

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

**OCTOBER 17, 2013**

A meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on October 17, 2013 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 5:36 p.m. by Dr. Wendell Pritchett. He noted that Chairman Ramos would not be present at this evening's meeting as he is addressing a personal family matter. Dr. Pritchett stated that Governor Corbett has agreed to release the \$45 million allocated to the School District and added that the Superintendent and his team are working to distribute those funds for our largest areas of need, including counselors, teachers, and school based support staff.

Dr. Pritchett also stated that the public hearing on the recommended nonrenewal of the charter for Imani Education Circle Charter School has been completed. Formal action on the recommended nonrenewal shall be taken by the SRC at a future public meeting. Meanwhile, the public has thirty days to provide comments to the SRC, beginning tomorrow, Friday, October 18, 2013 until Monday, November 18, 2013. Comments may be submitted in writing, addressed to the SRC, Suite 101, 440 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130, or by email, addressed to [SRC@philasd.org](mailto:SRC@philasd.org). All comments received will be made part of the record of the nonrenewal hearing. This information can also be found on the SRC's website.

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that prior to today's public meeting, the School Reform Commission met in Executive Sessions on October 15, 2013 to discuss personnel matters, labor relations and investigations, and today, to discuss personnel matters, labor relations, and litigation.

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

**Members absent:** Mr. Ramos – 1

Dr. Hite provided opening remarks. He stated that he was pleased that Governor Corbett has released the \$45 million to the School District. He stated that the funds will enable the School District to rehire 400 employees laid off in June, including counselors, teachers, aides, and support staff. The funding will also allow the District to offer music and athletics throughout the school year. He stated that the release of the funds is directly related to the work of the District around fiscal and academic reforms. Dr. Hite stated that the District is grateful to Governor Corbett, the State, Mayor Nutter, City Council and parents and partners who have advocated on behalf of the School District. Dr. Hite stated that Philadelphia Young Playwrights will be presenting monologues and plays written by many of our students. Information on performances is available on the Philadelphia Young Playwright's website. Dr. Hite also stated that he had to opportunity to attend several parent meetings which generated healthy direct communication. Dr. Hite also acknowledged October being Bully Prevention, Family Engagement and LGBT History Month. Dr. Hite expressed shared grief with the Bryant School community in the loss of LaPortia Massey.

The minutes of the following meeting was approved by the School Reform Commission: August 15, 2013.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Evelyn Sample-Oates, Office of Family and Community 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.

The Office Depot Senior of the Month Award was presented to Luisa Rodriguez, Mastbaum High School and Mark Stanislovov, George Washington High School.

Honorary Diplomas were presented to the following individuals under "Operation Recognition": Donald Joseph DiPasquale, served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, attended George Washington High School; William Richard Minnick, served in the United States Navy during World War II, attended Northeast High School for Boys; and Walter Nevels, Jr., served during the Vietnam War, attended Benjamin Franklin High School.

The following resolution was presented for formal action by the School Reform Commission:

***Facilities Management and Services***

**A-16**

**Honorary High School Diplomas to Veterans – Operation Recognition**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to Section 1611(b) of the Public School Code, to grant Honorary High School Diplomas, upon proper application, to the following honorably-discharged veterans who did not graduate from high school due to entry into military service: Donald Joseph DiPasquale, served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, attended George Washington High School; William Richard Minnick, served in the United States Navy during World War II, attended Northeast High School for Boys; and Walter Nevels, Jr., served during the Vietnam War, attended Benjamin Franklin High School.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A video presentation on the Special Olympics was shown, along with the reading of the following Citation:

**Special Olympics**

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission and the School District of Philadelphia are deeply grateful to Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Philadelphia for providing outstanding athletic and anti-bullying programs to the children and staff of the District;

WHEREAS, Special Olympics and the School District of Philadelphia created the first-ever high school Physical Education elective, Unified Soccer, to teach soccer to special education athletes and regular education partners and hosted anti-bullying “R-word” campaigns in nine high schools; and

WHEREAS, The District congratulates the physical education teachers, special education teachers and principals from High School of the Future and Bok Technical, Thomas Edison, Samuel Fels, Frankford, Abraham Lincoln, Northeast, University City, and George Washington high schools, who piloted and coached the Unified Soccer teams during the 2012-2013 school year, took the teams to scrimmages and the championship game, and facilitated the anti-bullying “R-word” campaigns in their schools; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics has provided additional programming in 15 elementary and middle schools to special needs children, providing lifetime fitness activities and lifelong memories, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the School Reform Commission and the Superintendent join with the staff, students and parents of the School District of Philadelphia in thanking and congratulating Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Philadelphia, with assurances that they will always be considered a deeply respected and welcome partner of the School District of Philadelphia.

The following proclamations were read:

**Bullying Prevention Month**

WHEREAS, Bullying is physical, verbal, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or groups of people; and

WHEREAS, Bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, and schools throughout the city of Philadelphia and through technology, such as the Internet and cell phones; and

WHEREAS, Various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of children and adolescents in the United States each year, either as the target of bullying, the one who bullies, or a witness to bullying; and

WHEREAS, Children who are targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, or learning problems and often fear such activities as going to school, riding the bus and socializing with their peers; and

WHEREAS, Children who bully are at greater risk of dropping out of school, engaging in more serious violent behaviors, becoming truant or delinquent; and

WHEREAS, Children who witness bullying often feel less secure and more fearful, and may have diminished empathy for the victims of bullying over time; and

WHEREAS, The School District of Philadelphia has implemented several important initiatives to raise awareness of bullying, to reduce and mitigate the negative effects of bullying among District students, and to cultivate safe and positive learning environments where bullying is not tolerated and the response to such reported acts is immediate and appropriate; it is

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission, does hereby proclaim October 2013 as Bullying Prevention Month; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that The School Reform Commission urges all members of The School District of Philadelphia community to help eradicate the cultures of violence, stereotypes and discrimination, take cognizance of this event, and participate fittingly in its observance.

