the Charter School on or about July 30, 2012; (ii) appointed an Interim Chief Executive Officer for the Charter School on August 7, 2012; and (iii) has directed that the suspended Chief Executive Officer currently has and will have no involvement with the operations of the Charter School until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC.
2. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on July 31, 2013, the Board approved a resolution confirming that the Board and the Charter School: (i) have terminated all contracts with Dorothy June Brown, with the exception of the pre-existing contract for her past employment with the Charter School, under which she still receives medical benefits; (ii) have not entered into any new contracts with Dorothy June Brown; (iii) will not enter into any new contracts with Dorothy June Brown, with the exception of any new contracts contemplated or authorized by 15 Pa.C.S.C §§ 5741-5750, related to indemnification and the advancement of expenses including attorneys' fees, until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC; and (iv) will not enter into any new contracts with any corporation, company or business entity with which Dorothy June Brown is associated or in which Dorothy June Brown has an interest, including without limitation, Main Line Academy, with the exception of leases, amendment to leases or renewal leases for the property located at 124 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC.
3. The Board of Trustees agrees to review its obligations to indemnify and to advance expenses including attorneys' fees under the Bylaws for Dorothy June Brown and the former Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to 15 Pa.C.S.C §§ 5741-5750.
4. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on November 26, 2012, the Board approved a resolution requiring that any employee, former employee, trustee or former trustee who is found to have misappropriated charter school funds immediately shall reimburse the Charter School for the full amounts misappropriated and any amounts advanced as legal expenses and shall be terminated from his or her position.
5. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on July 31, 2013, the Board approved a resolution adopting a policy which states that: (i) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is charged with a crime or malfeasance by indictment or otherwise related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall suspend such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee until such matters are resolved, (ii) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is convicted of any offense or any malfeasance, or pleads guilty or no contest to any offense or any malfeasance, related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall terminate the employment of such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee, shall terminate any consultant or independent contracts with such person, shall terminate all contracts with any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest, and shall not enter into any new contracts with such person, or any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest; and (iii) any employee or Trustee of the Charter School who is convicted of any offense or any malfeasance, or who pleads guilty or no contest to any offense or any malfeasance, related to such person's duties at the Charter School, shall reimburse the Charter School for the costs of any legal fees paid by the Charter School on such employee's or such Trustee's behalf in the defense of such action. This provision shall be added to all existing and new contracts of the Charter School.
6. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on December 3, 2013, the Board approved a resolution adopting an Internal Controls Policy and that such Policy has been submitted to the

School District for approval. The Board of Trustees shall implement such Internal Controls Policy during the term of the Charter.

7. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, directed its independent auditor to provide all independent audits and financial reports directly to the Board of Trustees.
8. The Board of Trustees shall make the Charter School's financial records available to the School District for any and all investigation and review during the term of the Charter and shall allow the School District to audit the financial records and operations of the Charter School at any time during the term of the Charter without prior notice. The Board of Trustees agrees to cooperate with the School District to facilitate any investigation and/or audit of the financial records and operations of the Charter School.
9. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on May 13, 2013, retained a financial management firm to advise the Charter School on the day-to-day financial management of the Charter School.
10. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, formed an Audit/Finance Subcommittee, and such Subcommittee shall be required to meet at least four (4) times during each fiscal year.
11. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, formed an Education Subcommittee, and such Subcommittee shall be required to meet at least four (4) times during each fiscal year.
12. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall submit a copy of such Conflicts of Interest Policy and any amendments thereto to the School District by November 1st of each year of the Charter Term as evidence that the Charter School adheres to this requirement.
13. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, adopted an "Admissions Procedure" as the official procedure/program for carrying out the Charter School's Admissions Policy, which complies with the Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, lottery dates, and results. The School District annually shall monitor such Admissions Policy and Process to ensure that all students have equitable access to the Charter School during the term of the Charter.
14. The Board of Trustees, by resolution adopted July 31, 2013, amended the Bylaws of the Charter School to provide that: (i) no Board member shall as a private person engage in any business transaction with the Charter School, be employed by the Charter School, or receive from the Charter School pay for service rendered to the Charter School; and (ii) voting on any matters involving a conflict of interest shall be governed by the Ethics Act and the Nonprofit Corporation Law. The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Bylaws during the term of the Charter.
15. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on December 3, 2013, the Board provided to the School District a schedule for Board members to attend mandatory board training programs on various topics, including without limitation, conflicts of interest, code of ethics and the Sunshine Law, provided by an established provider.
16. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 6, 2013, the Board submitted to the School District signed Statements of Financial Interests for 2011 and 2012 for all then current trustees and administrators of the Charter School, in accordance with the requirements of the Ethics Act and the Charter School Law. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District signed Statements of Financial Interest by June 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter.
17. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report evidence that 75% of the Charter School's professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
18. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
19. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that the Board has submitted an affidavit dated December 9, 2013 as evidence the Board has complied with this requirement and that the Board shall submit a signed affidavit to the School District by November 1st of each year of the term of the Charter as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.

20. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 15, 2013, the Board submitted to the School District proof that all employees of the Charter School are enrolled in the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS") or an alternative federally qualified retirement plan approved by PSERS and shall comply with this requirement and make timely payments to PSERS during the term of the Charter.
21. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved December 3, 2013, adopted supplemental policies for the evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer and instructional and professional staff, which the Board has submitted to the School District for approval. The Board of Trustees shall implement such policies during the Term of the Charter.
22. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 13, 2013, the Board submitted to the School District, for approval, a five-year performance plan with academic and non-academic school-specific goals using formative and summative assessments to identify students' strengths and weaknesses. The School District and the Charter School annually shall monitor and shall revise, if necessary, such five-year performance plan to ensure increased academic achievement for the Charter School's students over the term of the Charter.
23. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, adopted a comprehensive English Language Learning Policy as the official procedure/program for carrying out the Charter School's Limited English Proficiency Policy. Such a plan shall be monitored annually by the School District to ensure that all students requiring services are identified appropriately and are provided such services.
24. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 26, 2012, adopted a comprehensive "Special Education Services and Programs for Students with Disabilities" policy. Such policy shall be monitored annually by the School District to ensure that all students who requiring services are identified appropriately and are provided such services;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School acknowledges and agrees that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 1,075 students annually during the term of this Charter, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances during the term of this Charter will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following provisions related to the School Performance Index ("SPI") shall apply to the Charter School:

1. The Charter School has achieved a ranking of 1 on the School District's 2010-11 SPI – Charter to School District ranking.
2. If the Charter School achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District's current SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent School District accountability performance system, during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School prepare and submit an academic accountability plan to address the Charter School's strategy to increase student performance, and the School District shall review such academic accountability plan at least annually. If the Charter School achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District's SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent School District accountability performance system, for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the SRC by resolution shall provide notice to the Charter School's Board of Trustees and to the public that the Charter School has failed to increase student performance in accordance with its academic accountability plan.
3. If the Charter School should fall four (4) rankings on the School District's 2010-11 SPI – Charter to School District ranking or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent School District accountability performance system, over two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District reserves the right to require that the Charter School prepare and submit an academic accountability plan which addresses the Charter School's strategy to increase student performance. The School District shall review such academic accountability plan at least annually;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Agreement shall not be executed, delivered or performed by the School District unless and until the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent certifies in writing that the Charter School has submitted: (1) an Admissions Policy and Admissions Procedures satisfactory to the School District, or (2) an Action Plan satisfactory to the School District to eliminate any identified barrier to enrollment and admission of students to the Charter School; and be it.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any requests for amendment to the Charter not addressed in this resolution are deemed denied.

Commissioner Houstoun expressed concerns about barriers to entry. She expressed an interest in gathering data that would show the changing trends in enrollment. A representative from the school expressed her

commitment to providing information. Commissioner Houstoun also requested that the school post the resolution on its website.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

SRC-7

Proposed Charter School Renewal – Philadelphia Electrical and Technology Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the School Reform Commission (“SRC”) granted a charter (“Charter”) to the Board of Trustees of PHILADELPHIA ELECTRICAL AND TECHNOLOGY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL (“Charter School”) to operate a charter school commencing in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the SRC renewed the Charter School’s Charter in 2007 for a five-year term ending on June 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School seeks renewal of its Charter which expired by its terms on June 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, School District staff during the renewal process identified certain academic deficiencies related to standardized testing irregularities at the Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has met with the School District to attempt to address such deficiencies at the Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has agreed to certain terms and conditions in connection with the renewal of the Charter and has submitted a charter agreement signed by the Charter School (“Charter Agreement”) to the School District setting forth the agreed terms and conditions of renewal; and

WHEREAS, School District staff have recommended to the SRC that the SRC renew the Charter School’s Charter based on the renewal report for the Charter School and on the terms and conditions of the Charter Agreement signed by the Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed the Charter School’s request for renewal, the Charter Agreement, the information sought during the renewal process, and the renewal report for the Charter School; now be it

