

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

**DECEMBER 14, 2017**

A public meeting of the School Reform Commission was held on December 14, 2017 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 4:35p.m. by Chair Wilkerson.

Lee Whack, Deputy Chief of Communications, stated that at every School Reform Commission meeting, a representative from the Deaf-Hearing Communication Center is here to provide sign language interpretation of the proceedings. He also stated that representatives from the Office of Family and Community Engagement are stationed in the lobby to help with interpretation services. Mr. Whack stated that the proceedings of this SRC meeting are being streamed live on the Internet at [www.philasd.org/live](http://www.philasd.org/live) and can be seen on PSTV's Comcast Channel 52 and Verizon Fios Channel 20. He stated that the proceedings are also being recorded by The School District of Philadelphia and 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. Mr. Whack stated that by participating in tonight's meeting, members of the public acknowledge that the School District may use its recordings for any purpose without obtaining permission or paying any compensation.

Lynn Rauch, General Counsel, stated that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session on December 4, 2017 to discuss quasi-judicial proceedings, and also prior to today's meeting to discuss personnel and employment matters, purchase of lease of real property, and information or strategy in connection with the following litigation: L. R. vs. the School District of Philadelphia, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of PA, Case #14-1787, concerning civil rights action regarding assault; T. R. vs. School District of Philadelphia, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of PA, Case #15-4782, involving allegations of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 and the Equal Education Opportunities Act, Dimatteo vs. the School District of Philadelphia, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of PA, Case #17-898, involving allegations of age discrimination in employment decisions, and Walter Palmer Charter School, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Case #16-0603764, seeking payments for charges for students over the enrollment cap. Ms. Rauch stated that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session to discuss quasi-judicial proceedings, privileged or confidential matters and investigations.

Chair Wilkerson stated that there are several proposed items on tonight's agenda relating to charter schools. She stated that as a SRC and District, our focus has been to create great schools close to where children live. To do that we must focus on ensuring quality school options for students and families regardless of sector. She stated that in 2017, the SRC has voted to expand over 2,700 quality charter school seats. Chair Wilkerson stated that the decision to revoke or non-renew a school's charter is never an easy one but in order to ensure quality seats, the SRC must consider difficult decisions like the ones on tonight's agenda.

Commissioner Green introduced a motion from the floor to add a resolution to tonight's agenda approving the proposed charter amendment for Independence Charter School. He stated that this amendment would add an additional 25 seats to Independence's authorized student enrollment commencing on July 1, 2017, and that the resolution would be retroactive to commence at the beginning of school year 2017-18 as per the initial recommendation from the Charter School's Office as shared in their August evaluation report which is posted publically on our website.

The vote on the motion to add resolution SRC-10 Proposed Charter Amendment – Independence Charter School; Ratification of Material Charter Amendment – Enrollment Increase was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Richman – 3

Nays: Dr. McGinley, Chair Wilkerson – 2

Chair Wilkerson stated that resolution SRC-10 will be considered a “walk-on” resolution. She invited individuals interested in speaking on the topic of resolution SRC-10 to register with staff in the back of the room. Chair Wilkerson also stated that pursuant to Policies 006 and 903, speakers are limited to four speakers on each side (“for” and “against”) of the resolution and speakers registered on the walk-on resolution will be added to the end of the speakers list.

The minutes of the following School Reform Commission meeting were presented for approval:  
November 16, 2017.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

Dr. William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent, provided remarks. He provided highlights on Giving Week, the first being held the week after Thanksgiving, in partnership with the Fund for the School District of Philadelphia. The activities included:

- Eagles offensive tackle Lane Johnson visiting Bregy Elementary School to announce that 100 percent of the proceeds from his new clothing line, LJ65, would go to the Fund.
- Dr. Hite and Mayor Kenney visiting Central High School to announce a \$42-million capital campaign to expand the school’s campus, in addition to a 10-million-dollar donation from alumnus Joseph Field.
- Dr. Hite and Mayor Kenney visiting the Finishing Trades Institute to announce a grant to expand the VIP Program, which offers high school juniors and seniors a pathway into apprentice programs and prepares them for college and the workforce.

Dr. Hite stated that The Fund raised over \$18,000 during Giving Week, and the District is grateful to all our donors and volunteers for their support. We look forward to making Giving Week an annual event!

Dr. Hite stated that last week, the District celebrated its sixth annual Computer Science Education Week by highlighting its expanding digital literacy and technology curriculum, and additional activities available for students, like coding. He stated that over the last six years, 144 K-8 schools across the District have implemented a digital literacy curriculum to focus on essential skills for the 21st Century learner. Dr. Hite stated that investments have been made across the District to provide more meaningful digital experiences for both students and staff, including new computer labs, new laptops for all teachers and principals, and training in coding for K through 8 schools using the popular instructional robots, Spheros and Ozobots. He stated that during Computer Science Education Week over 16-thousand students in 161 schools participated in the Hour of Code, sponsored by Code-dot-org, and related activities. Dr. Hite extended thanks to the teachers and principals who make computer science engaging every day. We are already looking forward to next year’s activities!

Dr. Hite stated that this week the District is hosting its Benchmarking, Analytics and Management, or BAM, meeting for all school principals. He stated that these regular meetings allow the District to check in with our school leaders to highlight District and school accomplishments, analyze data and interventions to see how we can improve, and exchange ideas about best practices.

Dr. Hite stated that the School Reform Commission will vote to award honorary diplomas to two honorably-discharged veterans who did not graduate from high school due to entry into military service. He stated that Sanford Epstein attended West Philadelphia High School and served in the Korean Conflict. Arthur Logan attended Overbrook High School and served in the Vietnam War. Mr. Epstein is not able to join us, but Mr. Logan is here today. Mr. Logan, we extend our deepest thanks for your service to our country.

Dr. Hite stated that the School District of Philadelphia’s Office of Environmental Management Services is currently implementing a Paint and Plaster Stabilization effort to improve the Indoor Environmental Quality at 30 schools throughout the District. He stated that the first 30 schools were identified through the Spring 2017 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act Inspections, which are mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

and conducted twice a year. He stated that the information collected was then used to determine a set of schools to begin paint stabilization work. The facilities also met additional criteria, including:

- Construction prior to 1978;
- Housing students younger than 6-years-old, who are most susceptible to lead; and
- Containing 15 or more occurrences of loose, peeling or chipping paint or plaster damage at one building in occupied areas.

Dr. Hite stated that upon completion of this project in January 2018, the targeted buildings will:

- Have intact paint and plaster;
- Be free of dust and debris on surfaces from paint and plaster; and
- Be free of peeling, loose and flaking paint on walls and ceilings.

He also stated that to ensure quality control, the District will conduct a wipe validation test when the work is completed as required by the EPA. This will ensure that the areas are properly cleaned following paint and plaster removal. Dr. Hite stated that this initiative furthers the District's goal to provide safe, healthy, and welcoming learning environments for students and staff. Children learn best in healthy schools. Schools that are free of lead-based paint exposure sources are the best possible environments for students to learn, especially for children under 6 years old.

Dr. Hite stated that this evening, Commissioners will vote on resolution SRC-5, which would amend the start date of kindergarten for students beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. He stated that this proposed change not only reflects the District's core values, but also helps further our work towards our Anchor Goals. Dr. Hite stated that under SRC-5, kindergarten students will no longer start the school year later than other students, so all students, including kindergarteners, will begin school on August 27th, 2018. Dr. Hite stated that this is part of an overall shift of the beginning of the school year for students. Teachers will return from summer break on August 20th, 2018 while students will start a week later on August 27th. The last day of school for students will be June 4th, 2019, while the last day for staff will be a day later on June 5th.

Dr. Hite extended thanks to all students, teachers, principals, and families for making the first half of the school year such a success, and wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season, and best wishes for the New Year.

The Office Depot Seniors of the Month for December 2017 was presented to Steve Lebron, Academy at Palumbo High School and Kady Meite, Paul Robeson High School.

The Office Depot Teacher of the Month for December 2017 was presented to Sharon Crosby, Ziegler Elementary School.

An Honorary High School Diploma, under Operation Recognition, was presented to Arthur Logan, Overbrook High School – Served in the Vietnam War. (Honoree, Sanford Epstein, West Philadelphia High School – Served in the Korean Conflict, was unable to attend).

The following Citation was also read:

**Operation Recognition – Honorary High School Diploma**

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission has adopted the guidelines of Operation Recognition, governing the issuance of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Honorary High School Diploma to eligible veterans upon the filing of a written statement to the School Reform Commission, and

WHEREAS, as described under Operation Recognition, Public School Code of 1949, Section 1611, House Bill No. 186 Session of 2001, House Bill No. 2644 Session of 2002 and House Bill No. 101 Session of 2009, Mr. Sanford Epstein, and Mr. Arthur Logan were honorably discharged from their military service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sanford Epstein, who left West Philadelphia High School to serve in the Korean Conflict; and Mr. Arthur Logan, who left Overbrook High School to serve in the Vietnam War, and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the amendment of the Public School Code of 1949, authorizing boards of school directors to establish a means to provide high school diplomas to certain veterans, The School District of Philadelphia would like to honor these gentlemen with honorary diplomas for their military service with the United States of America Armed Forces and for sacrificing their education, to ensure our freedom and shape the course of history throughout the world, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that an honorary diploma be presented to these eligible veterans during the School Reform Commission Meeting on December 14, 2017.

### **Policy Committee Report**

Commissioner McGinley provided a report on the Policy Committee's meeting on December 7, 2017. He stated that the Committee met to review proposed changes to District policies related to academics, students, charter schools, employees, and finances, and that materials from these meetings can be found on the SRC website on the Policy Committee page. Commissioner McGinley stated that there are two resolutions, SRC-3 & SRC-4, on tonight's agenda related to policies reviewed by the Committee. SRC-3 (Proposed Adoption of Policies) is a list of policies that have been reviewed by the Committee and were shared for public review at last month's meeting. He stated that these policies are on the agenda for approval by the SRC. Commissioner McGinley stated that Policy 406: Charter Amendments has been removed from SRC-3 on tonight's agenda. In response to the public testimony received from the charter sector on this policy, the Committee has recommended further review of the policy by the Charter Schools Office. He stated that an updated version of Policy 406 will be discussed at the next Policy Committee meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. SRC-4 (Review of Proposed Policies) is a list of policies that were reviewed by the Committee on December 7<sup>th</sup> and are on tonight's agenda for public review and comment. These policies will be in front of the SRC for a vote at our January SRC Action meeting. Commissioner McGinley stated that the next meeting of the Policy Committee will be held on January 11, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in this room. Policies to be discussed at that meeting will be posted on the SRC website on January 4, 2018.

### **Presentations**

Danielle Floyd, Chief Operating Officer, provided a presentation of the Maintenance Apprenticeship Program. She stated that the Program creates a career path for our graduates, as well as support Anchor Goal 1. It was developed over one year and is officially recognized as a registered training program with the State of Pennsylvania. Ms. Floyd stated that Apprentice Partners include 32BJ SEIU District 2101, the Office of Career and Technical Education, Thomas Edison High School (Training Facility), and the Apprentice and Training Office – PA Department of Labor and Industry. She also stated that the District continues to recruit for talent for trades mechanics in the areas of Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, and Boiler Repair. Ms. Floyd also introduced the following apprentices: Antwan Harris; Antonio Lopez; Kadeem Jackson; Derek Beaudry; Ismael Alvarez-Rodriguez; and Thomas Rodriguez.

*A complete copy of Ms. Floyd's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

Chair Wilkerson stated that at the recommendation of the Charter Schools Office, The School Reform Commission took a vote to issue a notice of revocation to Khepera Charter School on August 17, 2017. She stated that as part of the next step, the SRC held public hearings on the proposed revocation. Chair Wilkerson stated that Rudolph Garcia, Esq. was appointed to serve as the SRC Hearing Officer for the public hearings held on the proposed revocation.

Mr. Garcia provided an overview of the Revocation Hearing held for Khepera Charter School. His report included a review of the materials violations. He stated that the students of Khepera Charter School would be better off attending other schools.

DawnLynne Kacer, Executive Director, Charter Schools Office provided a presentation on the proposed Charter actions. Ms. Kacer provided an overview of the Charter Renewal process. The recommendation to renew a charter for a subsequent five-year period is based on a comprehensive review of three domains: Academic Success; Organizational Compliance and Viability; and Financial Health and Sustainability. Ms Kacer stated that the renewal recommendations for John B. Stetson Charter School and Olney Charter High School were originally presented at an SRC public action meeting in April 2016. She provided an overview of each charter school's demographics, as well as a detailed account of the recommendations for both Charter schools. Both John B. Stetson Charter School and Olney Charter High School were recommended for Non-Renewal.

*A complete copy of Ms. Kacer's powerpoint presentation is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.*

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

Ms. Rauch announced the applicable provisions of the SRC's public participation policy.

The following individuals presented statements in support of the renewal of Olney Charter High School:

- Roy Adams, student
- Olivia Quinones, student

Soktheng Green, student at Furness High School, described the difficulty he is having in obtaining his transcript for the college admission process. He was referred to Cheryl Logan, Chief of Academic Support.

Angela Bryant described health and wellness products, "Total Life Changes".

The following individuals expressed concerns about the manner in which Title I funding is calculated/allocated:

- Kristen Dama, parent at Southwark Elementary
- Joanne Mocatto, SSA at Southwark Elementary
- Sulay Sosa, parent at Southwark Elementary
- Rebecca Moats, music teacher at Southwark Elementary

Coleman Poses expressed concerns with ASPIRA, charter operator.

Karel Kilimnik expressed concerns regarding the posting of SRC meeting materials, as well as the use of the designation of "quasi-judicial". She also expressed concerns about ASPIRA, Inc., which manages Stetson and Olney Charter High School.

Lynda Rubin questioned the SRC's decision making regarding charter schools. She cited the approval of Deep Roots Charter Schools and Mastery being approved to manage Wister Elementary School.

Lisa Haver stated that she attended the Policy Committee Meeting. She expressed concerns about "secret meetings" being held with charter administrators, and referencing the availability Charter resolutions stated that the SRC is in violation of the Sunshine Act. Ms. Haver also questioned the continued funding of ASPIRA and Universal operated charter schools recommended for non-renewal.

Isaac Gardner, parent, stated that he 8-year old son was assaulted by a School Police Officer and demanded a response from the District. Dr. Hite responded to Mr. Gardner and met with him.

Maura McInerny, Legal Director, Education Law Center, stated that the Center appreciates the District's efforts in developing Policy 138. She requested an additional revision to the Policy and requested that he District develop separate additional administrative procedures to fully effectuate the new Policy.

Cheri Micheau expressed concerns about English Learners (ELs) being underrepresented at special admission and citywide high schools in Philadelphia.