**Family Engagement Month**

WHEREAS, The School District of Philadelphia values parents and caregivers as equal partners in the educational process, recognizing the important role that families play in every child’s life through love, support, care and dedication, and unwavering belief in their child’s unique gifts and talents; and

WHEREAS, We owe much recognition for the tireless efforts that our families devote to support their children’s healthy growth, development, and natural curiosity, laying the foundation for learning, supporting their children with homework, advocating for their unique needs, and helping them navigate through the uncertainties of adolescence, discover their true identity and find their own unique path in life; and

WHEREAS, The School District of Philadelphia recognizes that family engagement in a child's education is an important factor in determining success in school, regardless of parents' race, ethnicity, or education levels; and

WHEREAS, To further highlight the importance of family engagement, throughout the month of October 2013, a number of programs and events will take place to honor, inform and collaborate with the parents and caregivers of School District students; it is

RESOLVED, that in the spirit of support for strong school-family partnerships, the School Reform Commission and the Superintendent hereby proclaim October 2013 as Family Appreciation Month in The School District of Philadelphia.

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

Marilyn Krupnick advocated for the art collection of the School District of Philadelphia. She expressed concerns about the artwork removed from Wilson Middle School approximately ten years ago. Ms. Krupnick stated that she submitted a "Right to Know" request concerning 72 pieces that were removed from Wilson, of which she believes 8 are missing. She requested that the School Reform Commission table resolution A-13. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky's question about what was the purpose of removing the artwork from Wilson and how did the paintings come to Wilson, Ms. Krupnick stated that the paintings hung at Wilson for 60 plus years. Ms. Krupnick referenced a letter from former CEO Paul Vallas dated January 4, 2004 which states that the artwork is being removed to "restore/refurbish and to the extent possible return all pieces to the schools". She provided a history of how Charles Dudley, first principal of Wilson, began acquiring the artwork.

Veronica Hanley, Home & School President for the Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush High School, expressed concerns about the lack of and the importance of school counselors. She stated that two full time counselors have been replaced with a counselor one day per week. Dr. Hite stated that the additional funding will allow the District to bring back approximately 80 counselors or the equivalent of one per school, particularly at the high schools. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Dr. Hite stated that the District is talking about having at least one counselor at every high school.

Lisa Haver, stated that she supported the people at Wilson Middle School. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky's question about her recollection of the removal of the artwork, Ms. Haver stated that she heard about it from other people and in the newspaper. Ms. Haver stated that she had questions about resolutions A-7 and B-1. Dr. Pritchett stated that Ms. Haver's questions will be answered during the presentation on resolutions.

Joseph Santore, parent, shared a personal story about his daughter who attends the Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush High School and has multiple disabilities, and the importance of school counselors.

The following individuals expressed support of Truebright Science Leadership Academy Charter School:

- Ashley McAiley, 9<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher
- Nicole Thuestad, Math teacher. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Ms. Thuestad stated that she did not testify during the Truebright non-renewal hearings. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky's question about whether Ms. Thuestad offered to testify at the non-renewal hearing, she stated that she was not sure what her role was in that process and she regrets not taking a larger role.
- Kristen Clymer, English teacher. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Ms. Clymer stated that she did not know too much about the non-renewal hearing and how to get involved.
- Brian Leinhauser, attorney, urged the School Reform Commission to reconsider the District's recommendation to vote in favor of the non-renewal of Truebright's Charter. Mr. Leinhauser stated that after 10 days of hearings, the hearing officer rejected more than half of the 18 grounds for non-renewal. He stated that since the hearings, Truebright has received a report from the PDE indicating that its students have made 100% progress in 2012-2013 regarding their math proficiency under PVASS and 78% progress in reading. He stated that the hearing officer made a recommendation in a limited number of areas despite being presented with credible evidence of disparate treatment Truebright received at the hands of the Charter School Office. Mr. Leinhauser asked the SRC to table the resolution so that it can take time to explore the motivation behind treating Truebright differently than other schools with the same alleged deficiencies. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky's hypothetical that if there was another school equally as unsatisfactory as Truebright and the charter was renewed that that gives Truebright the right to be renewed, Mr. Leinhauser stated that if the School Reform Commission is going to evaluate schools, then a uniformed basis must be utilized and that is not happening. He stated that Truebright was outperforming the other schools in its area, whether they were charters or District schools.

Mama Gail stated that Mama Gail's CommUNITY education netWORK is developing a Solutions Council. She stated that prior to Dr. Ackerman's appointment there was a monthly Parent Roundtable at 440. She requested access; the use of space, cooperation, support, clear communication, information and transparency. She also requested that Dr. Hite, SRC Members, management and staff be available to hear concerns, issues and solutions in private and public forums.

Cecilia Thompson expressed concerns about the lack of counselors to assist with completing forms and applications. Karyn Lynch, Chief of Student Support, provided an overview of the high school application process. She stated that the intent is for every school to have a team to assist with the high school application and LeGare

process. Lori Shorr, City Education Chief, stated that individuals will have qualified staff at city libraries on Saturdays to assist with college applications. The High School Fair is scheduled for November 16, 2013.

Ruth Garcia, PSEA Representative for Intermediate Unit 26, stated that she represents all counselors in the Intermediate Unit. She stated that she is an itinerant counselor at eight schools; 4 high schools, 2 K-8 and 2 K-5. Ms. Garcia stated that it has been difficult to properly serve students and families. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Dr. Hite stated that though he does not have the numbers yet, but he expects the counselor caseloads to drop significantly. Commissioner Dworetzky requested the information be provided to the SRC as soon as it becomes available.

Danita Bates expressed concerns about school safety and transition plans.

Orlando Acosta stated that parent engagement is important.

