

Valtena G. Brown, Chief Operating Officer
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF A CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION

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. On August 1, 2013, the School Board received 43 applications 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 Sponsor's instructions for charter school applications.

The Superintendent has appointed two committees with the responsibility to review and evaluate charter school applications: Technical Review Committee (TRC) and Application Review Committee (ARC). These committees are comprised of representatives from various District departments and are 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, one (1) charter school application is being presented for final consideration by the School Board. Detailed in the chart below is a summary of the charter school application. The specific reasons for each recommendation can be found in Attachment A and the evaluation form which is included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

Charter Applications				
Type of Application	Proposed Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
Approvals				
1.	Traditional	Renaissance Charter High School at Miami-Dade	Renaissance Charter School, Inc.	Approval Attachment A

POTENTIAL NET FINANCIAL IMPACT TO THE DISTRICT

Currently a total of twenty (20) charter school applications are scheduled to open in the 2014-15 SY (Schools in the Pipeline); seven charter school applications from previous cohorts and an additional thirteen (13) applications from the most recent application cycle, the 2013 Cohort. Moreover, recommended for approval in this Board Item is one additional application. Pursuant to School Board Policy, *“an application shall be automatically rescinded, without further action by the Sponsor, if the applicant does not enter into contract negotiations or open the school within: (1) the timeframe specified by law, or (2) the date of extension which has been mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties.”* Not until a charter contract is approved and executed, does a charter school have the authority to open and operate. In the event that all the proposed schools open next school year as anticipated, the estimated net impact to the District is summarized below.

Potential Impact of New Charter Applications		
	Total FEFP (\$ Revenue)	Initial Year Loss (No. of Positions)
Schools in the Pipeline (20)	\$38,624,379	650
2013 Application Cohort (1) (Attachment A)	\$5,665,850	89
Total Initial Loss	\$44,290,229	739

(The loss of revenue is based on 95% of FEFP funds per student and 75% of the initial year enrollment)

Copies of the application and evaluation 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 one charter school application and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract reflecting the contents of the applications as approved by the School Board for Renaissance Charter School, Inc. on behalf of Renaissance Charter High School at Miami-Dade.
2. 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
Attachments

**School Board Agenda Item C-70
ATTACHMENT A**

APPLICATION:

- Renaissance Charter High School at Miami-Dade

The M-DCPS' Charter School Application Review Committee (ARC) reviewed the charter school application listed below and recommended approval to the Superintendent.

(1)/(2)(3)	(5)(6)	(7)	(8)		(10)	(12)	(13)	
Name of School	Legal Entity	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment	Founding Governing Board Members	Focus Theme	DISTRICT IMPACT 2014-15 SY	
		Initial Exp.	Current or Initial Year				Revenue (\$)/ Positions	
			Maximum Capacity				Instr	Non Instr
APPLICATIONS								
Renaissance Charter High School at Miami-Dade ESP: Charter School USA <i>ARC recommended approval on November 7, 2013.</i>	Renaissance Charter School, Inc.	5 years	9-12	1,200	The members of the Governing Board are: Ken J. Haiko, Sales Representative, Packaging Corporation of America; Dennis P. Clark, CEO, Risk Assessment Solutions; Thomas P. Wheeler, Retired; Margaret I. Wells, Data Analyst, Homestead Hospital; and John J. O'Brien, Retired.	None	\$5,665,850	
		2014/2019	9-12	1,200			53	36
TOTAL REVENUE (\$):							\$5,665,850	
Total Instructional Positions:							53	
Total Non-Instructional Positions:							36	
TOTAL POSITIONS:							89	

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 (\$5,665,850), instructional staffing (53 positions), and non-instructional staffing (36 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.

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