The following individuals expressed support of the renewal of Olney Charter High School:

- James Thompson, principal
- Beth Logue, ELL teacher

The following individuals expressed support of John B. Stetson Charter School; an ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania School:

- Kelsey Schwarzenbach, 5<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher
- Saudi Rivera, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student
- Adelaida Morales, parent

Cecilia Thompson, parent, questioned who is responsible for assisting parents with the IEP process. Commissioner Richman stated that she would be working to resolve this issue.

Dwayne Ming expressed concerns about struggling neighborhood schools.

The following individuals expressed opposition to the proposed charter revocation of Khepera Charter School:

- Norris Bacon, newly appointed CEO, Khepera Charter School
- Racine Carbitt, CFO, Khepera Charter School

Tiffany Lorch, teacher at Furness High School, requested clarification of the process for obtaining foreign transcripts for the college admissions process.

Julian Terrell, Philadelphia Student Union offered recommendations for holding School Police Officers accountable.

Mama Gail Clouden stated that the School District needs a new superintendent.

Venard Johnson stated that neighborhoods are still under distress. He also stated that Renaissance Schools are not Charter Schools, and that the District cannot continue to sell school buildings without making them available to the community.

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

#### **I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION**

##### **SRC-1 (Updated 12.8.17)**

##### **Proposed Student Expulsion – N. M.**

RESOLVED, that Student N.M. shall be *temporarily expelled* from the School District of Philadelphia effective upon enrollment back into the Philadelphia School District, and lasting six (6) months thereafter, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student N.M. *shall not* be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place, and be it

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

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

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**SRC-2 (Updated 12.8.17)**

**Proposed Student Expulsion – D. W.**

RESOLVED, that Student D.W. *shall not* be expelled from the School District of Philadelphia, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student D.W. *shall not* be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place, and be it

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

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

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**SRC-3 (Revised 12.7.17)**

**Adoption of Proposed Policies: Policy 314: (NEW): Pre-employment Physical Examinations; Policy 203.1: HIV Infection and Pupils; Policy 210: Use of Medication/Medication Technology; Policy 235: Student Rights and Responsibilities; Policy 314.1: HIV Infection and Employees; Policy 323: Tobacco; Policy 610: Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation; Policy 611: Purchases Budgeted; Policy 612: Purchases Not Budgeted; Policy 807: Opening Exercises/Flag Displays**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby adopts the following SRC Policy, in the form attached, effective December 14, 2017:

Policy 314: (NEW): Pre-employment Physical Examinations

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby adopts amendments to the following SRC Policies, in the forms attached, effective December 14, 2017:

Policy 203.1: HIV Infection and Pupils  
Policy 210: Use of Medication/Medication Technology  
Policy 210.1 Possession/Use of Emergency Medications  
Policy 235: Student Rights and Responsibilities  
Policy 314.1: HIV Infection and Employees  
Policy 323: Tobacco  
Policy 610: Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation  
Policy 611: Purchases Budgeted  
Policy 612: Purchases Not Budgeted  
Policy 807: Opening Exercises/Flag Displays

*Description:* The School Reform Commission establishes general parameters in which the daily operations of the School District are to be governed. As such, the policies (listed above and attached) have been revised and updated to align with current local, state and federal law.

These amendments to policies were developed with the support of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA), pursuant to a contract entered into with PSBA pursuant to Resolution SRC-5, approved by the SRC on May 19, 2016. PSBA offers a comprehensive Policy Development Service that updates the SRC's Policy Manual.

Additionally, policies have been reviewed and recommended by the SRC Policy Committee, pursuant to Resolution SRC-4, approved by the SRC on March 16, 2017. The SRC Policy Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the SRC concerning all matters related to developing, updating, and recommending policies for the School District.

The policy development process consists of an in-depth analysis of the existing adopted policies maintained by the School District in relation to the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations; the impact of court and arbitration decisions and recommendations based on governance, liability and educational issues.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**SRC-4 (Updated 12.7.17)**

**Review of Proposed Policies: Policy 138 English Development/Bilingual Education Program; Policy 235.1 Surveys; Policy 335 Family and Medical Leaves; Policy 624 Capital Asset; Policy 212 Reporting of Student Progress; Policy 218.1 Weapons; Policy 342 Jury Duty; Policy 806 Child Abuse; Policy 811 Bonding (FOR REVIEW – NO ACTION)**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby adopts the following SRC Policy, in the form attached, effective January 18, 2018:

Policy 138 English Development/Bilingual Education Program  
Policy 235.1 Surveys  
Policy 335 Family and Medical Leaves  
Policy 624 Capital Asset

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby adopts amendments to the following SRC Policies, in the forms attached, effective January 18, 2018:

Policy 212 Reporting of Student Progress  
Policy 218.1 Weapons  
Policy 342 Jury Duty  
Policy 806 Child Abuse  
Policy 811 Bonding

*Description:* The School Reform Commission establishes general parameters in which the daily operations of the School District are to be governed. As such, the policies (listed above and attached) have been revised and updated to align with current local, state and federal law.

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The policy development process consists of an in-depth analysis of the existing adopted policies maintained by the School District in relation to the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations; the impact of court and arbitration decisions and recommendations based on governance, liability and educational issues.

## **SRC-5**

### **Proposed Amendment to 2018-2019 Academic Calendar**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to amend the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar, originally authorized by Resolution No. SRC-4, approved by the School Reform Commission on December 15, 2016, to change the first day for Kindergarten pupils from September 5, 2018 to August 27, 2018 to align with the ratified Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers and the School District of Philadelphia. The amended Academic Calendar is the following:

1. The sessions for teachers and non-administrative school-based personnel begin August 20, 2018, and close June 5, 2019, totaling 188 days.

School-based personnel will not be required to be in school on the following holidays and non-working days: September 3, 2018, September 10, September 19, November 12, November 22 through November 23, December 24 through December 31, January 1, 2019, January 21, February 18, April 18 through April 22, May 14, and May 27.

2. The sessions for Kindergarten, elementary and secondary pupils (grades K through 12) begin August 27, 2018, and close June 4, 2019, totaling 180 instructional days.

3. In the event that schools are closed due to inclement weather or other emergency circumstances, April 18, 2019 (make-up day #1) and April 22, 2019 (make-up day #2), and the required number of days thereafter will be days of pupil and staff attendance to satisfy the requirement of 180 instructional days.

4. The first day for Pre-Kindergarten, Head Start and Bright Futures pupils will be August 27, 2018.

5. The first day for Kindergarten pupils will be August 27, 2018.

6. There shall be four (4) meeting free interview days and one (1) reorganization day for all kindergarten teachers prior to the first student day at the beginning of each school year. Also in the 2018-19 school year and 2019-2020 school year, kindergarten teachers may elect to work one (1) additional meeting free interview day to be scheduled prior to the first day of the teacher work year, subject to approval by his/her principal or designee, and for which they will receive their daily rate of pay.

7. Students will not be in attendance on the following days: September 3, 2018, September 10, September 19, November 6, November 12, November 22 through November 23, December 24 through December 31, January 1, 2019, January 18, January 21, February 18, April 18 through April 22, May 14, and May 27.

8. Administrative Offices will be open Monday through Friday, with the exception of the following holidays and non-working days: July 4, 2018, September 3, September 10, September 19, November 12, November 22 through November 23, December 25, December 31, January 1, 2019, January 21, February 18, April 19, and May 27.

The following is the calendar for all schools, Pre-Kindergarten Programs, and Kindergarten Programs for the 2018 - 2019 school year:

August 20, 2018 First Day for Staff

August 20-22, 2018 District-wide Professional Development

August 20-23, 2018 Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Interviews

August 23, 2018 School-based Professional Development

August 23, 2018 Ninth Grade Orientation

August 24, 2018 Reorganization (Academic Year Preparation, K-12)

August 27, 2018 First Day for Grades K-12 Student Attendance

August 27, 2018 Head Start and Bright Futures Student Attendance

August 31, 2018 Professional Development Half Day (3-Hour Early Dismissal)  
September 3, 2018 Labor Day Administrative Offices and Schools Closed  
September 10, 2018 Rosh Hashanah - Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
September 19, 2018 Yom Kippur Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
September 21, 2018 2019-2020 School Selection Process Begins

October 8-10, 2018 Interim Reports

November 2, 2018 2019-2020 School Selection Process Ends  
November 6, 2018 Election Day: Full Day Professional Development (Staff Only)  
November 7-9, 2018 Report Card Conferences  
November 12, 2018 Veterans Day Observed Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
November 22-23, 2018 Thanksgiving Holiday Schools and Administrative Offices Closed

December 24, 2018 Winter Recess Schools Closed  
December 25, 2018 Winter Recess Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
December 26-28, 2018 Winter Recess Schools Closed  
December 31, 2018 Winter Recess Schools and Administrative Offices Closed

January 1, 2019 New Year's Day Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
January 3-7, 2019 Interim Reports  
January 18, 2019 Professional Development Day Staff Only  
January 21, 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King Day Schools and Administrative Offices Closed

February 13-15, 2019 Report Card Conferences  
February 18, 2019 Presidents Day Schools and Administrative Offices Closed

March 1, 2019 Professional Development Half Day (3-Hour Early Dismissal)  
March 13-15, 2019 Interim Reports  
March 29, 2019 Professional Development Half Day (3-Hour Early Dismissal)

April 15-17, 2019 Report Card Conferences  
April 18, 2019 Spring Recess Schools Closed  
April 19, 2019 Good Friday Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
April 22, 2019 Spring Recess - Schools Closed

May 8-10, 2019 Interim Reports  
May 10, 2019 Professional Development Half Day (3-Hour Early Dismissal)  
May 14, 2019 Pennsylvania Primary Election Day (Tentative) Schools Closed  
May 27, 2019 Memorial Day Schools and Administrative Offices Closed  
May 31, 2019 Graduation Window

June 3-4, 2019 Graduation Window  
June 4, 2019 Last Day for Students  
June 5, 2019 Last Day for Staff

Number of Days Scheduled - Student Attendance:

July 2018 0  
August 2018 5  
September 2018 17  
October 2018 23  
November 2018 18  
December 2018 15  
January 2019 20  
February 2019 19

March 2019 21  
April 2019 19  
May 2019 21  
June 2019 2

TOTAL - 180 Student Attendance Days  
Number of Days Scheduled Teacher Attendance:  
July 2018 0  
August 2018 10  
September 2018 17  
October 2018 23  
November 2018 19  
December 2018 15  
January 2019 21  
February 2019 19  
March 2019 21  
April 2019 19  
May 2019 21  
June 2019 3

TOTAL 188 Teacher Attendance Days

*Description:* This resolution seeks authorization of approval from the School Reform Commission to amend the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### **SRC-6**

#### **Operating Budget: \$30,000 Contract Amendment with Lawrence Kutys – Auditor**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of Contract No. 0811/F17, originally entered into with Lawrence Kutys pursuant to Resolution No. SRC-2, approved by the School Reform Commission on March 16, 2017 by increasing the dollar amount of the contract by an additional \$30,000 from the \$70,000 approved in Resolution SRC-2, to an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for the period March 17, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

*Description:* The Office of Inspector General (OIG) requires the continued services of an auditor with experience in governmental agency administration and law enforcement background to conduct advanced level programmatic, compliance and forensic audits to promote accountability, ethics, integrity and efficiency in the School District. Funds available under the current contract for these services provided by Lawrence Kutys will expire on or about December 31, 2017. It is expected that additional funding by amendment of the contract will carry the necessary services through to the end of fiscal year 2018.

Mr. Kutys will continue to provide services to include but are not limited to conducting accurate and thorough programmatic, compliance and performance audits; interviewing employees, contractors and third parties to ascertain facts for carrying out audits within established timeframes and operate within the policies of the School District. Mr. Kutys will also continue to act as a liaison with various federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and serve as a source of advice in all aspects of financial auditing techniques and forensic audits involving OIG investigations.

ABC Code/Funding Source  
1100-043-9970-236H-3311-FY17 (\$40,000)

\$30,000.00

1100-043-9970-236H-3311-FY18 (\$30,000)

1100-043-9970-236H-3311-FY18 (\$30,000)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**SRC-7 (Updated 12.14.17)**

**Proposed Charter School Revocation – Khepera Charter School**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law (“CSL”), 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A et seq., the School Reform Commission (“SRC”) of The School District of Philadelphia (“School District”) granted a Charter to KHEPERA CHARTER SCHOOL (“Khepera” or “Charter School”) in 2004 to operate a charter school; and

WHEREAS, the SRC renewed the Charter School’s Charter in 2009 and in 2014 with twenty-two (22) conditions; and

WHEREAS, members of the Charter Schools Office (“CSO”) of the School District have reviewed the academic performance, organizational compliance and viability, and fiscal health and sustainability of Khepera during the term of the current Charter and have concluded that there are grounds for the SRC to commence revocation proceedings against the Charter School under Section 1729-A of the CSL; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Section 1729-A of the CSL, the SRC, by Resolution No. SRC-17, approved on June 15, 2017, resolved that there were substantial grounds for revocation of Khepera’s charter, set forth the reasons supporting such revocation, scheduled a hearing in this matter and authorized the appointment of a hearing officer to conduct the hearing, before the SRC would take formal action regarding revocation of Khepera’s charter; and

WHEREAS, a Hearing Officer was appointed on June 29, 2017 and held a public hearing on August 10, 11 and 18, and September 8, 11 and 12, 2017, during which testimony and exhibits were received regarding whether Khepera’s charter should or should not be revoked; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2017, the SRC adopted Resolution SRC-14, adding additional grounds for revocation of Khepera’s Charter while the hearing was underway; and

WHEREAS, at Khepera’s request, presentation of evidence regarding the additional grounds was deferred until the September 2017 hearing dates to provide sufficient time for the parties to prepare their presentations regarding those grounds; and

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to the CSL, Khepera has been permitted to remain in operation pending the outcome of these proceedings; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2017, the Hearing Officer certified the record of the hearing and submitted a report to the SRC recommending revocation of Khepera’s Charter, including findings of fact, conclusions of law and a proposed adjudication; and

WHEREAS, the SRC has reviewed all of the testimony and exhibits admitted during the hearing, the Hearing Officer’s Report, including its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the submissions by all interested parties, and the only public comment received; and

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

RESOLVED, that Khepera’s Charter is REVOKED; and be it

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

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

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

Revoke: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Not Revoke: 0

### **SRC-8 (Updated 12.14.17)**

#### **Application for Charter Renewal – Olney Charter High School**

WHEREAS, in January, 2010, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") adopted the Renaissance Schools Initiative Policy, which authorized the SRC to grant Renaissance charters as part of the Renaissance Schools Initiative of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District"); and

WHEREAS, Olney High School – East and Olney High School - West (collectively, “Olney High School”) had been identified as School District schools which needed fundamental change through the Renaissance Schools Initiative to facilitate a transformation of the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Renaissance Schools Initiative was to dramatically improve the learning environment in underperforming School District schools to create highly effective schools that provide exceptional opportunities for student academic achievement and preparedness for success in college and the workforce; and

WHEREAS, for charter schools participating in the Renaissance Schools Initiative, in order to adhere to the mission of the Renaissance Schools Initiative and to maintain high levels of accountability, academic requirements could exceed performance targets for non-Renaissance charter schools; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A *et seq.*, the SRC granted a charter to OLNEY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL (“Olney” or “Charter School”) in 2011 to operate Olney High School as a charter school for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Olney is managed by ASPIRA of Pennsylvania, Inc. (“ASPIRA, Inc.”), a charter management organization (“CMO”);

WHEREAS, Olney submitted a renewal application to the Charter Schools Office (“CSO”) of the School District in October 2015, and Olney seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, members of the CSO have reviewed the academic performance, organizational compliance and viability, and fiscal health and sustainability of Olney during the existence of the Charter School and have recommended to the SRC 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 grounds for nonrenewal of Olney's Charter and termination of the charter agreement, pursuant to Section 1729-A(a) of the Charter School Law:

1. During the 2012-2013 school year, the first year of administration of Keystone exams for high school students in Pennsylvania, 30.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Algebra I Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2013-2014 school year, 25.0 % of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Algebra I Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2014-2015 school year, 21.1% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Algebra I Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2015-2016 school

year, 24.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Algebra I Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2016-2017 school year, 16.50% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Algebra I Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. Thus, from the 2012-2013 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Olney scoring proficient or advanced on the Algebra I Keystone exam based on the banked accountability score method decreased by 13.50 percentage points.