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2017, effective upon the execution of the Charter Agreement by both the School District and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School has agreed to comply with the following statutory conditions:

1. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall submit a copy of such Conflicts of Interest Policy and any amendments thereto to the School District by November 1st of each year of the Charter Term as evidence that the Charter School adheres to this requirement.
2. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School’s Annual Report evidence that 75% of the Charter School’s professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School’s Annual Report evidence that 100% of the Charter School’s teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind’s core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a “Highly Qualified Teacher”.
4. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the School District by November 1st of each year of the term of the Charter as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District signed Statements of Financial Interests signed by the members of the Board and all employees subject to the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law by June 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School has agreed to comply with the following charter school-specific conditions:

1. The Board of Trustees shall adopt and submit to the School District, for approval by January 31, 2014, an Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, lottery dates, and results. The School District annually shall monitor such Admissions Policy and Process to ensure that all students have equitable access to the Charter School during the Term of the Charter.
2. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District, for approval by January 31, 2014, procedures to evaluate the performance of the Chief Executive Officer, Board members and the Charter School.
3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District, for approval by January 31, 2014, a formal process to observe and evaluate the Charter School's professional staff. Evaluations shall be administered as outlined in the Charter School's handbook.
4. The Board of Trustees shall require all members of the Board to attend mandatory board training programs provided by an established provider and shall submit to the School District, by January 31, 2014, a schedule of trainings, including without limitation, training on conflicts of interest, on the ethics code and on the Sunshine Act.
5. The Board of Trustees shall form an Academic Committee on or before January 31, 2014, and such Committee shall be required to meet at least four (4) times during each fiscal year.
6. The Board of Trustees shall adopt a policy by resolution by January 31, 2014 which states that: (i) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is charged with a crime or malfeasance by indictment or otherwise related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall suspend such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee until such matters are resolved, and (ii) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is convicted of any offense or any malfeasance, or pleads guilty or no contest to any offense or any malfeasance, related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall terminate the employment of such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee, shall terminate any consultant or independent contracts with such person, shall terminate all contracts with any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest, and shall not enter into any new contracts with such person, or any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest. This provision shall be added to all existing and new contracts of the Charter School.
7. The Board of Trustees shall engage an independent testing monitor to monitor all standardized tests taken by students at the Charter School. The Board of Trustees shall adopt and shall submit to the School District by January 31, 2014 a test monitoring plan. The Charter School shall implement such test monitoring plan during the term of the Charter;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School has agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades 9 through 12 with a maximum of 600 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance framework:

1. The Charter School has achieved a 2011-12 ranking of 3 on the School District's SPI – Charter to School District ranking and a 57.4 score on the 2013 Pennsylvania School Performance Profile.
2. If the Charter School achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District's current SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on any subsequent School District accountability performance system, during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School prepare and submit a performance improvement plan to address the Charter School's strategy to increase student performance, which will include specific student achievement targets and ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District's SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or a ranking in the bottom level on any subsequent School District accountability performance system, in subsequent years during the Term of the Charter, the SRC, by resolution, shall provide notice to the Charter School's Board of Trustees and to the public that the Charter School has failed to increase student performance and that the Charter School may be considered for revocation.
3. If the Charter School should fall four (4) rankings on the School District's SPI – Charter to School District ranking or should fall two rankings on any subsequent School District accountability

performance system, over two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District reserves the right to require that the Charter School prepare and submit a performance improvement plan to address the Charter School's strategy to increase student performance, which will include specific student achievement targets and ongoing progress reporting.

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District shall be conditioned upon the submission of a Certificate to the SRC by the Superintendent or the Deputy Superintendent, stating that the Charter School has submitted an Admissions Policy and Admissions Procedures satisfactory to the School District and has eliminated any identified barriers to entry to the Charter School; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any requests for amendment to the Charter not addressed in this resolution are deemed denied.

In response to Commissioner Pritchett, Charles Gibbs, Board President of Philadelphia Electrical and Technology Charter School, provided an overview of its action plan to improve academics at the school.

Commissioner Houstoun expressed concerns about reported academic progress. She also stated that she is interested in keeping track of every inquiry on admissions.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that he is troubled by the academic performance being below what you should expect for a school that has been around this long. He stated that it is complicated by the cheating. Commissioner Dworetzky also expressed concerns about the very small number of English Language Learners and the 12 page application and concluded that he will be voting against this resolution.

