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

#### MAY 11, 2015

A special meeting of the School Reform Commission was held on May 11, 2015 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 4:36 p.m. by Chair Neff.

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that prior to today's public meeting, the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session to discuss quasi-judicial matters.

**Members present:** Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff – 5

Members Absent: 0

Evelyn Sample-Oates, Chief of Family and Community Engagement, provided an overview of the order of the meeting. She stated that a representative from the Deaf-Hearing Communication Center is present to provide sign language interpretation of the proceedings. She stated that representatives from the Office of Family and Community Engagement are stationed in the lobby to help with interpretation services. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that the SRC meeting is being streamed live on the internet and is being recorded by the School District of Philadelphia. She stated that the School District's recordings are protected by the copyright laws of the United States and may not be used in any manner without the express written consent of The School District. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that by participating in the meeting, members of the public acknowledge that the School District may use its recordings for any purpose without obtaining permission or paying any compensation.

Chair Neff stated that the afternoon's agenda will be a slight departure from regular voting meetings. She stated that the SRC will vote on each resolution separately. For each resolution, Lauren Iannuccilli, Charter Schools Office, will present the Charter Schools Office's recommendation followed by the testimony of registered speakers on each renewal recommendation, followed by the vote.

Ms. Iannuccilli's presentation on each charter recommendation included: Demographics; Academic Progress, Organizational Compliance; Financial Stewardship; Recommendation; and Conditions. A complete copy of Ms. Iannuccilli's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.

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

#### SRC-1

# Proposed Charter Renewal - Folk Arts Cultural Treasures Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of FOLK ARTS CULTURAL TREASURES CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing on September 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for a five-year term in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

<u>RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School has agreed to comply with certain conditions for renewal (the "Conditions for Renewal") as set forth below. Failure to comply with the Conditions for Renewal may be a basis for revocation or nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter.

The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees

- shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.
- The Board of Trustees shall adopt an internal controls policy that is adhered to and monitored on a regular basis.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall maintain meeting minutes in accordance with the Sunshine Act and ensure that any abstentions from voting are appropriately documented.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 478 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### SRC-2

#### Proposed Charter Renewal - Independence Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the State Charter School Appeal Board granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of INDEPENDENCE CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2000; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2005 and in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.
- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 the Charter School's plan to develop and implement a comprehensive special education policy and educational program that meets Pennsylvania instructional requirements and ensures that programming and support is provided in the least restrictive environment at all grade levels.
- The Board of Trustees shall adopt a Student Code of Conduct, which complies with applicable state and federal laws. The Charter School shall ensure that the Student Code of Conduct is applied consistently for all students.

- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Oualified Teacher".
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 800 students during the term of the Charter, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff - 4

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

# SRC-3

# Proposed Charter Renewal - Mastery Charter High School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia ("School District") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of the

predecessor in interest to MASTERY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of four (4) years commencing in 2001; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2005 and in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

<u>RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 7-9, the Charter School 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. If seats open in grades other than 7-9, the Charter School shall seek to fill the open seats in the best way feasible. 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.
- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits for Board members. If the Board of Trustees decides to amend Bylaws, updated Bylaws shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 5. Voting members of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School shall not be voting members of the Board of Trustees of other Philadelphia charter schools operated by Mastery Charter Schools so long as the Charter School has a management contract with another Philadelphia charter school operated by Mastery Charter Schools or provides services as the Network Support Team for such charter school.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's

- complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 12 with a maximum of 600 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter School shall have admission preferences for all students enrolled at Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary ("Mastery-Smedley"); provided, however, that students enrolled at Mastery-Smedley in the Autistic Support program may enroll at the Charter School but shall receive their educational program at Mastery Charter School Simon Gratz Campus. The School District shall arrange and pay for the transportation costs for such students formerly enrolled at Mastery-Smedley in the Autistic Support program who enroll at the Charter School but receive their educational program at Mastery Charter School Simon Gratz Campus; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii.1If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff -4

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

#### SRC-4

#### **Proposed Charter Renewal – Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of to MASTERY CHARTER SCHOOL HARRITY ELEMENTARY ("Charter School") to operate Harrity Elementary School as a Renaissance charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2010; and

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

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

Schools Office of the School District of Philadelphia ("School District") setting forth the agreed terms and conditions of renewal; and