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

**I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION**

**SRC-1\***

**Authorization to Amend Resolution SRC-1 on December 8, 2010 Authorizing the School District to Enter into an Amendment and Extension to an Existing Letter of Credit and Reimbursement Agreement and to Replace the Existing Letter of Credit with Respect to the Series G Bonds**

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

*\*A complete copy of resolution SRC-1 is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

**SRC-2\***

**Authorization to Enter into an Amendment and Extension to an Existing Letter of Credit and Reimbursement Agreement**

*\*A complete copy of resolution SRC-2 is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**SRC-3**

*Withdrawn by Staff*

**SRC-4**

*Withdrawn by Staff*

**SRC-5**

**Proposed Charter School Nonrenewal – Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law (“CSL”), 24 Pa. C.S.A § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia (“School District”) granted a charter to Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School (“Charter School”), which was then known as Philadelphia Community Academy, to operate a charter school from September 1, 1997 until August 31, 2001; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the procedures in the CSL, the School Reform Commission (“SRC”) renewed the Charter School’s Charter for two additional five-year terms from September 1, 2001 through August 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, in December 2010, the Charter School applied for renewal of the Charter for an additional five-year term; and

WHEREAS, in February 2011, the School District recommended to the SRC that the Charter School’s Charter be renewed, but “with specific academic performance targets within the charter term which, if not met, will be sufficient grounds for revocation”; and

WHEREAS, the SRC voted twice in 2011 on proposed resolutions regarding the Charter School’s application for renewal, but both votes failed for lack of a majority (there were two votes in favor, one opposed and one abstention; with the fifth seat vacant); and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, the School District recommended to the SRC that the Charter School’s Charter not be renewed, after considering additional information received after the previous recommendation in February 2011; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Section 1729-A of the CSL, the SRC issued a Resolution on January 17, 2013 setting forth the reasons why the Charter School's Charter should not be renewed or should be revoked, scheduling a hearing in this matter and authorizing the appointment of a hearing officer to conduct the hearing; and

WHEREAS, a Hearing Officer was appointed on February 6, 2013 and held a public hearing on April 29, May 6, May 15, May 22, May 30, May 31 and June 4, 2013, during which testimony and exhibits were received regarding the recommended nonrenewal/revocation; and

WHEREAS, a 30-day public comment period was provided following the conclusion of the hearing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the CSL, the Charter School has been permitted to remain in operation beyond August 31, 2011, pending the outcome of these proceedings; and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2013, the Hearing Officer certified the record of the hearings and submitted a report to the SRC, including findings of fact, conclusions of law and a proposed adjudication recommending nonrenewal or revocation of the Charter; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed the Charter School's request for renewal, all of the testimony and exhibits admitted during the hearing, the Hearing Officer's report, including its finding of fact and conclusions of law, the submissions by all interested counsel, and all public comments received; and

WHEREAS, this matter is now ripe for decision; now be it

RESOLVED, that that the Charter School's request for renewal of its Charter is DENIED, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that that the SRC adopts the attached Hearing Officer's Report, including its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, as the reasons for this decision, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, in the alternative, that that if the Charter School's application for renewal is ultimately deemed to have been granted by either or both of the SRC's votes in 2011, the Charter School's Charter is hereby REVOKED for the same reasons stated above for nonrenewal of the Charter, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event the Charter School timely appeals this decision to the State Charter School Appeal Board ("Appeal Board"), pursuant to the requirement contained in Section 1729-A(f) of the CSL, the Charter shall remain in effect and the Charter School shall be permitted to remain open pending the conclusion of its appeal before the Appeal Board. In the event that the Charter School does not appeal this decision to the Appeal Board, the Charter School shall cease all operations pursuant to a dissolution plan and timetable established by the School District, under the direction of the Office of General Counsel. Said plan shall be presented to the SRC within sixty (60) days of the date of this Order.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### **SRC-6**

##### **Proposed Charter School Nonrenewal – Truebright Science Academy Charter School**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law ("CSL"), 24 Pa.C.S. §§ 17-1701-A *et seq.*, the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia ("School District") granted a charter to Truebright Science Academy Charter School (the "Charter School") to operate a charter school from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 83 of 2001, the Commonwealth amended Section 696 of the Public School Code, entitled "Distress in school districts of the first class" and, as so amended, Section 696(e)(1) states: "[a]ll powers and duties granted heretofore to the board of school directors of a school district of the first class under this act or any other law, including its authority to levy taxes and incur debt, shall be vested in the School Reform Commission . . ."; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 691 of the Public School Code, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Education declared the School District to be a distressed school district effective December 22, 2001, and pursuant to Section 696 of the Public School Code, a School Reform Commission ("SRC") was appointed; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2011, the Charter School applied for renewal of its Charter for an additional five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, sometime prior to April 19, 2012, the School District recommended to the SRC that the Charter School's Charter not be renewed; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Section 1729-A of the CSL, the SRC issued a Resolution on April 19, 2012, setting forth the reasons why the Charter School's Charter should not be renewed and scheduling a hearing in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the SRC held public hearings on July 10, 2012, August 20, 2012, August 28, 2012, September 13, 2012, September 28, 2012, October 25, 2012, November 19, 2012, April 4, 2013, April 26, 2013 and May 2, 2013, to hear testimony and evidence regarding the renewal decision; and

WHEREAS, a 30-day public comment period was held following the May 2, 2013 hearing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the CSL, the Charter School has been permitted to remain in operation beyond June 30, 2012, pending the outcome of these proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed the Charter School’s request for renewal, all of the testimony and evidence admitted during the hearings, and any public comment in this matter; now be it

RESOLVED, that the Charter School’s request for renewal of its Charter is DENIED, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication setting forth the reasons for its decision not to renew the Charter School’s Charter.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that statements made by Brian Leinhauser do not strike him as correct. He stated that even if he is right that the SRC has approved and renewed charters that were schools of comparable performance to Truebright that that means that we should compound that error. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that the SRC’s job is in each case to try to make the best call for the particular school and that if we made errors in the past shame on us, but that does not mean we are bound to make them in the future. In response to Commissioner Houston, Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, stated that if the School Reform Commission votes for non-renewal, the charter school will have the opportunity to file an appeal with the Charter Appeal Board in Harrisburg. He stated that the school would remain open during the appeal. Mr. Davis stated that in the past, it has been approximately a yearlong process. He confirmed there is a transitional period for students to identify an alternative school.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**SRC-7**

