

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

FEBRUARY 20, 2014

A meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on February 20, 2014 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 5:38 p.m. by Chairman William J. Green. With this being his first meeting, Chairman Green acknowledged that the work will be extremely challenging and stated that he looks forward to working with his fellow Commissioners and District Leadership. Chairman Green also thanked former Commissioner Joseph Dworetzky and Chairman Pedro Ramos for their years of dedicated service.

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

Members absent: Ms. Jimenez - 1

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that prior to today's public meeting, the School Reform Commission met in Executive Sessions February 18, 2014 to discuss personnel matters, quasi judicial proceedings, litigation, and labor relations, and today to discuss labor relations, purchase of real property, and litigation.

William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent, provided opening remarks. Dr. Hite stated that the School District released the Action Plan v2.0 early in the week which deals with excellence in implementing evidence-based strategies and actions. He stated that the Action Plan continues to be a living document that allows all of us to work together on shaping the District into a system of excellent schools. Dr. Hite also stated that the District released the financial supplement to the Action Plan which details the sustainable investments required to begin the work of making all schools great. Dr. Hite also stated that the School Reform Commission will be voting on changing the name of J. E. Hill-Freedman School to Hill-Freedman World Academy. He extended appreciation to Anthony Majewski, Principal, for the work that he and his staff are doing to enrich young minds and prepare them for the future. In acknowledging African American History Month, Dr. Hite thanked educators, schools, families and community partners for celebrating the achievements of African Americans all month. He noted that African American history is American history to be studied and celebrated all year long.

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

The Office Depot Seniors of the Month were awarded to Octavias Barnes, Murrell Dobbins High School, and Christopher Logan, Lankenau High School. Dr. Hite introduced a video presentation which highlighted both recipients.

The Teacher of the Month was presented to Max Feldman, Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush.

Dr. Hite stated that there will be two staff presentations: System of Great Schools Initiative and a Financial Update. He provided an overview of the four goals and six strategies of the Action Plan. The goals of the Plan are: 100% of students will graduate ready for college and career; 100% of 8 year olds will read on grade level; 100% of schools will have great principals and teachers; and the School District will have 100% of the funding needed for great schools, and zero deficit. The strategies of the Plan are: improve student learning; develop a system of excellent schools; identify and develop exceptional, committed people; become a parent and family-centered organization; become an innovative and accountable organization; and achieve and sustain financial balance. Dr. Hite expanded on each of the six strategies. *A complete copy of the powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

Matthew Stanski, Chief Financial Officer, provided a financial update. He stated that since 2011 to the current year, the School District has lost \$300 million in revenue, in all categories, City of Philadelphia, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and federal funds. He stated that from fiscal year 2011 to fiscal year 2014, the percentage of the District budget that was used for District schools declined from 63% to 54%. He also stated that the budget for Central Administration for the same period was reduced from 4% to 2%. Mr. Stanski shared a scenario where a school had an increase in enrollment from 2011 to 2014, yet experienced a decline in staffing support and funding. He also stated that since the School District budget was adopted in May 2013, the District received an additional \$112 million in additional revenues which enabled the District to restore some services to schools. He stated that the District is projected to close fiscal year 2014 with a shortfall of \$28.7 million. Gap closure mechanisms have reduced the current projected year-end shortfall to \$14.2 million. Mr. Stanski stated that initial corrective actions include a \$3.5 million reduction in Central Office budgets, \$3.3 million in charges moved from operating to grant funds, \$2.1 in debt service savings, \$2.1 million in additional Medicaid payments from the Federal government, a hiring freeze in Central Office positions resulting in a \$1.7 million savings, and a higher than anticipated collection of delinquent taxes. He stated that the School District will closely monitor real estate taxes, parking authority revenue, building sales revenue, full debt service reimbursement, charter enrollment/payments, and utilities/snow removal costs. Mr. Stanski stated that in order to maintain the current level of services for fiscal year 2015, the School District would need an additional \$80 million in revenues. In order to begin the process of transforming schools as stated by Dr. Hite, the School District would be requesting a cumulative amount of \$320 million. Mr. Stanski provided an overview of how the requested additional funding would be used by strategy. Finally, Mr. Stanski shared the fiscal year 2015 budget process timeline. *A complete copy of the powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

Chairman Green thanked State Senator Shirley Kitchen for fighting for education funding in Harrisburg.