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.
- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the Charter School maintain a compliant Individualized Education Program ("IEP") for every student with special needs.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits for Board members. If the Board of Trustees decides to amend Bylaws, updated Bylaws shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Oualified Teacher".
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 850 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall only enroll students who reside in the Harrity School catchment area ("Attendance Zone"), as may be revised by the School District during the Term of the Charter. The Charter School may not enroll any students who live outside the Attendance Zone. Once a student has enrolled in the Charter School, such student may remain enrolled in the Charter School even if such student moves to a residence in the City of Philadelphia which is outside of the Attendance Zone; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff - 4

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

#### SRC-5

# Proposed Charter Renewal - Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-Å, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of MASTERY CHARTER SCHOOL MANN ELEMENTARY ("Charter School") to operate Mann Elementary School as a Renaissance charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to comply certain conditions for renewal (the "Conditions for Renewal") as set forth below. Failure to comply with the Conditions for Renewal may be a basis for revocation or nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter.

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-6 or between school years for grades 1-6, the Charter School 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.
- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits for Board members. If the Board of Trustees decides to amend Bylaws, updated Bylaws shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 9. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

#### and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 6 with a maximum of 555 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall only enroll students who reside in the Mann School catchment area ("Attendance Zone"), as may be revised by the School District during the Term of the Charter. The Charter School may not enroll any students who live outside the Attendance Zone. Once a student has enrolled in the Charter School, such student may remain enrolled in the Charter School even if such student moves to a residence in the City of Philadelphia which is outside of the Attendance Zone; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

Marley Dean, SAC member expressed support of proposed renewal of Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff - 4

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

#### SRC-6

# Proposed Charter Renewal - Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of MASTERY CHARTER SCHOOL SMEDLEY ELEMENTARY ("Charter School") to operate Smedley Elementary School as a Renaissance charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-6 or between school years for grades 1-6, the Charter School 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.

- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits for Board members. If the Board of Trustees decides to amend Bylaws, updated Bylaws shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Oualified Teacher".
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 9. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees

# and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 6 with a maximum of 730 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall only enroll students who reside in the Smedley School catchment area ("Attendance Zone"), as may be revised by the School District during the Term of the Charter. The Charter School may not enroll any students who live outside the Attendance Zone. Once a student has enrolled in the Charter School, such student may remain enrolled in the Charter School even if such student moves to a residence in the City of Philadelphia, which is outside the Attendance Zone; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

Phyllis Henderson, SAC President, expressed support of the proposed renewal of Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff - 4

Navs: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

#### SRC-7

# **Proposed Charter Renewal - Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of MASTERY CHARTER SCHOOL THOMAS CAMPUS ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the SRC renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

<u>RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-9 or between school years for grades 1-9, the Charter School 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. If seats open in grades other than K-9, the Charter School shall seek to fill the open seats in the best way feasible. 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.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits for Board members. If the Board of Trustees decides to amend Bylaws, updated Bylaws shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.

- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 9. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 12 with a maximum of 1300 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall have admission preferences for the Primary Catchment Area as set forth in an exhibit to the Charter, and then for Zip Code 19148, and then for Zip Codes 19145, 19146, and 19147: and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff - 4

Nays: 0

Abstention: Ms. Jimenez - 1

#### SRC-8

### Proposed Charter Renewal - Northwood Academy Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of NORTHWOOD ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for a five-year term in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

<u>RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees shall
  adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.
- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a revised Student Code of Conduct in compliance with applicable state and federal laws. The Charter School shall ensure that students are not asked to leave the school without identification of an expulsion infraction and opportunity for due process as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.

- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 788 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall have admission preferences for students applying for Kindergarten who reside in the attendance zones of the following schools: Laura H. Carnell School and Henry R. Edmunds; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that any requests for amendment to the Charter not addressed in this resolution are deemed denied

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

# SRC-9

### Proposed Charter Renewal - People for People Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia ("School District") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of four (4) years commencing in 2001; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2005 and in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to comply certain conditions for renewal (the "Conditions for Renewal") as set forth below. Failure to comply with the Conditions for Renewal may be a basis for revocation or nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter.