**Grant Agreement between the City of Philadelphia and The School District of Philadelphia**

WHEREAS, the Governor approved Act 71 of 2013 on July 18, 2013, (the “2013 Fiscal Code Amendments”), and

WHEREAS the Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth (“Revenue Department”) has been directed to distribute the sum of \$45,000,000 upon the occurrence of certain events including: (1) the City and the School District entering into a grant agreement pursuant to which the City shall distribute that sum to the School District; and (2) the Secretary of Education issuing a certification, as provided in Section 1722-H(9)(ii) of the 2013 Fiscal Code Amendments, that the School District has, in the judgment of the Secretary of Education, begun implementation of reforms that will provide for the School District’s fiscal stability, educational improvement and operation control, and

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2013 the Secretary of Education issued the certification required by Section 1722-H(9)(ii) of the 2013 Fiscal Code Amendments, now be it

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Chief Financial Officer, to accept with appreciation a grant from the City of Philadelphia or the Revenue Department for the amount of \$45,000,000, and to execute, deliver and perform a grant agreement and other documents to accept the grant.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Procurement**

**A-1**

**Various Funds: \$160,000 Approval for Blanket Purchase Agreement for School Nurse Supplies– Subject to Funding**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to blanket purchase agreements of supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services, for purchases costing \$25,000 or more, to purchase school nurse supplies from School Health Corporation, as shown on the attached Exhibit A, for an amount not to exceed \$160,000, subject to available funding.

**BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

<u>Bid:</u> COSTARS 019-019D	<u>Description:</u> School Nurse Supplies	<u>Total Amount:</u> \$160,000
<u>Awarded Vendor(s):</u>	School Health Corporation – (WBE) \$160,000 Hanover Park, IL	
<u>Term:</u>	10/17/13 to 10/31/14	

ABC Code Various

Requestor: Kimberly Caputo, Chief, Office of Specialized Services

Justification: This award via the PA CoStars program establishes a source for nurse and medical supplies including nurse and occupational and physical therapists' equipment, sports and physical education and athletics.

Over the past year approximately 550 orders were placed by the schools averaging \$228 each using the COSTARS contract for school nurse supplies. CoStars contracts reduce administrative costs and procurement cycle times thus improving delivery to the end user.

Items include audiometers, health room supplies for first aid and treatment, such as band aids, cotton balls and acetaminophen, to eye charts for vision testing and stadiometers to measure heights. The awarded vendor offers a 15% discount from catalog prices.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-2  
Various Funds: \$60,000 Approval for Blanket Purchase Agreement for Audiology Equipment – Subject to Funding**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to one time purchase of supplies and or a combination of supplies and service agreements for purchases costing \$25,000 or more, to purchase audiology equipment from Main Line Audiology, as shown on the attached Exhibit A, for an amount not to exceed \$60,000, subject to available funding.

**BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

Bid: A14-46357      Description: Audiology Equipment      Total Amount: \$60,000.00

Awarded Vendor(s): Main Line Audiology  
Narberth, PA

Term: One Time Purchase

ABC Code: 401M-M05-9CL0-2427

Requestor: J. Venti / Interim Director, Procurement Services

The following items are the 3 most expensive items on the bid.

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>EXTENSION</u>
Phonak Inspiro Transmitter	16	\$873.39	\$13,974.24
Phonak Nios Micro III	12	\$1,418.39	\$17,020.68
RedCat systems with RedMike(x2)	10	\$1,350.80	\$13,508.00

Justification: This award establishes a source for audiology equipment for hearing impaired students. The Phonak audio system adjusts the teacher's voice level and transmits the signal either directly to the hearing aids being worn by the students or to the speaker system installed in the classroom. The audio system installed in classrooms with hearing impaired students compensates for the acoustics and sound reverberation of a normal classroom setting.

The total number of bids received for this award was one (1).

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that this is another situation in which there is only one bidder. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, John Venti, Procurement Services, stated that this was a traditional competitive process. He confirmed that there were five companies, but only one company bid. He stated that one bid was received because of the nature of the equipment, which is specialized equipment for children with auditory disabilities. Mr. Venti stated that the equipment is along the lines of a sole source situation. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that it bothers him when there are one bid situations. He worries that the process is not open and accommodating or that it is packaged in a way that isn't feasible. Mr. Venti responded no to Commissioner Dworetzky's question of whether the District would have done the procurement differently if it was known in advance that there would be one bidder. He stated that he put out solicitations. Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, stated that there are many different methods to use when trying to solicit and procure products. She stated that consideration is given to the amount of the funding and the amount of the contract. She stated that for spending in the \$60,000 range and the specific nature of the equipment, it is justified to do a competitive bid. Ms. Burns

stated that the District wants to do better with respondents. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that this is an ongoing issue every month. He asked if the District considered that the bid terms contain a most favored nation provision. Ms. Burns stated that the District would consider that.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-3**

**Various Funds: \$1,100,000 Approval for RFP-297 Mainframe Computer Outsourcing Service – Subject to Funding**

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 Verizon Business, Inc., to provide an applications hosting for the School District's mainframe computing environment, as shown on the attached Exhibit A, for an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

**LEASES, RENTALS AND SERVICES**

Bid: RFP-297                      Description: Mainframe Computer Outsourcing Service                      Total Amount: \$1,100,000.

Awarded Vendor(s): Verizon Business, Inc., Philadelphia, PA - RFP297VEROYR1      FY14 SC 9HF 565296 \$550,000  
FY15 SC TBD                      \$550,000

Subcontractor: The Bartech Group, Inc. (MBE) - \$225,000  
Livonia, MI

Term: 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

ABC Code: 1100-056-9500-2844-3412

Requestor: R. Bateman, Executive Director of Technical Operations

Justification: This contract will continue to provide the School District with an applications hosting environment for supporting critical administrative information systems and services including financial, procurement, payroll, human resources and transportation applications. This contract engagement replaces the function of an on-site technology data center and associated staffing needed to support the District's legacy IBM mainframe computing environment. Verizon Business will host these applications in a secure Tier-4 approved data center with direct communications connectivity to the District's private network. Verizon Business will continue to own, maintain, manage, and monitor all required mainframe hardware and will be responsible for licensing the database and related tools for use by the District. Verizon Business will also be responsible for providing an off-site disaster recovery solution in the event of a failure at their primary mainframe hosting location.

