

January 25, 2024

**AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE KIPP CHICAGO CHARTER SCHOOLS AGREEMENT WITH
CONDITIONS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the KIPP Chicago Charter Schools Agreement (the "Charter School Agreement") with conditions for an additional three-year period. A new Charter School Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Charter School Agreement is not executed by the Board and the charter school's governing board within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. The agreement authorized herein will only take effect upon certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. The Renewal and any related contracts must be executed by the current contract's expiration date in order for first-quarter funding to be released for the new contract term. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

SCHOOL OPERATOR: KIPP Chicago Schools
2007 South Halsted Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608
Phone: 312-733-8108
Contact Person: Benjamin Chereskin, Board President

CHARTER SCHOOL: KIPP Chicago Charter Schools
(f/k/a Academy of Communications and Technology Charter School)
2007 South Halsted Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608
Phone: 312-733-8108
Contact Person: Amy Pouba, Superintendent

OVERSIGHT: Office of Innovation and Incubation
42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: 773-553-1530
Contact Person: Zabrina M. Evans, Executive Director

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Charter School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 97-0122EX4) was for a term commencing July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 2002, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 300 students in grades 6 through 12. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2002, ending June 30, 2004, serving no more than 375 students (authorized by Board Report 02-0123-EX3). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2007 (authorized by Board Report 004-0428-EX3). The charter and Charter School Agreement were then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2012, serving no more than 450 students in grades 7 through 12 (authorized by Board Report 07-03-28-EX2). In May 2010, ACT Charter School requested to voluntarily suspend its educational services after the 2009-2010 school year for a period of no more than two years with an effective date of June 30, 2010 (authorized by Board

Report 10-0526-EX4). In November 2011, ACT Charter School submitted a proposal to reinstate the operation of charter school with KIPP Chicago as an educational management organization providing comprehensive school management services at the charter school beginning in the fall of 2012. As a result, the charter and Charter School Agreement were again renewed with ACT Charter School for a term commencing July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2017, serving no more than 360 students in grades 5 through 8 (authorized by Board Report 12-0125-EX3). The charter and Charter School Agreement were then renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2022, serving no more than 3,279 students in grades K through 8 (authorized by Board Report 16-1207-EX8). The Charter and Charter School agreement were subsequently amended as follows:

- Board Report 17-0828-EX12 was approved to authorize (a) changing the name of KIPP Create Campus to KIPP Academy Chicago Campus in the fall of 2017, (b) a delay in the expansion of the KIPP Create Campus to serve primary grades (K-4) to the fall of 2018 and (c) an extension of the term of the Charter School Agreement from its current end date of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2024. The August 2017 amendment was also approved to authorize an expansion of the grade structure at KIPP Bloom Campus to serve primary grades (K-4), thereby increasing the at-capacity enrollment of the campus by 600 to 960 students in the fall of 2018. The overall at-capacity enrollment of the charter school will increase by 600 students to 3,879 students in the fall of 2018.

Board Report 19-0424-EX5 was approved to authorize an additional location for KIPP Academy Chicago Campus at an independent facility at 116 N. Leclaire Avenue beginning in the fall of 2019.

CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL: KIPP Chicago submitted a renewal proposal on July 18, 2023, to continue the operation of KIPP Chicago. The charter schools shall continue to be located according to the chart below and shall continue to serve grades K through 8 with a maximum enrollment of 3,879 students:

Campus Name	Year Opened	Address	At Capacity Grades	At Capacity Enrollment
KIPP Academy Chicago	2012	4818 W. Ohio Street	5-8	935
	2018	116 N. Leclaire Avenue	K-4	
KIPP Bloom	2013	5515 S. Lowe Avenue	K-8	960
KIPP Ascend	2014	1440 S. Christiana Avenue and 1616 S. Avers Avenue	K-8	949
KIPP One Academy	2016	730 N. Pulaski Road	K-8	1,035

The agreement will incorporate an accountability plan in which the Board evaluates the charter school each year based on numerous factors related to its academic, financial, and operational performance.

CHARTER EVALUATION: After receiving the charter renewal proposal, the Office of Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of KIPP Chicago Charter Schools' academic performance, financial viability, and legal and contract compliance. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, academic results, financial performance, governance documents, parental issues, facilities surveys, and special education documentation. A public hearing was held on January 9, 2024, for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including KIPP Chicago. The Office of Innovation and Incubation recommends that KIPP Chicago Charter School be authorized to continue operating as a charter school based on the school's performance on these and other accountability criteria.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of KIPP Chicago charter and agreement is being extended for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The following precondition shall be required before the Board of Education of the City of Chicago enters into an agreement with KIPP Chicago Schools:

- The school currently opts to utilize the CPS Student Code of Conduct. However, if it decides to use its own by April 3, 2024, it must be modified to explicitly state that the school principal may not assign K-2 students out-of-school suspensions.

The following conditions shall be incorporated into the Charter Agreement between the Board of Education of the City of Chicago and KIPP Chicago Schools:

- Due to their Summative Designations, KIPP - Academy, KIPP - Ascend, and KIPP - Bloom must participate in the Innovation & Incubation Academic Support process. This process requires schools to complete a Self-Reflection template, the District-managed Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP), and participate in joint progress monitoring and Continuous Improvement activities. The Academic Support process runs annually, offering campuses the opportunity to exit based on criteria defined by Innovation and Incubation. Campuses not meeting the annual exit criteria will remain in Academic Support until they meet them.
- All campuses must demonstrate progress toward implementing the Recommendations codified in the Special Education Renewal Site Visit Report by the Office of Diverse Learner Supports and Services (ODLSS).
- On an annual basis throughout the term, the school must meet state and federal rules governing English Learners as demonstrated by a rating of Partial or higher on formal compliance reports from the Office of Language and Cultural Education (OLCE). Chicago Public Schools has designated OLCE to conduct school visits and determine school compliance with state and federal rules regarding English Learner programs.
- On an annual or more frequent basis throughout the term, the network must ensure the accuracy of teachers reported as licensed in the Employee Roster by validating it with the ISBE Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS). The network will notify staff in writing of deficiencies and pending licensure renewal deadlines, as needed. On an annual basis throughout the term, the network must demonstrate compliance with the requirement of 75% teacher licensure.
- On a bi-annual basis throughout the term, each applicable campus must submit a facility deficiency repair plan to communicate the status of the facility and ADA issues identified in the Facilities Assessment Reports for the campuses.

- By July 1st, 2024, and on an annual basis throughout the term, no one person shall hold a directorship and an executive position or other position with substantial financial decision-making authority.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to the charter school, in the written Charter School Agreement and amendment. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Charter School Agreement and amendment. Authorize the Executive Director of the Office of Innovation and Incubation to issue a letter notifying the Illinois State Board of Education of the action(s) approved hereunder and to submit the approved proposal and signed Charter School Agreement to the Illinois State Board of Education for certification. Authorize the General Counsel to further negotiate and execute any amendments to the Charter School Agreement required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

LSC REVIEW: Approval of the Local School Council is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2024-25 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY24 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

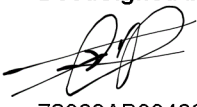
Inspector General - Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts - The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the Provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3, which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness - The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics - The Board's Ethics Code adopted May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

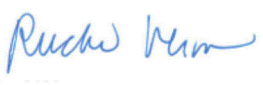
Approved for Consideration:

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Alfonso Carmona
Chief Portfolio Officer

Approved:

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Pedro Martinez
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Pedro Martinez
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: ^{DS} *ES*

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Ruchi Verma
General Counsel