

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THREE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

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. Section 1002.33(6)(B)(3), F.S., allows for submission of charter applications at any time of the year and requires School Boards to approve or deny them no later than 60 days after receipt, unless the applicant and the sponsor mutually agree to a later date. This item recommends approval of three (3) charter applications received for the 2016 cycle. If approved, these charter schools would open for the 2017-2018 school year.

APPLICATION EVALUATION

Pursuant to School Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools*, 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 and an Applicant History Addendum. The Sponsor shall deny any application that does not comply with the State's statutory requirements and rules 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 is conducted by staff. The ARC is comprised of representatives from various District departments and is charged with identifying strengths and 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, three (3) charter school applications are being presented for final consideration by the School Board. Details are contained in the following table. Additional details for each application can be found in Attachment A, which is provided under separate cover but is included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

**Revised
D-65**

Table 1: Applications Recommended for Approval					
Type of Application		Proposed Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
1.	Standard/At-risk	Phoenix Academy of Excellence	Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc.	Approval	Attachment A
2.	Standard/At-risk	Phoenix Academy of Excellence-North		Approval	
3.	Standard/Classical Education	True North Classical Academy High School	True North Classical Academy, Inc.	Approval	

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. The charter school applications presented in this Board item represent an increase in overall charter school enrollment. Table 2 summarizes the potential impact caused by these applications.

Table 2: Potential 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		
Applications (3) [2017-2018 SY]	\$2,395,675	395	18	6	15	39
TOTAL INITIAL LOSS:	\$2,395,675	395	18	6	15	39

DUE PROCESS

To ensure proper notice and due process, each applicant was noticed of the Superintendent's intent to recommend approval to the School Board and provided a copy of the final evaluation prior to this School Board Meeting. The applicants were also informed of the School Board's Personnel Services and Student and School Support Committee Meeting and procedures for requesting to appear before the School Board at meetings and public hearings.

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 the 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.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve three (3) charter school applications and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate contracts reflecting the contents of the applications, for:

1. Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc., on behalf of Phoenix Academy of Excellence;
2. Phoenix Academy of Excellence-North on behalf of Phoenix Academy of Excellence; and
3. True North Classical Academy, Inc., on behalf of True North Classical Academy High School.

VGB:elg
Attachment

**School Board Agenda Item D-65
ATTACHMENT A**

APPLICATIONS:

1. Phoenix Academy of Excellence
2. Phoenix Academy of Excellence-North
3. True North Classical Academy High School

The M-DCPS' Charter School Application Review Committee (ARC) reviewed three (3) charter school applications. Listed below are the recommended approvals to the Superintendent.

(1)/(2)(3) Name of School	(4)(5) Legal Entity	(6) Term Initial/ Exp.	(7)		(8) Focus/ Theme	(9) Founding/ Gov. Board Members	(10) POTENTIAL DISTRICT IMPACT 2017-2018 SY Revenue (\$)/Positions	
			Grade Levels	Enrollment			Inst.	Non- Instr.
			Initial Year Maximum Capacity					
APPLICATIONS								
Phoenix Academy of Excellence ESP: N/A ARC recommended approval on January 29, 2016.	Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc.	5 years	6-8	176	At-risk	Governing Board Members: Ms. Dorothy Davis, Retired; and Ms. Teresa Pickett, Retired.	\$800,580	
		2017/2022	6-8	396			8	5
Phoenix Academy of Excellence - North ESP: N/A ARC recommended approval on January 29, 2016.		5 years	6-8	176	At-risk		\$800,580	
		2017/2022	6-8	396			8	5
True North Classical Academy High School ESP: N/A ARC recommended approval on January 29, 2016.	True North Classical Academy, Inc.	5 years	9-10	175	Classical Education	\$794,515		
		2017/2022	9-12	800		8	5	
TOTAL 2017-2018 SY REVENUE (\$):							\$2,395,675	
Total 2017-2018 SY Instructional Positions:							24	
Total 2017-2018 SY Non-Instructional Positions:							15	

Added

Potential Initial Year Loss (2017-2018 SY): The revenue and positions indicated as "Initial Year Loss" provide an estimate of the potential impact on the District's General Fund (\$2,395,675) instructional staffing (24 positions), and non-instructional staffing (15 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 applications and the evaluations will be 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.