An RFP evaluation process and review team including representatives from the Offices of Information Technology, Procurement Services, Small Business Development, Human Resources and Finance, concluded that a contract award to Verizon Business would result in a continued cost-effective, service enhanced, and secure support model, for this critical but educationally non-core technical function.

An extensive and comprehensive service level agreement will continue to define the parameters and performance levels under which Verizon Business will be required to operate the District's enterprise systems infrastructure. Additionally, an annual Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE-16) audit will be conducted and provided to the District by an independent auditing agency to ensure proper controls and processes are followed in the implementation of this contract.

The total number of proposals received for this award was one (1). Two vendors, CGI Group (Montreal, Canada) and Blue Hill Data Services (Pearl River, NY), declined to provide responses citing their inability to provide a cost-competitive proposal that aligned with the District's allocated budget for this service.

Current contract authorization from 01/01/2012 to 12/31/2013 (24 months) is \$2,200,000.

MBE/WBE vendors did not bid this contract.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-4**

**Capital Fund: \$168,840 Contract with Diversity Planning Group, Inc. – Monthly Certified Payroll and MWBE Compliance Reports for Federally Funded Capital Improvement Projects**

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 Diversity Planning Group, Inc. to provide monthly certified payroll and MWBE compliance reports for past, current and future federally funded Capital Improvement Projects for an amount not to exceed \$168,840.00, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through October 17, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**Human Resources**

**A-5 (Tabled – No Action Taken)**

**General/Categorical Funds: Approves Personnel, Terminations**

RESOLVED, That the following persons be appointed to the positions on the effective date respectively noted, 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 under the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter §12-401 (a), shall report to either the Superintendent or the Associate Superintendent of Schools and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that in the past he indicated that he would not vote in favor of a personnel resolution unless he received a Position Control Report. He stated that he did not get one this month. The explanation provided by staff was that it was due to leveling. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that it is an automated report and doesn't understand why he can't have the leveling report. Matthew Stanski, Chief Financial Officer, stated that every fall the District goes through a leveling process and a code correction process. He stated that the data would be flawed and didn't want to provide a report with flawed data. Commissioner Dworetzky stated that the report could have been provided with notes of the flaws. Dr. Hite offered to table resolution A-5.

**A-6**

**Operating Budget: \$14,000 Contract Amendment with TALX Employer Services, LLC – Unemployment Claims Services**

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 a contract, originally entered into with TALX Employer Services, LLC, pursuant to Resolution A-21, approved by the School Reform Commission on December, 20, 2012, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$14,000 from the \$39,000 approved in Resolution A-21, to an amount not to exceed \$53,000, to pay for administration and management of excess unemployment claims resulting from the layoffs in June 2013.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**Executive**

**A-7**

**Categorical/Grant Fund: \$100,000 Acceptance from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation – Next Generation Systems Planning Initiative/\$60,000 Contract with The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept, if awarded, a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, for the purpose of supporting a strategic planning process to develop a multi-year strategy for personalized learning, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through January 31, 2014; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, contingent upon receipt of this grant, to execute, deliver, and perform a contract with the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania for part-time faculty and interns from the Graduate School of Education Division of Academic Innovation to support the execution of the strategic planning process and development of required documents, for an amount not to exceed \$60,000, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through January 31, 2014.

Commissioner Pritchett noted that he would recusing himself from voting on resolution A-7 as it involves a contract with University of Pennsylvania where his wife is an employee.

In response to an earlier request for information from speaker, Lisa Haver, Paul Kiln, Deputy Superintendent stated that as a distressed School District, the School District does not have the ability to pay for "forward looking strategic endeavors". He stated that this particular grant is very competitive. It will allow the District to do a short, small piece of strategic work on thinking about how the District can do a better job going

forward on personalizing instruction, particularly in the high schools. He stated that the grant is for \$100,000, a majority of which is for a project manager. Grace Cannon, Executive Director, Office of New School Models, will be working with University of Pennsylvania to provide strategic management and support. Commissioner Dworetzky thanked staff for a copy of the grant application and award letter, which he found to be very helpful.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett - 1

#### **Capital Programs**

##### **A-8**

##### **Capital Fund: \$51,879 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 \$51,879.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

##### **A-9**

##### **Capital Fund: No Cost Contract Amendments for Professional Supplemental Structural Design 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 of the separate indefinite demand/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contracts to provide professional supplemental structural design services with Adcon Consultants, Inc. (MBE) (Contract No. 304/F11), CSA Central (MBE) (Contract No. 288/F11), Hunt Engineering (WBE) (Contract No. 203/F11), KCI Associates (Contract No. 289/F11), KS Engineers, P.C. (MBE) (Contract No. 249/F11) and Vitetta Group, Inc. (Contract No. 221/F11) pursuant to Resolution No. A-7, approved by the School Reform Commission on September 22, 2010, by extending the expiration date from their original scheduled expiration date of September 22, 2013 through September 21, 2014, at no additional cost.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that last month there was a resolution that had a “further resolved” clause that seemed to allow the payment of expenses that were no longer under any given contract, and in essence ratified the payment for services prior to SRC approval. Leigh Clark, Capital Programs, confirmed that that was the only time that practice has been used at the District, at least in recent times. She stated that this is the first ratification resolution since the SRC has changed its policy. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, stated that this was a competitive process when the firms were initially selected. She is asking for some time to develop an RFP which will be issued in January. The resolution maintains the 2010 pricing. Commissioner Dworetzky requested notification of the new award with the three bids and how they were chosen.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### **Facilities Management and Services**

##### **A-10**

##### **Operating Budget: \$200,000 Contract Amendment with Solid Waste Services, Inc., dba J. P. Mascaro & Sons – Waste Management Services**

