

Valtena G. Brown, Chief Operating Officer
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF ONE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION, TWO NEW CHARTER SCHOOL VIRTUAL CONTRACTS, TWO CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWALS AND FOUR AMENDED CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

APPLICATION

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 three applications have been received for the 2014 cycle, 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 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, 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. Additional details can be found in Attachment A and in the evaluation form which is included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

Type of Application	Proposed Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
1. Traditional	True North Classical Academy	True North Classical Academy, Inc.	Approval	Attachment A

NEW CHARTER CONTRACTS, CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWALS AND 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*, the M-DCPS' Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) negotiated two (2) new virtual charter school contracts, two (2) charter school renewals and four (4) contract amendments. The recommendations are as follows:

Table 2: Charter Virtual Contracts					
Type of Contract	Proposed Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation	
1.	5-Year Initial Virtual Charter	International Studies Virtual Academy	International Studies Charter High School, Inc.	Approval	Attachment B
2.	5-Year Initial Virtual Charter	Somerset Virtual Academy Middle High	Somerset Virtual Academy, Inc.		

Table 3: Charter Contract Renewals					
Type of Renewal	Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation	
1.	High Performing/15-year Renewal*	Somerset Academy Charter High School	Somerset Academy, Inc.	Approval	Attachment B
2.	High Performing/ 15-year Renewal*	Somerset Academy Charter Middle School			

Table 4: Charter Contract Amendments					
Type of Amendment	Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation	
1.	Administrative Amendment/Name Change	ASPIRA Eugenio Maria de Hostos Youth Leadership	ASPIRA of Florida, Inc.	N/A	Attachment B
2.	High Performing/ Name Change/Grade & Enrollment Configuration*	ASPIRA South Youth Leadership Charter School		N/A	
3.	High Performing/ Enrollment Configuration*	Mater Academy Charter Middle School	Mater Academy, Inc.	Approval	
4.	High Performing/ Enrollment Configuration*	Miami Arts Charter School	Miami Arts, Inc.	N/A	

**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. Only five (5) of the eight (8) charter school contracts in this Board item represent an increase in overall charter school enrollment. To ensure that the District's financial position remains 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 5: Total Loss						
District Impact	Initial Loss		Initial Loss - Human Capital			
	Total FEFP Revenue (\$)	Projected Charter FTE (#)	Instructional Positions		Non-Instructional Positions	Total Positions
			Core ¹	Non-Core ²		
New (2) [2014-2015 SY]	\$794,515	131	6	3	6	15
Amendments (3)	\$8,230,675	1,315	55	22	53	130
TOTAL INITIAL LOSS:	\$9,025,190	1,446	61	25	59	145

Copies of the applications, contracts, amendments and renewals documents 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 (1) charter school application and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract reflecting the contents of the application as approved by the School Board for True North Classical Academy, Inc. on behalf of True North Classical Academy.
2. Approve two (2) new charter virtual contracts with:
 - a. International Studies Charter High School, Inc., on behalf of International Studies Virtual Academy, for a term of five years, commencing with the 2013-2014 school year and ending on June 30, 2018, as a deferral was granted for one year; and
 - b. Somerset Virtual Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Virtual Academy Middle High, for a term of five years, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2019.
3. Approve two (2) renewed charter contracts with:
 - a. Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy High School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to renew the contract for a 15-year term, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2029; and
 - b. Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy Charter Middle School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to renew the contract

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.

for a 15-year term, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2029.

4. Approve four (4) amended charter school contracts with:
 - a. ASPIRA of Florida, Inc., on behalf of ASPIRA Eugenio Maria de Hostos Youth Leadership, to change the school's name to ASPIRA Arts DECO Charter, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2016;
 - b. ASPIRA of Florida, Inc., on behalf of ASPIRA South Youth Leadership Charter School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to (i.) change the school's name to ASPIRA Leadership and College Preparatory Academy; (ii.) add Kindergarten through grade five; and (iii.) increase enrollment from 375 students to a maximum of 504 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2018;
 - c. Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Charter Middle School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to (i.) increase enrollment from 1,495 students to a maximum of 1,719 students; and (ii.) add an adjacent 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, 2028; and
 - d. Miami Arts, Inc., on behalf of Miami Arts Charter School, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., **High-Performing Charter Schools**, to increase enrollment from 1,250 students to a maximum of 2,650 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2024.
5. 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**

APPLICATION:

1. True North Classical Academy

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

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)
Name of School	Legal Entity	Term Initial/ Exp.	Grade Levels	Enrollment Initial Year Maximum Capacity	Theme/ Focus
APPLICATION					
True North Classical Academy ESP: N/A <i>ARC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	True North Classical Academy, Inc.	5 years	K-5	224	Classical Liberal Arts
		2015/ 2020	K-8	728	

Copy of the application has 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**

NEW VIRTUAL CONTRACTS:

1. International Studies Virtual Academy
2. Somerset Virtual Academy Middle High

RENEWALS:

1. Somerset Academy Charter High School
2. Somerset Academy Charter Middle School

AMENDMENTS:

1. ASPIRA Eugenio Maria de Hostos Youth Leadership
2. ASPIRA South Youth Leadership Charter School
3. Mater Academy Charter Middle School
4. Miami Arts Charter School

