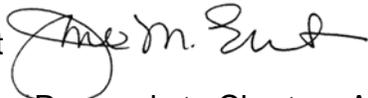




**TO:** P-12 Education Committee  
**FROM:** Jhone M. Ebert   
**SUBJECT:** Charter Schools: Renewals to Charters Authorized by  
Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education  
(NYCDOE)  
**DATE:** February 12, 2018  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

**SUMMARY**

**Issue for Decision**

Should the Regents approve the proposed renewals to the charters of the following two schools authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE):

1. **Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn** (full-term, five-year renewal with a middle school and enrollment expansion)
2. **South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts** (full term, five-year renewals and a middle school and enrollment expansion)

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute.

**Proposed Handling**

This issue will be before the Board of Regents P-12 Education Committee and the Full Board for action at the February 2018 Regents meeting.

**Procedural History**

The Chancellor of the NYCDOE approved these two renewal charters and submitted them to the Board of Regents for approval and issuance of the renewal charters as required by Article 56 of the Education Law, the New York State Charter School Statute. The Chancellor of New York City Department of Education asks that the charters be revised as indicated and has provided a summary for each school as set forth below.

**Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn<sup>1</sup>**  
**Table 1: School Summary**

Name of Charter School	Hyde Leadership Charter School – Brooklyn
Board Chair	James Cecil Simpson
District of Location	NYC CSD 19
Opening Date	September 2010
Charter Terms	Initial Charter Term: 01/12/2010 to 01/11/2015 First Renewal: 01/12/2015 to 06/30/2018
Current Term Authorized Grades/Maximum Authorized Enrollment	Grades K-5/ 396 students
Proposed Renewal Term Authorized Grades/	Grades K-8/ 594 students
Facility	330 Alabama Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207 (NYCDOE co-located space)
Mission	Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn's mission is to develop the deeper character and unique potential of each student. Using the Hyde process of family-based character education, Hyde-Brooklyn will unite parents, teachers and students in helping each student achieve his or her best academically and in sports, the arts, and service to the community.
Proposed Charter Revision	Expand the grades from K-5 to K-8 with an increase the maximum authorized enrollment from 396 to 594 students over the course of the charter term.

**Rationale for Recommendation**

The NYC DOE Chancellor is recommending a 5 year, Full-term renewal for Hyde Leadership Charter School-Brooklyn with three conditions and an expansion to serve middle school grades. Hyde-Brooklyn’s renewal conditions are in the area of governance and enrollment targets for at-risk students. The school must demonstrate growth in enrolling ELLs and SWDs that meet or exceed the host district rates by the end of the next charter term. Throughout the charter term, the charter authorizing team will conduct annual reviews (Annual Comprehensive Reviews) to serve as a mechanism to monitor the school’s growth in this area and provide feedback as to whether the school is on track to meeting the conditions in each year of the charter term.

Per the NYC DOE Accountability Framework, academics are the primary factor when evaluating a school. Hyde-Brooklyn performed above the district in all years of the charter term in both ELA and Math. Additionally, Hyde-Brooklyn’s proficiency rates

<sup>1</sup> Additional information can be found in the NYC DOE renewal report at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/0E6B5024-169E-4B45-9B4F-B08DBC669911/0/84K769HydeLeadershipCharterSchoolRenewalReport201718.pdf>

increased each year of the charter term in ELA, and increased in all but one year in Math. The charter authorizing team conducted additional analysis and found that nearly 60% of Hyde-Brooklyn’s alumni attend a middle school that is lower performing than Hyde-Brooklyn in both ELA and Math, nearly 30% of alumni are attending a middle school that is significantly lower performing in ELA and Math. Additionally, Hyde-Brooklyn’s enrollment plan accounts for the matriculation of students currently enrolled in the elementary school and does not call for the recruitment of additional students, thereby limiting the overall impact on enrollment at other district and charter schools in the community.