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. 1094/F10, originally entered into with Solid Waste Services, Inc., dba J. P. Mascaro & Sons, pursuant to Resolution A-19 approved by the School Reform Commission on June 16, 2010, as amended pursuant to Resolution A-25 approved by the School Reform Commission on June 13, 2011, and as amended pursuant to Resolution A-11 approved by the School Reform Commission on June 19, 2013, by extending the term of the contract from its scheduled expiration date of October 31, 2013 through and to November 30, 2013, and by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$200,000 from the \$10,440,000 approved by Resolutions A-19, A-25, and A-11 (as referred to above), to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$10,640,000, to provide waste removal services.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-11**

**Operating Budget: \$13,269,210 Contract with Republic Services – Waste Management, Trash Removal and Recycling Services – 5 years**

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 Republic Services for waste management, trash removal and recycling services, for an amount not to exceed \$7,390,885, for the period commencing November 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016, with two one-year options to renew, for an amount not to exceed \$2,895,727, for the period commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, and for an amount not to exceed \$2,982,598, for the period commencing July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$13,269,210.

In response to Commissioner Pritchett, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, provided an explanation/overview of the procurement process. She stated that the resolution requests approval of a five-year contract to hire Republic to handle waste management and recycling for the School District. She stated that resolution A-10 is a request for a one-month extension of the current contract with Mascaro to allow a transition from the incumbent vendor to proposed new vendor. She stated that Republic is the second largest publicly traded waste management firm in the nation. Ms. Burns stated that the proposed contract has a three-year base and two year renewal. In response to Commissioner Houstoun, Ms. Burns stated that Republic is active in Philadelphia.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-12 (As Amended)**

**Operating Budget: \$200,000 Authorization to Retain Outside Real Estate Appraisal Firms**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to retain Valbridge Property Advisors, Ludwig Corporation, E.H. Lynn & Associates, Richard B. Owens Company, Inc and Philadelphia Suburban Realty Appraisal Group, certified real estate appraisal firms, to appraise and value designated surplus real property, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$200,000, including fees, costs and expenses, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through October 17, 2014.

Commissioner Dworetzky stated that \$400,000 is a lot of money for real estate appraisals, and questioned whether the amount can be reduced to \$175,000-\$200,000. Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer stated that the District intended to cap its spend at \$200,000. She expressed concerns about a potentially large appraisal process, with a lot of unknowns. Commissioner Dworetzky offered a motion to amend resolution A-12 for an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for 2013-2014.

The vote on the motion to amend resolution A-12 was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The vote on resolution A-12 as amended was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**A-13 (Failed)**

**Contract with Sotheby's Inc. and Samuel T. Freeman & Co. to Manage the Sale of Certain Art Pieces in the School District of Philadelphia's Collection**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby authorizes The School District of Philadelphia through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform contracts with Sotheby's, Inc. and Samuel T. Freeman & Co. to prepare for sale and to sale the School District's stored art collection via live auctions, with all expenses, including marketing, shipping, insurance, and commissions, to be paid out of the sales proceeds, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through the final disposition of the art work.

In response to Commissioner Pritchett, Erin Davis, Financial Services, provided an overview of the RFP process. She stated that an RFQ was issued in June with the assistance of Procurement and the Office of Enrichment. Responses were received from all four auction houses solicited. The Review Committee included two members from the School District and one from both the Barnes Foundation and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. She stated that the original RFQ requested the submission of proposals for either live auction and online auction to consider the entire collection of artwork throughout the School District. Ms. Davis stated that the resolution represents just the artwork that is in storage. It is for a live auction conducted at Sotheby's in New York City and Freedman locally. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Ms. Davis stated that the SRC hired Corporate Source to evaluate the entire collection of artwork Districtwide. She stated that there was some concern that there were some significant pieces of artwork that were of high value that were in jeopardy. She stated that her understanding was that Corporate Art Source made recommendations to the Vallas administration and SRC to remove those pieces that were considered in jeopardy. Ms. Davis stated that was 60 pieces of artwork that is currently in storage, and it is those that are proposed for sale. She stated that in 2004-2005, the School Reform Commission called for the Administration to convene an Art Advisory Council to review the artwork and develop a

plan to best incorporate the use of the artwork in an academic setting. Ms. Davis stated that the cost of creating the Council and curriculum was several \$100,000 initially, and approximately \$85,000 to hire a full-time staff person. She stated that Corporate Art Source placed a replacement value on the artwork of \$8 million for all 1,100 pieces. Ms. Davis stated that the value of the 60 pieces was not separated from the \$8 million. She stated that she does not believe that fair market value was considered. Ms. Davis stated that last year, Freedman estimated the value of the full collection at \$2 million. A conservative value of the 60 pieces is estimated at \$600,000-\$900,000. In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Ms. Davis stated that the Art Advisory Council did not recommend the sale of the artwork. She stated that the idea of sale of the artwork comes up when the District is under financial distress. In response to Commissioner Houstoun, Ms. Davis stated that there was a draft resolution that was never voted on. Ms. Davis responded affirmatively to Commissioner Dworetzky's assertion that the SRC is being asked to approve the sale of the 60 pieces of artwork currently in storage. Mr. Stanski stated that the proceeds would be considered general funds revenue. Ms. Davis stated that more than half of the 60 pieces of artwork are from Wilson Middle School. Commissioner Dworetzky offered a motion to amend resolution A-13. He stated that he does not think the District should sell the artwork. He requested that the Administration come up with a way that the art can be restored to the schools from which they came, assuming that they can work to have appropriate security. Ms. Davis stated that there was a resolution adopted by the SRC in 2007 which stated the School Reform Commission would return the artwork to the schools and other buildings of the School District subject to three guidelines; demonstrate adequate security, submit an art safety plan and upon submission of the art safety plan, an Art Safety Committee would be formed. No plans were submitted and no Art Safety Committee formed. Ms. Davis stated that a hand full of schools came back with an informal plan and those schools received their artwork back.

The vote on Commissioner Dworetzky's motion to amend resolution A-13 was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Dworetzky – 1

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

The motion to amend resolution A-13 failed.

The vote on resolution A-13 was as follows:

Yeas: 0

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

Resolution A-13 failed.