The specifics of the new virtual contracts, renewal contracts and 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)	Theme/ Focus	DISTRICT IMPACT 2014-2015 SY	
	Feeder Pattern	Initial/ Exp.	Initial Year	Maximum Capacity			Revenue (\$)/ Positions	Instr.
VIRTUAL CONTRACTS								
International Studies Virtual Academy ESP: Academica Dade LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	Office: 11100 N.W. 27 th Street Doral, Florida 33172	5 years	6-12	75	Approval of a 5-year charter school contract commencing with the 2013-2014 school year and ending on June 30, 2018, as a deferral was granted for one year.	Virtual	\$339,640	
	N/A	2013/2018	6-12	250			4	3
Somerset Virtual Academy Middle High ESP: Academica Dade LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	Office: 11100 N.W. 27 th Street Doral, Florida 33172	5 years	6-11	100	Approval of a 5-year charter school contract commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2019.	Virtual	\$454,875	
	N/A	2014/2019	6-12	300			5	3

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s) Feeder Pattern	Term Initial/Exp.	Grade Levels Current Year Maximum Capacity	Enrollment Current Year Maximum Capacity	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT 2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/ Positions Instr. Non-Instr.
RENEWALS							
Somerset Academy Charter High School ESP: Academica Dade, LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	23255 S.W. 115 Avenue Homestead, Florida 33032	10 years	9-12	341	Approval of the first renewal to the charter school contract under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , for a term of fifteen (15) years, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2029.	A	N/A – No increase in FTE.
	Homestead Senior High	2004/2014	9-12	500			
Somerset Academy Charter Middle School ESP: Academica Dade, LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	18491 S.W. 134 Avenue Miami, Florida 33177	10 years	6-8	232	Approval of the first renewal to the charter school contract under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , for a term of fifteen (15) years, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2029.	A	N/A – No increase in FTE.
	Miami Southridge Senior High	2004/2014	6-8	500			

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)		
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment Current Year	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT 2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/ Positions		
	Feeder Pattern	Initial/Exp.	Maximum Capacity				Instr.	Non-Instr.	
AMENDMENTS									
ASPIRA Eugenio Maria de Hostos Youth Leadership ESP: ASPIRA of Florida, Inc. <i>No CRC required as per School Board Policy 9800, Charter Schools.</i>	One N.E. 19 th Street Miami, Florida 33132	5 years	K-8	456	Approval of the second amendment to the contract to change the School's name to ASPIRA Arts DECO Charter, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year.	C	N/A – No increase in FTE.		
	Booker T. Washington Senior High	2011/2016	K-8	850					
ASPIRA South Youth Leadership Charter School ESP: ASPIRA of Florida, Inc. <i>No CRC required as per School Board Policy 9800, Charter Schools.</i>	13330 S.W. 288 Street Homestead, Florida 33033	5 years	6-8	307	Approval of the third amendment to the charter school contract, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , (i.) to add grades levels Kindergarten through five; (ii.) increase enrollment from 375 students to a maximum of 504 students; and change the school's name to ASPIRA Leadership and College Prep. Academy, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2015.	B	\$588,305		
	Homestead Senior High	2010/2015	6-8	375			6	4	

(1)(2)(3)	(4)(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
Name of School	School Location(s)	Term	Grade Levels	Enrollment Current Year	Special Provisions and/or Requested Action(s)	2013 School Grade/Rating	DISTRICT IMPACT	
	Feeder Pattern	Initial/Exp.	Maximum Capacity	2014-2015 SY Revenue (\$)/ Positions			Non-Instr.	Instr.
Mater Academy Charter Middle School ESP: Academica Dade LLC <i>CRC recommended approval on June 24, 2014.</i>	7901 N.W. 103 rd Street Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016	15 years	6-8	1,350	Approval of the first amendment to the first renewal charter school contract, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , to increase enrollment from 1,495 students to a maximum of 1,719 students; and (ii.) add an adjacent facility located at 8003 N.W. 103 rd Street, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016; Folio No. 27-3003-001-0110; commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2028.	A	\$1,018,920	
	Hialeah Gardens Senior High School							
	10505 N.W. 80 th Avenue Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016	2013/2028	6-8	1,495			10 7	
	Hialeah Gardens Senior High School							

(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 2014-2015 SY		
	Feeder Pattern	Initial/Exp.	Current Year	Maximum Capacity			Revenue (\$)/Positions	Instr.	Non-Instr.
Miami Arts Charter School ESP: Miami Arts, Inc. <i>No CRC required as per School Board Policy 9800, Charter Schools</i>	Campus 1: 3900 Biscayne Boulevard Miami, Florida 33137	15 years	6-12	691	Approval of the third amendment to the charter school contract, under Section 1002.331(3), F.S., High-Performing Charter Schools , to increase enrollment from 1,250 students to a maximum of 2,650 students, commencing with the 2014-2015 school year and ending on June 30, 2024.	A	\$6,623,450		
	Booker T. Washington Senior High								
	Campus 2: 3000 S.E. Ninth Street Homestead, Florida 33033	2009/2024	6-12	1,250			61	42	
	Homestead Senior High								
2014-2015 School Year									
							REVENUE (\$):	\$9,025,190	
							Instructional Positions:	86	
							Non-Instructional Positions:	59	
							TOTAL REVENUE (\$) (2014-2015 SY):	\$9,025,190	
							TOTAL POSITIONS:	145	

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 (\$9,025,190), instructional staffing (86 positions), and non-instructional staffing (59 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 contracts, renewals and amendment documents 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.