**Table 2: Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn Approved Enrollment**

	<b>Year 1 2014-2015</b>	<b>Year 2 2015-2016</b>	<b>Year 3 2016-2017</b>	<b>Year 4 2017-2018</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	Grades K-5	Grades K-5	Grades K-5	Grades K-5
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	396	396	396	396

**Table 3: Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn Proposed Enrollment<sup>2</sup>**

	<b>Year 1 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 2 2019-2020</b>	<b>Year 3 2020-2021</b>	<b>Year 4 2021-2022</b>	<b>Year 5 2022-2023</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-8	K-8
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	462	528	594	594	594

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<sup>2</sup> Hyde Charter School-Brooklyn will be authorized to serve 594 students in all years of the charter term pending the approval of the school’s second charter renewal by the NYS Board of Regents. Enrollment plans, including number of students served, may vary year-to-year, but may not exceed 594 students in any year of the charter term unless a material revision is approved over the course of next charter term.

**Table 4: Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn Academic Achievement Compared to District of Location**

All Students	ELA					Math				
	Hyde Leadership - Brooklyn CS	CSD 19	Variance to CSD 19	NYS	Variance to NYS	Hyde Leadership - Brooklyn CS	CSD 19	Variance to CSD 19	NYS	Variance to NYS
2015-2016	31.9	24.6	+7.3	38.8	-6.9	28.8	21.7	+7.1	43.0	-14.2
2016-2017	37.1	26.4	+10.7	39.9	-2.8	26.5	25.9	+0.6	44.9	-18.4

**Table 5: Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn Demographics Compared to District of Location**

	2015 -2016			2016-2017			2017-2018*		
	Hyde Leadership Brooklyn - CS	CSD 19	Variance	Hyde Leadership Brooklyn - CS	CSD 19	Variance	Hyde Leadership Brooklyn - CS	CSD 19	Variance
Economically Disadvantaged	89.8	83.8	+6.0	91.1	84.7	+6.4	86.4	84.7	+1.7
English Language Learners	9.7	13.2	-3.5	10.4	16.7	-6.3	9.1	14.3	-5.2
Students with Disabilities	12.1	21.2	-9.1	15.6	22.4	-6.8	15.0	19.7	-4.7

Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn enrolls a higher proportion of economically disadvantaged (ED) students when compared to the district of location, a lower percentage of English Language learners (ELLs), and a lower percentage of students with disabilities (SWDs) (Table 5).

The school is making good faith efforts to recruit, serve, and retain at-risk students<sup>3</sup>. The school has employed several tactics to recruit and retain students who are economically disadvantaged including public advertisements throughout low-income neighborhoods on buses, bus stops, newspapers and mass mailings of the application and brochure. To recruit ELLs, the school has hosted information sessions at neighborhood daycare facilities with Spanish translation services and by offering a translation feature on the school's website. For SWDs, the school's brochure outlines how SWDs will be served once enrolled at the school.

## **Summary of Public Comment**

As required by the Charter School Act, the NYC DOE held a public hearing about the proposed renewal and revision to the charter on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. 42 individuals attended the hearing. 36 comments were made in support and none were made in opposition to the proposed charter renewal.

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<sup>3</sup> Education Law §2854(2)(a) requires that schools demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, FRPL eligible students and English Language Learners when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter is located. SUNY and the Regents were charged with setting specific enrollment and retention targets for each charter school, and have done so. Education Law §2852(9-a)(b)(i). All charter schools that were initially chartered after August 2010 or renewed after January 1, 2011, are expected to meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets set by the Regents and SUNY. When submitting an application for renewal of the charter, schools are required to provide information detailing the means by which they will meet the enrollment and retention targets (Education Law §2851(4)(e)), and this information is considered by the Regents in the review of the school's performance over the charter term. A school's plan to change its enrollment practices, whether by weighting the lottery or preferencing, may also be considered when determining whether the school will meet the targets in the upcoming charter term. A school's repeated failure to meet or exceed its enrollment and retention targets, when combined with a failure to show that extensive efforts to meet the targets have been made, may be cause for termination or revocation of the charter pursuant to section Education Law §2855(1)(e).

