

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

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

A special meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on February 16, 2016 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 4:05 p.m. by Acting Chair Jimenez. Commissioner Jimenez stated that Chair Neff is on leave but will be joining the meeting by phone this afternoon. According to Resolution SRC-5 approved on January 21, during her leave, Commissioner Jimenez stated that she is serving as Acting Chair

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session on February 3, 2016 to discuss Charter Applications, February 10, 2016 to discuss Charter Applications and labor relations, and prior to today's special public meeting to discuss Charter Applications. Mr. Davis also announced that notice of today's special meeting was advertised in the *Philadelphia Daily News* on February 8, 2016, and posted on the School District's website.

Members present: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff (*via telephone conference call*) – 5

Members Absent: 0

Acting Chair Jimenez stated that this is a special meeting of the School Reform Commission. At this meeting, the SRC presides as a quasi-judicial body organized to grant or deny charter applications. In accordance, there is a proposal before the body for a modified speakers' policy.

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, described the modified speaker's policy. He proposed to modify the speaker's policy under SRC Policy No. 6. He stated that we do so because the SRC held public hearings, recorded 9 hours of public testimony, and received more than 1,400 written comments from the public. He stated that this afternoon we will first hear from one representative for each of our new charter school applications. Following this we will hear from no more than 24 speakers on general topics. These speakers were registered in advance of this afternoon's action meeting. Registration for today's meeting was closed at 4:30pm on Friday, February 12th. He stated that every speaker will have 3 minutes to share their testimony.

A motion was presented to approve the revised speaker policy.

The vote to adopt the revised speaker's policy was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff – 5

Nays: 0

DawnLynne Kacer, Executive Director, Charter Schools Office, provided a brief overview of the Charter School application process, which included an overview of the PA Charter School Law requirements. She stated that 14 applications from 13 operators were received by November 15, 2015. The Charter Schools Office utilized regional and national expert evaluators in addition to utilizing the expertise of internal District staff. Initial public hearings were held in December 2015 and second public hearings were held in January 2016. Ms. Kacer stated that written public comment was accepted through January 25, 2016, with more than 1,400 letters and emails received.

Evelyn Sample-Oates provided a brief overview of the meeting.

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

The following individuals presented statements in support of the noted charter application:

- Heather Jones (for Bisma Whack) – Belmont Charter High School
- Lawanda Morris – Chestnut Hill Innovation Charter School
- Reverend Luis Cortez – Esperanza Elementary Charter School
- Ellen Somekawa – FACTS-2 Charter School
- David Poindexter – Global Leadership Academy International Charter High School
- Marc Mannella – KIPP-North Philadelphia and KIPP-Parkside Charter Schools
- Toya Algarin – KIPP
- Carrie Kries – Montessori Charter School of Philadelphia
- Shannon Harley – ASPIRA Schools
- Laurada Byers – Russel Byers Academy Charter School
- The Honorable Jannie Blackwell – Southwest Leadership Charter School for Girls

The following individuals presented general comments:

- State Representative Vincent Hughes stated that there is no end in sight for new funding for education from Harrisburg. He stated that the SRC should be thoughtful and mindful in its decision making and understanding of the financial implications. Representative Hughes asked

that the SRC postpone its vote on the pending charter school applications until a final 2015-2016 state budget is completed.

Commissioner Green thanked Representative Hughes as one of the greatest advocates for public education. He stated that the Charter Law does not allow for the consideration of finances as the SRC considers charter applications.