2. During the 2012-2013 school year, the first year of administration of Keystone exams for high school students in Pennsylvania, 38.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Literature Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2013-2014 school year, 40.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Literature Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2014-2015 school year, 25.3% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Literature Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2015-2016 school year, 33.7% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Literature Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2016-2017 school year 20.5% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Literature Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. Thus, from the 2012-2013 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Olney scoring proficient or advanced on the Literature Keystone exam based on the banked accountability score method decreased by 17.5 percentage points.

3. During the 2012-2013 school year, 5.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Biology Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2013-2014 school year, 14.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Biology Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2014-2015 school year, 11.0% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Biology Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2015-2016 school year, 15.6% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Biology Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. During the 2016-2017 school year, 7.4% of Olney 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who took the Biology Keystone exam scored proficient or advanced. Thus, from the 2013-2014 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the percent of 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Olney scoring proficient or advanced on the Biology Keystone exam based on the banked accountability score method decreased by 6.6 percentage points.

4. The Algebra I Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students in School District schools in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the School District for the Algebra I Keystone were 42.2% in 2012-2013, 42.6% in 2013-2014, 43.3% in 2014-2015, 48.2% in 2015-2016 and 38.7% in 2016-2017.

5. The Literature Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students in School District schools in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the School District for the Literature Keystone were 56.2% in 2012-2013, 56.1% in 2013-2014, 54.4% in 2014-2015, 60.9% in 2015-2016 and 48.8% in 2016-2017.

6. The Biology Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students in School District schools in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the School District for the Biology Keystone were 21.5% in 2012-2013, 28.3% in 2013-2014, 33.3% in 2014-2015, 40.5% in 2015-2016 and 36.5% in 2016-2017.

7. The Algebra I Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students attending brick and mortar charter schools in Philadelphia in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Charter School students in Philadelphia for the Algebra I Keystone were 39.4% in 2012-2013, 40.3% in 2013-2014, 41.7% in 2014-2015, 45.6% in 2015-2016 and 39.2% in 2016-2017.

8. The Literature Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students attending brick and mortar charter schools in Philadelphia in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Charter School

students in Philadelphia for the Literature Keystone were 55.0% in 2012-2013, 55.3% in 2013-2014, 56.4% in 2014-2015, 60.1% in 2015-2016 and 52.8% in 2016-2017.

9. The Biology Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students attending brick and mortar charter schools in Philadelphia in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. The 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Charter School students in Philadelphia for the Biology Keystone were 17.7% in 2012-2013, 25.4% in 2013-2014, 29.8% in 2014-2015, 36.2% in 2015-2016 and 32.7% in 2016-2017.

10. The Algebra I Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students attending schools in Olney's 2015-2016 School Progress Report ("SPR") peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools student banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the Algebra I Keystone were 36.9% in 2014-2015, 41.7% in 2015-2016 and 33.6% in 2016-2017.

11. The Literature Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for students attending schools in Olney's 2015-2016 SPR peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools student banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the Literature Keystone were 52.7% in 2014-2015, 57.8% in 2015-2016 and 47.0% in 2016-2017.

12. The Biology Keystone exam banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for Olney did not exceed the banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rate for student's attending schools in Olney's 2015-2016 SPR peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools student banked 11<sup>th</sup> grade accountability proficiency rates for the Biology Keystone were 21.2% in 2014-2015, 29.0% in 2015-2016 and 26.4% in 2016-2017.

13. Olney's School Performance Profile ("SPP") score was 53.5 in the 2012-2013 school year, the first year an SPP score was generated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE"), 49.6 in the 2013-2014 school year, 39.0 in the 2014-2015 school year, 41.4 in the 2015-2016 school year, and 37.9 in the 2016-2017 school year. All of Olney's SPP scores were in the lowest SPP category of 60 or below and all were significantly below a SPP score of 70, the minimum SPP score PDE has identified as meeting academic performance expectations.

14. Olney's SPP scores in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year were below the average SPP building level score for all School District-operated schools including CTE programs. The School District school building level average SPP score was 57.5 in 2012-2013, 57.3 in 2013-2014, 52.7 in 2014-2015, 52.7 in 2015-2016, and 52.8 in 2016-2017.

15. Olney's SPP scores in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year were below the average SPP building level score for all Philadelphia brick and mortar charter schools. The Philadelphia brick and mortar Charter School building level average SPP score was 66.0 in 2012-2013, 63.6 in 2013-2014, 57.6 in 2014-2015, 56.8 in 2015-2016, and 58.0 in 2016-2017.

16. Olney did not meet the Pennsylvania academic growth standard, the Average Growth Index ("AGI"), on the Algebra I Keystone exam in the 2014-2015 and 2016-2017 school years.

17. Olney did not meet the Pennsylvania academic growth standard, the AGI, on the Literature Keystone exam from the 2012-2013 school year through the 2016-2017 school year.

18. Olney did not meet the Pennsylvania academic growth standard, the AGI, on the Biology Keystone exam from the 2014-2015 school year through 2016-2017 school year.

19. When comparing Olney student academic achievement levels to the State's Annual Measureable Objectives ("AMOs") in Algebra I and Literature for the 2013-2014 school year, the last year in which PDE made AMO information available, Olney did not meet the AMO targets on either the Algebra I Keystone exam or the

Literature Keystone exam for any of the nine student subgroups identified (Historically Underperforming, Individualized Education Plan (“IEP”), English Language Learner, Economically Disadvantaged, Male, Female, Asian, Black or African American and Hispanic) except Asian students on the Algebra I Keystone exam and Asian and female students on the Literature Keystone exam.

20. Olney’s four-year high school graduation rate dropped 24.3 percentage points during the Charter Term from the 2011-2012 school year to the 2013-2014 school year. Olney’s four-year high school graduation rate as reported by PDE was 77.5% in the 2011-2012 school year, 58.2% in the 2012-2013 school year, and 53.2% in the 2013-2014 school year. Olney’s graduation rate was lower than the rate for students attending schools in the 2014-2015 SPR peer group in both the 2012-2013 school year and the 2013-2014 school year.

21. Olney’s four-year high school graduation rate, calculated from data as reported to the School District by Olney, increased by 4.8 percentage points from the 2014-2015 to the 2016-2017 school year however it was lower than the rate for students attending schools in Olney’s 2015-2016 SPR peer group and the School District’s graduation rate in the 2014-2015 school year and the 2015-2016 school year. Olney’s four-year high school graduation rate, calculated from data as reported to the School District by Olney, was 60.2% in the 2014-2015 school year, 65.4% in the 2015-2016 school year and 65.0% in the 2016-2017 school year. The four-year high school graduation rate for Olney’s 2015-2016 SPR peer group was 82.0% in the 2014-2015 school year and 82.7% in the 2015-2016 school year. The four-year high school graduation rate for the School District was 74.3% in the 2014-2015 school year and 75.3% in the 2015-2016 school year.

22. Olney had a federal accountability designation of “Priority” for the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year and the 2014-15 school year meaning that Olney was in the lowest 5% of Title I schools based on combined Algebra I/Literature proficiencies for Keystone Exams.

23. Prior to the 2015-2016 school year, although the Charter School is a Renaissance charter school and is expected to have a mission aligned to the intent of the Renaissance Initiative, Olney changed its mission statement to replace “achievement of academic proficiency and college and career readiness” with “persevere towards excellence”.

24. Olney failed to meet commitments made in its original charter application including “dramatic improvements in academic achievement,” “all children enter every grade on level” and “the opportunity and achievement gap is closed for all students.”

25. Olney failed to meet all program requirements for English Language Learners (“ELL”) under Section 4.26 of the State Board of Education regulations in that, during the 2015-2016 school year, Olney did not have sufficient translation and interpretation services to communicate with parents in different languages; Olney did not annually administer the ACCESS assessment as required by PDE guidance; Olney’s exit criteria for ELLs did not fully align with PDE guidance; Olney did not provide direct, daily instruction five days per week to ELLs; and Olney did not have an annual professional development plan for English as a Second Language staff as required under the applicable PDE guidance in the 2015-2016 school year.

26. During the charter term and into the 2016-2017 school year, Olney did not have fully compliant and equitable student admission policies in accordance with the Charter School Law and the Public School Code in that:

- a. During the charter term, as identified during the renewal evaluation in the 2015-2016 school year, the Olney student application required an applicant to provide a social security number and information about race/ethnicity, which is not permissible under PDE guidance.
- b. During the charter term, as identified during the renewal evaluation in the 2015-2016 school year, the Olney enrollment packet required documents to be provided, such as transcripts, special education records, and physical and dental examination records, beyond the five documents that may be required under PDE guidance.
- c. As recently as the 2016-2017 school year, the Olney enrollment packet did not require submission of the five documents required before completing enrollment of a student under PDE guidance: a parent registration statement, proof of residency, proof of age, immunizations and home language

survey. Olney addressed this noncompliance after receiving a Notice of Deficiency from the CSO in July 2017.

27. Renaissance performance targets in the Olney Charter related to within year student retention were not met by Olney from the 2011-2012 school year through the 2014-2015 school year. Within year retention at Olney was 83% in the 2011-2012 school year when the target was 85.8%; 79% in the 2012-2013 school year when the target was 89.3%; 85% in the 2013-2014 school year when the target was 91.1%; and 85% in the 2014-2015 school year when the target was 92.8%.

28. Renaissance performance targets in the Olney Charter related to rate of violent incidents were not met by Olney from the 2011-2012 school year through the 2014-2015 school year. The rate of violent incidents was 26.9 per 100 students in the 2011-2012 school year when the target was 9.6; 18.4 per 100 students in the 2012-2013 school year when the target was 5.7; 4.2 per 100 students in the 2013-2014 school year when the target was 3.8; and 14.1 per 100 students in the 2014-2015 school year when the target was 1.8.

29. Olney, in its renewal application, reported seven expulsions in the 2012-2013 school year, three expulsions in the 2013-2014 school year and two expulsions in the 2014-2015 school year. However, Board minutes do not indicate that the Board of Trustees for Olney approved all of the expulsions in accordance with the Public School Code and the Charter School's Bylaws.

30. Actions by an Olney student that could lead to placement in the in-school alternative placement for behavior incidents, called the Success Academy, were not identified in the 2015-2016 school year Family and Student Handbook. Further, it was reported during the site visit in November 2015 that consequences for the same behavior may vary, and staff was unclear on the process for placing students at the Success Academy in 2015-2016.

31. Olney failed to meet a commitment stated in its original charter application related to student attendance. Olney's original charter application stated, "all students are excited to attend school every day". The percent of Olney students attending 95% of more instructional days declined from 20% in the 2013-2014 school year to 15% in the 2016-2017 school year, representing a negative trend. Olney's percentile rank in the 2013-2014 school year (32<sup>nd</sup>), the 2014-2015 school year (25<sup>th</sup>), the 2015-2016 school year (26<sup>th</sup>) and the 2016-2017 school year (24<sup>th</sup>) were lower than the percentile rank for the Olney School pre-Renaissance in the 2010-2011 school year (35<sup>th</sup>).

32. The Board of Trustees of Olney failed to operate in accordance with applicable law and Olney's Bylaws and policies in that:

- a. The Olney Bylaws state that officers should be elected at the Annual Board Meeting in June. The Board of Trustees did not provide Board minutes stating that officers were elected at any Annual Board Meeting during the Charter Term. Although a President and Secretary were elected in June 2017, these elections do not reflect a complete slate of Board officers.
- b. Board minutes for the charter term through the renewal evaluation in the 2015-2016 school year, did not clearly state the opening and closing of Board meetings specifically for Olney, as opposed to the other three ASPIRA-managed brick and mortar charter schools; Board meetings for all ASPIRA-managed charter schools are held concurrently with specific business or approvals by individual charter school not clearly delineated.
- c. The Bylaws provide for an Executive Committee that "shall have the authority of the Board; except that no such committee shall have the authority to (i) fill vacancies on the Board or any committee thereof; (ii) amend the by-laws; (iii) approve a plan or merger; (iv) dismiss members of the Board." This raises concerns regarding a subset of Board members acting on behalf of the entire Board on the operations and functioning of the Charter School.
- d. As public officials under the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act, members of the Board of Trustees are required to complete Statements of Financial Interest annually by May 1. Olney did not provide complete Statements of Financial Interest forms in at least 10 instances for all Board members from the 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 school years. Additionally for

calendar year 2016, the most recent year of submission required, Statements of Financial Interest for Olney Board members were completed, dated and signed after the due date of May 1, 2017.

33. Olney failed to meet the 100% highly qualified teacher (“HQT”) requirement as required by the No Child Left Behind Act as reported by PDE. In the 2011-2012 school year, only 85% of the PDE-specified core academic classes taught at Olney were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2012-2013 school year, only 78% of the PDE specified core academic classes taught at Olney were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2013-2014 school year, only 91% of the PDE specified core academic classes taught at Olney were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2014-2015 school year, only 95% of the PDE specified core academic classes taught at Olney were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2015-2016 school year, only 96% of the PDE specified core academic classes taught at Olney were taught by highly qualified teachers.

34. During the 2015-2016 school year, all special education instructors at Olney were not appropriately certified in violation of PDE regulations. During the 2016-2017 school year, only 27 of 34 special education instructors at Olney were appropriately certified, in violation of PDE regulations.

35. Olney’s audited financial statements were not issued on or before December 31 as required by the Pennsylvania Public School Code for three of the four reporting years in the Charter Term. The FY2012 audit was issued in April 2013; the FY2013 audit was issued in January 2014; the FY2014 audit was issued in February 2015; and the FY2016 audit was issued on February 2, 2017.