Commissioner Dworetzky requested that the District Leadership prepare a plan for a way that the District can maintain the artwork in a way better than in storage.

### ***Capital Programs***

#### **A-14**

**Authorization to Execute, Deliver and Perform a License Agreement and a Purchase of Assets Agreement with The Trust for Public Land for Playground and Stormwater Improvements at the William Dick School**  
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a License Agreement with The Trust for Public Land ("TPL") for a nominal amount, including the sharing of certain operating costs with the School District to enable TPL to make certain playground improvements ("Playground Improvements") and stormwater improvements ("Stormwater Improvements") valued at \$671,000 (collectively "Improvements") in the school yard of the William Dick Elementary School ("Premises"), for the period commencing November 18, 2013 through December 31, 2014; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the scope of the Improvements and the bonding and insurance requirements shall be subject to the approval of the School District's Office of Capital Programs, Department of Facilities and Operation, Office of General Counsel, and Office of Risk Management; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept funding from the Philadelphia Water Department on the amount of no less than \$321,000 ("PWD Funding") for the purchase of the Stormwater Improvements by the School District upon the termination of the License Agreement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a Purchase of Assets Agreement with TPL to purchase the Playground Improvements from TPL at the end of the License Agreement for a Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$350,000 and to purchase the Stormwater Improvements from TPL at the end of the License Agreement using the PWD Funding for a Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$321,000, pursuant to a Bill of Sale or other documents which will evidence the School District's ownership of the Improvements upon the termination of the License Agreement; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform an Access, Operations, Maintenance and Deed Restriction Agreement with the Philadelphia Water Department for a term of forty-five (45) years from completion of the Stormwater Improvements and such other documents necessary to further the intent of this Resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission in order to facilitate the intent of this Resolution, pursuant to Section 6-696(i)(3) of the Public School Code, hereby suspends the requirements of Section 7-751(a) of the Public School Code, pertaining to public bidding requirements when construction, reconstruction or improvements have been made by a School District upon any school building.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### ***Human Resources***

##### **A-15**

##### **Ratification of Acceptance of Donation from Philadelphia's Children First Fund - Librarians at Central High and Masterman High Schools**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a donation of up to \$210,000 from the Philadelphia's Children First Fund to cover the salary and benefits of two full-time librarians, one to serve at Masterman High School and one to serve at Central High School, for the period commencing October 14, 2013 through June 27, 2014.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that he was recusing from voting on resolution A-15 as he has children in one of the schools identified in the resolution.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett – 1

### **III. EDUCATION SERVICES**

#### ***Academic – Donations/Acceptances***

##### **B-1**

##### **Categorical/Grant Fund: \$216,000 Grant Acceptance from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the Philadelphia Schools Partnership – Teacher Effectiveness**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia through the Superintendent or his designee to accept with appreciation, if awarded, a grant of up to \$216,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the Philadelphia Schools Partnership, to cover the cost of one full-time coach to support the Compact's Teacher Effectiveness work in selected schools in The School District of Philadelphia, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

##### **B-2**

##### **Categorical/Grant Fund: \$140,000 Grant Acceptance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Career and Technical Education Supplemental Equipment Grant**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept a Pennsylvania Department of Education Career and Technical Education equipment grant, of up to \$140,000.00 to purchase state-of-the-art instructional equipment for Career and Technical Education Programs of Study, to prepare students to earn industry-recognized certifications and acquire career-readiness skills, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through August 31, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

##### **B-3**

##### **Donation: \$50,000 Acceptance from the Masterman Home and School Association – Extracurricular Activities**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to accept with appreciation a donation of \$50,000 from the Masterman Home and School Association for the purpose of funding extracurricular activities at the Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that he was recusing from voting on resolution A-15 as he has children in one of the schools identified in the resolution.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett – 1

**B-4**

**Donation: \$300,000 Acceptance from Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School parents – Staff Positions**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation a gift, if donated, not to exceed \$300,000 from the parents of the Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School, to restore positions and activities lost due to budget cuts, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

In response to Commissioner Dworetzky, Dennis Creedon, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Network 3, stated that the funds will be spent with the agreement of the parents in consultation with the Principal and the Assistant Superintendent. He stated that the funds are actually being used for personnel. Matthew Stanski, Chief Financial Officer, also stated that the Office of Grants Compliance will also be monitoring the use of the funds.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**B-5**

**Donation: \$25,000 Acceptance from the Stephen Decatur Home and School Association – Community Relations Liaison, Lexia**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or designee to accept with appreciation a generous donation of \$25,000.00 from the Stephen Decatur Home and School Association, for the purpose of purchasing a .2 Community Relations Liaison in the amount of \$14,120.00 to be paired with an already purchased .8 Community Relations Liaison partial position to make whole; for the purpose of purchasing Lexia, a research based on-line program for reading in the amount of \$6,850.00; and for the purpose of purchasing nonfiction guided reading materials for literacy in the amount of \$4,030.00, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**B-6**

**Donation: \$1,000,000 Acceptance of Specialized Vision Services from the Eagles Youth Partnership/Authorization of Memorandum of Understanding**

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 specialized vision services from the Eagles Youth Partnership valued at approximately \$1,000,000, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and be it

FURTHER 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 and any other appropriate documents with the Eagles Youth Partnership, to provide free vision screening, vision exams, to prescribe and dispense eye glasses, and to provide follow-up vision care and medical referrals to School District students, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014. The Memorandum of Understanding shall be in a form acceptable to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Risk Management.

