

Office of Strategic Planning & Initiatives  
Ms. Tiffanie A. Pauline, Chief Strategy Officer

**SUBJECT:               REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF ONE NEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION, ONE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT AMENDMENT, AND ONE SCHOOL OF HOPE PERFORMANCE-BASED AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

**COMMITTEE:           PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:                   RELEVANT, RIGOROUS AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS**

**NEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION**

Section 1002.33, F.S. authorizes the establishment of charter schools by individuals and/or organizations. As provided in section 1002.33(6), F.S. and School Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools* (Policy 9800), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) (District) receives and reviews charter school applications for charter schools to be opened at a time determined by the applicant. M-DCPS then submits the applications with a recommendation for approval or denial to the School Board. Section 1002.33(6)(b)(2)(a), F.S. requires that the School Board, as the Sponsor, approve or deny an application no later than 90 calendar days after receipt, unless the Sponsor and the applicant mutually agree in writing to temporarily postpone the vote to a specific date.

**CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION EVALUATION**

Pursuant to Policy 9800, the District reviews all applications using an evaluation instrument developed by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and may request additional information. The FDOE Standard Model Application includes standards of evaluation, certification and assurance declarations, and an Applicant History Addendum.

Policy 9800 requires the Superintendent to convene the charter school Application Review Committee (ARC) to meet publicly, conduct final reviews of charter school applications, and to provide the Superintendent with a recommendation for presentation to the School Board. The ARC met and identified strengths and/or deficiencies in the written application, as well as areas that required clarification, to fully evaluate the quality of the application and the capacity of the applicant to properly implement the proposed plan.

Pursuant to Policy 9800, one (1) charter school application and the associated evaluation is being presented for final approval or denial by the School Board as set forth herein. This application, if approved, has proposed to open for the 2026-2027 school year. It is important to note that, pursuant to section 1002.33(6)(b)(4), F.S., upon written notice at least thirty (30) calendar days before the first day of school, an approved applicant may defer the opening of the school's operation for up to three years to provide time for adequate facility planning.

An overview of the charter school application is contained in Table 1. The application and evaluation instrument can be accessed through the link provided on page 4. The link is included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

Table 1: NEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION						
School Name	Proposed Term	Grade Levels Served	Student Enrollment	Proposed Location	Specialized Educational Focus	Founding/ Gov. Board Members
Legal Entity		Initial Year	Initial Year			
Proposed ESP	Initial/ Exp.	Maximum Grade Levels Served	Maximum Student Enrollment	Possible Impacted Voting District		
ARC Date						
AcadeMir High School West	5 years	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	500	2609 SW 147 Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33185	STEAM	Alexander Casas, Board Chair
Legal Entity: AcadeMir Charter Schools, Inc.		2026-2031	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	1,200		VD 8
Proposed ESP: Superior Charter School Services, Inc.	Joanna Pino, Secretary / Treasurer					
ARC: December 3, 2024						Ruben Perez, Board Member
						Alene Rodriguez, Board Member

**CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Section 1002.33(7)(d), F.S., indicates that a charter may be modified during its term upon the recommendation of the sponsor or the charter school's governing board and the approval of both parties to the agreement. School Board Policy 9800 requires that the Superintendent convene the Contract Review Committee (CRC) to meet publicly and review any substantive amendments to charter school contracts for presentation to the School Board for their final consideration.

Pursuant to the law and Policy 9800, one (1) charter school contract amendment is being presented for consideration in this item, as contained in Table 2. Additional details for this contract may be found in Attachment A. Additionally, the amended charter contract can be accessed through the link provided on page 4. The attachment and link are included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

Table 2: CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT AMENDMENT				
Type of Amendment	Name of School	Legal Entity	Committee Recommendation	Supporting Documentation
Change in location and decrease in maximum student enrollment	Phoenix Academy of Excellence North (MSID 6057)	Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc.	Approve CRC: July 18, 2024	Attachment A