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that Board members elect Board officers annually at the June
  meeting in accordance with the Charter School's Bylaws and shall elect additional members to the
  Board to comply with the Charter School's Bylaws.
- The Board of Trustees shall adopt an Admissions Policy and Process which complies with the 3. 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 the application will be available in English, Spanish, and any additional language the Charter School deems appropriate both on the Charter School's website and in hard copy at the school. The Admissions Policy and Process shall also provide that families have at least six weeks to complete and return enrollment packets post-lottery acceptance. Furthermore, the Admissions Policy and Process shall provide that if seats open during the school year for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that required payments to PSERS are made timely.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall seek to maintain a positive fund balance and at least one-month cash on hand during the charter term.
- The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 12 with a maximum of 540 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that any requests for amendment to the Charter not addressed in this resolution are deemed denied

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### SRC-10

# Proposed Charter Renewal - Universal Daroff Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of UNIVERSAL DAROFF CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate Daroff Elementary School as a Renaissance charter school for a term of five (5) years commencing in 2010; and

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Charter is RENEWED, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2020, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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

- 3. The President of Universal Community Homes shall resign from the Charter School Board of Trustees no later than August 31, 2015. No employees or Board members of Universal Community Homes, Universal Education Companies, or other related parties shall be a member of the Charter School Board of Trustees. The Charter School Board of Trustees shall adopt revised Bylaws, which incorporate this provision and shall submit revised Bylaws to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall recruit at least one new Board member with a financial background and another new Board member with an academic background. The Board of Trustees shall submit resumes for new Board members to the Charter Schools Office by October 31, 2015.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall hold a public meeting at least monthly during the 2015-2016 school year and shall maintain meeting minutes in accordance with the Sunshine Act. For the remainder of the charter term, the Board of Trustees shall meet at least five times during each school year. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.
- The Board of Trustees shall comply with the Charter School's Bylaws regarding term limits and elections for Board members, the failure to act or neglect of duty provision, and contract approval.
   Meeting minutes and Board resolutions shall document such compliance with Bylaws.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall provide to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a schedule of mandatory Board training programs on various topics, including without limitation, conflicts of interest, code of ethics, the Sunshine law, and key responsibilities of charter school board of trustees, provided by an established provider.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 9. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 11. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.

# and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 8 with a maximum of 735 students during the term of the Charter and any renewal thereof, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School shall only enroll students who reside in the Daroff School catchment area ("Attendance Zone"), as may be revised by the School District during the Term of the Charter. The Charter School may not enroll any students who live outside the Attendance Zone. Once a student has enrolled in the Charter School, such student may remain enrolled in the Charter School even if such student moves to a residence in the City of Philadelphia which is outside of the Attendance Zone; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### SRC-11

#### Proposed Notice of Charter Nonrenewal - Delaware Valley Charter High School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A *et seq.*, the State Charter School Appeal Board granted a charter to DELAWARE VALLEY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL ("DVCHS" or "Charter School") in 2000 to operate a charter school for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter for five-year terms in 2005 and in 2010;

WHEREAS, DVCHS seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, members of the Charter Schools Office ("CSO") of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") have reviewed the academic performance, financial health and operations of DVCHS during the existence of the charter school and have concluded that there are grounds for the SRC not to renew the Charter under Section 1729-A of the Charter School Law;; and

WHEREAS, the following are causes for nonrenewal of the DVCHS Charter and termination of the charter agreement, pursuant to Section 1729-A(a) of the Charter School Law:

- 1. DVCHS failed to make adequate yearly progress ("AYP") during the 2011-12 school year, as required by Chapter 4 of the Pa. Code, the No Child Left Behind Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE") Accountability Workbook, and Pennsylvania law. DVCHS was in Warning status as of the 2011-12 school year, which was the last year AYP was measured.
- 2. For the 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years, DVCHS's PSSA proficiency scores in Reading and Keystone proficiency scores in Literature have been consistently lower than the State targets, the School District average, and the Charter School average.
- 3. For the 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years, DVCHS's PSSA proficiency scores in Math and Keystone proficiency scores in Algebra I have not been consistently improving and have been consistently lower than the State targets, the School District average, and the Charter School average.
- 4. For the 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years, DVCHS's growth ratings for math and reading provide significant evidence that DVCHS did not meet the standard for Pennsylvania Academic Growth.
- 5. DVCHS's School Performance Profile Academic Score ("SPP") issued by PDE was 42.6 out of 100 for the 2012-13 school year and 46.7 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year. DVCHS's scores of 42.6 and 46.7 are below the School District's average SPP and the charter school average SPP for their respective years.
- 6. For the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years, under PDE's School Performance Profile, DVCHS received the federal accountability designation of "Priority", meaning that DVCHS is in the lowest 5% of Title I schools based on combined Algebra I/Literature proficiency for Keystone Exams
- 7. DVCHS's School Progress Report ("SPR") Overall Score issued by the School District was 18 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year. DVCHS received an SPR Achievement Score of 3 out of 100 and an SPR Progress Score of 14 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year.

