January 25, 2024

## AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the Legacy Charter School Agreement (the "Charter School Agreement") with conditions for an additional four-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: Legacy Charter School

3318 West Ogden Avenue

Chicago, IL 60623 Phone: (773) 542-1640

Contact Person: Andrell Holloway, Board Chair

CHARTER SCHOOL: Legacy Charter School

3318 West Ogden Avenue

Chicago, IL 60623 Phone: (773) 542-1640

Contact Person: Liz Goss, Executive Director

**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 05-0126-EX7) was for a term commencing July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2010, and authorized the operation of a charter school serving no more than 482 students in grades K through 8. The charter and Charter School Agreement were subsequently renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2010, and ending June 30, 2015 (authorized by Board Report 10-0526-EX9). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2020, serving no more than 554 students (authorized by Board Report 15-0527-EX12). The charter and Charter School Agreement were further renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2024 (authorized by Board Report 20-0122-EX6).

**CHARTER RENEWAL PROPOSAL:** Legacy Charter School submitted a renewal proposal on July 28, 2023 to continue the operation of Legacy Charter School. The charter school shall continue to be located at 3318 W. Ogden Avenue and shall continue to serve grades K through 8 with a maximum enrollment of 554 students.

The Charter School Agreement will incorporate an accountability plan in which the charter school is evaluated by the Board 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 Legacy Charter School's 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 Legacy Charter School. The Office of Innovation and Incubation recommends that Legacy 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 Legacy Charter School's charter and agreement is being extended for a four (4) year term commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2028.

**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 Legacy Charter School:

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 Legacy Charter School:

- Due to their Summative Designation, the school 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. Schools not meeting the annual exit criteria will remain in Academic Support until they meet them.
- On an annual basis throughout the term, the organization must receive a rating of "Meets Standards" or higher on the Legal Compliance and Document Timeliness indicators on the Financial and Compliance Scorecard generated by CPS.
- The school 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 network must submit all lottery materials by the deadlines dictated by CPS requirements and the Charter Agreement.
- On a bi-annual basis throughout the term, the school must submit a facility deficiency repair plan
  to communicate the status of the facility and ADA issues identified in the Facilities Assessment
  Report.

**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:** 

DocuSigned by:

72863AB884664C6. Alfonso Carmona **Chief Portfolio Officer** 

Approved as to Legal Form:

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**General Counsel** 

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

Pedro Martiney

AA17786A4B2446C Pedro Martinez **Chief Executive Officer**