

Valtena G. Brown, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF TWO CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS AND FIVE AMENDED CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

APPLICATIONS

Section 1002.33, F.S., authorizes the establishment of charter schools in Florida. As provided in Section 1002.33(6), F.S., and School Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools*, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) receives and reviews charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations in the community. As of today, for the 2014-2015 application cycle, three applications have been received to operate a charter school in Miami-Dade County. Pursuant to Section 1002.33(6)(b)(3), F.S., a sponsor must approve or deny an application no later than 60 calendar days after the application is received unless the applicants have agreed in writing to extend the statutory timeline.

EVALUATION

Pursuant to School Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools*, (School Board Policy) the District reviews all applications using an evaluation instrument developed by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) and may include additional information or documents requested by the District. The Standard Model Application includes standards of evaluation, certification and assurance declarations. The Sponsor shall deny any application that does not comply with the statutory requirements and/or the Sponsor's instructions for charter school applications.

The Superintendent has appointed the Application Review Committee (ARC) with the responsibility to review and evaluate charter school applications after an initial technical review conducted by staff. The ARC is comprised of representatives from various District departments and is charged with identifying deficiencies in the written application and/or areas that require clarification to fully evaluate the quality of the application or the capacity of the applicant to properly implement the proposed plan.

Pursuant to School Board Policy, 9800, *Charter Schools*, two (2) charter school applications are being presented in this Board Item for final consideration by the School Board. Detailed in the following chart is a summary of the charter school applications. Additional details can be found in Attachment A which is provided under separate cover but is included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

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Table 1: Charter Applications					
Type of Application		Proposed Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
1.	Traditional	Renaissance Charter School at North Miami	Renaissance Charter School, Inc.	Approval	Attachment A
2.	Traditional	Renaissance Charter School at South Miami			

AMENDED CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTS

Section 1002.33(7), F. S., states that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contract between the charter school and the School Board following a public meeting. Pursuant to School Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools*, four (4) of the five (5) amended contracts presented on this agenda, were required to be negotiated by the M-DCPS' Contract Review Committee (CRC) prior to submission to the Superintendent of Schools' final decision. The recommendations are as follows:

Table 2: Charter Contract Amendments					
Type of Amendment		Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
1.	Enrollment Configuration	iMater Academy Middle School	Mater Academy, Inc.	Approval	Attachment B
2.	High Performing/ Enrollment Configuration*/Facility	Mater Academy			
3.	High Performing/ Enrollment Configuration*	Mater Academy Charter High School	Mater Academy, Inc.	N/A	
4.	Location/Grade Level Configuration	Somerset Oaks Academy	Somerset Academy, Inc.	Approval	
5.	Enrollment Configuration	Sports Leadership and Management (SLAM) Charter Middle School	Sports Leadership and Management Foundation, Inc.		

Revised

*Pursuant to s.1002.33, "high performing" is a designation, made by the Commission of Education for certain charter schools that allows them to increase enrollment, expand grade levels, submit quarterly rather than monthly financial reports, consolidate charters, and/or modify charter term to 15 years.

Any significant increase in charter school student enrollment (Charter FTE) directly impacts the District's operating budget as well as instructional and non-instructional staffing levels. Four (4) of the five (5) charter school contracts in this Board item represent an increase in overall charter school enrollment. To ensure that the District's financial position remained positive, Board authorization is requested to allow a Reduction-in-Force/Layoff only if it becomes necessary. Any such Reduction-in-Force/Layoff affecting instructional and non-instructional staff would be implemented in accordance with School Board policies and applicable collective bargaining agreements. The number of position reductions will not exceed the stated Initial Loss included in this item and will be re-evaluated and adjusted in subsequent years to reflect changes in FTE. The impact caused by each contract is provided in Attachment B.

Table 3: Total Loss						
District Impact	Initial Loss		Initial Loss - Human Capital			
	Total FEEP Revenue (\$)	Projected Charter FTE (#)	Instructional Positions		Non-Instructional Positions	Total Positions
			Core¹	Non-Core²		
Amendments (4)	\$4,039,290	666	32	9	28	69
TOTAL INITIAL LOSS:	\$4,039,290	666	32	9	28	69

¹ Core includes: elementary education, language arts/reading, mathematics, science, and social science.

² Non-Core includes: electives and all other subject areas and programs.

Copies of the applications and contract amendments have been transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. Approve two (2) charter school applications and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract reflecting the contents of the application as approved by the School Board for:
 - a. Renaissance Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Renaissance Charter School at North Miami; and,
 - b. Renaissance Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Renaissance Charter School at South Miami.
2. Approve five (5) amended charter school contracts with:
 - a. Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of iMater Academy Middle School, to increase maximum enrollment (i.) from 600 students to a maximum of 900 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2015; and (ii.) from 550 students to a maximum of 1,000 students, commencing with the 2015-2016 school year and ending on June 30, 2018;
 - b. Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy, (i.) under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to increase maximum enrollment from 1,200 students to a maximum of 1,380 students; and (ii.) add a facility located at 8003 N.W. 103rd Street, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016; Folio No. 27-3003-001-0110, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2018;
 - c. Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Charter High School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to increase maximum enrollment from 1,710 students to a maximum of 1,967 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2027;
 - d. Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Oaks Academy, to (i.) modify the grade level configuration from Kindergarten through grade eight to Kindergarten through grade six; and (ii.) relocate from 1700 Krome Avenue (a.k.a. 47 N.W. 16th Street), Homestead, Florida 33030 to 1000 Old Dixie Highway, Homestead, Florida 33030; Folio No.