36. Olney failed to make certain required payments to the Public School Employees' Retirement System (“PSERS”) during the Charter Term and the amounts of missed payments were subsequently deducted from the School District's basic education subsidy. The School District recovered from Olney the following funds which Olney failed to pay to PSERS: \$34,615 in November 2012 and \$13,302 in June 2015.

37. Olney has failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management and audit requirements related to short-term financial health and long-term financial sustainability in that:

- a. Olney reported inadequate cash balances, significantly below standard, in all but one year during the period FY2012 through FY2017 with less than 30 days of cash on hand in FY2012, FY2013, FY2015, FY2016, and FY2017. In no fiscal year during the period FY2012 through FY2017 did Olney meet or exceed the standard of 60 days cash on hand.
- b. Olney had a positive net position as a percent of revenue during the period FY2012 through FY2016 but only met the standard of having at least 16.67% in two of the six fiscal years during the same period. In FY2017, Olney’s net position was less than 0%.
- c. Olney reported a total margin that was significantly below standard at -14.27% in FY2016, and Olney reported a total margin that was less than 0 in three of the six fiscal years, in FY2015, FY2016 and FY2017, during the period FY2012 through FY2017.
- d. Olney reported a current ratio that was significantly below standard for FY2016 and FY2017 in that Olney’s current ratio was less than 1.0.
- e. Olney reported a fund balance that was significantly below standard for FY2016 and FY2017 in that Olney’s fund balance was less than 0%.
- f. Transactions between Olney and related parties (ASPIRA and other ASPIRA-managed charter schools) were not approved by the Olney Board of Trustees or the boards of trustees of the other ASPIRA-managed charter schools, and appropriate supporting documentation for such transactions were not provided to the School District or the CSO. No written contracts were executed between or among ASPIRA, the Olney Board of Trustees or the boards of trustees for the other ASPIRA-managed charter schools for the majority of funds shifted between ASPIRA-affiliated entities other than the service level agreement between ASPIRA and Olney.

- g. Neither the Olney internal controls policy submitted with the renewal application nor the internal controls policy submitted by Olney in September 2017 specifically state which entity is responsible for which financial management duties, clearly outline roles for Olney staff versus ASPIRA staff, or state which individuals have check signing authority for Olney.
- h. Olney was owed significant funds from ASPIRA and other ASPIRA-managed charter schools during the period FY2012 through FY2017 including \$1.63 million in FY2012, \$1.38 million in FY2013, \$984,678 in FY2014, \$2.58 million in FY2015; \$2.37 million in FY2016; and \$433,656 in FY2017. Of the funds owed from related parties, a significant portion was owed by ASPIRA, Olney's CMO. ASPIRA owed Olney \$1.5 million in FY2012, \$994,705 in FY2013, \$984,678 in FY2014, \$2.52 million in FY2015; \$2.37 million in FY2016; and \$433,656 in FY2017.
- i. Olney owed funds to ASPIRA and other ASPIRA-managed charter schools during the period FY2012 through FY2017 including \$90,469 in FY2012, \$116,110 in FY2013, \$324,450 in FY2014; and \$38,159 in FY2017.
- j. A service level agreement between Olney and ASPIRA was not approved and signed for July 2013; ASPIRA staff reported a continuance of the 2012 agreement. The Olney Board Chair signed the July 2011 agreement in November 2011. The Olney Board Chair did not date the July 2012 agreement, but the ASPIRA Board Chair signed in January 2013. According to ASPIRA staff, for the 2015-2016 school year, the Olney Board of Trustees agreed to a 4% fee increase. However, the Olney Board of Trustees only approved a 2015-2016 Budget for Olney, not a service level agreement, and no approved or signed agreement for the 2015-2016 school year was available as of February 2016 to address the services, and the terms and conditions related to those services, to be provided by ASPIRA to Olney. During the 2016-2017 school year, Olney was invoiced by ASPIRA for administrative services and charter management fees totaling \$7,016,667 or 27% of total revenues for Olney in FY2017. In FY2015, Olney was invoiced \$2,691,922 for administrative services alone. In FY2017, Olney was invoiced \$6,085,085 for administrative services alone.
- k. From FY2011 to present, Olney's revenue and financial resources have been used for non-Olney purposes, in violation of the Charter School Law and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law. Olney was not financially independent from other ASPIRA-managed charter schools or from ASPIRA-affiliated entities. Olney is obligated under security agreements, guaranties and other financial instruments to secure the debts of other ASPIRA-managed or ASPIRA-affiliated entities. As of June 30, 2017, Olney had entered into security agreements pledging a portion of Olney's assets to secure the debt of certain related parties. The holders of the debt and the outstanding liability balances are as follows:
- o ASPIRA: Olney's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$800,215 line of credit loan issued to ASPIRA. The loan matured on October 1, 2016 and was extended through October 31, 2017. The balance of the loan as of June 30, 2017 was \$800,215.
  - o ASPIRA Community Enterprises, Inc. ("ACE"): Olney is the guarantor of a \$5,005,005 mortgage loan issued to ACE for the acquisition and construction loan associated with the Antonio Pantoja Charter School. The balance on the loan was \$4,447,227 for year ended June 30, 2016 and \$4,354,757 for year ended June 30, 2017. This loan matured October 1, 2016 and was extended to October 31, 2017. This loan is in forbearance.
  - o ACE: Olney's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$1,742,573 mortgage loan issued to ACE. The mortgage loan matures in August 2018. The balance on this loan was \$1,239,345 as of June 30, 2016 and \$1,061,735 as of June 30, 2017.
  - o ACE/Dougherty, LLC ("ACE/Dougherty"): Olney's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$12,750,000 note payable issued to ACE/Dougherty for the acquisition, construction and renovation for a building for Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School. This loan matured October 1, 2016 and was extended to October 31, 2017. This loan is in forbearance. The balance on the loan was \$8,496,247 for year ended June 30, 2016 and \$8,154,432 for year ended June 30, 2017.

- l. In October 2011, a lease agreement was signed between Olney and ACE/Dougherty, LLC, the owner of 6301 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, which is the current location of Eugenio Maria De Hostos Charter School, for Olney to operate an Excel Academy for over-aged, under-credited students at 6301 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street rather than at the School District-owned Olney school building. The lease outlined minimum rent of 1.2 multiplied by 12% of the landlord's debt service on the bonds. ASPIRA staff stated that this rent was determined using an enrollment-based pro-rata share of the mortgage expenses. This is a concern as enrollment can vary daily, monthly and yearly. According to the subordination and attornment agreement between ACE/Dougherty, Olney and PNC Bank, if ACE/Dougherty defaults under the loan documents, Olney shall continue making lease payments directly to PNC bank. Prior to moving to the ACE/Dougherty facility, the Excel Academy was housed at Olney during the 2014-2015 school year. As such, space is available at the Olney school building, thus, the Excel Academy program located at a different site causes unnecessary occupancy expenses for Olney. As represented in the FY2017 audited financial statements, Olney continues to occupy the space in the ACE/Dougherty facility at a rental rate of \$240,000 per year based on the lease terms.
- m. Upon request by the School District's Office of Auditing Services, Olney failed to produce fully descriptive insurance claims made and insurance claims paid information.
- n. The School District's Office of Auditing Services reported a 2012-2013 school year attendance finding of \$251,255 and a 2013-2014 school year active office roll (AOR) finding of \$108,111.24;

So be it;

RESOLVED, that there are substantial grounds for nonrenewal of the Olney 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 April 1, 2018, 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 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; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC or a Board of Education for the School District 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 or a Board of Education.

The vote on the motion to "Not Renew" the Charter was as follows:

Not Renew: Mr. Green, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 4

Renew: Ms. Jimenez -1

**SRC-9 (Updated 12.14.17)**

**Application for Charter Renewal – John B. Stetson Charter School; an ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania School**  
 WHEREAS, in January, 2010, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") adopted the Renaissance Schools Initiative Policy, which authorized the SRC to grant Renaissance charters as part of the Renaissance Schools Initiative of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District"); and

WHEREAS, the John B. Stetson School ("Stetson School") had been identified as a School District school which needed fundamental change through the Renaissance Schools Initiative to facilitate a transformation of the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Renaissance Schools Initiative was to dramatically improve the learning environment in underperforming School District schools to create highly effective schools that provide exceptional opportunities for student academic achievement and preparedness for success in college and the workforce; and

WHEREAS, for charter schools participating in the Renaissance Schools Initiative, in order to adhere to the mission of the Renaissance Schools Initiative and to maintain high levels of accountability, academic requirements could exceed performance targets for non-Renaissance charter schools; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A *et seq.*, the SRC granted a charter to JOHN B. STETSON CHARTER SCHOOL; AN ASPIRA, INC. OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL (“Stetson” or “Charter School”) in 2010 to operate the Stetson School as a charter school for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Stetson is managed by ASPIRA of Pennsylvania, Inc. (“ASPIRA, Inc.”), a charter management organization (“CMO”);

WHEREAS, Stetson submitted a renewal application to the Charter Schools Office (“CSO”) of the School District in October 2014, and Stetson seeks renewal of its Charter; and

WHEREAS, members of the CSO have reviewed the academic performance, organizational compliance and viability, and fiscal health and sustainability of Stetson 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 grounds for nonrenewal of Stetson's Charter and termination of the charter agreement, pursuant to Section 1729-A(a) of the Charter School Law:

1. During the 2010-2011 school year, 49.9% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. During the 2011-2012 school year, 63.5% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. During the 2012-2013 school year, 50.8% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. During the 2013-2014 school year, the last school year prior to the change in the PSSA, 36.3% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. Thus, from the 2011-2012 school year to the 2013-2014 school year, the percent of students at Stetson scoring proficient or advanced decreased by 27.2 percentage points on the Math PSSA exam

2. During the 2014-2015 school year, under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 7.2% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. During the 2015-2016 school year, also under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 2.8% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. During the 2016-2017 school year, also under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 2.6% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA exam. Thus, under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, from the 2014-2015 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the Charter School had a 4.6 percentage point decrease in PSSA Math proficiency.

3. During the 2010-2011 school year, 31.6% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Reading PSSA exam. During the 2011-2012 school year, 36.0% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Reading PSSA exam. During the 2012-2013 school year, 31.2% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Reading PSSA exam. During the 2013-2014 school year, the last school year prior to the change in the PSSA, 28.3% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the Reading PSSA exam. From the 2011-2012 school year to the 2013-2014 school year, the percent of students at Stetson scoring proficient or advanced decreased by 7.7 percentage points on the Reading PSSA exam.

4. During the 2014-2015 school year, under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 18.3% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the English Language Arts (“ELA”) PSSA exam. During the 2015-2016 school year, also under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 15.2% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the ELA PSSA exam. During the 2016-2017 school year, also under the new Common Core-aligned PSSA, 12.4% of Stetson students scored proficient or advanced on the ELA PSSA exam. Thus, under the new Common Core-

aligned PSSA, from the 2014-2015 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the Charter School had a 5.9 percentage point decrease in PSSA ELA proficiency.

5. During the 2010-2011 school year, 3.6% of Stetson students in grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2011-2012 school year, 5.3% of Stetson students in grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2012-2013 school year, 9.0% of Stetson students in Grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2013-2014 school year, 9.0% of Stetson students in Grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2014-2015 school year, 8.7% of Stetson students in grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2015-2016 school year, 8.4% of Stetson students in Grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. During the 2016-2017 school year, 3.9% of Stetson students in Grade 8 scored proficient or advanced on the Science PSSA exam. Thus, from the 2014-2015 school year to the 2016-2017 school year, the Charter School had a 4.8 percentage point decrease in PSSA Science proficiency for Grade 8.

6. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Math proficiency rates on the PSSA exam met or exceeded School District of Philadelphia proficiency rates in only two of the seven school years. Proficiency rates in Math on the PSSA for Grades 5 – 8 for students in School District schools were 59.3% in 2010-2011, 52.6% in 2011-2012, 48.0% in 2012-2013, 46.3% in 2013-2014, 16.2% in 2014-2015, 17.5% in 2015-2016, and 18.8% in 2016-2017.

7. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Reading/ELA proficiency rates on the PSSA exam met or exceeded School District of Philadelphia proficiency rates in no school year. Proficiency rates in Reading/ELA on the PSSA for Grades 5 – 8 for students in School District schools were 55.8% in 2010-2011, 53.2% in 2011-2012, 44.2% in 2012-2013, 44.1% in 2013-2014, 33.4% in 2014-2015, 34.3% in 2015-2016, and 35.1% in 2016-2017.

8. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Science proficiency rates on the PSSA exam for Grade 8 met or exceeded School District of Philadelphia proficiency rates in no school year. Proficiency rates in Science on the PSSA for Grade 8 for students in School District schools were 26.0% in 2010-2011, 24.1% in 2011-2012, 27.4% in 2012-2013, 28.6% in 2013-2014, 28.4% in 2014-2015, 28.5% in 2015-2016, and 22.5% in 2016-2017.

9. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Math proficiency rates on the PSSA exam met or exceeded the Charter School sector proficiency rate in no school year. Proficiency rates in Math on the PSSA for Grades 5 – 8 for students in Philadelphia brick and mortar charter schools were 62.1% in 2010-2011, 64.9% in 2011-2012, 57.9% in 2012-2013, 54.1% in 2013-2014, 14.9% in 2014-2015, 15.2% in 2015-2016, and 17.2% in 2016-2017.

10. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Reading/ELA proficiency rates on the PSSA exam met or exceeded the Charter School sector proficiency rate in no school year. Proficiency rates in Reading/ELA on the PSSA for Grades 5 – 8 for students in Philadelphia brick and mortar charter schools were 57.0% in 2010-2011, 57.5% in 2011-2012, 51.1% in 2012-2013, 50.6% in 2013-2014, 38.5% in 2014-2015, 38.2% in 2015-2016, and 39.8% in 2016-2017.

11. During the period from the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's Science proficiency rates on the PSSA exam for Grade 8 met or exceeded the Charter School sector proficiency rate in no school year. Proficiency rates in Science on the PSSA for Grades 8 for students in Philadelphia brick and mortar charter schools were 31.8% in 2010-2011, 32.0% in 2011-2012, 32.8% in 2012-2013, 32.3% in 2013-2014, 32.5% in 2014-2015, 31.0% in 2015-2016, and 26.2% in 2016-2017.

12. The PSSA Math proficiency rates for Stetson did not exceed the proficiency rate for students attending schools in Stetson's 2015-2016 School Progress Report ("SPR") peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year or the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools proficiency rates for the PSSA Math exam were 10.4% in 2014-2015, 10.4% in 2015-2016, and 11.0% in 2016-2017.

13. The PSSA Reading/ELA proficiency rates for Stetson did not exceed the proficiency rate for students attending schools in Stetson's 2015-2016 SPR peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year or the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools proficiency rates for the PSSA ELA exam were 27.9% in 2014-2015, 27.9% in 2015-2016, and 26.4% in 2016-2017.