- 8. DVCHS's SPR Overall Score of 18 out of 100 was the second lowest score of the 78 reports for charter schools for the 2013-14 school year.
- 9. DVCHS failed to meet the 100% highly qualified teacher ("HQT") requirement during the term of the Charter, as required by the No Child Left Behind Act as reported in the School Report Cards prepared by PDE. In the 2012-13 school year, only 91% of the core academic classes taught at DVCHS were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2013-14 school year, only 89% of the core academic classes taught at DVCHS were taught by highly qualified teachers.
- 10. DVCHS failed to meet its legal obligations to special needs students applicable under federal and state law including, without limitation, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act and Chapter 711 of the State Board of Education regulations in that DVCHS billed for 32 students at the special education rate without the required documentation to support special education status for such students.
- 11. DVCHS failed to meet its legal obligation to English Language Learners ("ELL") under Section 4.26 of the State Board of Education regulations:
  - a. The Charter School's student identification and placement procedures for ELL students are not compliant. The Charter School did not administer the W-APT test to determine level of services.
  - b. The Charter School failed to provide programming to support ELL students. ELL students do not receive daily direct instruction support from a certified ESL/Bilingual teacher.
- 12. DVCHS does not have compliant and equitable student admission policies in violation of the Charter School Law and the Public School Code in that:
- a. DVCHS conducted two separate lotteries rather than an established application window and a lottery if the number of applications submitted exceeds the spots available during the charter term.
  - b. The DVCHS enrollment packet requests social security information, which is not permissible.
- 13. The Board of Trustees of DVCHS failed to operate in accordance with applicable law, Bylaws and policies in that Board members have served terms of more than three years without being re-elected or re-appointed, as indicated in the Board minutes, although the Bylaws provide for three-year terms for Board members.
- 14. DVCHS's audited financial reports for FY2012, FY2013 and FY2014 indicated that the Charter School did not obtain required child abuse clearances, FBI clearance and criminal background checks:
- a. DVCHS's FY2012 audit had a finding noting that in a review of 20 employee files, one did not have a child abuse clearance and Pennsylvania criminal background check, and two files were missing FBI background checks.
- b. DVCHS's FY2013 audit had a finding noting that in a review of 20 employee files, two did not have a child abuse clearances and Pennsylvania criminal background checks, and two files were missing FBI background checks.
- c. DVCHS's FY2014 audit had a finding noting that in a review of 25 employee files, one did not have a Pennsylvania criminal background check and three files were missing FBI background checks.
- 15. DVCH failed to make certain required payments to the Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS"), which amounts of missed payments were subsequently deducted from the School District's basic education subsidy. The School District recovered from DVCHS the following missed PSERS payments: \$122,361 in the 2012-13 school year and \$278,728 in the 2013-14 school year.
- 16. DVCHS has failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management and audit requirements in that:
  - a. DVCHS has reported a negative fund balance across the Charter term.
  - b. DVCHS's current ratio was less than one across the Charter term.
  - c. DVCHS reported inadequate cash balances across the Charter term.
- d. DVCHS's FY2011 audit had a finding noting an expense account titled "uncategorized expenses", which contained postings of cash disbursement for which management could not provide documentation.
- e. DVCHS's FY2013 audit had a finding noting that internal controls failed to detect a data input error on the June 2013 student enrollment invoice, causing revenues and receivables to be overstated by \$159,822. The Charter School has not reimbursed the School District for such funds.
- f. DVCHS failed to maintain detailed student attendance properly within the School Computer Network ("SCN") during the 2011-12 school year through the 2013-14 school year.
- g. DVCHS failed to submit accurate invoices to PDE when invoicing and obtaining funds pursuant to Section 1725 of the Charter School Law in that: (i) DVCHS failed to include all payments that the School District

made to the Charter School as a credit on student enrollment invoices submitted to PDE; (ii) DVCHS failed to accurately report attendance on student enrollment invoices submitted to PDE; and (iii) DVCHS failed to make accurate calculations on reports submitted to PDE, such as the listing of certain students' attendance as 368 days, the transposition of School District credits, and the use of an incorrect divisor, which resulted in obtaining funds the Charter School was not owed.