10-7907-018-0050; 10-7907-018-0080; and 10-7907-018-0090, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2015; and,

- e. Sports Leadership and Management Foundation, Inc., on behalf of Sports Leadership and Management (SLAM) Charter Middle School to increase maximum enrollment from 550 students to a maximum of 700 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.

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3. Approve a Reduction-in-Force/Layoff as needed, only to the extent described in this item as Total Initial Loss, in accordance with School Board policies and applicable collective bargaining agreements.

VGB:elg
Attachment

**School Board Agenda Item C-30
ATTACHMENT A**

APPLICATIONS:

1. Renaissance Charter School at North Miami
2. Renaissance Charter School at South Miami

Below are details of the charter school applications recommended for approval to the Superintendent of Schools:

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)
Name of School	Legal Entity	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Theme/ Focus
		Initial/ Exp.	Initial Year		
			Maximum Capacity		
APPLICATIONS					
Renaissance Charter School at North Miami ESP: Charter Schools USA ARC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.	Renaissance Charter School, Inc.	5 years	K-6	661	None
		2015/ 2020	K-8	1,145	
Renaissance Charter School at South Miami ESP: Charter Schools USA ARC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.		5 years	K-6	661	None
		2015/ 2020	K-8	1,145	

Copies of the applications and application evaluations have been transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

**School Board Agenda Item C-30
ATTACHMENT B**

AMENDMENTS:

1. iMater Academy Middle School
2. Mater Academy
3. Mater Academy Charter High School
4. Somerset Oaks Academy
5. Sports Leadership and Management (SLAM) Charter Middle School

The specifics of the amended contracts recommended to the Superintendent for approval are as follows:

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT	
	Region/Feeder Pattern	Initial/Exp.	Current Year				2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/Positions	Instr.
AMENDMENTS								
iMater Academy Middle School ESP: Academica Dade, LLC CRC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.	651 W. 20 Street Hialeah, Florida 33010	5 years	6-8	537	Approval of the first amendment to the contract to increase maximum enrollment: (i) from 600 students to a maximum of 900 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2015; and (ii.) from 550 students to a maximum of 1,000 students, commencing with the 2015-2016 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.	C	\$1,364,625	
	North Region Westland Hialeah Senior High School	2013/2018	6-8	600			14	9

(1)/(2)(3)		(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT		
	Region/Feeder Pattern	Initial/Exp.	Current Year				2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/Positions	Instr.	Non-Instr.
			Maximum Capacity						
Mater Academy ESP: Academica Dade, LLC CRC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.	7700 N.W. 98 Street Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016	15 years	K-5	733	Approval of the second amendment to the first renewal contract to (i.) increase maximum enrollment from 1,200 students to a maximum of 1,380 students, pursuant to Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools ; and (ii.) add a permanent campus located at 8003 N.W. 103 rd St., Hialeah Gardens, FL 33016; Folio No. 27-3003-001-0110, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.	A	\$818,775		
	North Region Hialeah Gardens Senior High School	2003/2018	K-5	1,200			9	6	

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT	
	Region/ Feeder Pattern	Initial/ Exp.	Current Year				2014-2015 SY	Revenue (\$)/ Positions
			Maximum Capacity				Instr.	Non-Instr.
Mater Academy Charter High School ESP: Academica Dade, LLC <i>No CRC required as per School Board Policy 9800, Charter Schools.</i>	7901 N.W. 103 Street Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016	15 years	9-12	1,712	Approval of the first amendment to the first renewal contract to increase maximum enrollment from 1,710 students to a maximum of 1,967 students, pursuant to Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2027.	TBD	\$1,170,545	
	North Region Hialeah Gardens Senior High School	2012/2027	9-12	1,710			11	8
Somerset Oaks Academy ESP: Academica Dade, LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.</i>	1700 Krome Avenue (a.k.a. 47 N.W. 16 th Street) Homestead, Florida 33030	5 years	K-8	68	Approval of the first amendment to the contract to (i.) modify the grade levels configuration from K-8 to K-6; and (ii.) relocate from 1700 Krome Ave. (a.k.a. 47 N.W. 16 th St.), Homestead, FL 33030 to 1000 Old Dixie Hwy, Homestead, FL 33030; Folio No's: 10-7907-018-0050; 10-7907-018-0080; 10-7907-018-0090, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2015.	NG	N/A -No increase in FTE.	
	South Region South Dade Senior High	2010/2015	K-8	900				

(1)/(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/ Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT	
	Region/ Feeder Pattern	Initial/ Exp.	Current Year				2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/ Positions	
			Maximum Capacity				Instr.	Non-Instr.
Sports Leadership and Management (SLAM) Charter Middle School ESP: Academica Dade, LLC CRC recommended approval on July 21, 2014.	604 N.W. 12 Avenue Miami, Florida 33136	5 years	6-8	441	Approval of the first amendment to the contract to increase maximum enrollment from 550 students to a maximum of 700 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.	C	\$685,345	
	ET Booker T. Washington Senior High	2013/ 2018	6-8	440			7	5
REVENUE (\$):							\$4,039,290	
Instructional Positions:							41	
Non-Instructional Positions:							28	
TOTAL REVENUE (\$):							\$4,039,290	
TOTAL POSITIONS:							69	

Initial Year Loss: The revenue and positions indicated as "Initial Year Loss" provide an estimate of the potential impact on the District's General Fund (\$4,039,290), instructional staffing (41 positions), and non-instructional staffing (28 positions). The loss of revenue is based on 95% of FEFP funds per student and 75% of the initial year enrollment projection that the District will not realize for the current fiscal year.

Copies of the contract amendments have been transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.