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

Phillip Aiken, parent, questioned how he perceives the School District as a system working from the top down instead of the bottom up. He cited inconsistent rates of pay, administrative staff increases, teacher pay cuts and principal raises.

Meighan Dorr, community member, shared information on the First Annual Cultural Market and Health Expo in March at Benjamin Franklin High School.

Orlando Acosta, parent, expressed concerns about transportation. He questioned the School District's efforts in community engagement.

Lisa Haver, community member, expressed a need for an elected school board. She questioned the process of the selection of Chairman Green. She expressed concerns about the Action Plan and worker protections.

Rich Migliore, Democracy in Education, questioned whether we are citizens in a democracy or customers of a business.

Diane Payne posed questions to Chairman Green about whether he had read a book by Diane Ravitch entitled Reign of Error and what evidence and research he used to base his position of closing public schools and providing alternative private settings as a solution to the public education problems. She also commented on Dr. Hite's Action Plan 2.0. Chairman Green offered to read Reign of Error and suggested that Ms. Payne read I Got Schooled by M. Night Shyamalan and they later have a discussion about the books.

Alison McDowell, parent of Masterman student, noted that it is testing season, questioned whether testing is undermining true education.

Stephen George presented information on his program "Life Calisthenics".

Karel Kilimnik, retired teacher and member of the Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools, stated that during the SPP meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, she questioned the lack of transparency in decision making in the School District. She questioned the role and the workings of the Philadelphia Schools Partnership.

Barbara McDowell Dowdall, member of the Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools, discussed the value of professionally staffed school libraries, and expressed her hope that well-resourced libraries staffed with professional school librarians will be restored in every school.

Mama Gail expressed disappointment in an apparent lack of recognition of Black History Month. She stated that the ancestors are unhappy and that the District should prepare for the storm that is coming. Mama Gail questioned the costs associated with lease renewal resolutions.

Christine Lobert, speaking on behalf of registered speaker Anissa Weinraub, stated that the School District has thousands of experts at its disposal – teachers.

Kia Hinton, member of Action United and P-CAPS, discussed P-CAPS five-point education plan. She stated that teachers are being let go, counselors are unavailable for the neediest students and families and school libraries are inadequate. Ms. Hinton stated that the Governor and SRC continue to shut out parents, students and community. She stated that there needs to be an equitable funding formula that considers the number of English language learners and special needs students, considers the capacity of local districts to pay for its education costs, and distributes state education dollars that ensure that cities like Philadelphia get the funding needed. She also stated that Act 46 needs to be repealed.

Dawn Hawkins, parent, expressed her displeasure with the School Reform Commission. Chairman Green stated that he is willing to meet with everyone.

Dawn Walton, member of Action United and P-CAPS, stated that with regard to funding, Governor Corbett has chosen corporations over education and stated that he is starving the city of resources.

Ken Derstine stated that Universal Enrollment takes away choice. He stated that schools are being destroyed by politics, profit, greed and lies.

Brian Johnson, parent, expressed his support of the sale of the Shaw Middle School building for Mastery Hardy Williams Charter School.

Rachel Atcheson, Philadelphia Director of The Humane League, promoted the implementation of Meatless Monday. She also shared a letter of support of Meatless Monday from student Maya Holliday.

Ron Whitehorne, Philadelphia Coalition Advocating for Public Schools, stated that he is out of patience with the idea that we can have great schools without investing resources in teachers, nurses, certified librarians, counselors and support staff. He stated that schools need to be run as genuine public partnerships in which parents, students, and educators are respected and empowered.

John Venti, citizen, commended the Ethics Task Force Report. Though the Report provided many recommendations, Mr. Venti stated that it failed to address the need for contract compliance audits. He stated that the District needs to ensure that the funds spent for goods and services provide a return on an investments by increasing productivity and efficiency.

Susie Choitz, President of the Hill-Freedman Home and School Association, expressed support of the IB program. She expressed concerns about the current location of the school being able to house grades 6 through 12. She stated that a prime location for the school would be the former Ada Lewis Middle School building.

Terrilyn McCormick questioned the timing of making meeting materials available to the public. She requested open and transparent discussions about the budget. Ms. McCormick requested the immediate release of the latest budget projections in a user friendly format, requested an SRC strategy meeting next month on the overall School District budget to gather community input on budget priorities, and discuss steps being taken to identify and secure additional funding sources at the state and city level.