h. One individual working at DVCHS was paid as an independent contractor, but should have been paid as an employee. PSERS withholdings and contributions should have been made for this individual, who was collecting PSERS pension benefits as a retiree while also working at the Charter School in violation of PDERS rules

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

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC will conduct a public hearing on nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter commencing on or about June 22, 2015, subject to rescheduling, at which hearing the School District will present evidence in support of the grounds for nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter, and the Charter School will be given the reasonable opportunity to offer testimony and exhibits in support of why the Charter School's Charter should be renewed; and be it

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

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

Recommendation: Nonrenewal

The following individuals presented statements in opposition to the proposed nonrenewal of Delaware Valley Charter High School:

- Ernest Holiday, CEO
- Kathy Nagle
- · Erika Ford, parent
- Lynette Matthews

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### SRC-12

# Proposed Notice of Charter Nonrenewal – Universal Bluford Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A *et seq.*, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") granted a charter to UNIVERSAL BLUFORD CHARTER SCHOOL ("Universal Bluford" or "Charter School") in 2010 to operate the Guion S. Bluford Elementary School as a Renaissance charter school for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2010 and ending on June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Universal Bluford seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, members of the Charter Schools Office ("CSO") of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") have reviewed the academic performance, financial health and operations of Universal Bluford during the existence of the charter school and have concluded that there are grounds for the SRC not to renew the Universal Bluford Charter under Section 1729-A(a) of the Charter School Law; and

WHEREAS, the following are causes for nonrenewal of the Universal Bluford Charter and termination of the charter agreement, pursuant to Section 1729-A(a) of the Charter School Law:

- 1. Universal Bluford failed to make adequate yearly progress ("AYP") during the 2010-2011 school year and 2011-2012 school year, as required under Chapter 4 of the Pa. Code, the No Child Left Behind Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE") Accountability Workbook, Pennsylvania law, and Universal Bluford's Charter. Universal Bluford was in School Improvement I status as of the 2011-2012 school year, which was the last year AYP was measured.
- 2. For the period commencing in the 2010-11 school year through the 2013-14 school year, Universal Bluford's PSSA proficiency scores in Reading have not been consistently improving and have been consistently lower than the State targets, the School District average, and the Charter School average.