- Maria Jimenez expressed support of FACTS-2 Charter School.
- Jennifer Butler, freshman at Central High School and graduate of FACTS Charter School, expressed support of FACTS-2 Charter School.
- Tomika Anglin expressed opposition to Global Leadership Academy International Charter High School.
- Lisa Haver, Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools and retired teacher, stated that the SRC is mandated to accept, not approve new charter school applications. She stated that resources are being shifted from regular public schools. Ms. Haver stated that the only responsible action by the SRC today is to reject all charter applications and do everything it can to put resources into existing public schools.
- Diane Payne presented a question on the financial harm caused to the District when charters are approved.
- Hortencia Vasquez expressed support of Esperanza Elementary Charter School.
- Darryl Blodgett expressed support of KIPP North Philadelphia Charter School
- Lucinda Hudson, President of Parkside Association of Philadelphia, expressed support of KIPP-Parkside Charter School.
- Amy Ruck Kagan, Executive Director of Philadelphia Charters for Excellence, provided clarification of basic misconceptions about charter schools. She stated that charter schools are public schools that are by law, tuition free and open to any student. She stated that they are non-sectarian and do not discriminate and are publicly funded based on enrollment like a traditional district public school.
- Sarajane Blaire expressed opposition to Chestnut Hill Innovation Charter School.
- Rafael Rodriquez, student, expressed support of Esperanza Elementary Charter School.
- Brandon Fuller, former student, expressed support of Esperanza Elementary Charter School.
- Jen Lai expressed supports of FACTS-2 Charter School.
- Annie Huynh expressed support of FACTS-2 Charter School.
- David Rossi expressed support of Esperanza Elementary Charter School.
- Sandy Houston, volunteer at Houston Elementary School, expressed opposition to Chesthill Innovation Charter School.
- Clara Daniels stated that she is not against charter schools, but is in support of equal education opportunities. She stated that her grandson attends 1st grade at Gompers Elementary School and does not have a teacher. Dr. Hite directed staff to meet with Ms. Daniels.
- Haviva Goldman, parent at J. S. Jenks Elementary School, expressed opposition to Chestnut Hill Innovation Charter School.

The meeting was recessed at 5:49 p.m. and reconvened at 5:56 p.m. Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that the recess was necessary to allow the Commissioners to meet in Executive Session to discuss a breaking litigation matter.

Ms. Kacer provided an overview of the 2015-2016 Charter Application Cycle which included an overview of charter terminology: Charter Application; New Charter; and Charter Amendment.

Commissioner Jimenez provided comments on the charter application process. She stated that this application and review process is mandated by law and guided by strict legal code. Commissioner Jimenez also noted, this year the review process included: 2 rounds of public hearings amounting in 37 hours of public hearings, an additional 9 hours of open public testimony, more than 1,400 letters offering public comment, and 12 comprehensive evaluation reports – one for each applicant – reviewed by a team of internal and external evaluators. These reports are publically available on the Charter Schools Office’s website. Commissioner Jimenez also extended thanks to the families and community members who participated in the charter application process and added a special acknowledgement to the Charter Schools Office Executive Director, DawnLynne Kacer, Counsel, Liz Gutman, and Hearing Officer, Allison Petersen.

Commissioner Jimenez stated that each application will receive two votes from the School Reform Commission. The first vote to be taken is to approve or deny the application. The second vote to be taken is to adopt a corresponding adjudication or granting resolution.

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

Prior to the motion and vote on each resolution, DawnLynne Kacer, Executive Director, Charter Schools Office, provided a brief overview of each proposed Charter, which included: grade range; total enrollment; location; proposed opening year; targeted students; and academic program. *A copy of Ms. Kacer’s complete powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION

SRC-1

Proposed Charter Action – Belmont Charter High School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Belmont Charter High School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 12, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with Grades 9-12 starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 500 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 4

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 4

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

SRC-2

Proposed Charter Action – Chestnut Hill Innovation Charter School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Chestnut Hill Innovation Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 27, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2016-2017 school year with a maximum enrollment of 675 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

SRC-3

Proposed Charter Action – Esperanza Elementary Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2015, the applicant for Esperanza Elementary Charter School ("Esperanza Elementary") submitted an Application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 13, 2016; now be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and concluding document submitted by Esperanza Elementary and made during the public hearings by representatives

for Esperanza Elementary, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") hereby grants a Charter to " Esperanza Elementary Charter School" to operate a public charter school with K-Grade 5 for a three-year period commencing on July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2020, provided that Esperanza Elementary submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2016:

1. The executed lease or sublease or executed intent to lease or sublease related to Esperanza Elementary's use of the facilities at 3150 North Mascher Street, Philadelphia, PA, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
2. The contract between Esperanza Elementary and Nueva Esperanza, Esperanza Elementary's management company, that accurately reflects all of the duties, services, obligations and liabilities of each party to the other with respect to the operation of Esperanza Elementary or services to be provided to Esperanza Elementary, including specific provisions on management fees, which shall be approved by the respective governing boards of each entity, in a form and with provisions concerning fees and services that are acceptable and appropriate to the Charter Schools Office;
3. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students Citywide or in an applicable attendance zone, lottery preferences, requested or required enrollment documents, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years for K-Grade 5, Esperanza Elementary shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that Esperanza Elementary shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;
4. Bylaws adopted by the Esperanza Elementary Board of Trustees which provide: (i) that all meetings, including emergency and special meetings, of the Board and Board committees shall be held and publicly noticed in accordance with the Sunshine Act; (ii) that teleconference capabilities may be offered at Board meetings but not in lieu of a public meeting location; and (iii) that ex-officio members of the Board are not entitled to vote on Esperanza Elementary matters;
5. A list of the names and addresses of the board members of Esperanza Elementary which demonstrates that none of the board members of Esperanza Elementary serve on the board of Nueva Esperanza, the management company or on the board of Esperanza Academy Charter School;
6. A modified Year 1 budget for 2017-2018 with the enrollment of 138 students in K-Grade 5 and a modified Year 2 budget for 2018-2019 with the enrollment of 432 students in K-Grade 5 and include modified lease costs consistent with change in enrollment; and
7. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by Esperanza Elementary in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter for Esperanza Elementary shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. Esperanza Elementary shall be authorized to operate only as a K-Grade 5 charter school starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 138 students in that year, and a maximum enrollment of 432 students for the remainder of the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will Esperanza Elementary request payment from either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC by resolution approved at a public meeting;
2. Esperanza Elementary shall submit to the Charter Schools Office on or before December 31, 2016 evidence of alignment of all curricula for K-Grade 5 to Pennsylvania Core Standards;
3. Esperanza Elementary shall participate in the School District's charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of Esperanza Elementary's academic, financial, and organizational performance. Esperanza Elementary agrees to submit to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system; and
4. If Esperanza Elementary achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's School Progress Report during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that Esperanza Elementary meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Charter shall be issued to Esperanza Elementary upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of Esperanza Elementary to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by June 30, 2016, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC to re-vote on the Application within thirty (30) days after June 30, 2016, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is

later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued by the Chair of the SRC. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Charter granted herein will not take effect until the written Charter has been signed and delivered by the Chair of the SRC and the Chair of Esperanza Elementary's Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the alternative, in lieu of the grant of a new charter to Esperanza Elementary and all the conditions set forth in the Resolved paragraphs above, if the representatives for Esperanza Elementary in writing agree to withdraw the Application and the request for a new charter and agree to waive any and all of their rights (i) to appeal, (ii) to take other action with respect to the Application pursuant to 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i) or (iii) to commence any action directly or indirectly related to the Application in any court or administrative proceeding, the SRC hereby grants an Amendment to the Charter of Esperanza Academy Charter School ("EACS") based on the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and made during the public hearings by representatives for Esperanza Elementary, to add K-Grade 5 at EACS effective July 1, 2017 and to increase enrollment at EACS by 138 for K-Grade 5 in the 2017-2018 school year and to increase enrollment at EACS by an additional 294 in K-Grade 5 in the 2018-2019 school year, provided that EACS submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2016:

1. The executed lease or sublease or executed intent to lease or sublease related to EACS's use of the facilities at 3150 North Mascher Street, Philadelphia, PA, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
2. The contract between EACS and Nueva Esperanza, EACS's management company, that accurately reflects all of the duties, services, obligations and liabilities of each party to the other with respect to the operation of EACS or services to be provided to EACS, including specific provisions on management fees, which shall be approved by the respective governing boards of each entity, in a form and with provisions concerning fees and services that are acceptable and appropriate to the Charter Schools Office;
3. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students Citywide or in an applicable attendance zone, lottery preferences, requested or required enrollment documents, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years for K-Grade 12, EACS shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that EACS shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;
4. Bylaws adopted by EACS Board of Trustees which provide: (i) that all meetings, including emergency and special meetings, of the Board and Board committees shall be held and publicly noticed in accordance with the Sunshine Act; (ii) that teleconference capabilities may be offered at Board meetings but not in lieu of a public meeting location; and (iii) that ex-officio members of the Board are not entitled to vote on EACS matters;
5. A list of the names and addresses of the board members of EACS which demonstrates that none of the board members of EACS serve on the board of Nueva Esperanza, the management company;
6. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by EACS in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office;
7. Revised budget assumptions for EACS which no longer reflect shared services between EACS and Esperanza Elementary; and
8. A modified Year 1 budget for 2017-2018 with the enrollment of 138 students in K-Grade 5 and a modified Year 2 budget for 2018-2019 with the enrollment of 432 students in K-Grade 5 and include modified lease costs consistent with change in enrollment;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Amendment to the EACS Charter shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. EACS shall be authorized to operate as a K-Grade 12 charter school starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 138 students in K-Grade 5 and 1435 students in Grade 6-12 in the 2017-2018 school year, and a maximum enrollment of 432 students in K-Grade 5 and 1435 students in Grades 6-12 in the 2018-2019 school year 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 either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC by resolution approved at a public meeting;
2. If EACS's Charter is renewed by the SRC at the end of the term of its current Charter, EACS shall be authorized to operate a K-Grade 12 charter school with a maximum enrollment of 432 students in K-Grade 5 and 1435 students in Grades 6-12 in the 2019-2020 school year and during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms;
3. If EACS's Charter is renewed by the SRC at the end of the term of its current Charter and if EACS (i) achieves PSSA proficiency in Math, Science and English Language Arts in Grades 3-8 at or above two of the

following three averages: the School District average, the Charter School average or EACS's SPR Peer Group average for two consecutive school years and (ii) demonstrates growth for two consecutive years above the Pennsylvania State standard (AGI > -1.0), then EACS shall be authorized to operate with a maximum enrollment of 800 students in K-Grade 5 and 1435 students in Grades 6-12 commencing in the 2020-2021 school year and during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. If EACS's Charter is renewed at the end of the term as a result of an order or other directive by any entity or governmental body other than the SRC, then the enrollment and grade provisions set forth above commencing in the 2020-2021 school year and during the term of the Charter will not be triggered and will not be enforceable;

4. EACS shall submit to the Charter Schools Office on or before December 31, 2016 evidence of alignment of all curricula for K-Grade 5 to Pennsylvania Core Standards;

5. EACS shall participate in the School District's charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of EACS's academic, financial, and organizational performance. EACS agrees to submit to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system; and

6. If EACS achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's School Progress Report during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that EACS meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Amendment to Charter shall be issued upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of EACS to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by June 30, 2016, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC to re-vote on the Application within thirty (30) days after June 30, 2016, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued by the Chair of the SRC. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Amendment to Charter granted herein will not take effect until the written Amendment to Charter has been signed and delivered by the Chair of the SRC and the Chair of EACS's Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing herein shall authorize, imply, grant or otherwise indicate that the SRC is approving more than one charter reflecting K-Grade 5. The expectation of the SRC is that either: (1) the applicant will elect to have Esperanza Elementary receive a new charter reflective of K-Grade 5 under the conditions imposed herein; or (2) the applicant will elect to have EACS receive an Amendment to its charter to permit enrollment in K-Grade 5 under the conditions imposed herein.

The vote on the motion to approve the Charter with Conditions was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: Ms. Neff – 1

SRC-4

Proposed Charter Action – FACTS-2 Charter School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for FACTS-2 Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 847 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

SRC-5

Proposed Charter Action – Global Leadership Academy International Charter High School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Global Leadership Academy International Charter High School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 20, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with Grades 9-12 starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 600 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 3

Nays: Mr. Green, Ms. Simms – 2

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 3

Nays: Mr. Green, Ms. Simms – 2

SRC-6

Proposed Charter Action – KIPP North Philadelphia Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2015, the applicant for KIPP North Philadelphia Charter School ("KIPP North Philadelphia") submitted an Application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 20, 2016; now be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and concluding document submitted by KIPP North Philadelphia and made during the public hearings by representatives for KIPP North Philadelphia, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") hereby grants a Charter to "KIPP North Philadelphia Charter School" to operate a public charter school with K-Grade 12 for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2022, provided that KIPP North Philadelphia submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2016:

1. The executed lease or sublease or executed intent to lease or sublease related to KIPP North Philadelphia's use of the facilities at 2709 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
2. A facility and security plan that addresses how the operations of two charter schools will be separated within the 2709 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA facility and how appropriate security and safety measures will be put into place to address the mixture of grades and age levels within one facility;
3. The contract between KIPP North Philadelphia and KIPP Administrative Services Corporation, KIPP North Philadelphia's management company, that accurately reflects all of the duties, services, obligations and liabilities of each party to the other with respect to the operation of KIPP North Philadelphia or services to be provided to KIPP North Philadelphia, including specific provisions on management fees, which shall be approved by the respective governing boards of each entity, in a form and with provisions that are acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
4. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students Citywide or in an applicable attendance zone, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years, KIPP North Philadelphia shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that the Charter School shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;

5. Bylaws adopted by the KIPP North Philadelphia Board of Trustees at a public meeting which provide: (i) that all meetings, including emergency and special meetings, of the Board and Board committees shall be held and publicly noticed in accordance with the Sunshine Act; and (ii) that all meetings of the Board and Board committees shall be open to the public without a requirement that a quorum of the Board is anticipated;
6. A list of the names and addresses of the board members of KIPP North Philadelphia which demonstrates that none of the board members of KIPP North Philadelphia serve on the board of the management company;
7. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by KIPP North Philadelphia in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office;
8. Revised job descriptions that reflect appropriate certification for all persons employed as principals, assistant principals and/or vice principals in accordance with applicable law; and
9. A resolution duly approved by the Board of Trustees of KIPP North Philadelphia indicating that all teachers, including teachers of English Language Learners, will be employed directly by KIPP North Philadelphia, rather than being engaged as contractors;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. KIPP North Philadelphia shall be authorized to operate only in K-Grade 1 with 200 students during the 2017-2018 school year; in K-Grade 2 and Grade 5 with 390 students during the 2018-2019 school year; in K-Grade 3, and Grades 5-6 with 580 students during the 2019-2020 school year; in K-Grade 7 with 770 students during the 2020-2021 school year; and in grades K-Grade 8 with 860 students during the 2021-2022 school year;
2. If KIPP North Philadelphia submits to the Charter Schools Office evidence of alignment of curricular assessments to the Keystone exams on or before December 31, 2018 and can demonstrate that KIPP DuBois Charter School (i) achieved Keystone proficiency on Algebra I, Biology and Literature exams at or above two of the following three averages: the School District average, the Charter School average or KIPP DuBois Charter School's SPR Peer Group average, for two consecutive school years and (ii) demonstrated growth for two consecutive years above the Pennsylvania State standard (AGI >-1.0), then KIPP North Philadelphia shall be authorized to operate in K-Grade 3, Grades 5-6 and Grade 9 with 710 students in the 2019-2020 school year; in K-Grade 7 and Grades 9-10 with 1030 students in the 2020-2021 school year; and in K-Grade 11 with 1250 students in the 2021-2022 school year;
3. Under no circumstances will KIPP North Philadelphia request payment from either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC by resolution approved at a public meeting;
4. KIPP North Philadelphia shall grant an admissions preference to applicants residing in the 19121 and 19132 zip codes (the "Attendance Zone") so that fifty percent (50%) of the new students enrolling in any year during the Term of the Charter shall reside in the Attendance Zone. KIPP North Philadelphia first may fill open enrollment slots with students having sibling or founder preferences, as applicable. If enrollment slots are still available after admitting (i) students having sibling or founder preferences; and (ii) applicants residing in the Attendance Zone for 50% of new students enrolling in any year during the Term of the Charter, KIPP North Philadelphia shall fill the remaining slots on a random basis in accordance with Section 17-1723-A of the Charter School Law;
5. KIPP North Philadelphia shall not give an enrollment preference to alumni of KIPP schools. KIPP North Philadelphia shall limit the enrollment preference given to children of KIPP Philadelphia network staff and to children of current and past members of KIPP charter school boards of trustees to the lesser of thirteen (13) seats at KIPP North Philadelphia or two percent (2%) of the student enrollment at KIPP North Philadelphia;
6. KIPP North Philadelphia shall participate in the School District's charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of KIPP North Philadelphia's academic, financial, and organizational performance. KIPP North Philadelphia agrees to submit to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system; and
7. If KIPP North Philadelphia achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's School Progress Report during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that KIPP North Philadelphia meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Charter shall be issued upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of KIPP North Philadelphia to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by June 30, 2016, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC to re-vote on the Application within thirty (30) days after June 30, 2016, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued to the Board by the Chair