14. The PSSA Science Grade 8 proficiency rates for Stetson did not exceed the proficiency rate for students in Grade 8 attending schools in Stetson's 2015-2016 SPR peer group for the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year or the 2016-2017 school year. 2015-2016 SPR peer group schools proficiency rates for the PSSA Science exam for Grade 8 were 22.8% in 2014-2015, 22.3% in 2015-2016, and 17.4% in 2016-2017.

15. Stetson's School Performance Profile ("SPP") score was 57.3 for the 2012-2013 school year, the first year an SPP score was generated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE"), 48.8 for the 2013-2014 school year, 37.7 for the 2015-2016 school year, and 46.5 for the 2016-2017 school year. PDE did not produce SPP scores for schools serving students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 for the 2014-2015 school year. All of Stetson's SPP scores were in the lowest SPP category of 60 or below, and all were significantly below a SPP score of 70, the minimum SPP score PDE has identified as meeting academic performance expectations.

16. Stetson's SPP scores in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year were below the average SPP building level score for all School District-operated schools. The School District school building level average SPP score was 57.5 in 2012-2013, 57.3 in 2013-2014, 52.7 in 2015-2016, and 52.8 in 2016-2017.

17. Stetson's SPP scores in the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2015-2016 school year, and the 2016-2017 school year were below the average SPP building level score for all Philadelphia brick and mortar charter schools. The Philadelphia brick and mortar Charter School building level average SPP score was 66.0 in 2012-2013, 63.6 in 2013-2014, 56.8 in 2015-2016, and 58.0 in 2016-2017.

18. Stetson did not meet the Pennsylvania academic growth standard, the Average Growth Index ("AGI"), on the Math PSSA exam in the 2013-2014 school year or the 2015-2016 school year.

19. Stetson did not meet the Pennsylvania academic growth standard, the AGI, on the Science PSSA for Grade 8 for the 2010-2011 school year, the 2011-2012 school year, the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year, the 2014-2015 school year, the 2015-2016 school year or the 2016-2017 school year.

20. When comparing Stetson student academic achievement levels to the State's Annual Measureable Objectives ("AMOs") in Math and Reading for the 2012-13 school year, Stetson did not meet the AMO targets on the Math PSSA exam or on the Reading PSSA exam for any of the eight student subgroups identified (Historically Underperforming, Individualized Education Plan ("IEP"), English Language Learner, Economically Disadvantaged, Male, Female, Black or African American and Hispanic), except for English Language Learners and Black students on the Math PSSA exam.

21. When comparing Stetson student academic achievement levels to the AMOs in Math and Reading for the 2013-2014 school year, the last year in which PDE made AMO information available, Stetson did not meet the AMO targets on the Math PSSA exam or on the Reading/ELA PSSA exam for any of the eight student subgroups identified.

22. Stetson had a federal accountability designation of "Focus" for the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year and the 2014-2015 school year meaning that Stetson was in the lowest 10% of Title I schools based on having the highest achievement gap for the Historically Underperforming Students annual measurable objective.

23. Stetson failed to meet commitments made in its original charter application including: "dramatic improvements in academic achievement," "all children enter every grade on level," "the opportunity and achievement gap is closed for all students" and "all students who want to go to college are ready to do so."

24. Stetson failed to have all special education staff appropriately certified, as required by PDE regulations. According to Stetson's 2015 and 2017 Annual Reports, one special education teacher at Stetson in the 2014-2015 school year and in the 2016-2017 school year was not appropriately certified.

25. Stetson failed to have all English as a Second Language (“ESL”) instructional staff appropriately certified as required by PDE regulations. As documented in the 2016 Annual Charter Evaluation (“ACE”) based on information submitted by Stetson to the CSO, at least one ESL instructor in the 2016-2017 school year was not appropriately certified.

26. During the charter term and into the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson did not have fully compliant and equitable student admission policies in accordance with the Charter School Law and the Public School Code in that:

- d. As identified at the time of the renewal evaluation in the 2015-2016 school year, during the charter term Stetson's enrollment form previously required a parent or guardian to provide information about the child's United States citizenship status, the child's social security number, and information on whether the child has physical/educational challenges or an IEP which is not permissible under PDE guidance. Stetson's enrollment form was three pages long and required parents or guardians to respond to seven short answer questions and required the student to respond to five short answer questions, which is not permissible under PDE guidance.
- e. As of December 2017, Stetson's website provided limited time periods, Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 11:30am in person, when registration and transfers could take place at Stetson. As a Renaissance charter school, Stetson is expected to maintain an ongoing enrollment and transfer process placing students on an ordered waitlist if the Charter School has met or exceeded its enrollment cap.
- f. During the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson's enrollment materials did not require submission of proof of age, proof of residency, immunization, home language survey or parent registration statement; all five documents are enrollment materials required by PDE guidance. Stetson addressed this noncompliance with PDE guidance after July 2017, upon receiving a Notice of Deficiency from the CSO.
- g. For school years 2010-2011 through 2016-2017, Stetson implemented an enrollment policy whereby any Philadelphia resident children from grades 5 to 8 residing within, and space permitting, residing outside of Stetson's Attendance Zone, were eligible for admission to the Charter School. As a Renaissance charter school, Stetson is required to enroll students on a first come, first serve basis only from the Attendance Zone as in Stetson's Charter.

27. Stetson, in its renewal application, reported one expulsion in the 2010-2011 school year, one expulsion in the 2012-2013 school year and one expulsion in the 2013-2014 school year. However, the Board minutes for the 2010-2011 school year, the 2011-2012 school year and the 2013-2014 school year do not indicate that the Board of Trustees for Stetson approved any expulsions in accordance with the Public School Code and the Charter School's Bylaws.

28. The Board of Trustees of Stetson failed to operate in accordance with applicable law and Stetson Bylaws and policies in that:

- e. While the Stetson Bylaws state that Board members would serve for three-year terms, two Board members served for more than three years during the period of the 2010-2011 school year through the 2016-2017 school year. A current Board member has served on the Board since the 2012-2013 school year and per Board minutes submitted to the CSO, the Board member's term expired June 30, 2016.
- f. The Stetson Bylaws state that officers should be elected at the Annual Board Meeting in June. The Board of Trustees did not provide Board minutes stating that officers were elected at any

Annual Board Meeting during the Charter Term. Although a Chair and Secretary were elected in June 2017, these elections do not reflect a complete slate of Board officers.

- g. Board minutes for the charter term through the renewal evaluation in the 2015-2016 school year, did not clearly state the opening and closing of Board meetings specifically for Stetson, as opposed to the other three ASPIRA-managed brick and mortar charter schools; Board meetings for all ASPIRA-managed charter schools are held concurrently with specific business or approvals by individual charter school not clearly delineated.
- h. The Bylaws provide for an Executive Committee that “shall have the authority of the Board; except that no such committee shall have the authority to (i) fill vacancies on the Board or any committee thereof; (ii) amend the by-laws; (iii) approve a plan or merger; (iv) dismiss members of the Board.” This raises concerns regarding a subset of Board members acting on behalf of the entire Board on the operations and functioning of the Charter School.
- i. As public officials under the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act, members of the Board of Trustees are required to complete Statements of Financial Interest annually by May 1. Stetson did not provide complete Statements of Financial Interest forms for all Board members for all years during the Charter Term. Additionally for calendar year 2016, Statements of Financial Interest for Board members were completed, dated and signed after the due date of May 1, 2017.

29. Stetson failed to meet the 100% highly qualified teacher (“HQT”) requirement during the period from the 2012-2013 school year through the 2015-2016 school year, as required by the No Child Left Behind Act as reported by PDE. In the 2012-2013 school year, only 71% of the PDE-specified core academic classes taught at Stetson were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2013-2014 school year, only 73% of the PDE specified core academic classes taught at Stetson were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2014-2015 school year, only 92% of the core academic classes at Stetson were taught by highly qualified teachers. In the 2015-2016 school year, only 89% of the core academic classes at Stetson were taught by highly qualified teachers.

30. Stetson’s audited financial statements were not issued on or before December 31 for FY2012 through FY2014 and for FY2016 as required by the Pennsylvania Public School Code. The FY2012 audit was issued in April 2013; the FY2013 audit was issued in January 2014; the FY2014 audit was issued in February 2015; and the FY2016 audit was issued on February 2, 2017.

31. Stetson failed to make certain required payments to the Public School Employees' Retirement System (“PSERS”) during the Charter Term and the amounts of missed payments were subsequently deducted from the School District's basic education subsidy. The School District recovered from Stetson the following funds, which Stetson failed to pay to PSERS: \$1,096 in March 2012, \$45,317 in June 2012, and \$240 in May 2013.

32. Stetson has failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management and audit requirements related to short-term financial health and long-term financial sustainability in that:

- o. At the time of the renewal evaluation during the 2015-2016 school year, Stetson had not adopted and implemented sufficient internal controls policies. The School District’s Office of Auditing Services noted no definitive internal control policy related to the allocation of disbursements servicing more than one charter school.
- p. At the time of the renewal evaluation during the 2015-2016 school year, Stetson and ASPIRA employees had debit/credit cards for use in making Stetson school purchases without specific approval and oversight processes. Discrepancies existed between how the Stetson Board of Trustees and school leadership described the process for requesting and approving use of Stetson’s debit/credit card.
- q. At the time of the renewal evaluation during the 2015-2016 school year, monthly invoicing requirements set forth in the management agreement were not followed as specified during the Charter Term.

- r. At the time of the renewal evaluation during the 2015-2016 school year, the School District's Office of Auditing Services noted that transactions between Stetson and related parties (ASPIRA and other ASPIRA-managed charter schools) did not contain an indication of Board approval by Stetson, or other ASPIRA-managed charter schools, where applicable, or appropriate supporting documentation. No written contracts were in place for the majority of funds shifted between related parties outside of the management agreement between ASPIRA and Stetson. Stetson's FY2017 independent financial audit noted that any amounts owed related parties are unsecured, non-interest bearing and have no repayment terms.
- s. Stetson was owed significant funds from ASPIRA, Stetson's CMO, during the period FY2011 through FY2017 including \$495,740 in FY2011, \$790,736 in FY2012, \$1,877,802 in FY2013, \$805,449 in FY2014, \$164,835 in FY2015, and \$233,844 in 2017.
- t. As of June 30, 2011, Stetson owed \$792,796 to two other ASPIRA-managed charter schools. As of June 30, 2012, Stetson owed \$906,545 to three other ASPIRA-managed charter schools. As of June 30, 2013, Stetson owed \$1,023,195 to four other ASPIRA-managed charter schools. As of June 30, 2014, while Stetson no longer owed money to other ASPIRA-managed charter schools, Stetson was owed \$90,731 by another ASPIRA-managed charter school. As of June 30, 2015, Stetson owed \$31,397 to four ASPIRA-affiliated entities.
- u. Of the six metrics of short-term and long-term financial health, Stetson's financial position was less healthy as of the end of FY2017 than as of the end of FY2015 in five of six financial metrics – Current Ratio, Average Cash Days on Hand, Net Position, Fund Balance, and Debt Ratio; only Total Margin showed improvement during that time period. During the 2016-2017 school year, Stetson was invoiced by ASPIRA for administrative services and charter management fees totaling \$3,437,773 or 28% of total revenues for Stetson in FY2017. In FY2015, Stetson was invoiced \$1,117,976 for administrative services. In FY2017, Stetson was invoiced \$3,009,297 for administrative services.
- v. From FY2011 to present, Stetson's revenue and financial resources have been used for non-Stetson purposes, in violation of the Charter School Law and the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law. Stetson was not financially independent from other ASPIRA-managed charter schools or from ASPIRA-affiliated entities. Stetson is obligated under security agreements, guaranties and other financial instruments to secure the debts of other ASPIRA-managed or ASPIRA-affiliated entities. As of June 30, 2017, Stetson had entered into security agreements pledging a portion of Stetson's assets to secure the debt of certain related parties. The holders of the debt and the outstanding liability balances are as follows:
- ASPIRA: Stetson's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$800,215 line of credit loan issued to ASPIRA. The loan matured on October 1, 2016 and was extended through October 31, 2017. The balance of the loan as of June 30, 2017 was \$800,215.
  - ASPIRA Community Enterprises, Inc. ("ACE"): Stetson is the guarantor of a \$5,005,005 mortgage loan issued to ACE for the acquisition and construction loan associated with the Antonio Pantoja Charter School. The balance on the loan was \$4,447,227 for year ended June 30, 2016 and \$4,354,757 for year ended June 30, 2017. This loan matured October 1, 2016 and was extended to October 31, 2017. This loan is in forbearance.
  - ACE: Stetson's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$1,742,573 mortgage loan issued to ACE. The mortgage loan matures in August 2018. The balance on this loan was \$1,239,345 as of June 30, 2016 and \$1,061,735 as of June 30, 2017.
  - ACE/Dougherty, LLC ("ACE/Dougherty"): Stetson is a guarantor and Stetson's revenue has been included in the security interest of a \$12,750,000 note payable issued to ACE/Dougherty for the acquisition, construction and renovation for a building for Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School. The balance on the loan was \$8,496,247 for year ended June 30, 2016 and \$8,154,432 for year ended June 30, 2017. This loan matured October 1, 2016 and was extended to October 31, 2017. This loan is in

forbearance. While both charter schools have service level agreements with ASPIRA, ACE/Dougherty does not provide services or resources that benefit Stetson.

- w. Upon request by the School District's Office of Auditing Services, Stetson failed to produce fully descriptive insurance claims made and insurance claims paid information.
- x. ASPIRA management failed to appropriately address questionable sampled attendance items for Stetson after identification by the School District's Office of Auditing Services.

RESOLVED, that there are substantial grounds for nonrenewal of the Stetson 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 April 1, 2018, 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 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; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC or a Board of Education for the School District 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 or a Board of Education.