- 3. For the period commencing in the 2010-11 school year through the 2013-14 school year, Universal Bluford's PSSA proficiency scores in Math have not been consistently improving and have been consistently lower than the State targets, the School District average, and the Charter School average.
- 4. Universal Bluford's growth ratings for reading and math in the 2013-14 school year provide significant evidence that Universal Bluford did not meet the standard for Pennsylvania Academic Growth.
- 5. Universal Bluford's School Performance Profile Academic Score ("SPP") issued by PDE was 59.2 out of 100 for the 2012-13 school year and 49.5 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year. Universal Bluford's score of 59.2 in the 2012-13 school year was below the charter school average SPP, and Universal Bluford's score of 49.5 in the 2013-14 school year was below the District's average SPP and the charter school average SPP.
- 6. For the 2012-13 school year and the 2013-14 school year, under PDE's School Performance Profile, Universal Bluford received the federal accountability designation of "Focus", meaning that Universal Bluford is in the lowest 10% of Title I schools or a Title I school with a graduation rate below 60 percent.
- 7. Universal Bluford's School Progress Report ("SPR") Overall Score issued by the School District was 17 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year. Universal Bluford received a SPR Achievement Score of 6 out of 100 and a SPR Progress Score of 3 out of 100 for the 2013-14 school year.
- 8. Universal Bluford's SPR Overall Score of 17 out of 100 was the lowest score of the 78 reports for charter schools for the 2013-14 school year.
- 9. Universal Bluford failed to meet the 100% highly qualified teacher ("HQT") requirement during the term of the Charter, as required by the No Child Left Behind Act as reported in the School Reports Cards prepared by PDE. In the 2011-12 school year, only 71% of the classes taught at Universal Bluford were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2012-13 school year, only 89% of the classes taught at Universal Bluford were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2013-14 school year, only 88% of the classes taught at Universal Bluford were taught by highly qualified teachers.
- 10. Universal Bluford has not met its legal obligation to English Language Learners ("ELL") under Section 4.26 of the State Board of Education regulations in that Universal Bluford failed to provide daily instruction by a qualified ESL/bilingual teacher during the Term of the Charter.
- 11. The Board of Trustees of Universal Bluford failed to operate in accordance with applicable law, Bylaws and policies:
- a. Minutes of Board meeting were kept for three meetings in the 2010-11 school year, zero meetings in the 2011-12 school year, one meeting in the 2012-13 school year, and two meetings in the 2013-14 year.
- b. The management company, rather than the Board of Trustees, handled the hiring or firing of Universal Bluford's professional and nonprofessional employees.
- c. The Board of Trustees did not follow its Bylaws relating to staggered terms, board elections, and removal of trustees for neglect of duty.
- d. The Chair of the Board of Trustees failed to submit Statements of Financial Interests dated after 2011.
- 12. Universal Bluford's audited financial reports for FY2013 found that not all employee files contained required child abuse clearances, FBI clearances and Pennsylvania criminal background checks. Out of the 25 employee files tested: three were missing salary information, 13 did not contain FBI clearances, 10 did not contain the appropriate Pennsylvania criminal background checks, and 16 were missing child abuse clearances.
- 13. The President of the Board of Trustees of Universal Bluford also was the Chief Executive Officer of Universal Companies ("UC") throughout the term of the Charter. UC provided financial services to Universal Education Company ("UEC"), the management company for Universal Bluford. Since UC is a related entity and provided financial services to UEC, a conflict of interest and lack of independence existed by having the Chief Executive Office of UC serve as President of the Universal Bluford Board of Trustees.

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

RESOLVED, that there are substantial grounds for nonrenewal of the Universal Bluford Charter under 24 P.S. § 17-1729-A(a); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC will conduct a public hearing on nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter commencing on or about June 15, 2015, subject to rescheduling, at which hearing the School District will present evidence in support of the grounds for nonrenewal of the Charter School's Charter, and the Charter School will be given the reasonable opportunity to offer testimony and exhibits in support of why the Charter School's Charter should be renewed; and be it

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

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

Recommendation: Nonrenewal

The following individuals presented statements in opposition to the proposed nonrenewal of Universal Bluford Charter School:

- Sophie Hang
- David Fattah
- Jahkyi Taylor
- Penny Nixon
- Crystal Gary-Nelson
- Ashley Gartner

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: Ms. Simms - 1

#### SRC-13

## Proposed Charter Renewal - Imhotep Institute Charter High School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia ("School District") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of IMHOTEP INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of four (4) years commencing in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2002 and in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has sought renewal of its Charter; and

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

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

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

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the RENEWAL of the Charter, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2013 and ending on June 30, 2018, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The current Board of Trustees of the Charter School agrees to elect to the Board of Trustees at least three (3) but not more than thirteen (13) new Board members by June 30, 2015. Upon election of at least three (3) new Board members, the current Board of Trustees shall resign from the Board by June 30, 2015. Resumes for new Board members shall be submitted to the Charter Schools Office by June 30, 2015.
- The Board of Trustees of the Charter School agrees that at least one of the new Board members shall have a financial or auditing background, and at least one of the new Board members shall have an education background.
- 4. The Board of Trustees agrees that by August 31, 2015, the Board shall provide to the Charter Schools Office a schedule for Board members to attend mandatory board training programs on various topics, including without limitation, conflicts of interest, code of ethics and the Sunshine Law, provided by an established provider.