of the SRC. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Charter granted herein will not take effect until the written Charter has been signed and delivered by both the Chair of the SRC and the Chair of KIPP North Philadelphia's Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board.

The vote on the motion to approve the Charter with Conditions was as follows:

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

Nays: Ms. Neff – 1

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez – 1

SRC-7

Proposed Charter Action – KIPP Parkside Charter School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for KIPP Parkside Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 20, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 860 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Neff – 3

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Neff – 3

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez – 1

SRC-8

Proposed Charter Action – Montessori Charter School of Philadelphia

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Montessori Charter School of Philadelphia ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2016-2017 school year with a maximum enrollment of 492 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 4

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Neff – 4

Nays: Ms. Simms – 1

SRC-9

Proposed Charter Action – Ramon E. Betances Charter School

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Ramon E. Betances Charter School ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 27, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2016-2017 school year with a maximum enrollment of 675 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

SRC-10

Proposed Charter Action – Russell Byers Academy Charter School

WHEREAS, on or before November 15, 2015, the applicant for Russell Byers Academy Charter School ("Russell Byers Academy") submitted an Application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 11, 2016; now be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and concluding document submitted by Russell Byers Academy and made during the public hearings by representatives for Russell Byers Academy, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") hereby grants a Charter to "Russell Byers Academy Charter School" to operate a public charter school with grades 6-8 for a three-year period commencing on July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2020, provided that Russell Byers Academy submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2016:

1. The executed lease or sublease or executed intent to lease or sublease related to the Russell Byers Academy's use of the facilities at 1911 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA, in a form acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
2. A facility and security plan that addresses how the operations of two charter schools will be separated within the 1911 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA facility and how appropriate security and safety measures will be put into place to address the mixture of grades and age levels within one facility;
3. The contract between Russell Byers Academy and Russell Byers Charter School that accurately reflects all of the duties, services, obligations and liabilities of each party to the other with respect to the operation of Russell Byers Academy or services to be provided to Russell Byers Academy, including specific provisions on management fees, which shall be approved by the respective governing boards of each entity, in a form and with provisions that are acceptable to the Charter Schools Office;
4. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students Citywide or in an applicable attendance zone, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years for grades 6-8, Russell Byers Academy shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that Russell Byers Academy shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;

5. Bylaws adopted by the board and a list of the names and addresses of the board members of Russell Byers Academy which (i) demonstrate that none of the board members of Russell Byers Academy serve on the board of Russell Byers Charter School, (ii) demonstrate that the Russell Byers Academy board does not have a sole member, and (iii) demonstrate proper governance considerations for a public charter school that is also subject to the Sunshine Act and the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act;

6. A resolution duly approved by the Board of Trustees of Russell Byers Academy indicating that all teachers, including teachers of English Language Learners, will be employed directly by Russell Byers Academy, rather than as being engaged as contractors;

7. An English Language Instruction plan with assessments and service levels that are aligned to the six levels of proficiency as identified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for English Language Learners;

8. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by Russell Byers Academy in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office; and

9. A Charter for Russell Byers Charter School signed by the Chair of Russell Byers Charter School for the period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020 in a form satisfactory to the Charter Schools Office.