The vote on the motion to "Not Renew" the Charter was as follows:

Not Renew: Mr. Green, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 4

Renew: Ms. Jimenez -1

**SRC-10 (Updated 12.14.17)**

**Proposed Charter Amendment – Independence Charter School; Ratification of Material Charter Amendment – Enrollment Increase**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Charter School Law, 24 P.S. § 17-1701-A, *et seq.*, the Board of Education of The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") issued a charter ("Charter") to the Board of Trustees of INDEPENDENCE CHARTER SCHOOL ("Charter School") to operate a charter school for a five-year term; and

WHEREAS, the Charter School opened in 2000; and

WHEREAS, the School Reform Commission ("SRC") renewed the Charter School's Charter for five-year terms in 2005, 2010 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, on or about February 6, 2017, the Charter School submitted a charter amendment request to amend the Charter School's Charter to increase its authorized enrollment by an additional 25 seats commencing in school year 2017-2018 for the remainder of the current Charter Term, and any renewal thereof for a maximum authorized enrollment of 825 seats in Kindergarten through Grade 8, which charter amendment request was revised and resubmitted by the Charter School on or about May 10, 2017 (collectively the February 6, 2017 submission and the May 10, 2017 submission shall be known as the "Amendment Request"); and

WHEREAS, the Charter School has submitted certain additional documents in response to questions raised by the Charter Schools Office; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Schools Office has reviewed and evaluated the representations, statements and materials contained in the Amendment Request and additional documents submitted by the Charter School to the Charter Schools Office; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Schools Office has recommended that the SRC grant the Charter School's Amendment Request with certain conditions; now be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the representations, statements and materials contained in the Amendment Request and additional documents submitted by the Charter School, the SRC hereby ratifies the approval of the Charter School's Amendment Request as follows: the Charter School may enroll a maximum of 825 students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 commencing on July 1, 2017 and for the remainder of the current Charter Term, and any renewal thereof, provided that the Charter School submits the following documentation ("Required Documentation") to the Charter Schools Office no later than December 31, 2017:

1. The Charter School's plan to identify, offer admission to and enroll students for the additional 25 seats approved by this Resolution for the 2017-2018 school year, which currently is in process. This plan shall include specific dates and timelines and be consistent with Applicable Laws (as defined in the Charter), including but not limited to the Charter School Law and student enrollment guidance issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Such a plan shall be monitored by the Charter School and the School District to ensure that all students are identified appropriately and are admitted and enrolled in compliance with Applicable Laws (as defined in the Charter);

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Charter Amendment shall contain the following term and condition:

The Charter School shall be authorized to operate as a Kindergarten through Grade 8 charter school with a maximum enrollment of 825 students effective July 1, 2017 and for the remainder of the Charter Term 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, without approval by resolution by the SRC or the Board of Education. Regardless of the provisions above, at no point shall the Charter School enroll, under the Charter or using any funds provided based on student enrollment at the Charter School, students in pre-K or preschool programs;

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions in the Charter shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the Charter Term; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written Charter Amendment shall be issued upon the Charter Schools Office's receipt of satisfactory Required Documentation as set forth above, and that the Charter Amendment shall be effective upon the full execution of the Charter Amendment by the School District and by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Charter School or another member of the Board of Trustees duly designated by the Board of Trustees; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SRC hereby delegates authority to determine compliance with the requirements of this Resolution to the Chair of the SRC and the Chief of Staff of the SRC. Failure of the Charter School to submit satisfactory Required Documentation by December 31, 2017, or by the end of any extension period granted by the SRC Chair or the SRC Chief of Staff shall void this Resolution and shall cause the SRC to re-vote on the Amendment Request within forty-five (45) days after December 31, 2017, or the expiration of any extension period, whichever is later. Notice of voiding this Resolution for failure to submit the Required Documentation shall be issued to the Board of Trustees of the Charter School by the Chair of the SRC.

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

Approve: Mr. Green, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Richman – 3

Not Approve: Dr. McGinley, Chair Wilkerson – 2

## II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

### *Talent*

#### A-1

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

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment of the following persons to the positions, on the effective dates through November 30, 2017 and at the salaries respectively noted, as recommended by the Superintendent, provided that: (a) continued employment of persons appointed to positions funded by categorical grants is contingent upon the availability of grant funds; and (b) persons appointed to positions funded by operating funds, shall report to either the Superintendent or his/her designees, and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### *General Counsel*

#### A-2

##### **Operating Budget: \$64,678 Ratification of Amendment of Contract with MitraTech, Inc. – eCounsel Management System**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a third amendment of Contract No. 082/F12, originally entered into with Bridgeway Software, Inc. (now MitraTech Inc.), pursuant to Resolution B-2, approved by the School Reform Commission on April 27, 2011, as amended pursuant to Resolution A-35, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 19, 2014, as further amended pursuant to Resolution A-23, approved by the School Reform Commission on October 13, 2016, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$64,678 from the \$891,808, approved by Resolutions B-2, A-35 and A-23, to an amount not to exceed \$956,486, and by extending the scheduled termination date of September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

*Description:* In November 2010, the Offices of Specialized Services and General Counsel solicited proposals via RFP process from vendors to provide a software application to track legal matters including litigation and help the District increase operational efficiency. The District did not have a comprehensive electronic system by which legal matters, including compensatory education and/or circumstances that lead to compensatory education, are tracked and monitored. Nor was there an all-encompassing system that allowed all parties involved to enter and/or read data pertaining to resolution and/or compensatory education cases or legal matters with which the District may be involved.

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) uses the MitraTech system (formerly Bridgeway Software, Inc.) called eCounsel as the legal case management software system to track and manage legal cases, matters and contracts from inception to completion, to assign and reassign staff, to evaluate outside counsel performance and to manage legal spending and help the School District to increase operational efficiency. The case management software assists OGC to provide, in an efficient and timely manner, high quality legal advice and representation on litigation and transactional matters affecting the School District.

MitraTech (formerly Bridgeway) was selected because it is a market leader in providing legal case management software, hosting and implementation services. The District had a contract for 3 years as approved by the SRC on April 27, 2011 with two one-year options approved on June 19, 2014 that expires September 30, 2016.

A prior resolution, A-23 of Oct. 13, 2016, ratified this contract to extend for one year the services from MitraTech for Office of General Counsel and Office of Specialized Services to extend this contract with MitraTech Inc. for an additional one year from September 30, 2016 through September 30, 2017. This resolution requests a ratification of this contract to extend for one year the services from MitraTech for only the Office of General Counsel to extend this contract with MitraTech Inc. for an additional one year from September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

MitraTech provides software that allows the SDP to track all legal matters that Office of General Counsel requires.

The software is hosted by the software vendor who is responsible for upkeep, maintenance, security, back up of the servers, and for applying all patches and upgrades. This one-year contract extension includes the hosting and licensing required for the District to use the eCounsel system in the Office of General Counsel only.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$64,678.00
1100-051-9370-2355-3291 Operating FY 18 (\$48,507.94)	
1100-051-9370-2355-3291 Operating FY 19 (\$16,169.31)	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5  
Nays: 0

***Evaluation, Research and Accountability***

**A-3**

**Categorical/Grant Fund: \$100,000 Acceptance of Grant from Wallace Foundation; \$100,000 Contract with IO Education – Professional Development**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation, a grant from the Wallace Foundation, to implement the Vanderbilt Assessment of Leadership in Education (VAL-ED) school leader assessment tool, in an amount up to \$100,000, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through March 15, 2019, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, conditioned on receipt of this grant, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with IO Education to implement the Vanderbilt Assessment of Leadership in Education (VAL-ED) school leader assessment tool, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for the period commencing December 15, 2017, through March 15, 2019.

*Description:* The Vanderbilt Assessment of Leadership in Education is a research based evaluation tool that measures the effectiveness of school leaders by providing a detailed assessment of a principal's behaviors. VAL-ED focuses on the skills and behaviors unique to the role and career of a principal, providing evidence that the appropriate and necessary instructional leadership behaviors are exhibited at the school. The VAL-ED would be administered to all District principals.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$100,000.00
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The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5  
Nays: 0

***Student Support Services***

**A-4**

**Operation Recognition – Honorary High School Diplomas**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to Operation Recognition, Section 1611 of the Public School Code, to grant honorary high school diplomas to the following honorably-discharged veterans who did not graduate from high school due to entry into military service: Sanford Epstein, who attended West Philadelphia High School and served in the Korean Conflict and Arthur Logan, who attended Overbrook High School and served in the Vietnam War, and that the honorary diplomas be presented to these veterans at the public action meeting of the School Reform Commission meeting on November 16, 2017.

*Description:* The Operation Recognition Act, codified in Section 16-1611(b) of the Public School Code, governs the issuance of honorary high school diplomas to eligible veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War. Upon the filing of a written statement to the School Reform Commission, honorary diplomas will be

distributed to eligible veterans that meet the following criteria:

- Was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States of America.
- Served in the United States military between September 16, 1940 and December 31, 1946 (during World War II); or between June 27, 1950 and January 30, 1955 (during the Korean Conflict); or between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975 (during the Vietnam War).
- Attended high school between 1937 and 1946 (WWII); between 1947 and 1955 (Korean Conflict); or between 1958 and 1975 (Vietnam War).
- Would have been a member of a graduating class during 1941 through 1950 (WWII); or 1951 through 1957 (Korean Conflict); or 1961 through 1975 (Vietnam War) but did not graduate due to entry into military service.
- Attended high school within the School District of Philadelphia.

Upon proper application, the School Reform Commission may posthumously award a diploma to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### ***Executive***

#### **A-5**

#### **Operating Budget: \$50,000 Contract with Mighty Engine, Inc. – Public Communications Services**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Mighty Engine, Inc. to develop a strategic, public communications plan to increase parent, family, and stakeholder understanding of district goals, plans, and initiatives to improve student achievement, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

*Description:* The School District of Philadelphia's Action Plan 3.0 establishes strategic goals, objectives, and actions to improve student academic outcomes. Recognizing the critical role that parents, families, and partners have in supporting student success, Action Plan 3.0 specifically notes that the district will provide parents with the information and tools to support their children's academic progress and improve communication throughout the organization and to the public.

Since releasing Action Plan 3.0, the School District of Philadelphia has rebuilt its external relations function, launched a redesigned website, and expanded its communication mediums to improve teacher recruitment, share important information on key academic initiatives and programs, and better use social media to consistently and reliably share information with parents and the public. With these foundational changes in place, the School District of Philadelphia will use the services provided by this contract to develop a comprehensive communications plan that builds on operational improvements and better informs the district's diverse stakeholder groups about the actions and initiatives that are improving student outcomes.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$50,000.00
1100-051-9020-2361-3291 Operating	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### ***External Relations***

#### **A-6 (Updated 12.12.17)**

#### **Operating Budget: \$87,000 Contract with DT Firm – Government Lobbying Services**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver, and perform a contract with DT Firm to provide general government affairs advice, for an amount not to exceed \$87,000, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through December 14, 2018, with two one-year renewal options, for a total amount not to exceed \$261,000, through November 17, 2020.

*Description:* The services of this contract are required to support the School District's relations and interactions with public officials and perform general lobbying activities with the goal of increasing funding for the School District of Philadelphia, advancing policies and legislation that support the goals of the District's strategic plan, Action Plan 3.0, and building positive relationships with state elected officials.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$87,000.00
1100-051-9140-2853-3291 FY18 (\$43,500.00)	
1100-051-9140-2853-3291 FY19 (\$43,500.00)	

**Operations**

**A-7**

**Capital Fund: \$269,820 Capital Awards Contract with Pallman Electric, Inc. – Fire Alarm System at Henry C. Lea Elementary School District of Philadelphia**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform contract B-051 C 2016/17 with Palman Electric, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, for fire alarm system replacement at the Henry C. Lea Elementary School, for an amount not to exceed \$269,820, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through completion of the project.

*Description:*

Spec: B-051 C  
of 2016/17 Electrical Contract-Fire Alarm System  
Replacement  
Henry C. Lea Elementary School -4700  
Locust Street  
Palman Electric, Inc. - \$269,820.00  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006  
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation  
15.0%

This contract covers the labor, material, and equipment necessary for the removal of the old and installation of a new fire alarm system at this location.

The bids for this project were publicly advertised on 10/6/2017, 10/11/2017, and 10/13/2017 in several local newspapers and posted on the School District's Capital Programs Website. The award is recommended to the responsive and responsible bidder who met the technical and construction specifications. Bids were publicly opened on 11/7/2017. After review of the bids and a de-scoping meeting it was determined that Hyde Electric Corporation was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid of \$269,820.00.

The Facilities Condition Index (FCI) at this location is 38.56%. The School Progress Report (SPR) at this location is 22.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$269,820.00
8Q16-065-1340-4625-4561	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-8 (Updated 12.6.17)**

**Capital Fund: Capital Awards II – Contract Amendments with Delta/B.J.D.S., Inc, Diamond Huntbach Construction Corporation, Pepper Environmental Services, Inc., and Prime Group Remediation**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of Contract B-006 C of 2016/17, originally entered into with Delta/B.J.D.S., Inc, Diamond Huntbach Construction Corp., Pepper Environmental Services, Inc., and Prime Group Remediation, pursuant to Resolution A-21, approved by the School Reform Commission on August 17, 2017, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$350,000 from the \$600,000 approved by Resolution A-21, to an amount not to exceed \$950,000.00, until all funds are exhausted. All other terms, conditions and hourly rates of this contract remain the same.

*Description:* This contract provides the Office of Environmental Management Services with immediate response capabilities to initiate and complete emergency asbestos abatement, on an as needed basis, throughout the Philadelphia School District.

The additional funding will support the stabilization of loose, peeling or chipping lead base paint that the Office of Environmental Management has identified. The Office of Environmental Management will stabilize the paint/plaster at eighteen (18) schools and any additional schools with this issue under this time and material Contract during the period December 15, 2017 through project completion. All contractors will be required to use the EPA Lead Renovation Repair and Painting work practices.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$350,000.00
1100-031-9270-2624-4000 Operating	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-9**

**Capital Fund: \$227,027 Authorization of Net Cost Change Orders**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform amendments of the attached contracts, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$227,027.

*Description:* This resolution seeks approval for various revisions to the on-going construction project as detailed on the attached Modification of Contract document. Changes include items designated as errors or omissions, differing site conditions, unforeseen conditions and revisions requested by School District representatives. Change orders approved to rectify errors or omissions will be further reviewed by the Offices of Capital Program and General Counsel for possible recovery of costs through the professional liability insurance policies of the design professionals, negotiations, and filing of claims or lawsuits against the design professionals.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$227,027.00
Various	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-10**

**Amendment of License and Purchase of Assets Agreements with the Trust for Public Land – Playground & Stormwater Improvements; Limited Joinder in Sub-Grant Agreement – John M. Patterson School District of Philadelphia**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia through the Superintendent or his designee: (i) to execute, deliver and perform a limited joinder to an Amendment to Subgrant Agreement between the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation--Local Development Corporation and The Trust for Public Land, for a stormwater project at the John M. Patterson Elementary School, originally authorized by Resolution A-60, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 15, 2017, by increasing the amount of the subgrant by an additional \$7,225 from \$151,775 approved by Resolution A-60 to an amount not to exceed \$159,000; and (ii) to execute, deliver and perform such other documents necessary to further the intent of this Resolution. The terms of the limited joinder to the Amendment to the Subgrant Agreement must be acceptable to the Department of Facilities and Operation, the Office of Capital Programs and the Office of General Counsel.