- 5. The Board of Trustees agrees to enter into a management agreement with Sankofa Freedom Academy Charter School by June 30, 2015. A draft of the management agreement shall be sent to the Charter Schools Office by June 15, 2015 prior to approval and execution. Thereafter, a final approved copy of the management agreement shall be provided to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015.
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall adopt Bylaws and provide a list of names of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School no later than August 31, 2015 which demonstrate that none of the voting board members of the Charter School serve as voting members on the board of Sankofa Freedom Academy Charter School, the management company.
- 7. The Board of Trustees agrees to maintain the original mission and vision of the Charter School as an African centered school with a curricular focus on science, mathematics, and technology.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 in 9th grade, the Charter School shall accept new students from the waiting list in appropriate order for 9th grade or new applicants if there are no applicants for 9th grade on the waiting list. If seats open in grades other than 9th grade, the Charter School shall seek to fill the open seats in the best way feasible. 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.
- 9. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 10. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Qualified Teacher".
- 11. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 12. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 13. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades 9 through 12 with a maximum of 575 students during the term of the Charter, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability

performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal with Conditions

The following individuals presented statements in support of the proposed renewal of Imhotep Institute Charter School:

- Katrina Clark
- Brodderick Jones

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

#### SRC-14

## Proposed Charter Renewal - Mathematics, Science and Technology Community Charter School

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 Pa. C.S.A. § 17-1701-A, et seq., the Board of Education of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") granted a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a term of four (4) years commencing in 1999; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2003 and in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has sought renewal of its Charter; and

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

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

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

RESOLVED, the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the RENEWAL of the Charter, subject to the terms and conditions agreed to by the Charter School as set forth below, for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2013 and ending on June 30, 2018, effective upon the full execution of the Charter Agreement by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board duly designated by the Board; and be it

- The Board of Trustees shall ensure that all trustees, officers, administrators, and relatives of
  trustees, officers and administrators of the Charter School comply with the Pennsylvania Public
  Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act. The Board of Trustees
  shall adopt a Conflicts of Interest policy that complies with the Pennsylvania Public Official and
  Employee Ethics Act and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Act.
- 2. The Board of Trustees shall adopt 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 for grades K-8 or between school years for grades 1-8, the Charter School 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.

- 3. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 31, 2015 a plan for ESL programming which complies with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 4 standards.
- 4. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the School District by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual report, evidence that 75% of professional staff are certified in accordance with the Charter School Law.
- 5. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office by August 1st of each year during the Term of the Charter as part of the Charter School's Annual Report, or separately if not included in the Charter School's Annual Report, evidence that 100% of the Charter School's teachers with primary responsibility for direct instruction in one or more of No Child Left Behind's core academic subjects demonstrate that they satisfy the definition of a "Highly Oualified Teacher".
- 6. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that (i) all employees have required federal and state criminal and child abuse background checks during the term of the Charter; and (ii) copies of such background checks are kept in each employee's personnel file, along with each employee's complete timesheet records. The Board of Trustees shall submit a signed affidavit to the Charter Schools Office annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office, as evidence that the Charter School has complied with this requirement.
- 7. The Board of Trustees shall submit to the Charter Schools Office signed Statements of Financial Interest as required by the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act and the Charter School Law annually, pursuant to guidelines established by the Charter Schools Office.
- 8. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that the dates, times, and locations of scheduled Board meetings are posted on the Charter School's website. Furthermore, minutes from Board meetings shall be posted on the Charter School's website within two weeks of approval by the Board of Trustees.

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the School District and the Charter School have acknowledged and agreed that the Charter School will enroll students only in grades K through 12 with a maximum of 1250 students during the term of the Charter, unless the parties agree in writing to other terms. Under no circumstances will the Charter School request payment from the School District or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for more students than set forth herein nor enroll students in different grades, without SRC approval by resolution; and be it

<u>FURTHER RESOLVED</u>, that the Charter School has agreed to the following provisions related to the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools:

- i. For each year during the five (5)-year Term of this Charter, the Charter School shall use its best efforts to achieve a School Performance Profile ("SPP") score of 70 or better, the Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System ("PVAAS") growth measure, and the Average Growth Index ("AGI") growth measure consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Accountability System pursuant to No Child Left Behind Act.
- ii. If the Charter School achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's academic accountability performance system for charter schools during any year of the Term of the Charter, the School District may require that the Charter School meet certain specific student achievement targets and participate in ongoing progress reporting. If the Charter School consistently achieves a ranking in the bottom two levels on the School District's accountability performance system for charter schools for two consecutive years during the Term of the Charter, the School District may recommend that the SRC commence revocation or nonrenewal proceedings against the Charter School;

and be it

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

Recommendation: 5-year Renewal

The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: 0

# II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

None Submitted

# III. EDUCATION SERVICES

None Submitted

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Marjorie G. Neff, Chair School Reform Commission

William R. Hite, Jr. Superintendent