**SCHOOL OF HOPE PERFORMANCE-BASED AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

Pursuant to s.1002.333(4)(b), F.S., a school district shall enter into a performance-based agreement (PBA) with a School of Hope Operator to open schools to serve students from persistently low-performing schools and students residing in a Florida Opportunity Zone. The persistently low-performing schools are based on the school accountability data available at the

time of submission of the Notice of Intent (NOI). Pursuant to law and School Board Policy 9800, both parties must mutually agree to any amendments to a PBA prior to execution. As determined by the state’s model PBA, a School of Hope (SOH) is afforded the opportunity to serve students in grades not identified in the initial PBA and enroll students up to the maximum facility capacity with prior notice to the District.

The amendment being presented for consideration in this item is with Mater Academy, Inc. as the SOH Operator. An overview of this SOH PBA amendment may be found in Table 3 and additional details may be found in Attachment B. The amended PBA can be accessed through the link provided on page 4. The attachment and the link are included and incorporated by reference in this Board item.

Table 3: SCHOOL OF HOPE (SOH) PERFORMANCE-BASED AGREEMENT (PBA) AMENDMENT			
Type of Amendment to the PBA*	Name of School of Hope	School of Hope Operator	Supporting Documentation
Change the name, add the location and increase in maximum enrollment	Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414)	Mater Academy, Inc.	Attachment B

**DISTRICT IMPACT**

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 SOH PBA Amendment is included in the analysis of Total Loss as it presents a potential increase in overall charter school enrollment or an anticipated loss to the District.

Table 4: TOTAL LOSS						
District Impact	Total Loss – FTE		Total Loss – Human Capital			
	Total FEFP Revenue (\$)	Projected Charter FTE (#)	Instructional Positions		Non-Instructional Positions	Total Positions
			Core <sup>1</sup>	Non-Core <sup>2</sup>		
Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414)	\$2,793,050	600	23	7	18	48
<b>TOTAL LOSS:</b>	\$2,793,050	600	23	7	18	48

Initial Year Loss (2025-2026 SY): The revenue and positions indicated as “District Impact” provide an estimate of the potential impact on the District’s General Fund (\$2,793,050) instructional staffing (30 positions), and non-instructional staffing (18 positions). The loss of revenue is based on 95% of FEFP funds per student and 75% of the enrollment projection that the District will not realize.

**DUE PROCESS**

To ensure proper notice and due process, all the non-profit legal entities were noticed of the Superintendent’s recommendation to the School Board and were provided a copy of the of the evaluation of the application, amended charter contract, and the amended SOH PBA prior to the School Board Meeting.

A copy of these documents can be accessed electronically through the links below 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 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

**LINK:**

[New Charter School Application](#)

[Charter School Contract Amendment](#)

[School of Hope Performance-Based Agreement Amendment](#)

School Board approval of this item does not reflect or constitute a finding of need, justification, or endorsement for any charter school as proposed in the item but only that it meets the statutory requirements for School Board approval of a charter school contract under sections 1002.33, 1002.331 and 1002.333, F.S. and Policy 9800.

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

- A. Approve one (1) new charter school application for AcadeMir Charter Schools, Inc., d/b/a AcadeMir High School West and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter contract reflecting the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.
- B. Approve a change of the school's location in the contract from 13301 NW 24 Ave, Miami, FL 33167 (VD1), to 2349 NW 175th St, Miami Gardens, FL 33056 (VD1), and to decrease the student enrollment contract capacity from 200 to 50 students, for a decrease of 150 students, effective July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.
- C. Under section 1002.333, F.S., Persistently Low-Performing Schools, approve the School of Hope Performance-Based Agreement amendment with Mater Academy, Inc. d/b/a Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414) to: (a) change the school's name from Mater Academy SOLE to Mater Academy SoLé Mia; (b) add the school's location, 2100 NE 139 Street, North Miami, Florida 33181 [folio #06-2221-034-0010]; (c) increase student enrollment contract capacity from 540 to 1,500, for an increase of 960 students; and, (d) modify the term of the contract to commence on July 1, 2025, and end on June 30, 2030, providing the school with a five-year term as required by law.