In response to Commissioner Houstoun, Paul Kihn, Deputy Superintendent, stated that if there are no significant improvements at the school, the School District could recommend revocation after the second year. She stated that she is skeptical that this is a high performance educational enterprise.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

SRC-8

Proposed Charter School Renewal – Planet Abacus Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of PLANET ABACUS CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school commencing in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has agreed to certain terms and conditions in connection with the renewal of the Charter and has submitted a charter agreement signed by the Charter School ("Charter Agreement") to the School District setting forth the agreed terms and conditions of renewal; and

WHEREAS, School District staff have recommended to the SRC that the SRC renew the Charter School's Charter based on the renewal report for the Charter School and on the terms and conditions of the Charter Agreement signed by the Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed the Charter School's request for renewal, the Charter Agreement, the information sought during the renewal process, and the renewal report for the Charter School; now be it

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2017, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School shall comply with the following conditions:

1. The Board of Trustees of the Charter School acknowledges and agrees that on July 18, 2013, the Board approved a resolution confirming that the Board: (i) suspended the former Chief Executive Officer of the Charter School on or about July 30, 2012; (ii) appointed an Emergency Interim Chief Executive Officer for the Charter School on September 12, 2012; and (iii) has directed that the suspended Chief Executive Officer currently has and will have no involvement with the operations of the Charter School until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC.
2. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on July 18, 2013, the Board approved a resolution confirming that the Board and the Charter School: (i) have terminated all contracts with Dorothy June Brown; (ii) have not entered into any new contracts with Dorothy June Brown; (iii) will not enter into any new contracts with Dorothy June Brown, with the exception of any new contracts contemplated or authorized by 15 Pa.C.S.C §§ 5741-5750, related to indemnification and

the advancement of expenses including attorneys' fees, until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC; and (iv) will not enter into any new contracts with any corporation, company or business entity with which Dorothy June Brown is associated or in which Dorothy June Brown has an interest, including without limitation, Main Line Academy, with the exception of leases, amendment to leases or renewal leases for properties located at 6649 Tulip Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 and 124 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 until at least the completion of the pending criminal case No. 2:12-cr-00367-RBS in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and notification to the SRC.

3. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees: (i) that the Board has provided to the School District a copy of a written lease agreement, memorializing the lease of 6660 Keystone Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 by the Charter School from Main Line Academy, and that the School is leasing that building on a month-to-month basis at a commercially reasonable monthly rent; and (ii) that the Board is actively looking for a suitable facility to relocate its operations through the end of the term of the Charter, at a commercially reasonable rental rate or purchase price, which relocation shall require the prior consent of the School District as required by Article IV, Section L of this Agreement.
4. The Board of Trustees agrees to review its obligations to indemnify and to advance expenses including attorneys' fees under the Bylaws for Dorothy June Brown and the former Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to 15 Pa.C.S.C §§ 5741-5750.
5. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on November 28, 2012, the Board approved a resolution requiring that any employee, former employee, trustee or former trustee who is found to have misappropriated charter school funds immediately shall reimburse the Charter School for the full amounts misappropriated and any amounts advanced as legal expenses and shall be terminated from his or her position.
6. The Board of Trustees by resolution approved on July 18, 2013, adopted a policy which states that: (i) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is charged with a crime or malfeasance by indictment or otherwise related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall suspend such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee until such matters are resolved, (ii) in the event that any employee or Trustee of the Charter School is convicted of any offense or any malfeasance, or pleads guilty or no contest to any offense or any malfeasance, related to such person's duties at the Charter School, the Charter School immediately shall terminate the employment of such employee and shall force the resignation of such Trustee, shall terminate any consultant or independent contracts with such person, shall terminate all contracts with any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest, and shall not enter into any new contracts with such person, or any corporation, company or business entity with which such person or any of his or her relatives are or were associated or have or had an interest; and (iii) any employee or Trustee of the Charter School who is convicted of any offense or any malfeasance, or who pleads guilty or no contest to any offense or any malfeasance, related to such person's duties at the Charter School, shall reimburse the Charter School for the costs of any legal fees paid by the Charter School on such employee's or such Trustee's behalf in the defense of such action. This provision shall be added to all existing and new contracts of the Charter School.
7. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on May 22, 2013, adopted a comprehensive Internal Controls Policy titled "Business & Finance Policy and Procedures". The Board of Trustees shall implement such Internal Controls Policy during the term of the Charter.
8. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, directed its independent auditor to provide all independent audits and financial reports directly to the Board of Trustees.
9. The Board of Trustees shall make the Charter School's financial records available to the School District for any and all investigation and review during the term of the Charter and shall allow the School District to audit the financial records and operations of the Charter School at any time during the term of the Charter without prior notice. The Board of Trustees agrees to cooperate with the School District to facilitate any investigation and/or audit of the financial records and operations of the Charter School.
10. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on February 20, 2013, retained a financial management firm to advise the Charter School on the day-to-day financial management of the Charter School.
11. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, formed an Audit/Finance Subcommittee, and such Subcommittee shall be required to meet at least four (4) times during each fiscal year.
12. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, formed an Education Subcommittee, and such Subcommittee shall be required to meet at least four (4) times during each fiscal year.

13. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees, by resolution adopted on July 18, 2013, approved a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall submit a copy of such Conflicts of Interest Policy and any amendments thereto to the School District by November 1st of each year of the Charter Term as evidence that the Charter School adheres to this requirement.
14. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, adopted an "Application and Enrollment Process" as the official procedure/program for carrying out the Charter School's Student Admissions Policy, which complies with the Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, lottery dates, and results. The School District annually shall monitor such Admissions Policy and Process to ensure that all students have equitable access to the Charter School during the term of the Charter.
15. The Board of Trustees, by resolution adopted on July 18, 2013, amended the Bylaws of the Charter School to provide that: (i) that the Bylaws of the Charter School provide that no Board member shall as a private person engage in any business transaction with the Charter School, be employed by the Charter School, or receive from the Charter School pay for service rendered to the Charter School; and (ii) that the Bylaws provide that voting on any matters involving a conflict of interest shall be governed by the Ethics Act and the Nonprofit Corporation Law. The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Bylaws during the term of the Charter.
16. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 14, 2013, the Board provided to the School District a schedule for Board members to attend mandatory board training programs, including without limitation, conflicts of interest, code of ethics and the Sunshine Law, provided by an established provider.
17. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 14, 2013, the Board submitted signed Statements of Financial Interests for 2011 and 2012 for all then current trustees and administrators of the Charter School, in accordance with the requirements of the Ethics Act and the Charter School Law. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District signed Statements of Financial Interest by June 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter.
18. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report evidence that 75% of the Charter School's professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
19. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
20. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter. The Board of Trustees has submitted to the School District an affidavit signed October 29, 2013, as evidence that it has complied with this requirement, and the Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the School District by November 1st of each year of the term of the Charter as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
21. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that by letter from the Charter School's Controller dated October 30, 2013, the Board submitted evidence to the School District that all employees of the Charter School are enrolled in the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS") or an alternative federally qualified retirement plan approved by PSERS and shall comply with this requirement and make timely payments to PSERS during the term of the Charter.
22. The Board of Trustees in January 2013 adopted policies for the evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer and instructional and professional staff and shall implement such policies during the Term of the Charter.
23. The Board of Trustees acknowledges and agrees that on or about November 6, 2013, the Board submitted to the School District, for its approval, a five-year performance plan with academic and non-academic school-specific goals using formative and summative assessments to identify students' strengths and weaknesses. The School District and the Charter School annually shall monitor and shall revise, if necessary, such five-year performance plan to ensure increased academic achievement for the Charter School's students over the term of the Charter.
24. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, adopted a comprehensive English Language Learners Policy as the official procedure/program for carrying out the Charter School's Limited English Proficiency Policy. Such a plan shall be monitored annually by the School District to ensure that all students requiring services are identified appropriately and are provided such services.

25. The Board of Trustees, by resolution approved on November 28, 2012, adopted a comprehensive Special Education Policy. Such a policy shall be monitored annually by the School District to ensure that all students who requiring services are identified appropriately and are provided such services;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Charter School acknowledges and agrees that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 700 students annually during the term of this Charter unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances during the term of this Charter will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following provisions related to the School Performance Index (“SPI”) shall apply to the Charter School:

1. The Charter School has achieved a 2010-11 ranking of 1 on the School District’s 2010-11 SPI – Charter to School District ranking.
2. If the Charter School achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District’s current SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent accountability performance standard developed by the School District and adopted by the SRC, during the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School prepare and submit a school improvement plan as a supplement to the five-year performance plan to address the Charter School’s strategy to increase student performance, and the School District shall review such school improvement plan. If the Charter School achieves a ranking of 8, 9, or 10 on the School District’s SPI – Charter to School District ranking, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent accountability performance standard developed by the School District and adopted by the SRC, during the Term of the Charter, the SRC may choose to revoke or not to renew the Charter School’s Charter in accordance with the Charter School Law. The School District and the Charter School acknowledge and agree that SPI, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent accountability performance standard developed by the School District and adopted by the SRC, shall not be the sole criteria used by the SRC in choosing to revoke or not to renew the Charter School’s Charter.
3. If the Charter School should fall four (4) rankings from its current ranking, or an equivalent ranking on any subsequent accountability performance standard developed by the School District and adopted by the SRC, during the Term of the Charter, the School District reserves the right to request that the Charter School prepare and submit a school improvement plan as a supplement to the five-year performance plan to address the Charter School’s strategy to increase student performance. The School District shall review such school improvement plan at least every ninety (90) days during the Term of the Charter;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Agreement shall not be executed, delivered or performed by the School District unless and until the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent certifies in writing that the Charter School has submitted: (1) an Admissions Policy and Admissions Procedures satisfactory to the School District, or (2) an Action Plan satisfactory to the School District to eliminate any identified barrier to enrollment and admission of students to the Charter School; and be it.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any requests for amendment to the Charter not addressed in this resolution are deemed denied.

In response to Commissioner Houstoun, a representative of the school confirmed that this resolution will be posted on its website, and that the school will track admissions inquiries.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

Commissioner Pritchett provided a brief overview of resolution SRC-9.

SRC-9

Temporary Suspension of Selected Requirements of Public School Code and Related Regulations – Notice of Dismissal of Professional Employees

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Public School Code, Section 696(e) and 696(i)(3), in order to fulfill its responsibilities for the financial matters, operation, management and educational program of the School District, the School Reform Commission has the power to suspend requirements of the School Code and regulations of the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, section 11-1127 of the School Code, provides that “Before any professional employee having attained a status of permanent tenure is dismissed by the board of school directors, such board of school directors shall furnish such professional employee with a detailed written statement of the charges upon which his or her proposed dismissal is based and shall conduct a hearing. A written notice signed by the president and attested by the secretary of the board of school directors shall be forwarded by registered mail to the professional employee setting forth the time and place when and where such professional employee will be given an opportunity to be heard either in person or by counsel, or both, before the board of school directors and setting forth a detailed statement of the charges;” and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission has not had an appointed Chair or Acting Chair, acting as president, since the resignation of the former Chairman on October 21, 2013; now be it

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission, in order to deal with the procedure for proposed dismissals of professional employees, hereby suspends, pursuant to section 6-696(i)(3) of the School Code, effective for any future matters, proceedings and hearings (from the date of this Resolution forward), the part of section 11-1127 of the Public School Code and any applicable regulations of the State Board of Public Education, which requires written notice of proposed dismissal to be signed by the president of the board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that written notices of proposed dismissal of professional employees, pursuant to section 11-1127 of the Public School Code, shall be signed by any one School Reform Commissioner and attested by the Superintendent as Secretary of the School Reform Commission; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this partial suspension of the notice requirements of section 11-1127 shall remain in effect until an Acting or Interim Chairman is appointed or until a Chairman has been appointed and qualified, whichever happens first; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other provisions of section 11-1127 not temporarily suspended by this Resolution shall remain in force and effect.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Capital Programs

A-1

Capital Fund: \$108,380 Authorization of Net Cost Change Orders

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform amendments of the attached contracts for a net cost to the School District not to exceed \$108,380.00.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

A-2

Capital Fund: \$477,830 Capital Projects Awards

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver, and perform contracts separately with Eagle I Electric, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, for PCB Transformer Replacement at Philadelphia High School for Girls, for an amount not to exceed \$328,830, and with Carr & Duff, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, for PCB Transformer Replacement at Strawberry Mansion Middle/High School, for an amount not to exceed \$149,000, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$477,830.

Spec: B-002 C of 2013/14	Electrical Contract - PCB Transformer Replacement Philadelphia High School for Girls - 1400 West Olney Avenue Eagle I Electric, Inc. - \$328,830.00 Essington, Pennsylvania 19029 ABC Code: 8Q11-065-6050-4627-4561-09 Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 35.0%
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Spec: B-003 C of 2013/14	Electrical Contract - PCB Transformer Replacement Strawberry Mansion Middle/High School - 3133 Ridge Avenue Carr & Duff, Inc. - \$149,000.00 Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania 19006 ABC Code: 8Q11-065-4140-4627-4561-09 Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 35.0%
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The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

Facilities Management and Services

A-3

Declaration of Unused and Unnecessary Property; Listing Agreement with the Flynn Company – Sale of 27th and Wharton Streets