David Hensel, teacher, questioned whether it was ethical to kill the step raises for continued education and whether it is ethical to threaten to take money from teachers.

Ruth Garcia, Pennsylvania School Counselors Association, discussed the importance of the role of the school counselor. She requested support of a Bill to mandate school counselors.

Terry Pittman, parent, recommended the use of the former Ada Lewis Middle School building instead of the Kinsey building to house Hill-Freedman World Academy, grades 6 through 12.

Toni Damon, principal, expressed thanks for the School District's plan to renovate the Murrell Dobbins High School building.

Cecelia Thompson, parent, offered suggestions for a smoother transition for the 2014 ESY summer programming.

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

I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION

SRC-1

Proposed Student Expulsion – J. C.

RESOLVED, that Student J.C. shall be *temporarily expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia, effective January 2, 2014, and last until the end of the 2013-2014 School Year, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student J.C. *shall not* be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place after the period of expulsion, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student J.C.'s permanent school record, and be it

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

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

SRC-2

Proposed Student Expulsion – W. W.

RESOLVED, that Student W.W. shall be *temporarily expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year, effective January 9, 2014, and be it

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

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

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

SRC-3

Amendment to Academic Calendar 2013-2014

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to amend the 2013-2014 Academic Calendar, originally authorized by Resolution SRC-7, approved by the School Reform Commission on March 21, 2013, and amended by Resolution SRC-20,

approved by the School Reform Commission on December 19, 2013, to change the Staff Only (Election Day) Professional Development Day to May 20, 2014, by utilizing April 15-17, 2014, and June 20, 2014, and the required days thereafter instead of the original approved action, as make up school days for pupil and staff due to inclement weather or emergency.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Capital Programs

A-1

Capital Fund: \$22,672 Authorization of Net Cost Change Orders

RESOLVED, 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 \$22,672.00.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-2

Capital Fund: \$85,000 Contract Amendment with CSA Central, Inc. for Professional Design Services – Murrell Dobbins High School

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver, and amend the contract with CSA Central, Inc. (CSA Group) (Contract No. 1088/F10) to provide professional design services for Murrell Dobbins High School Addition and Renovations Project, originally entered into pursuant to Resolution A-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on August 25, 2010, by adding additional re-design services to comply with current design requirements, and by extending the date of the original scheduled completion from about August 31, 2015 to about December 31, 2017, and by increasing the fee by an additional amount of \$85,000.00 from a total not to exceed amount of \$2,371,875.00 to a total not to exceed amended amount of \$2,456,875.00.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-3

Capital Fund: \$1,800,000 Contract with Reynolds Construction LLC – Professional Construction Management Services – Murrell Dobbins High 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 Contract with Reynolds Construction LLC to perform professional construction management services for the Murrell Dobbins Technical High School Gymnasium Addition and Renovation Project, for an amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.00, for the period commencing February 21, 2014 through project completion.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Facilities Management & Services

A-4

Operating Budget: \$6,500,000 Contract Amendment with GCA Services Corporation – Janitorial and Custodial Services at Comprehensive High Schools

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. 305A/F11 (663/F13), originally entered into with GCA Services Corp., pursuant to Resolution No. A-6, approved by the School Reform Commission on March 21, 2013, by exercising the option for the renewal, increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$6,500,000 from the \$44,441,714.00, to an amount not to exceed \$50,941,714.00, and by extending the ending date of the term from June 30, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

In response to Commissioner Houstoun’s question about the apparent ratification of resolutions A-5 and A-6, and the lease amounts, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, stated that the staff person responsible thought the leases expired at a later date. She stated that the District will now use a software program to track leases. With regard to lease amounts, Ms. Burns stated that due to public bonds, the District cannot make money on the use of buildings. She stated that the District has a list of standard costs. Ms. Burns confirmed Commissioner Houstoun’s assertion that if someone was willing to pay \$20.00 per square foot, the District is prohibited to accept the amount because of outstanding bonds.