## School Board Agenda Item D-65 ATTACHMENT A

### CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT AMENDMENT:

- Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc. d/b/a Phoenix Academy of Excellence North (MSID 6057).

CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT AMENDMENT								
	School Name	Location	Current Term	Grade Levels	Current Enrollment October 2024 FTE	School Grade/Rating (2022, 2023 & 2024)	Recommended Action and/or Special Provisions	Geographic Area
	Legal Entity		Initial/Exp.		Maximum Contract Capacity		Contract Review Committee (CRC) Date	Region Center
	ESP							Voting District
1.	Phoenix Academy of Excellence North (MSID 6057) Phoenix Academies of Excellence, Inc.  ESP: None	2349 NW 175 St, Miami Gardens, FL 33056	5 years  2022-2027	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	45  200	Unsatisfactory No Rating- Not Calculated by the State Maintaining	Recommend: To change the school's location in the contract from 13301 NW 24 Ave, Miami, FL 33167 (VD1), to 2349 NW 175th St, Miami Gardens, FL 33056 (VD1), and to decrease the student enrollment contract capacity from 200 to 50 students, for a decrease of 150 students, effective July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.  Special Provision: There are two companion items being presented at this board meeting: (1) a facility usage agreement by the Office of Facilities [Agenda Item F-1] and (2) a district-management agreement by the Office of School Choice and Parental Options [Agenda Item C-1].  CRC: July 18, 2024	Miami Gardens  North Region  Gallon VD1

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

Amendments to the School of Hope Performance-Based Agreement for:

1. Mater Academy, Inc. d/b/a Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414).

AMENDMENTS TO A SCHOOL OF HOPE PERFORMANCE-BASED AGREEMENT										
#	Name of School	School Location	Current Term	Grade Levels Currently Being Served	Current Enrollment (Feb FTE)	School Grade (2022, 2023 & 2024)	Recommended Action(s) and/or Special Provisions	Geographic Area	District Impact	
	Opportunity Zone or PLP		Initial / Exp	PBA Grade Levels	Maximum Contract Capacity		Contract Review Committee (CRC) Date		Region	Revenue Positions
	School of Hope Operator							Instr		Non Instr
	ESP								Board Member	
1.	Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414)	2100 NE 139 Street North Miami, Florida 33181	5 years	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p><b>Recommended Actions:</b> Under section 1002.333, F.S., Persistently Low-Performing Schools, approve the School of Hope Performance-Based Agreement amendment with Mater Academy, Inc. d/b/a Mater Academy SOLE (MSID 5414) to; (a) change the school's name from Mater Academy SOLE to Mater Academy SoLé Mia; (b) add the school's location, 2100 NE 139 Street, North Miami, Florida 33181 [folio #06-2221-034-0010]; (c) increase student enrollment contract capacity from 540 to 1,500, for an increase of 960 students; and, (d) modify the term of the contract to commence on July 1, 2025, and end on June 30, 2030, providing the school with a five-year term as required by law.</p> <p><b>Special Provision:</b> Pursuant to s.1002.33, F.S. states, "the initial term of a charter shall be for 5 years, excluding 2 planning years." The 2025-2026 school year will be the school's first year of operation.</p> <p><b>CRC:</b> No CRC Required</p>	City of North Miami	\$2,793,050	
	Opportunity Zone: 12086000109; 12086000209; 12086000206		2023-2028	K – 5 <sup>th</sup>	540 students				North Region	Geller VD 3
	Mater Academy, Inc.									
	ESP: Academica Dade LLC									

Initial School Year Loss (2025-2026): The revenue and positions indicated as "District Impact" provide an estimate of the potential impact on the District's General Fund (\$2,793,050) instructional staffing (30 positions), and non-instructional staffing (18 positions). The loss of revenue is based on 95% of FEFP funds per student and 75% of the enrollment projection that the District will not realize.