



TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: Cosimo Tangorra, Jr. *Cosimo Tangorra Jr.*

SUBJECT: Charter Schools: Revision to Charter Authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE)

DATE: February 5, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Elizabeth B Berlin*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Regents approve the proposed charter revision for Future Leaders Institute Charter School which is authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE)?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State Statute.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the P-12 Education Committee and the Full Board for action at the February 2015 meeting of the Board of Regents.

Background Information

Future Leaders Institute Charter School (or "the School") was first authorized by the Chancellor of the NYCDOE as a charter school to open for the 2005-2006 school year. The School is in the third charter term and was issued a three-year short term renewal in June 2013. The School is currently serving 394 students in Grades K-8 for the 2014-2015 school year. The School is operating at authorized scale.

The Chancellor of the NYCDOE recommends the following actions:

- Create an Assistant Principal position that will have responsibility for the School's upper and lower school grades. The Assistant Principal position will replace the Head of Upper School and Head of Lower School positions.

The chart below outlines the material terms of Future Leaders Institute Charter School's charter and the proposed revision.

Future Leaders Institute Charter School	
Board Chair(s)	Katherine Brown, Joan Wicks
School Leader(s)	Ismael Colon
Charter Management Organization (if applicable)	N/A
Other Partner(s)	N/A
District(s) of Location	NYC Community School District 3
Physical Address(es)	134 West 122 Street, Manhattan 10027
Facility Owner(s)	DOE
School Opened For Instruction	2005-2006
Current Charter Term Expiration Date	6/30/2016
Current Authorized Grade Span	K-8
Current Authorized Enrollment	376
Proposed New Charter Term	Create an Assistant Principal position that will have responsibility for the School's upper and lower school grades. The Assistant Principal position will replace the Head of Upper School and Head of Lower School positions.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that the proposed revised charter: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) will permit the charter school to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) will have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the above listed charter revision as proposed by Chancellor of the NYCDOE and the provisional charter for the Future Leaders Institute Charter School is amended accordingly.

Timetable for Implementation

The Regents action for the School would take effect immediately.

School: Future Leaders Institute Charter School (84M861)
CSD: 3
Enrollment/ Grades Served in 2014-2015:1 394/ K-8

Revision Background

- The School received a short term renewal in June 2013. At the time of renewal, the School partially demonstrated academic achievement and progress.
- For the past two years of Common Core aligned NYS assessments, the School has not performed above the absolute aggregate proficiency of the CSD of location in English Language Arts (ELA) and math. Further, the School has not performed above its peer group in ELA and math.
- In 2013-2014, 20.1% of Future Leaders Institute Charter School's students were proficient in ELA on the NYS assessments; this placed the School at the 40th percentile citywide as well as of its peer schools. Also in 2013-2014, 29.2% of Future Leaders Institute Charter School's students were proficient in math on the NYS assessments; this placed the School at the 47th percentile citywide and 43rd percentile amongst peer schools.
- The School is co-located in DOE-operated space at 134 West 122nd street, New York, NY 10027. The school is co-located with P.S. 242 The Young Diplomats Magnet School in building M144.
- The school is seeking an enrollment expansion to meet rising demand from future FLI students. In 2014, the School received 2,804 applications total. The school received more than 1,400 applications for 133 open seats in kindergarten alone. The School has 596 students on its waitlist as self-reported by the School in September 2014.
- New students will be added from the lottery in grades K-7, however not grade 8 as it is a terminal grade. If the lottery does not generate enough students for those grades, students will be added from the waitlist.
- Based on self-reported information, the School's primary entry grades are K-1 and 6; however, the school enrolls students in all grades served except grade 8. The School also enrolls students mid-year.
- The School is seeking to increase class size from 24 students per section to 30 students per section
 - This would increase student to teacher ratio from 1:12 to 1:15
 - The school operates under a collective bargaining agreement as a result of being a conversion charter school and has a large number of adults employed by the school.
 - Increasing class size would maximize the use of adults employed by the school but more importantly allow for students to have extensive tutoring and enrichment opportunities.
- In addition to the requested enrollment expansion, the School is seeking to add an Assistant Principal position. The primary reason for this organizational change:
 - The Board would like to return to a traditional vertical school management model that has a Principal overseeing the academic and operational

¹ Enrollment reflects ATS data as of October 31, 2014

programs and a newly appointed Assistant Principal supporting the Principal. This new leadership structure will help ensure clearer lines of accountability and communication.

- The School has already aligned staff in these roles, informally, until the material revision is approved.

**ES/MS students scoring at or above Level 3 on NYS assessments,
compared to CSD, NYC and State averages Over the Current Charter Term**

% Proficient in English Language Arts		
	2012-2013	2013-2014
Future Leaders Institute Charter School	16.9%	20.1%
CSD 3	41.7%	45.2%
Difference from CSD 3 *	-24.8	-25.1
NYC	26.4%	28.4%
Difference from NYC *	-9.5	-8.3
New York State **	31.1%	30.6%
Difference from New York State	-14.2	-10.5

% Proficient in Mathematics		
	2012-2013	2013-2014
Future Leaders Institute Charter School	18.1%	29.2%
CSD 3	42.8%	47.8%
Difference from CSD 3 *	-24.7	-18.6
NYC	29.6%	34.2%
Difference from NYC *	-11.5	-5.0
New York State **	31.1%	36.2%
Difference from New York State	-13.0	-7.0

* All comparisons to either the CSD or NYC take into account only grades the school itself served. CSD comparisons are particular to the CSD in which the school was sited each year.

** New York State proficiency rates were taken from data.nysed.gov.

Performance on the NYC Progress Report Over the Current Charter Term

Elementary/Middle School Progress Report Grades	2012-2013	2013-2014
Overall Grade	B	Progress Reports were discontinued beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.
Student Progress	A	
Student Performance	C	
School Environment	C	

Enrollment of Special Populations Over the Current Charter Term²

Special Population		2012-2013	2013-2014
Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL)	Future Leaders Institute Charter School	80.7%	85.9%
	CSD 3	52.1%	50.4%
	NYC	82.9%	82.4%
Students with Disabilities (SWD)	Future Leaders Institute Charter School	13.6%	15.2%
	CSD 3	16.9%	18.8%
	NYC	18.5%	20.0%
English Language Learners (ELL)	Future Leaders Institute Charter School	4.1%	3.7%
	CSD 3	7.3%	7.0%
	NYC	15.1%	14.7%

Additional Enrollment Information		
	2012-2013	2013-2014
Grades Served	K-8	K-8
CSD(s)	3	3

² Comparisons of a charter school's special populations to the CSD and City are made relative only to the grades served by the school. For example, if a charter school serves grades kindergarten through five, comparisons of that school's special populations will only be made relative to grades kindergarten through five in the CSD and citywide. CSD comparisons are particular to the grades served in each CSD each year. Enrollment rates reflect demographic characteristics as of June 1 and enrollment as of October 31 for each given school year, with the exception of enrollment in the 2012-2013 school year, which is as of October 26, 2012.