A-5

Lease Renewal with Quality Community Health Care, Inc. at Jay Cooke Elementary School

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, of a one year renewal of the existing lease agreement with Quality Community Health Care Inc, for use as a federally- funded school-based community health center at Jay Cooke Elementary School, 1300 W. Loudon Street, Philadelphia, which lease was originally entered into pursuant to Resolution A-19, approved by the School Reform Commission on January 10, 2007, extended for one year pursuant to Resolution A-5, approved by The School Reform Commission on November 16, 2011, and extended for one year pursuant to Resolution A-5, approved by The School Reform Commission on February 21, 2013. The third renewal term shall commence on January 1, 2014 and continue through December 31, 2014. The rent will continue to be \$10,500 per year (2,100 square feet at a rental rate of \$5.00 per square foot) to be paid monthly. The School District will continue to be responsible for all utilities and snow & ice removal. Quality Community Health Care, Inc. will continue to be responsible for its custodial staff, minor maintenance & repairs, trash recycling pick-up, security, disposable wastes and a proportionate share of costs for the building engineer for overtime. The terms of the lease renewal must be acceptable to the School District’s Office of General Counsel and Office of Risk Management.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-6

Lease Renewal with Sayre Health Center, Inc. at William Sayre High School

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, or his designee, of a one- year renewal of the existing lease agreement with Sayre Health Center, Inc. for use as a community health center at William Sayre High School, 5800 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, which lease was originally entered into pursuant to Resolution No. A-7, approved by the School Reform Commission on October 18, 2006, extended for one year pursuant to Resolution No. A-7, approved by the School Reform Commission on October 5, 2012, and extended for an additional year pursuant to Resolution No. A-5, approved by the School Reform Commission on December 20, 2012. The third renewal term shall commence on October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. The rent for the third renewal term will continue to be \$19,650 per year (3,930 square feet at a rate of \$5.00 per square foot) to be paid monthly. The School District will continue to be responsible for all utilities and snow & ice removal. Sayre Health Center, Inc. will continue to be responsible for its custodial staff, minor maintenance & repairs, trash recycling pick-up, security, disposable wastes and a proportionate share of costs for the building engineer for overtime. The terms of the lease renewal must be acceptable to the School District’s Office of General Counsel and Office of Risk Management.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Procurement Services

A-7

Operating Budget: \$300,000 Purchase of Boiler Feed Equipment from Labe Sales, Inc.

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 Boiler Feed Equipment, such as tank (single), multiple pumps, control panels, valves, fittings etc. from Labe Sales Inc., as shown on attached Exhibit A, for an amount not to exceed \$300,000, for the period commencing February 21, 2014 through February 19, 2016, subject to available funding.

BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENT

<u>Bid:</u> A14-47698	<u>Description:</u> Boiler Feed Equipment	<u>Total Amount:</u> \$300,000.00
<u>Awarded Vendor(s):</u>	Labe Sales, Inc. (WBE) – A14-47698LAB Philadelphia, PA	FY14 \$ 60,000.00 FY 15 \$150,000.00 FY 16 \$ 90,000.00
<u>Term:</u>	2/20/14 to 2/19/16	

ABC Code: 1100-031-927-2623-6132

Requestor: J. Cardwell – Senior Vice President, Facilities and Operations

Justification: This award establishes a source for boiler feed equipment. The vendor is to supply Domestic/Hoffman equipment (one of three acceptable brands) at a 55% discount from manufacturers' list prices in effect at the time of PSD purchase order issuance. The previous contract award from 12/22/11 to 12/21/13 was \$400,000.

In addition to the prospective awardee, a bid was submitted by the following M/WBE vendor:

Blankin Equipment (WBE), Philadelphia, PA (40.5% discount).

The total number of bids received for this award was two (2).

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-8

Operating Budget: \$95,000 Purchase of Digital Telecommunication Services from Windstream Communications, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission and the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, execute, deliver and perform an amendment of contract number 675/F10, originally entered with Windstream Communications, Inc., pursuant to Resolution number A-1, approved by the School Reform Commission on December 16, 2009, as awarded pursuant to Resolution number A-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on February 21, 2003, by exercising a one (1) year extension of the contract, increasing the amount of the contract by \$95,000.00 from the \$850,000.00 approved by Resolution numbers A-1 and A-4, to an amount not to exceed \$945,000.00, and by extending the term of the contract from its scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2014 thru June 30, 2015.