## South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts (SBCSICA)<sup>4</sup>

**Table 1: School Summary**

Name of Charter School	South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts
Board Chair	Priscilla Ocasio
District of Location	NYC CSD 7
Opening Date	2005-2006
Charter Terms	Initial Charter Term: 05/17/2005 to 05/16/2010 First Renewal: 05/17/2010 to 05/16/2013 Second Renewal: 05/17/2013 to 06/30/2013 Third Renewal: 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2018
Facility	164 Bruckner Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10454 (private space)
Current Grade Levels/ Number of Students	K-5/468
Mission	In an effort to represent the community's prestige, The South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts is a model of excellence providing its youngsters with a constructivist and child centered curriculum. Our intellectually challenging and standards-based curriculum is enriched by our international perspective, the arts, and dual language program. Students receive a well-rounded education that uses the arts to promote excellence in all areas: cognitive, social, emotional, and moral. Our school meets or exceeds New York State Learning Standards, aligns student learning to those standards and supports teachers with professional development opportunities. Our community, our parents, and staff are empowered to participate meaningfully in our school to strengthen its potential for success.
Proposed Charter Revisions	Expand the grade levels served from K-5 to K-8 with an increase in the maximum authorized enrollment from 468 to 660 students over the course of the charter term.

<sup>4</sup> Additional information can be found in the NYC DOE renewal report at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/EA4AB013-88A6-4AAC-8A9B-CB0FE3C5682F/0/84X309SBCSICARenewalReport201718.PDF>

## Rationale for Recommendation

The NYC DOE Chancellor is recommending a 5-year, full-term renewal for SBCSICA with two conditions and an expansion to serve middle school grades. SBCSICA's renewal conditions are in the area of governance and enrollment targets for at-risk students. The school must demonstrate growth in enrolling SWDs that meet or exceed the host district rates by the end of the next charter term. Throughout the charter term, the charter authorizing team will conduct annual reviews (Annual Comprehensive Reviews) to serve as a mechanism to monitor the school's growth in this area and provide feedback as to whether the school is on track to meeting the conditions in each year of the charter term.

Per the NYC DOE Accountability Framework, academics are the primary factor when evaluating a school. 97% of SBCSICA alumni are attending a middle school that performs lower than SBCSICA; 45% of alumni are attending a middle school that is performing significantly lower than SBCSICA in ELA and Math. Additionally, SBCSICA's enrollment plan accounts for the matriculation of students currently enrolled in the elementary school and does not call for the recruitment of additional students, thereby limiting the overall impact on enrollment at other district and charter schools in the community.

**Table 2: South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts  
Approved Enrollment**

	<b>Year 1 2013-2014</b>	<b>Year 2 2014-2015</b>	<b>Year 3 2015-2016</b>	<b>Year 4 2016-2017</b>	<b>Year 5 2017-2018</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	468	468	468	468	468

**Table 3: South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts  
Proposed Enrollment<sup>5</sup>**

	<b>Year 1 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 2 2019-2020</b>	<b>Year 3 2020-2021</b>	<b>Year 4 2021-2022</b>	<b>Year 5 2022-2023</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-8	K-8
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	532	596	660	660	660

<sup>5</sup> SBCSICA will be authorized to serve 660 students in all years of the charter term pending the approval of the school's second charter renewal by the NYS Board of Regents. Enrollment plans, including number of students served, may vary year-to-year, but may not exceed 660 students in any year of the charter term unless a material revision is approved over the course of next charter term.