*Description:* The Trust for Public Land ("TPL") has been working with The School District of Philadelphia ("School District") and the Philadelphia Water Department ("PWD") on a playground and stormwater project at the John M. Patterson Elementary School ("Patterson School"). TPL was awarded a Stormwater Management Incentives Program grant ("SMIP Grant") by PWD for the design and installation of green stormwater management practices at the Patterson School. By Resolution No. A-60, approved on June 15, 2017, the School Reform Commission approved the Patterson School project and authorized the School District to execute the limited joinder to the Subgrant Agreement between the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation--Local Development Corporation ("PIDC-LDC") and TPL in the amount of approximately \$151,775 for the period commencing on June 16, 2017 and ending on January 31, 2018 to confirm that the School District, as property owner. PWD has now increased the amount of the subgrant awarded to TPL for the Patterson School project to \$159,000; therefore, the parties desire to enter into an Amendment to Subgrant Agreement for the total amount of \$159,000.

This project is aligned with the District's Action Plan strategy to cultivate and sustain partnerships at the system and school levels.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$7,225.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-11**

**Operating Funds: Renewal of Lease with Quality Community Health Care, Inc. – Jay Cooke Elementary School District of Philadelphia**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a seventh one-year renewal of the existing Lease Agreement with Quality Community Health Care, Inc., for use as a federally-funded school-based community health center at Jay Cooke Elementary School, originally entered into pursuant to Resolution A-19, approved by the School Reform Commission on January 10, 2007, as renewed by Resolution A-5, approved by the School Reform Commission on November 16, 2011, Resolution A-5, approved by the School Reform Commission on February 21, 2013, Resolution A-5, approved by the School Reform Commission on February 20, 2014, Resolution A-31 approved by the School Reform Commission on December 18, 2014, Resolution A-16, approved by the School Reform Commission on November 19, 2015, and Resolution A- 14, approved by the School Reform Commission on November 15, 2016, at the rent of \$11,340 per year (2,100 square feet at a rental rate of \$5.40 per square foot), to be paid monthly, for the period commencing January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018, with automatic renewal for each successive year at a 2% yearly increase. The School District will continue to be responsible for all utilities and snow and ice removal. Quality Community Health Care, Inc. will continue to be responsible for its custodial staff, minor maintenance and repairs, trash and recycling pick-up, security, disposal of medical wastes and a proportionate share

of costs for the building engineer for overtime. The terms of the renewal must be acceptable to the School District of Philadelphia's Office of General Counsel and Office of Risk Management.

*Description:* The leasing of this space by Quality Community Health Care, Inc. (QCHC) at Jay Cooke Elementary School will provide primary care services to all children of the Cooke School as well as to the entire community. Services will be provided by the QCHC primary health care team which consists of a pediatrician, internal medicine physician, health educator, family practice physician assistant, EMT/medical assistant and support staff.

The following types of medical services are offered to the students at the Jay Cooke School: routine physical exams, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illness, treatment of minor injuries, vision, dental and blood pressure screenings, immunizations, nutrition education and weight management and referrals for health services which cannot be provided at the health center.

Pursuant to the terms of the Lease Agreement, the rent for any renewal term beyond the third renewal will increase by 2% annually.

ABC Code/Funding Source

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

#### **A-12**

#### **Declaration of Unused and Unnecessary Land & Buildings; Sale of former Beeber Wynnefield School Annex to Iron Stone Capital Partners**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission declares that certain approximately 0.96 acre parcel of ground, including a two-story building containing approximately 61,000 square feet, located at 1818 N. 53rd Street, 19131, known as the former Beeber Wynnefield School Annex ("the Property"), to be unused and unnecessary to the present and future needs of the School District of Philadelphia within meaning of Section 707 of the Public School Code; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission accepts the recommendation of The Flynn Co. made pursuant to its contract for the marketing and sale of 9 surplus properties, and after receipt and review of this offer for this property to accept the offer of Iron Stone for the Property; and be it

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

1. Execute, deliver and perform an Agreement of Sale (the Agreement) for the sale of the Property on an AS IS basis to Iron Stone Capital Partners, or its affiliate, for consideration of \$140,000, by cash to be wired at closing and under certain terms and conditions which may be negotiated between the parties, subject to the requirements of Pennsylvania law and the further provisions of this Resolution; and

2. Hold a closing in which the School District will convey clear free simple title via a special warranty deed to be executed at closing, require the Buyer to pay for certain expenses incurred in connection with the transaction, including, but not limited to, the payment of all state and local real estate transfer taxes, if applicable, and to execute such other documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing, it being conclusively presumed from any action thereby that is authorized on behalf of the School Reform Commission; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this private sale of real estate is subject to Court approval, pursuant to section 707 (3) of the Public School Code.

*Description:* The School District owns the property known as the former Beeber Wynnefield School Annex, which was closed in June, 2004 and is currently vacant.

The Buyer has offered to purchase the Property for \$140,000. The Buyer has agreed to buy the Property on an "As Is" basis. The Buyer has proposed a 15-day due diligence period and a 15-day closing period. Buyer will deposit \$20,000 upon signing the Purchase & Sale Agreement. The Zoning of this building is R-9A - Residential/Mixed use.

The Buyer is committed to retaining an indoor and outdoor recreational amenity for the community subject to receipt of appropriate zoning.

ABC Code/Funding Source

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### **A-13**

#### **Operating Funds: \$50,000 Contracts with Lindemeyr Munroe, Vertiv & W. B. Mason – Paper Stock**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to the requirements contract of supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services, for purchases costing \$25,000 or more, to execute, deliver and perform contracts with Lindenmeyr Munroe, W.B Mason, and Veritiv to purchase paper stock, for an aggregated amount not to exceed \$50,000, subject to funding, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

*Description:* This proposed contract establishes a source for paper and envelopes needed for normal operations of the Printing Services print shop.

This proposed award represents the completion of the public solicitation under A18-65907: Paper Stock, issued by Procurement on September 29, 2017. It was sent to thirteen (13) vendors and several area assist agencies. Ten (10) companies downloaded the solicitation. Of those, three (3) vendor submitted proposals.

The vendors that submitted proposals were Veritiv, WB Mason, and Lindenmeyr Munroe.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### **A-14**

#### **Operating Funds: \$500,000 Contract with Various Vendors – Surveillance and Security Systems**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to purchase, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Department of General Services Contract No. 4400013746, surveillance and security systems from various awarded contractors under Contract No. 440013746, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$500,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

*Description:* This award establishes a source for the purchase and maintenance of surveillance and security systems. It provides a source for all of the standard equipment, software and services necessary to maintain school-based camera and security systems. The contract is also used to maintain these systems for the Education Center. Specific purchases include replacement cameras, replacement DVRs, access/ID cards, intrusion alarm panels, camera-door phones, and electro-mechanical locksets. The contract also contains provisions for installation and maintenance of the associated equipment and software. Vendors listed on the contract include GE Security (aka UTC/Interlogix), Ademco, AIPHONE, HID Global, CASI-Rusco, Panasonic Security, and Assa Abloy. The Office of Information Technology uses a very small portion of this contract authority to maintain the software system (GE Facility Commander) that drives all of the networked surveillance and security systems. One of the vendors on the state

contract are the currently authorized maintainer of record for that system and are available to us on a 7 day, 24-hour basis for repairs/catastrophic failures.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$500,000.00
Various Schools and Offices FY18 (\$250,000.00)	
Various Schools and Offices FY19 (\$250,000.00)	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-15**

**Various Funds: \$3,000,000 Contract with Various Vendors – IT Professional and Application Services**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to purchase IT Professional and Application Services from various vendors through blanket purchase agreements pursuant to the U.S. General Services Administration IT Schedule 70, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

*Description:* This contract establishes a source for temporary but specific IT professional, maintenance and software application services needed for large-scale systems modernization projects. Such projects include a replacement Student Information System (SIS), Enterprise Resource & Planning (ERP) System, Website and Web-based Applications, Instructional Software Integration Platform, IT Security Services, Facilities and Operations Resource Management, and Transportation Routing System. The award will facilitate the efficient acquisition of professional IT services for highly specialized project management, application development, maintenance, design and engineering skills.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$3,000,000.00
Various Schools and Offices FY18 - \$1,500,000.00	
Various Schools and Offices FY19 - \$1,500,000.00	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-16**

**Operating Funds: \$3,000,000 Contract with Various Vendors – Computers and Computer Peripherals**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to the Technology Bidding and Purchasing Program (PEPPM), to purchase computers and computer peripherals from various vendors, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

*Description:* This contract establishes a source for a variety of necessary equipment, including computers not covered by the District's Apple/Dell awards, servers, printer parts and supplies, classroom software, projectors, hard drives, networking equipment, telecom equipment, and consumables (bulbs, toner, mice, keyboards). These purchases are made by schools or by District staff on behalf of schools. This contract will be overseen by the Office of Informational Services & Technology, who will have the overall responsibility for the evaluation and management of the awarded vendors performances.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$3,000,000.00
Various Schools and Offices FY18 - \$1,500,000.00	
Various Schools and Offices FY19 - \$1,500,000.00	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-17**

**Capital Funds: \$2,400,000 Contact Amendment with Office Solutions, Inc. – Enterprise (WiFi) Networking Equipment**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of a contract for enterprise (WiFi) networking equipment, originally entered into with Office Solutions Inc., pursuant to Resolution A-10, approved by the School Reform Commission on February 20, 2014, and amended, pursuant to Resolution A-6, approved by the School Reform Commission on November 19, 2015, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$2,400,000 from the \$1,500,000 approved by Resolutions A-10 and A-6, to an amount not to exceed \$3,900,000, subject to funding, and by extending the term of the contract from its scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

*Description:* This contract extension will facilitate the one-time purchase and installation of wireless (WiFi) networking equipment for 62 school buildings that comprise the final phase of the School District’s WiFi upgrade project. The School District will utilize a federal subsidy through the Universal Service program to perform upgrades in the classrooms of 62 schools and annexes in order to accommodate the need for faster and higher-capacity wireless Internet access to support laptops, mobile and other wireless hand-held computing technology, as well as to support the growing demand for Bring-Your- Own-Device (BYOD) connectivity. The Universal Service program will provide approximately 85% of the funding for this contract award in order to purchase and install 3,446 high-density WiFi access points and related hardware/software.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$2,400,000.00  
8XXX-065-9HF0-4600-7582

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-18**

**Cafeteria Fund: \$300,000 Contract Amendment with Interboro Packaging – Polybags**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to the requirements contract of supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services, for purchases costing \$25,000 or more, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of a contract originally entered into with Interboro Packaging to purchase polybags, pursuant to Resolution No. A-51, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 16, 2016, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional \$300,000 from the \$600,000 approved by Resolution A-51, to an amount not to exceed \$900,000, and by extending the term of the contract from its original scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

*Description:* This contract establishes a source for polybags. Food services require these trash bags for use in the kitchens at district schools.

This proposed award represents an extension of the contract resulting from the public solicitation under A16-59880, Polybags, issued by Procurement Services on March 18, 2016. It was sent to 58 vendors and several area assist agencies. Thirty-eight (38) companies downloaded the solicitation. Of those, seven (7) vendors submitted proposals.

The vendors that submitted proposals were Interboro Packaging, Central Poly Corp, 503 Corporation, General Chemical and Supply, Alliance Supply Group, LLC, Camden Bag and Paper Co, and Imperial Bag and Paper Co.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$300,000.00  
9001-029-9360-2495-6132

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**A-19 (Updated 12.6.17)**

**Operating Funds: \$250,000 Contract with Safetyhouse.com & Supreme Safety – Asbestos Removal Supplies**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to the requirements contract of supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services, for purchases costing \$25,000 or more, to execute, deliver and perform contracts separately with Safetyhouse.com, and Supreme Safety, to purchase asbestos removal supplies, for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000, subject to funding, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

*Description:* This contract establishes a source for asbestos removal supplies. The District's aging buildings require these supplies to prevent the introduction of asbestos into the learning environment. This contract will be overseen by the Office of Environmental Services, who will have the overall responsibility for the evaluation and management of the awarded vendor's performance.

This proposed award represents the completion of the public solicitation under A18-65906: Asbestos Removal Supplies, issued by Procurement on September 19, 2017. It was sent to sixteen (16) vendors and several area assist agencies. Six (6) companies downloaded the solicitation. Of those, two (2) vendors submitted proposals.

The vendors that submitted proposals were Safetyhouse.com, and Supreme Safety.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$250,000.00  
8000-065-9ALO-4693-6000 FY18 (\$145,833.24)  
8000-065-9ALO-4693-6000 FY19 (\$104,166.76)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**General Counsel**

**A-20 (Updated 12.12.17)**

**Operating Funds: \$200,000 Settlement of Federal Civil Action – Nicholas DiMatteo, Jr.**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the General Counsel, to execute, deliver and perform a settlement agreement with Nicholas DiMatteo, Jr., in the amount of \$200,000, payable in two payments - the first in the amount of \$100,000 within 60 days of approval by the School Reform Commission, and the second in the amount of \$100,000 on or before August 31, 2018 in exchange for a general release of liability for claims of discrimination in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, attorney's fees and costs and dismissal of the federal civil action.

*Description:* Nicholas DiMatteo, Jr., the former Department of Transportation Data System and Scheduling Coordinator filed a suit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, in February 2017 arising out of his separation by the School District when the Transportation Department eliminated his position in a departmental restructuring. Mr. DiMatteo claimed that the School District separated him, instead, because his supervisors believed he was too old to lead the department's transition to an automated bus routing system. He also claims that the School District failed to rehire him, again because of his age. Mr. DiMatteo sought front and back pay, damages for pain and suffering, liquidated damages, and attorney's fees and costs.

On November 17, 2017, U.S District Judge Beetlestone partially granted the School District's motion for summary judgment, finding the School District did not illegally discriminate against Mr. DiMatteo on the basis of his age when it failed to rehire him, but also holding that genuine disputes of material facts remain as to whether the School District separated Mr. DiMatteo because of his age. Jury trial is scheduled to begin on January 29, 2018.

Economic experts for both parties agree that if Mr. DiMatteo prevailed at trial, the School District could be reasonably exposed up to \$509,603 for back pay and front pay. Also, at the time of settlement, Mr. DiMatteo's counsel had accumulated almost \$87,000 in attorney's fees and costs, with the reasonable possibility of an additional \$75,000 to \$100,000 through trial and appeal. Finally, Mr. DiMatteo would also be entitled to an award for pain and suffering under the PHRA in the event he prevailed at trial reasonably estimated up to \$250,000.

At a settlement conference on December 4, 2017, U.S. Magistrate Judge Lloret estimated the possible exposure for the School District up to \$750,000, without accounting for a doubled back pay award for a possible, though remote, finding of a willful violation and recommended a settlement of \$250,000. After protracted discussions the parties agreed to \$200,000, paid over two fiscal years to settle all claims.