Commissioner Dworetzky questioned whether the services represented under resolutions B-6 and B-7 should actually be considered as donations to the School District. Chris Marino, Specialized Services stated that the Eagles Charitable Trust is actually providing the services, but that Salus University/Pennsylvania College of Optometry may have some residual benefits.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**B-7**

**Donation: \$1,000,000 Acceptance of Specialized Vision Services from Salus University aka Pennsylvania College of Optometry/Authorization of Memorandum of Understanding**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept the donation of specialized vision services from Salus University a/k/a Pennsylvania College of Optometry, valued at approximately \$1,000,000, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and be it

FURTHER 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 and any other with Salus University a/k/a Pennsylvania College of Optometry to provide free vision screening, vision exams, to prescribe and dispense eye glasses, and to provide follow-up vision care and medical referrals to School region students, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014. The Memorandum of Understanding shall be in a form acceptable to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Risk Management.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**B-8**

**Donation: \$402,000 Acceptance of Services from Playworks/Acceptance of Donations and Gifts from Playworks, Kynett, Berwind, UPenn-Netter, Wharton Street Lofts, L.P., Drexel University and Home and School Associations – Socialized Recess Program**

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 services, valued at \$402,000, from Playworks to support more than half of the cost of the total cost of \$720,000 for the socialized recess programs at 12 elementary schools, including Bache-Martin, Greenfield, Henry, Jackson, Kearney, Lea, McCall, McMichael, Morris, Penrose, Powel, Sheppard for the period from October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014; and be it;

FURTHER 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 Playworks to pay one half of the cost to implement the socialized recess program at Morris Elementary School, for an amount not to exceed \$26,500.00, for the period commencing October 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gift of \$26,500 from the Kynett Foundation to pay for the socialized recess program at Penrose Elementary, and be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gift of \$26,500 from the Berwind Foundation to be remitted directly to Playworks to pay for the socialized recess program at Sheppard Elementary program, and be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gift of \$26,500 from the UPENN-Netter Center to be remitted directly to Playworks to pay for the socialized recess program at Lea Elementary, and be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gift of \$26,500 from Wharton Street Lofts, LP, to be remitted directly to Playworks to pay for the socialized recess program at Jackson Elementary, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gift of \$53,000 from Drexel University, to be remitted directly to Playworks to pay for the socialized recess programs at Powel Elementary and McMichael Elementary, and be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the gifts of \$26,500 each from the Home and School Associations at Bache-Martin, Greenfield, Henry, Kearny, and McCall Elementary Schools, for a total of \$132,500, to be remitted directly to Playworks to pay for the socialized recess programs at Bache-Martin, Greenfield, Henry, Kearny, and McCall Elementary Schools.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

**Academic – Contracts/Payments**

**B-9**

**Categorical/Grant Fund: \$272,579 Redistribution/Contract Amendments with Various Vendors – Preschool Programs**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, based upon confirmed receipt of a PA Pre-K Counts (PKC) Re-Competitive Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the amount of \$19,900,120, to execute, deliver, and perform amendments of contracts to be entered into with each of the following three (3) providers of comprehensive early childhood services during the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, pursuant to Resolution No. B-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 19, 2013 and Resolution No. B-13 approved by the School Reform Commission on August 22, 2013, by first rescinding \$271,225 worth of previously obtained authority, and then redistributing an amount not to exceed \$272,579, for a total increase of \$1,354 from the \$13,227,066 in contractual

obligations most recently established by Resolution B-13 of August 22, 2013, to a revised aggregate amount not to exceed \$13,228,420, in the specific individual amounts and for the reasons/circumstances indicated below:  
We Care Learning Center, contract to be decreased by the entire \$271,225 previously approved (i.e., "zeroed out") due to the voluntary withdrawal of this partner agency from our citywide PKC service network as a consequence of programmatic incompatibilities relative to its overall business model and organizational mission;

Asociacion de Puertorriquenos en Marcha (APM), contract increased by \$135,612 from the \$271,226 approved in above-referenced Resolution B-4, to an amount not to exceed \$406,838, in order to support the operation of 20 additional full-day preschool service slots (for a new total of 60 students); and

Your Child's World, contract increased by \$136,967 from the \$410,900 previously approved by Resolutions B-4 and B-13, to an amount not to exceed \$547,867, in order to support the operation of 20 additional full-day preschool service slots (for a new total of 80 students).

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### **B-10**

#### **Operating Budget: \$10,850 Second Contract Amendment with AARP Experience Corps – Tutoring and Mentoring**

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 the contract to be entered into with AARP Experience Corps, pursuant to Resolution No. B-14, approved by the School Reform Commission on August 22, 2013, and further amended pursuant to Resolution B-10, approved by the School Reform Commission on September 23, 2013, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$10,850 from \$140,350 approved by Resolutions B-14 and B-10, to an amount not to exceed \$151,200 to provide school-based tutoring and mentoring services for children in Kindergarten to third grade for the period commencing September 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The meeting was recessed at 8:32 p.m. to move to the Intermediate Unit business meeting and on motion adjourned at 8:33 p.m., following the conclusion of the Intermediate Unit meeting.

#### FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

- Commissioner Dworetzky requested information on counselor assignments and caseloads.
- (A-9) Commissioner Dworetzky requested notification of the new award with the three bids and how they were chosen.
- (A-13) Commissioner Dworetzky requested that the Administration develop a plan for the District artwork-better than storage.

Wendell E. Pritchett, Ph.D.  
Member, School Reform Commission

William E. Hite, Jr.  
Superintendent

**PHILADELPHIA INTERMEDIATE UNIT #26  
MEETING OF THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION  
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

**OCTOBER 17, 2013**

A meeting of the School Reform Commission sitting as the Board of the Intermediate Unit was held on October 17, 2013 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 8:32 p.m. by Dr. Pritchett.

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

**Members absent:** Mr. Ramos – 1

The following resolution was presented for formal action by the School Reform Commission:

**IU-1**

**IDEA: \$172,664 Contract with University of Pennsylvania – Philly AIMS Coordinated Training for Teachers of Students with Autism**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission acting in its capacity as Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Intermediate Unit, authorizes Intermediate Unit #26, through the Acting Executive Director or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, to provide ongoing professional development and consultation on the implementation of Applied Behavioral Analysis teaching methods and practices and on the Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research (“STAR”) curriculum for teachers and support staff of students with autism in grades kindergarten through grade five, for an amount not to exceed \$172,664.00 for the period commencing November 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Abstention: Dr. Pritchett – 1

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Wendell E. Pritchett, Member  
School Reform Commission

William E. Hite, Jr.  
Superintendent