LEASES, RENTALS AND SERVICES

Bid: A10-31635 Description: Digital Telecommunications Services Total Amount: \$95,000
EXTENSION 2

Awarded Vendor: Windstream Communications, Inc – A10-31635 \$95,000 - FY15
(formerly Cavalier Telephone, LLC)
Little Rock, AR

Term: 7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015

ABC Code: 1100-033-9HF0-2694-5321

Requestor: R. Westall - Deputy Chief Information Officer

Justification: This contract will facilitate monthly telecommunications carrier services for voice and teleconferencing connectivity for the District's administrative headquarters at 440 North Broad Street and two (2) ancillary administrative locations. Services will include digital trunking between the local exchange carrier and the District's administrative headquarters, as well as the transport of local and toll calling traffic.

To ensure complete diligence and to reaffirm that the District continues to receive the most cost favorable rate and solution available for the provision of telephone services to the three administrative locations, a new comprehensive RFP for basic telephone service was issued on October 8, 2013, with responses due no later than November 26, 2013. The solicitation for RFP-387 was also subjected to the FCC's Form 470 national competitive bidding process pursuant to and in compliance with federal regulations of the Universal Service Program for Schools & Libraries. The District received solution proposals from six (6) telecommunications carriers: Comcast Business, Infradapt, Level 3 Communications, Line Systems, Windstream, and XO Communications. The RFP-387 evaluation committee determined that each of the proposed solutions, including the proposal submitted by the District's incumbent provider Windstream, would result in higher costs to the District over the existing competitively bid contract, and would require funding that exceeds the District's total allocated budget for these services.

Accordingly, the RFP-387 evaluation committee has recommended that the District exercise its final one-year renewal option under its current contract for voice telephone services for administrative locations. Upon approval of this award by the School Reform Commission, the District will be eligible to apply for FY15 subsidies at a projected

discount rate of 85% from the federal Universal Service (E-Rate) program to partially support the funding of this contract. By agreeing to participate in the Universal Service program, the awarded vendor is also required by law to offer the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP) for services that are otherwise made available to any similarly situated non-residential customer.

Current contract authorization from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 is \$100,000.

MBE/WBE vendors did not bid this contract.

The total number of bids received for this award was five (5).

Other Bidders and total aggregate costs based on projected FY14 usage:

Broadview Networks, Rye Brook, NY - \$197,393

PAETEC, New York, NY - \$177,700

Verizon, Philadelphia, PA - \$247,000

Xtel Communications, Mt. Laurel, NJ - \$172,600

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-9

Operating Budget: \$1,300,000 Purchase of District-wide Voice Telecommunications Services from Verizon Business

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, execute, deliver and perform an amendment of contract number 602/F11, originally entered with Verizon Business Inc., pursuant to Resolution number A-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on January 19, 2011, as awarded pursuant to Resolution number A-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on November 15, 2012, by exercising a one (1) year extension of the contract, increasing the amount of the contract by \$1,300,000.00 from the \$5,100,000.00 approved by Resolution numbers A-4 and A-4, to an amount not to exceed \$6,400,000.00, and by extending the term of the contract from its scheduled expiration date of July 1, 2014 thru June 30, 2015.

LEASE, RENTALS AND SERVICES

<u>Bid:</u> RFP-278 extension	<u>Description:</u> District-wide Voice Telecommunications Services	<u>Total Amount:</u> \$1,300,000.
<u>Awarded Vendor(s):</u>	Verizon Business Philadelphia, PA	SC FY15 - TBD
<u>Term:</u>	7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015	
<u>ABC Code:</u>	1100-033-9HF0-2694-5321	
<u>Requestor:</u>	R. Westall, Deputy Chief Information Officer	