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby declares the property located at 2630-44 Wharton Street, consisting of an approximately 0.5 acre parcel of vacant land (the "Property"), to be unused and unnecessary to the present and future needs of The School District of Philadelphia and authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a Listing Agreement with the Flynn Company, a licensed real estate brokerage firm, for the marketing and sale of the Property, for a brokerage commission fee of 3% (or 4% for a sale involving a co-operating broker), for the period commencing January 17, 2014 through June 19, 2014, with optional extensions, subject to the terms and conditions of RFQ 97.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

A-4

Declaration and Sale of Unused and Unnecessary Property – 1325-1349 South 33rd Street to Lamm Realty Group, LLC

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby declares that certain parcel of ground, including a four-story building containing approximately 41,800 square feet, located at 1325-1349 S. 33rd Street, Philadelphia, PA ("Property"), to be unused and unnecessary to the present and future needs of the School District of Philadelphia within meaning of Section 707 of the Public School Code; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, as Seller, through the Superintendent or his designee, to:

1. Execute, deliver and perform an Agreement of Sale for the sale of the Property on an "AS IS" basis to Lamm Realty Group, LLC, or their affiliate to be formed, as Buyer, for consideration of \$1,000,000.00, representing an amount higher than the most current appraisal, by cash to be wired at closing or title company check and under certain terms and conditions which may be negotiated between the parties, subject to the requirements of Pennsylvania law and the further provisions of this Resolution;
2. Include in the Agreement of Sale and Deed covenants regarding (i) the prompt redevelopment of the Property by the Buyer in accordance with its proposal subject to delay payments in the amount of \$2,000.00 per month if development milestones are not met and (ii) an anti-speculation provision requiring some or all of the net profits from the re-sale of the Property by the Buyer within a four-year period after the closing to be paid to the School District;
3. Convey clear fee simple title via a special warranty deed at to be executed at closing, require the Buyer to pay for or reimburse the School District for certain expenses incurred in connection with the transaction, including, the payment of all state and local real estate transfer taxes, if applicable, and to execute such other documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing, it being conclusively presumed from any action thereby that is authorized on behalf of the SRC; and,
4. Execute, deliver and perform concurrently with the Agreement, a separate Right of Entry Agreement with the Seller permitting the Buyer, its employees and/or agent, after presenting evidence of required insurance, to enter upon the Property to perform due diligence tests and investigations, including, but not limited to environmental investigations for a period not to exceed two (2) months to determine whether the Property is satisfactory to the Buyer, during which time the Buyer may terminate the Agreement of Sale and receive a refund of its deposit.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr. Pritchett – 3

Nays: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that the School District should not do due diligence after SRC approval, citing it as a bad practice.

Transportation

A-5

General Fund: \$281,555 Contract Amendment with Easter Seals of Southeastern Pennsylvania for To/From School Bus Transportation Service

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of Contract No. 368/F12, originally entered into with Easter Seals of Southeastern Pennsylvania pursuant to Resolution No. A-14, approved by the School Reform Commission on October 15, 2011, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$281,555, from the \$1,917,085 approved by Resolution A-14, to an amount not to exceed \$2,198,640.

In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, stated that there is an error in the estimated amount of the contract and the shortfall has been pushed forward each year of the contract.

The following W/MBE firms bid this contract:
American Green Environmental, Philadelphia, PA (MBE), \$429,628.35
Supreme Safety, Inc., Warminster, PA (WBE), \$331,711.20

The total number of bids received for this award was four (4), including:
Aramco, Inc., Thorofare, NJ (\$329,098.70)
BKW Environmental, Croydon, PA (\$300,800.20)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

Human Resources

A-8

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Knowledge Delivery Systems – Professional Development

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a Memorandum of Understanding with Knowledge Delivery Systems, to provide for the use of licenses previously contracted, for on line professional development courses, valued at up to \$3,000,000.00, at no additional cost to the School District, for use for the period commencing January 17, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

In response to Commissioner Pritchett, Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, provided an update on the flaws in the approval of personnel hires over the last several year, 2008 to the present. Resolution A-10 represents missed hires from July 2008 through September 2013.

A-9 (Separate Document) (As Amended)

General/Categorical Funds: Approves Personnel, Terminations – December 2013

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment of the following persons to the positions, on the effective dates through December 31, 2013, and at the salaries respectively noted, as recommended by the Superintendent, provided that: (a) continued employment of persons appointed to positions funded by categorical grants is contingent upon the availability of grant funds; and (b) persons appointed to positions funded by operating funds, shall report to either the Superintendent or the Deputy Superintendent or their designees, and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

Commissioner Simms introduced a motion to amend resolution A-9 by pulling Felicia Gilbert from the resolution.