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter for Russell Byers Academy shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. Russell Byers Academy shall be authorized to operate only as a grade 6-8 charter school with a maximum enrollment of 214 students for the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will Russell Byers Academy request payment from either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC by resolution approved at a public meeting;

2. Russell Byers Academy shall grant an admissions preference to applicants residing in the Strawberry Mansion catchment area, Kensington catchment area or Olney catchment area (the "Attendance Zone") so that twenty-five percent (25%) of the new students enrolling in any year during the Term of the Charter shall reside in the Attendance Zone. Russell Byers Academy first may fill open enrollment slots with students having sibling or founder preferences, as applicable. If enrollment slots are still available after admitting (i) students having sibling or founder preferences; and (ii) applicants residing in the Attendance Zone for 25% of new students enrolling in any year during the Term of the Charter, Russell Byers Academy shall fill the remaining slots on a random basis in accordance with Section 17-1723-A of the Charter School Law;

3. Russell Byers Academy shall submit to the Charter Schools Office on or before December 31, 2016 evidence of the alignment of all curricula for grades 6-8 to the Pennsylvania Core Standards and evidence of a fully developed character curriculum for grades 7-8;

4. Russell Byers Academy shall participate in the School District's charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of Russell Byers Academy's academic, financial, and organizational performance. Russell Byers Academy agrees to submit to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system; and

5. If Russell Byers Academy achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's School Progress Report during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that Russell Byers Academy meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the representations made during the hearing process and in the Charter School Application by the representatives of Russell Byers Charter School, upon the enrollment of students in Russell Byers Academy, Russell Byers Charter School shall cease enrolling and educating students in grades 6-8 at the end of the 2016-2017 school year;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Charter shall be issued to Russell Byers Academy upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above and upon the ratification of the renewal of the Russell Byers Charter School Charter by the SRC. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of Russell Byers Academy to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by June 30, 2016, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC to re-vote on the Application within thirty (30) days after June 30, 2016, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued to the Board by the Chair of the SRC. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Charter granted herein will not take effect until the written Charter has been signed and delivered by both the Chair of the SRC and the Chair of the Russell Byers Academy Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the alternative, in lieu of the grant of a new charter to Russell Byers Academy and all the conditions set forth in the Resolved paragraphs above, if the representatives for Russell Byers Academy in writing agree to withdraw the Application and the request for a new charter and agree to waive any and all of their rights (i) to appeal, (ii) to take other action with respect to the Application pursuant to 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i) or (iii) to commence any action directly or indirectly related to the Application in any court or administrative proceeding, the SRC hereby grants an Amendment to the Charter of Russell Byers Charter School ("RBCS") which shall be effective upon the ratification of the renewal of the RBCS Charter by the SRC, based on the representations, statements and materials contained in the Application and made during the public hearings by representatives for Russell Byers Academy, to increase enrollment at RBCS to 592 students in K-8 in the 2017-2018 school year and to 699 students in K-8 in the 2018-2019 school year and for the remainder of the Term under the renewed RBCS Charter, provided that RBCS submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than June 30, 2016:

1. A Charter for RBCS signed by the Chair of RBCS for the period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020 in a form satisfactory to the Charter Schools Office.
2. An Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the Public School Code and Charter School Law and which includes provisions on application deadlines, recruitment communications, including details on methods to be used to recruit students Citywide or in an applicable attendance zone, lottery dates, and results, in a form that is acceptable to the Charter Schools Office. The Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year or between school years for K-8, RBCS shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for particular grades or new applicants if there are no applicants for that grade on the waiting list. The Admissions Policy and Process also shall provide that RBCS shall provide a copy of its current waiting list at any time during the Term of the Charter within ten (10) business days after requested by the Charter Schools Office;
3. An English Language Instruction plan with assessments and service levels that are aligned to the six levels of proficiency as identified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for English Language Learners;
4. A modified budget for the 2017-2018 school year with the enrollment of 107 students in grade 7 as well as revised budget assumptions for RBCS which would not require shared services or a new 403(b) retirement plan; and
5. A certificate of insurance evidencing that insurance coverage has been obtained by RBCS in the amounts and categories as deemed acceptable by the Charter Schools Office;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Amendment to the RBCS Charter shall contain the following terms and conditions:

1. RBCS shall be authorized to operate as a K-8 charter school with a maximum enrollment of 592 students in the 2017-2018 school year, and a maximum enrollment of 699 students in the 2018-2019 school year and for the remainder of 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 either the School District or the Pennsylvania Department of Education for more students than set forth herein or enroll students in different grades, without authorization by the SRC by resolution approved at a public meeting;
2. RBCS shall grant an admissions preference to applicants for grades 6-8 residing in the Strawberry Mansion catchment area, Kensington catchment area or Olney catchment area (the "Attendance Zone") so that twenty-five percent (25%) of the new students enrolling in grades 6-8 in any year during the Term of the Charter shall reside in the Attendance Zone. RBCS for grades 6-8 first may fill open enrollment slots with students having sibling or founder preferences, as applicable. If enrollment slots are still available in grades 6-8 after admitting (i) students having sibling or founder preferences; and (ii) applicants residing in the Attendance Zone for 25% of new students enrolling in any year during the Term of the Charter, RBCS shall fill the remaining slots on a random basis in accordance with Section 17-1723-A of the Charter School Law;
3. RBCS shall submit to the Charter Schools Office on or before December 31, 2016 evidence of the alignment of all curricula for grades 6-8 to the Pennsylvania Core Standards and evidence of a fully developed character curriculum for grades 7-8;
4. RBCS shall participate in the School District's charter school performance framework and monitoring system as set forth in the School District charter school policies and procedures and any amendments thereto. The charter school performance framework will include annual evaluations of RBCS's academic, financial, and organizational performance. RBCS agrees to submit to the Charter Schools Office all student level academic information and any school-level data required for assessment of academic and organizational performance as part of the charter school performance framework and monitoring system; and
5. If RBCS achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's School Progress Report during any year of the term of the Charter, the Charter Schools Office may require that RBCS meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Amendment to Charter shall be issued in conjunction with the ratification of the renewal of the RBCS Charter by the SRC and upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above. The SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of RBCS to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by June 30, 2016, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chief of Staff, shall void this Resolution. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued by the Chair of the SRC. Notwithstanding these provisions, the Amendment to Charter granted herein will not take effect until the SRC has ratified the renewal of the RBCS Charter and the written Charter and written Amendment to Charter have been signed and delivered by both the Chair of the SRC and the Chair of RBCS's Board of Trustees, or another duly designated member of the Board;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing herein shall authorize, imply, grant or otherwise indicate that the SRC is approving more than one charter reflecting grades 6-8. The expectation of the SRC is that either: (1) the applicant will elect to have Russell Byers Academy receive a new charter reflective of grades 6-8 under the conditions imposed herein with RBCS's operations changing to a K-5 structure; or (2) the applicant will elect to have RBCS receive an Amendment to its charter to increase the enrollment authorized in K-8 under the conditions imposed herein.

The vote on the motion to approve the Charter with Conditions was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: Ms. Neff – 1

SRC-11

Proposed Charter Action – Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School for Girls

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School for Girls ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 11, 2015 and January 12, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 8 starting in the 2017-2018 school year with a maximum enrollment of 448 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

SRC-12

Proposed Charter Action – The Pavilion Charter School for Exceptional Students

WHEREAS, on or about November 15, 2015, the applicant for The Pavilion Charter School for Exceptional Students ("Applicant") submitted an application ("Application") to the Charter Schools Office of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") to start a charter school, and public hearings were held on the Application on December 7, 2015 and January 13, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Applicant is seeking a charter from the School Reform Commission ("SRC") to operate as a school with K-Grade 5 starting in the 2016-2017 school year with a maximum enrollment of 500 students in the final year of the charter; so be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the charter school application and concluding document submitted by Applicant and made during the public hearings by representatives for Applicant, a Charter is hereby DENIED; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC adopts the attached Adjudication as the reasons for its decision; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant may appeal or take other action with respect to this decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 P.S. § 17-1717-A(f)-(i).

The vote on the motion to deny the Charter was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

The vote on the motion to approve the Adjudication was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Ms. Neff – 5

Nays: 0

II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

None Submitted

III. EDUCATION SERVICES

None Submitted

Acting Chair Jimenez announced that the School Reform Commission would be holding its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Farah Jimenez, Acting Chair
School Reform Commission

William R. Hite, Jr.
Superintendent