The likelihood of an unfavorable outcome at trial is reasonably possible. The settlement allocates back pay damages at \$113,367.88, and attorney's fees and costs at \$86,632.12.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$200,000.00
1100-061-9370-2392-8211 Operating FY18 (\$100,000.00)	
1100-061-9370-2392-8211 Operating FY19 (\$100,000.00)	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

### III. EDUCATION SERVICES

#### *Academic – Donations/Acceptances*

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

**Donation: \$50,000 Ratification of Acceptance of Donation from The Hartford – K-3 Fire Prevention Materials**  
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance with appreciation by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a donation of 1,780 fire prevention kits for grades K-3 from the Hartford; valued at approximately \$50,000, to be used to support October's Fire Prevention month; and ongoing fire prevention education, for the period commencing Nov 15, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

*Description:* This ratification of the acceptance of a gift is requested for the reason that the donor wanted to make the gift in time for Fire Prevention month in October. Every K-3 classroom will receive a kit with valuable, fire prevention curricular materials.

Each kit includes 30 fireman hats, 30 coloring posters that stress the "two ways out" home escape plan, 30 brochures for parents and caregivers and a teachers guide for teaching fire prevention to grades K-3.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$50,000.00
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The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

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

**Donation: \$75,000 Ratification of Acceptance of Donation from Inquiry Schools – Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance with appreciation by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of the donation of \$75,000 from Inquiry Schools, for professional development, consulting services and related supports at Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber, for the period commencing September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

*Description:* The resolution reflects the donation and acceptance of grant from Inquiry Schools to the School District of Philadelphia. The School District is expanding the existing Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber Middle School High School to be a 5th-12th grade school withing the current facilities of Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber. This is a ratifying resolution because the grant funds for this grant from Philadelphia School Partnership were recieved by Inquiry Schools in August 2017, after the resolution submission deadline for the SRC's August meeting. Prior to school opening on September 5, 2017, the planning and related supports that Inquiry Schools provides needed to begin, to ensure that the school admission process began promptly and without delay.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$75,000.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**B-3**

**Donation: \$261,545 Acceptance of Donation of Services from The City of Philadelphia Foster Grandparent Program; Memorandum of Understanding**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the donation of services from The City of Philadelphia, through its Foster Grandparent Program, valued up to \$261,545, to engage low-income seniors age 55 and older in volunteer service with children in early education environments as identified by their teachers, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, conditioned upon receipt of this donation, to execute, deliver, and perform a Memorandum of Understanding with The City of Philadelphia, through its Foster Grandparent Program, to provide these services to School District students, for the period commencing January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. The Memorandum of Understanding must be in a form acceptable to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Risk Management.

*Description:* The Foster Grandparent Program will provide volunteer services from January 2018 through June 2020. The volunteers will use an activity plan to work with children with exceptional needs who are identified by their teachers. In the Head Start and Bright Futures Pre-K classes, Foster Grandparent volunteers work with the identified child on the following developmental areas: social relationships, self-concept and self-efficacy, self-control and cooperation. In elementary schools, Foster Grandparent volunteers work with the identified child on the following areas: assistance with cognitive activities, school work or homework, modeling proper social skills, providing encouragement and/or redirection, math and writing skills, oral communication and literacy development.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$261,545.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**B-4**

**Categorical/Grant Fund: \$2,062,100 Ratification of Acceptance of Grant from the William Penn Foundation – Early Learning Programs**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a grant from the William Penn Foundation, in an amount not to exceed \$2,062,100, to provide resources to support K-3 early literacy efforts across all elementary schools, for the period commencing December 1, 2017 through August 31, 2021.

*Description:* This resolution is being submitted as a ratification. Formal notification of the grant award, which has a start date of December 1, 2017, was not provided until early November, which was too late to meet the resolution deadline for the November SRC meeting.

A key component of the School District's Action Plan, which sets the strategic direction for improving the performance of the District, is Anchor Goal 2, ensuring that students are reading on grade-level by third grade. As part of the work in support of Anchor Goal 2, in 2015-16 the District launched a three-year effort to provide a comprehensive set of supports and resources to enhance literacy instruction in the early grades in every District school, including teacher professional development and training, redesigned instructional materials and assessments, and new classroom materials. These supports were phased-in over three years, beginning in the 2015-16 school year.

Implementation and outcome results to date from this effort have been strong. Positive trends in student outcomes are evident across multiple indicators, with every grade level from Kindergarten to 3rd Grade showing improvement in literacy performance.

As of the current 2017-18 school year:

- Every K-3 teacher has received professional development in evidence-based literacy practices;
- Every elementary school has full-time coaching support for teachers in early literacy instruction;
- Aligned K-3 early literacy assessments are administered in every elementary school so teachers can monitor student progress over time and differentiate instruction to meet individual student needs; and
- All K-3 classrooms have new collections of leveled books to facilitate classroom reading instruction.

A key component of the work was the annual operation of a week-long Early Literacy Summer Institute over the past three summers, enabling the District to provide 40 hours of intensive professional development to K-3 teachers from all 150 District elementary schools. The new grant from the William Penn Foundation will enable the District to offer this same type of intensive professional development over the next several summers to 200-300 K-3 teachers annually. Eligible participants will include teachers new to the District, teachers new to the K-3 grade band, and current K-3 teachers who were not able to participate in a previous summer and who might benefit from the additional training. Grant funding will also support the development of 14 hours' worth of online professional development in early literacy topics that will be owned by the District and can be offered to K-3 teachers at various times throughout the year on an as-needed basis.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$2,062,100.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**B-5**

**Categorical/Grant Fund: \$688,500 Ratification of Acceptance of Pre-K Expansion Funding for The PA Department of Education; \$276,255 Ratification of Amendment of Contracts with Various Vendors – Preschool Programs**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of Pre-K Counts expansion grant funding from the PA Dept. of Education, in an amount not to exceed \$688,500, to provide comprehensive preschool services to an additional 81 age-eligible children and their families during the scheduled implementation period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery, and performance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of amendments of contracts to be entered into with each of the following providers of comprehensive pre-k program services, authorized pursuant to Resolution No. B-2, approved by the School Reform Commission on June 15, 2017, and Resolution No. B-12, approved by the SRC on October 19, 2017, by increasing the aggregate amount of the contracts by \$276,255, for the period commencing July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, in the following specific individual amounts: Bambi Day Care Center, contract increased by \$22,410, to an amount not to exceed \$448,200, in order to support the operation of three (3) additional pre-k service slots;

Children's Village, contract increased by \$134,895, to an amount not to exceed \$1,585,920, in order to support the operation of 17 additional pre-k service slots;

Kinder Academy, contract increased by \$111,150, to an amount not to exceed \$2,260,950, in order to support the operation of 15 additional pre-k service slots; and

Parent-Infant Center, contract increased by \$7,800, to an amount not to exceed \$343,200, in order to support the operation of 1 additional pre-k service slot.

*Description:* The ratification component of this resolution is being requested in accordance with SRC Policy 820, Subsection 8, regarding acceptance and utilization of grant funding. The District did not receive notification of this additional grant award until October 2017, although grantees are being allowed to use funding retroactive to July 1, 2017.

This expansion grant funding from the state will support the operation of a total of 36 new high-quality, comprehensive preschool service slots in partner agencies.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$688,500.00
4E1X-G01-9150-1807-8990 PA Pre-K Counts	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

#### *Academic – Contracts/Payments*

##### **B-6**

#### **Categorical/Grant Fund: \$40,000 Contract with Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of Pennsylvania for Supportive Services to Immigrant Children & Youth**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) of Pennsylvania to provide college/career support, group counseling, and professional development to immigrant students and District staff who interact with immigrant youth, for an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for the period from December 15, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

*Description:* Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) of Pennsylvania, commonly known as HIAS Pennsylvania, provides legal, resettlement, citizenship, and supportive services to immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers from all backgrounds in order to assure their fair treatment and full integration into American society.

HIAS Pennsylvania will work with The School District of Philadelphia, in collaboration with La Puerta Abierta to increase services and enhance instructional opportunities for immigrant youth. HIAS will primarily focus on Central American students at Franklin Learning Center, Furness High School, Edison High School and Northeast High School. These schools have been identified by the Office of Multilingual Curriculum and Programs and the Multilingual Family Support Office because of the high number of recently arrived Central American youth. Services will include the following: informational sessions with students and caretakers to assist with navigating post secondary education options; the establishment of an arts and culture student group to promote artistic

expression as a method of coping with school and community related stressors; and professional development for District personnel who interact with immigrant youth.

Whether its college or career and technical education, traversing post secondary education options and processes can be daunting. HIAS will work with immigrant students and caretakers to explain immigration procedures, college/university admission processes and also offer free individual consultations with students. HIAS will provide bilingual Spanish-English legal staff to facilitate information sessions that will occur at a time most convenient to youth and families, likely to be in the evenings. Additionally, HIAS Pennsylvania will develop handouts in Spanish that will be distributed to participants.

HIAS Pennsylvania will also establish an arts and culture-based student group that will focus on relationship building, emotional language development and strategies for coping with school and community-related stressors using artistic expression. Participating schools include, but are not limited to, Franklin Learning Center, Furness High School, South Philadelphia High School, George Washington High School, Lincoln High School, Bartram High School, Edison High School and Northeast High School.

Lastly, HIAS Pennsylvania's legal staff will offer six professional development training sessions for District personnel who interact with immigrant youth. The trainings will be structured to fit each school's schedule and targeted to address students' needs. One four-hour session will be held during a weekend professional development session planned by the Office of Multilingual Curriculum and Programs and the Multilingual Family Support Office. La Puerta Abierta, HIAS Pennsylvania, and other collaborators will conduct these trainings. Professional development will include information about colleges and universities, various career fields, students' native country conditions that influence children to leave, cultural sensitivity training and an overview of immigration options for youth as they continue their educational journey in the United States.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$40,000.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

#### **B-6**

#### **Categorical/Grant Fund: \$750,000 Acceptance of Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Career and Technical Education Supplemental Equipment Grant**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept, if granted, a Pennsylvania Department of Education Career and Technical Education equipment grant, of up to \$750,000.00 to purchase state-of-the-art instructional equipment for Career and Technical Education Programs of Study, to prepare students to earn industry-recognized certifications and acquire career-readiness skills, for the period commencing December 15, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

*Description:* The School District of Philadelphia, with the necessary support of Occupational Advisory Committees (OAC) and post-secondary partners, applied to The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for funding to purchase state-of-the-art instructional equipment for Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study for an amount no more than \$750,000.00. This grant will improve CTE programming across the District. The equipment to be purchased will support student attainment of technical skills and the achievement of industry-standards-based certifications, thereby providing students with the tools necessary to become prepared for high-skill and high-wage occupations.

The CTE Programs of Study intended to be supported and enhanced through this equipment grant include but not limited to are: Autobody Collision Repair, Automotive Technology, Engineering Technology, Facility & Property Maintenance, Welding Technology, Health Related Technology, Culinary Arts, Sports Marketing & Management, Graphics Design, Digital Media Production, and Film & Video Production. The specific equipment to be purchased will be chosen from the list below (but not limited to) and will be based on need and priority. As funds become available, selected purchases from the list of submitted equipment will be purchased in accordance with all District

procurement policies.

All listed equipment aligns with approved Programs of Study, is recommended by School OAC, meets industry standards, and directly serves delivery of hands-on classroom student instruction. Skills developed are affirmed in Student Performance Assessment Logs, NOCTI, and industry-related Certifications. This Equipment will be used by students to learn by practicing how to manipulate such professional equipment as is currently used in the workplace and in the field.

Autobody Collision Repair - Edison, Randolph & Swenson: Festool Vacuum Sanding unit.

Automotive Technology - Randolph: Hunter Road Force Elite Wheel Balancer, Hunter Tire Changer, Hunter Hawkeye Alignment System.

Engineering Technology - Science Leadership Academy: Jet Box & Pan Brake Foot Clamp & Ultimaker 3 Extended 3D printer.

Culinary Arts - Ben Franklin & Martin Luther King: Two Head Espresso Machine; Washington: Two Head Espresso Machine & Display Case, Refrigerated Bakery; Randolph: Two Head Espresso Machine & Combi Oven, Electric.

Welding Technology - Edison, Ben Franklin, Mastbaum & Randolph: Horizontal Band Saw.

Facility & Property Maintenance - Ben Franklin: Rigging 1 Learning System - Customer Supplied Gantry.  
Sports Mktng. & Mgmt. - Washington: Variquest Perfecta 2400 Poster Design System.

Graphic Design - Dobbins: Format Roll Laminator; KCAPA: Lexmark CX920 Laser Multifunction Printer.

Digital Media Production - CAPA: Camcorder; Northeast : System 3 Pro Velobind & Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR Camera; WPHS: Litepanels Astra 3X bi-color Trio 3 Light kit, Sound Devices 633 Compact field Mixer Kit, Canon Image Prograf Pro - 4000 large format printer, Datavideo 8-inpout HD-SDI - HDMI Mobile Studio, and Oconnor O-Rig Pro Camera Kit, Strummer DNA Mate Box Kit.

Film & Video Production ; KCAPA: Sony Z150 Pro Camcorder, Fiilex K154 Q1000 - DC 1-light Fresnel kit, DJI Inspire 2 Quadcopter bundle, K 5600 Lighting Joker-Bug 800W HMI - 1 light kit, Panasonic Lumix DC-GH5 Mirrorless Micro four thirds Digital Camera, and K 5600 Lighting Joker-Bug 400W HMI - 1 light kit; Roxborough: Sony PMWA-300K1 SDCAM HD Camcorder, Libic RSP-850PD(s) Pedestal System, Eartec Comstar XT-5 5-user full duplex wireless Intercom system, ARRI Sky Panel S30-C LED softlight and Cann EOS 5D Mark III DSLR Camera; Science Leadership Academy: Sony Video Journalist backpack with trolley.

ABC Code/Funding Source \$750,000.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

**B-8 (Updated 12.6.17)**

**Operating Funds: \$5,897 Ratification of Contract with Audio Descriptions Associates, LLC – Workshop RESOLVED**, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery, and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent of a contract with Audio Descriptions Associates, LLC. to conduct a workshop at Overbrook Educational Center on Fundamentals of Audio Description, for an amount not to exceed \$5,897, for the period commencing February 15, 2017 through February 17, 2017.

*Description:* Through a hands-on workshop, describer training was provided according to the Fundamentals of Audio Description developed by Joel Snyder, Ph.D. Participants experienced how Audio Description (AD) makes video images accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. Using words that are succinct, vivid and

imaginative, describers convey the visual image that is not fully accessible to students who are blind or have trouble seeing even with correction.

This is a ratification is required due to a mistake at the school level in not understanding the correct procedures for engaging and compensating a contractor. In the future, no further service will be allowed in Overbrook Educational Center without prior LCA or SRC resolution approval.

ABC Code/Funding Source	\$5,897.00
1100-002-4480-1101-3291 Operating	

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Mr. Jimenez, Dr. McGinley, Ms. Richman, Chair Wilkerson – 5

Nays: 0

Chair Wilkerson stated that the next public meeting of the School Reform Commission is January 18, 2018. The Policy Committee meeting is January 11, 2018.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Joyce S. Wilkerson, Chair  
School Reform Commission

William R. Hite, Jr.  
Superintendent