Justification: This contract award will continue to facilitate voice telecommunications services for all of the District's schools and ancillary buildings. Services will include the provisioning, support, and management of analog Centrex, POTS, local and regional-toll calling, SMDI trunking and related voice features. The District will continue to receive an extremely competitive rate of \$12.25 per Centrex voice line inclusive of flat-rate calling and advanced calling features. In order to capture the most favorable pricing and the most cost effective proposals, this RFP solicitation and resulting contract award was based upon a maximum total 6-year term to account for the installation and transition of approximately 5,000 legacy analog telephone circuits to an approximate 250 buildings. Per FCC Universal Service program regulations, the District is permitted to award an initial term with optional renewal terms in order to ensure that throughout the contract period the vendor meets or exceeds performance standards and service levels as outlined in the RFP specification, while still securing the most cost effective pricing. To ensure complete diligence and to reaffirm that the District continues to receive the most cost favorable rate and solution available for the provision of telephone services to schools, a new comprehensive RFP for basic telephone service was issued on October 8, 2013, with responses due no later than November 26, 2013. The solicitation for RFP-387 was also subjected to the FCC's Form 470 national competitive bidding process pursuant to and in compliance with federal regulations of the Universal Service Program for Schools & Libraries. The District received solution proposals from six (6) telecommunications carriers: Comcast Business, Infradapt, Level 3 Communications, Line Systems, Windstream, and XO Communications. The RFP-387 evaluation committee determined that each of the proposed solutions would result in higher costs to the District over the existing competitively bid contract, and would require funding that exceeds the District's total allocated budget for these services.

Accordingly, the RFP-387 evaluation committee has recommended that the District exercise its one-year renewal option under its current contract for voice telephone services for schools. Upon approval of this award by the School Reform Commission, the District will be eligible to apply for FY15 subsidies at a projected discount rate of 85% from the federal Universal Service (E-Rate) program to partially support the funding of this contract. By agreeing to participate in the Universal Service program, the awarded vendor is also required by law to offer the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP) for services that are otherwise made available to any similarly situated non-residential customer.

Current contract authorization from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014 is \$1,500,000.

The total number of bids received for this award was two (2).

Other Bidders:

Cavalier Telephone, Richmond, VA

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-10

Capital Fund: \$1,500,000 Purchase of Networking Equipment from Office Solutions, Inc.

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 Office Solutions Inc., to purchase and install wireless (WiFi) networking equipment, for an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000, as shown on the attached Exhibit "A," subject to funding, for the period commencing July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016.

LEASE, RENTALS AND SERVICES

Bid: RFP-389 Description: Enterprise Wireless (WiFi) Networking Equipment Total Amount: \$1,500,000.

Awarded Vendor(s): Office Solutions, Inc. (WBE)
Warren, NJ

Term: 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2016

ABC Code: 8B11-065-9HF0-4600-7582 - Capital

Requestor: R. Westall, Deputy Chief Information Officer

Justification: This contract award will facilitate the one-time purchase and installation of wireless (WiFi) networking equipment for approximately 162 school buildings. The School District of Philadelphia will utilize a federal subsidy through the Universal Service program to perform upgrades in the classrooms of 162 schools and annexes in order to accommodate the need for faster and higher-capacity wireless Internet access to support laptops, mobile and other wireless hand-held computing technology, as well as to support the growing demand for Bring-Your-Own-Device (BYOD) connectivity. The Universal Service program would provide approximately 90% of the funding required to purchase and install all equipment. Purchased equipment will include approximately 9,000 high-density WiFi access points and related hardware/software.

A formal RFP was issued on October 18, 2013, with responses due no later than November 26, 2013. The solicitation for RFP-389 was also subjected to the FCC's Form 470 national competitive bidding process pursuant to and in compliance with federal regulations of the Universal Service Program for Schools & Libraries.

Upon approval of this award by the School Reform Commission, the District will be eligible to apply for FY15 subsidies at a discount rate of 90% from the federal Universal Service (E-Rate) program to partially support the funding of this contract. By agreeing to participate in the Universal Service program, the awarded vendor is also required by law to offer the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP) for equipment and services that is otherwise made available to any similarly situated non-residential customer.

The total number of bids received for this award was eleven (11).

Other Bidders:

Air2Data, LLC, Perry, UT (WBE)

AT&T, Inc., Dallas, TX

Corporate Networking, Inc., Worcester, PA

eGear USA, Inc., Holland, MI

Futura Mobility, LLC, Fort Washington, PA (WBE)

PCM Sales, Inc., El Segundo, CA

Relevante, Inc., Media, PA (MBE)

Ronco Communications, Tonawanda, NY

Strategic Products and Services, LLC, Parsippany, NJ
Vector Resources, Inc., Torrance, CA

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

In response to Commissioner Pritchett, Dr. Hite provided an overview of the schools referenced in resolutions A-11, A-12, A-13, and A-14. In response to Commissioner Houston, Dr. Hite confirmed that they are not criteria based for entry. He stated that due to high demand, the District will have to use a lottery for admission. In response to Commissioner Simms, Dr. Hite stated that the name for The New School A and New School B has not been selected.

