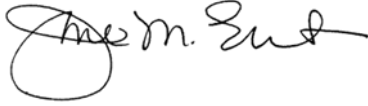
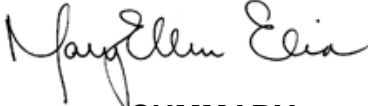




**TO:** P-12 Education Committee  
**FROM:** Jhone M. Ebert   
**SUBJECT:** Revision to Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents  
**DATE:** March 23, 2017  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):**   
**SUMMARY**

**Issue for Decision**

Should the Regents approve the proposed revision to the charter of the following school authorized by the Board of Regents?

**Bronx Charter School for the Arts**

**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 April 2017 Regents meeting.

**Procedural History**

The New York State Education Department made the revision recommendations being presented to the Board of Regents for approval and issuance as required by Article 56 of the Education Law.

**Background Information**

The Commissioner recommends that the Board of Regents amend the above-listed charter school. Information about the revision request is provided below.

**Bronx Charter School for the Arts**

**Table 1: School Summary**

<b>Name of Charter School</b>	<b>Bronx Charter School for the Arts</b>
<b>Board Chair</b>	Trent Hickman
<b>District of Location</b>	NYC CSD 8
<b>Opening Month/Year</b>	September 2003
<b>Current Charter Term</b>	September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 (Full Term)
<b>Management Company</b>	N/A
<b>Partner(s)</b>	Bronx Foundation for Education and the Arts (not-for-profit corporation), The Point Community Development Corporation (not-for-profit corporation), Bronx Lebanon Hospital (not-for-profit corporation), and Bronx Museum of Arts (not-for-profit corporation)
<b>Current Approved Grade Levels/Number of Students</b>	K-5 / 282 Students
<b>Mission</b>	<i>Bronx Charter School for the Arts is a public elementary school founded on the principle that a rich and vibrant background in the arts is a key component of achieving academic excellence. We strive to serve as a model that encourages creativity and innovation in the classroom and inspires students to develop the intellectual and personal fortitude to realize their dreams.</i>
<b>Proposed Revision</b>	<b>Bronx Charter School for the Arts is requesting to add grades 6-8 to their current K-5 school with an increase in the school's current authorized enrollment from 282 to 624 students over the course of their charter term.</b>

In April 2002, the Board of Regents approved and chartered the Bronx Charter School for the Arts (“BCSA” or the “School”) in New York City School Community School District (CSD) 8. The school is requesting an expansion to serve middle school grades. The school believes the demand for high-quality education seats extends beyond elementary school in CSD 8 in the Bronx and recognizes that its commitment to CSD 8 students extends beyond elementary school. Given the school’s strong academic performance, they believe that the opening of a middle school will allow it to continue serving as a model for charter and district schools that encourages creativity and innovation in the classroom while inspiring students to develop the intellectual and personal fortitude to realize their dreams. In support of the request, the school submitted three letters of recommendation from BCSA parents as well as two letters of

recommendation from community-based organizations that partner with BCSA (Hunts Point Alliance for Children and The Point).

**Table 2: Bronx Charter School for the Arts Approved Enrollment For the Current Charter Term**

	<b>Year 1 2015-2016</b>	<b>Year 2 2016-2017</b>	<b>Year 3 2017-2018</b>	<b>Year 4 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 5 2019-2020</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5	K-5
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	282	282	282	282	282

**Table 3: Proposed Enrollment for the Bronx Charter School for the Arts for the Current Charter Term**

	<b>Year 1 2015-2016</b>	<b>Year 2 2016-2017</b>	<b>Year 3 2017-2018</b>	<b>Year 4 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 5 2019-2020</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-5	K-5	K-6	K-7	K-8
<b>Total Proposed Enrollment</b>	282	282	416	520	624

**Table 4: Bronx Charter School for the Arts Academic Achievement**

	<b>ELA</b>					<b>Math</b>				
	<b>Bronx Arts</b>	<b>CSD 8</b>	<b>Variance to CSD 8</b>	<b>NYS</b>	<b>Variance to NYS</b>	<b>Bronx Arts</b>	<b>CSD 8</b>	<b>Variance to CSD 8</b>	<b>NYS</b>	<b>Variance to NYS</b>
<b>2014-2015</b>	38%	19%	+19%	31%	+7%	62%	22%	+40%	38%	+24%
<b>2015-2016</b>	57%	26%	+31%	38%	+19%	60%	22%	+38%	44%	+16%

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

	2014 -2015			2015 -2016		
	Bronx Arts	CSD 8	Variance	Bronx Arts	CSD 8	Variance
<b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>	90%	80%	+10%	84%	79%	+5%
<b>English Language Learners (Current)</b>	11%	13%	-2%	15%	13%	+2%
<b>Students with Disabilities (Current)</b>	19%	25%	-6%	20%	26%	-6%

**Summary of Public Comment**

As required by the Charter School Act, the New York City Department of Education held a public hearing about the proposed revision to the charter of **Bronx Charter School for the Arts** on **March 7, 2017**. There were three attendees present at the hearing. There were no public comments made in support and no public comments in opposition to the proposed charter revision.

**Related Regents Items**

**Bronx Charter School for the Arts**

First Renewal

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/documents/meetings/2006Meetings/December2006/1206emscvesida2.htm>

2009 Revision

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/July2009/0709bra8.htm>

Second Renewal

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/December2009/1209emsca5.htm>

Third Renewal

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/215p12a3.pdf>

### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that: (1) the charter school meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the charter school can demonstrate the ability to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the request to amend the charter 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) granting the request to amend the charter will have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision for **Bronx Charter School for the Arts** and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action for Bronx Charter School for the Arts will become effective immediately.