The vote on the motion to amend resolution A-9 was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

The vote on resolution A-9 as amended was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

A-10 (Separate Document)

General/Categorical Funds: Ratification of Approval of Personnel

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment of the following persons to the positions, on the effective dates from July 01, 2008 through September 30, 2013, and at the salaries respectively noted, as recommended by the Superintendent, provided that: (a) continued employment of persons appointed to positions funded by categorical grants is contingent upon the availability of grant funds; and (b) persons appointed to positions funded by operating funds, shall report to either the Superintendent or the Deputy Superintendent or their designees, and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

Capital Programs

A-11

Capital Fund: \$210,290 Ratification of capital Project Award – Emergency Environmental Water Remediation

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, of an emergency environmental water remediation contract, B-700 C of 2013/14, with Belfor USA, the lowest responsible bidder, for an amount not to exceed \$210,290.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

Executive

A-12

Ratification of Contract with Eagles Stadium Operator, LLC – Safety Summit

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a contract with the Eagles Stadium Operator, LLC, for off-site furniture rental and staff fees, for a safety summit to introduce school-based leadership to strategies and opportunities to create climate, which was held at Lincoln Financial Field, West Club Lounge on August 13, 2012, for an amount not to exceed \$13,214.10.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

III. EDUCATION SERVICES

Academic – Donations/Acceptances

B-1

Categorical/Grant Fund: \$25,000 Acceptance from Verizon Foundation – Professional Development – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Instruction – Arthur Elementary School

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation, a grant from the Verizon Foundation of professional development services for teachers to implement a blended learning model for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics instruction at Arthur Elementary School, valued at \$25,000, for the period commencing January 17, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

Academic – Payments/Contracts

B-2

Operating Budget: \$17,500 Contract with the Liacouras Center – 2014 Philadelphia Public League PIAA District XII Basketball Championships

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver, and perform a contract with the Liacouras Center for facility rental and related costs for the 2014 Philadelphia Public League District XII Basketball Championships for boys and girls, for an amount not to exceed \$17,500, for the period commencing February 23, 2014 through March 1, 2014.

In response to comments made by Mama Gail about the use of District facilities, Robert Coleman, Executive Director of Athletics, stated the School District does not have an indoor Supersite that could accommodate the number of attendees for basketball. He stated that approximately 2,000-2,500 attend. Mr. Coleman stated that the largest gymnasium is South Philadelphia with a capacity of approximately 1,600. He stated that South Philadelphia is used for the semi-finals.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

B-3

Categorical/Grant Fund: \$46,452 Contract with The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania – Philadelphia Writing Project

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, for its Philadelphia Writing Project, to perform a ten-session seminar for 30 ESOL/content-area teachers, for an amount not exceed \$10,049; two five-session seminar series for 60 grade and content-area teachers,

for an amount not to exceed \$12,928 and a summer writing institute for 25 ESOL/content-area teachers, for an amount not to exceed \$23,475, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$46,452, for the period commencing January 17, 2014 through December 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Ms. Simms – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett – 1

B-4

Operating Budget: \$3,190,125 Contract Amendment with EBS Healthcare, Inc., Kaleidoscope Family Solutions, Inc., and Progressus Therapy, LLC – Substitute Related Services

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform amendments to contracts originally entered into with EBS Healthcare, Inc., Progressus Therapy, LLC, and Kaleidoscope Family Solutions, Inc., for substitute speech, hearing, vision, occupational and physical therapy and support services, pursuant to Resolution B-12 approved by the School Reform Commission on August 22, 2013, by increasing the aggregate amount of the contracts by an additional \$3,190,125 from the \$1,709,600 approved in Resolution B-12, to a new aggregate amount not to exceed \$4,899,725 for the period commencing January 17, 2014 and ending on June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houston, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 3

Nays: 0

Abstention: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

B-5

Donation: \$51,000 Acceptance of In-Kind Services and Materials from Musicopia's Adopt-A-School Initiative

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the donation of in-kind services and materials from Musicopia's Adopt-A-School initiative, valued at approximately \$51,100, for the exclusive use of the Office of Music Education, to support music programs at Andrew Jackson Elementary School, Kensington High School for the Creative and Performing Arts and High School of the Future, for the period commencing January 20, 2014 through June 19, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky, Ms. Houston, Ms. Simms, Dr Pritchett – 4

Nays: 0

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Wendell E. Pritchett, Member
(Serving as Chairman Pro Tem)
School Reform Commission

William E. Hite, Jr.
Superintendent