**Table 4: South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts  
Academic Achievement**

All Students	ELA					Math				
	SBCSICA	CSD 7	Variance to CSD 7	NYS	Variance to NYS	SBCSICA	CSD 7	Variance to CSD 7	NYS	Variance to NYS
2015-2016	54.7	21.4	+33.3	38.8	+15.9	43.2	20.5	+22.7	43.0	+0.2
2016-2017	55.2	24.2	+31.0	39.9	+15.3	41.2	24.0	+17.2	44.9	-3.7

**Table 5: South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts  
Demographics  
Compared to District of Location**

	2015 -2016			2016-2017			2017-2018*		
	SBCSICA	CSD 7	Variance	SBCSICA	CSD 7	Variance	SBCSICA	CSD 7	Variance
Economically Disadvantaged	75.7	97.1	-21.4	70.8	96.5	-25.7	79.2	91.7	-12.5
English Language Learners	35.7	19.7	+16.0	40.0	22.7	+17.3	37.9	20.0	+17.9
Students with Disabilities	7.3	24.2	-16.9	7.5	26.0	-18.5	6.1	23.1	-17.0

South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts enrolls a significantly smaller proportion of economically disadvantaged (ED) students when compared to the district of location, a significantly higher percentage of English Language learners (ELLs), and a significantly lower percentage of students with disabilities (SWDs) (Table 5).

While the school has not provided an adequate description of their efforts to recruit and retain students who are economically disadvantaged and SWDs<sup>6</sup>, the school has submitted a request to add a SWD preference in the upcoming lottery. Additionally, the school is its own School Food Authority and is working with the NYC Department of Education to ensure that its data is accurately reported.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

As required by the Charter School Act, the NYC Department of Education held a public hearing about the proposed renewal and revision on November 1, 2017. 31 individuals attended the hearing. 10 comments were made in support and none were made in opposition to the proposed charter renewal.

### **Related Regent's Items**

#### **Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn**

January 11, 2010 – Initial Charter Granted for Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/January2010/0110emsca6.htm>

January 12, 2015 – 3.5-Year, Short-Term Renewal for Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/115p12a4.pdf>

#### **South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts**

May 11, 2005 – Initial Charter Granted for South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and Arts

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/May2005/0505emscvesida6.htm>

June 13, 2008 – Material Revision to revise curriculum, modify class configurations and establish one summer program and two afterschool programs.

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/June2008/0608emsca3.htm>

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<sup>6</sup> Education Law §2854(2)(a) requires that schools demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, FRPL eligible students and English Language Learners when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter is located. SUNY and the Regents were charged with setting specific enrollment and retention targets for each charter school, and have done so. Education Law §2852(9-a)(b)(i). All charter schools that were initially chartered after August 2010 or renewed after January 1, 2011, are expected to meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets set by the Regents and SUNY. When submitting an application for renewal of the charter, schools are required to provide information detailing the means by which they will meet the enrollment and retention targets (Education Law §2851(4)(e)), and this information is considered by the Regents in the review of the school's performance over the charter term. A school's plan to change its enrollment practices, whether by weighting the lottery or preferencing, may also be considered when determining whether the school will meet the targets in the upcoming charter term. A school's repeated failure to meet or exceed its enrollment and retention targets, when combined with a failure to show that extensive efforts to meet the targets have been made, may be cause for termination or revocation of the charter pursuant to section Education Law §2855(1)(e).

April 5, 2010 – 3-Year, Short Term Renewal for South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and Arts  
<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/April2010/0410emsca5.doc>

April 11, 2013 – 5-Year, Full-Term Renewal for South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and Arts  
<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/report/apr-2013/p-12-education>

### **Renewal Recommendations**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that the proposed charter school: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) will 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 and issues the renewal charter of the **Hyde Leadership Charter School - Brooklyn** as proposed by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2023**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that the proposed charter school: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) will 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 and issues the renewal charter of the **South Bronx Charter School for International Cultures and the Arts** as proposed by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2023**.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action for the above-named charter schools will become effective on July 1, 2018.