Executive

A-11

Approval of New School: Building 21

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to open Building 21, a high school for grades 9 to 12 with an expected total enrollment of at least 601 students and which shall open in the 2014-15 school year with 150 students in the 9th grade, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to prepare, execute, and file all document necessary to obtain approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to establish Building 21 commencing in the 2014-15 school year.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-12

Approval of New School: The New School A

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to open a New School (A), a high school for grades 9 to 12 with an expected total enrollment of at least 460 students and which shall open in the 2014-15 school year with 115 students in the 9th grade, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to prepare, execute, and file all documents necessary to obtain approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to establish a New School (A) commencing in the 2014-15 school year.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-13

Approval of New School: The New School B

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to open a New School (B), a high school for grades 9 to 12 with an expected total enrollment of at least at least 460 students and which shall open in the 2014-15 school year with 115 student sin the 9th grade, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to prepare, execute, and file all documents necessary to obtain approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to establish a New School (B) commencing in the 2014-15 school year.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-14

Approval of New School: The Science Leadership Academy at Beeber

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to open the Science Leadership Academy at Beeber, a high school for grades 9 through 12 with an expected total enrollment of 500 students and which shall open in the 2014-15 school year with 125 students in the 9th grade and 125 students in 10th grade; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to prepare, execute and file all documents necessary to obtain approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to establish the Science Leadership Academy at Beeber commencing in the 2014-15 school year.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Strategic Partnerships

A-15

Donation: \$56,700 Acceptance of Art Related Services from Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) – Picasso Project

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 services valued at \$56,700 in Picasso Project Grant-funded services from Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) for the purpose of providing teaching artists to the 14 District schools as listed below for the facilitation of student arts enrichment and exploration projects. The project implementation period will span the spring of 2014, to commence in February 1, 2014 and wrap up in June 30, 2014

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Finance

A-16

Request for Section 1504 (Act 80) Exception Days

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to submit to the Pennsylvania Department of Education a Request for Approval of a Section 15-1504 of the Public School Code(Act 80) Exception, permitting certain scheduled activities to count as instructional time to assure that the School District meets the requirement of a minimum of 180 school days.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-17

Operating Budget: \$172,000 Contract with TRA School Software Solutions, Inc. – Student Activity Fund Software

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 TRA School Software Solutions, Inc. for SchoolFunds Online School Activity Fund Accounting, Online School Management System's Online School Payments and Online Teacher Receipting, for an amount not to exceed \$172,000, for the period commencing March 3, 2014 through June 30, 2015, with two one- year options to renew, for an annual renewal amount not to exceed \$124,000, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$420,000, for the period through June 30, 2017.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Human Resources

A-18

General/Categorical Funds: Approves Personnel, Terminations

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment of the following persons to the positions, on the effective dates through January 31, 2014, and at the salaries respectively noted, as recommended by the Superintendent, provided that: (a) continued employment of persons appointed to positions funded by categorical grants is contingent upon the availability of grant funds; and (b) persons appointed to positions funded by operating funds, shall report to either the Superintendent or the Deputy Superintendent or their designees, and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

A-19

Withdrawn by Staff

General Counsel

A-20

Ratification of Appointment of Outside Counsel – Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment by The School District of Philadelphia, through the General Counsel, of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLL, as outside counsel for The School District of Philadelphia, for public finance and related matters, for the period commencing February 1, 2014, through June 30, 2014, subject to all the terms and conditions of Resolution No. A-20, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 19, 2013, at no additional cost.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Transportation Services

A-21

Operating Budget: Contract Amendment with Durham School Services, L.P. – Transfer of School Bus Routes from Atlantic Express of Pennsylvania, Inc.

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. 104B/F12, originally entered into with Atlantic Express of Pennsylvania, Inc. (“Atlantic Express”), pursuant to Resolution No. A-46 (14), approved by the School Reform Commission on June 13, 2011, and as amended pursuant to Resolution No. A-14, (5) on October 5, 2011, for To – From and Off-Peak school bus operations, and to consent to the assignment of the contract to Durham School Services, L.P. (“Durham”), under which Durham shall take over To – From and Off-Peak school bus operations from Atlantic Express and shall operate the routes formerly operated by Atlantic Express, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$60,476,403.61 from the \$56,499,442.29 approved by Resolutions A-46 and A-14, to an amount not to exceed \$116,975,845.90, and by extending the term of the contract from its original scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2014 through June 30, 2017 or, in the alternative, to execute, deliver and perform a new contract with Durham for To – From and Off-Peak school bus operations, for an amount not to exceed \$60,476,403.61, for the period commencing March 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017; 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 amendment of Contract No. 105A/F12, originally entered into with Durham, pursuant to Resolution No. A-46 (14), approved by the School Reform Commission on June 13, 2011, by extending the term of the contract for one year from its original scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$9,670,691.47, from the \$25,709,648.00 approved by Resolution No. A-46, to an amount not to exceed \$35,380,339.47; 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 such further and additional documents and to carry out such further acts, in consultation and with the approval of the Office of General Counsel, as needed to carry out these resolutions.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

III. EDUCATION SERVICES

Academic – Donations/Acceptances

B-1

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 February 21, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

B-2

Donation: \$30,000 Ratification of Acceptance from the Masterman Home and School Association – Additional Position

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance with appreciation by The School

District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a gift of \$30,000 from the Masterman Home and School Association to partially fund the salary and benefits to re-hire a secretary III who was laid-off, for an amount not to exceed \$30,000, commencing February 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

B-3

Donation: \$32,500 Acceptance from Wills Eye Hospital – Special Projects Assistant

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 \$32,500 from Wills Eye Hospital to pay half of the salary of a Special Projects Assistant to assist with the coordination of vision services and obtain parental/guardian consents for vision services at 15 elementary schools, for the period commencing February 20, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

B-4

Donation: \$2,200,000 Acceptance of Specialized Vision Services from Wills Eye Hospital

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 free vision screenings, vision exams, prescribe and dispense eye glasses, and provide follow-up vision care, medical referrals and other specialized vision services to students at 15 elementary schools, valued at approximately \$2,200,000, from Wills Eye Hospital, for the period commencing February 21, 2014 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 Wills Eye Hospital to effect this resolution in a form acceptable to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Risk Management.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

B-5

Donation: \$74,000 Acceptance of Storm Water Management Landscaping Improvements from Greenfield Home and School Association/License Agreement with Urban Ecoforms, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the generous donation from the Greenfield Home and School Association of storm water management landscaping improvements, valued at approximately \$74,000, at the Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School yard; 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 License and Right of Entry Agreement and other necessary documents, with Urban Ecoforms, LLC, to install the storm-water management landscaping improvements at the Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School; and to execute, deliver and perform such other documents necessary to further the intent of this Resolution. The installation and construction of the storm-water management landscaping at the Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School must be acceptable to the Department of Facilities Management, the Office of Capital Programs and the Office of General Counsel.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Academic

B-6

Change of Name of J. E. Hill-Freedman School to Hill-Freedman World Academy

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to change the name of J.E. Hill-Freedman Middle School to Hill Freedman World Academy, effective February 21, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Academic – Contracts/Payments

B-7

Operating Budget: \$32,828 Contract Amendment with Deaf Hearing Communication Centre, Inc. – Sign Language Interpreting 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 to Contract No. 504/F14, originally entered into with Deaf Hearing Communication Centre, Inc., pursuant to Resolution No. B-11, approved by the School Reform Commission on August 22, 2013 by increasing the dollar amount of the contract by an additional \$32,828 from the \$81,120 approved in Resolution B-11, to an amount not to exceed \$113,948, and by extending the contract term from its original scheduled expiration date of February 21, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

B-8

Operating Budget: \$230,000 Contract Amendment with Wordsworth Academy – STAR Residential Treatment Facility

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. 748/F14, originally entered into with Wordsworth Academy, pursuant to Resolution B-10 approved by the School Reform Commission on May 13, 2013, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$230,000 from the \$1,670,000 approved in Resolution B-10, to an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000.

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The meeting was recessed at 8:20 p.m. to move to the Intermediate Unit business meeting and reconvened at 8:21 p.m., following the conclusion of the Intermediate Unit meeting.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

William J. Green, Chairman
School Reform Commission

William R. Hite, Jr.
Superintendent