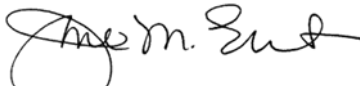




TO: P-12 Education Committee
FROM: Jhone M. Ebert 
SUBJECT: Renewal to a Charter School Authorized by Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE)

DATE: May 31, 2018

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Regents approve the proposed renewal to the charter of the following school authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE):

1. **Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School** (full-term, five-year renewal)

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 June 2018 Regents meeting.

Procedural History

The Chancellor of the NYCDOE approved the renewal of this charter and submitted it to the Board of Regents for approval and issuance as required by Article 56 of the Education Law. The Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education asks that the charter be revised as indicated and has provided a summary for the school as set forth below.

Related Regent's Items

Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School

February 12, 2008 – Initial Charter Granted for Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/Summaries/0208summary.htm>

January 14, 2013 – Extension of provisional charter through June 30, 2013

http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/213bra2_0.pdf

March 11, 2013 – 5 Year Renewal for Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/413bra2.pdf>

Recommendation

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 **Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School** 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 Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School will become effective July 1, 2018.

Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School ¹

Table 1: School Summary

Name of Charter School	Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School (BAOP)
Board Chair	Michael Carrion
District of Location	NYC CSD 9
Opening Date	Fall 2008
Charter Terms	Initial Charter Term: 02/12/2008 – 02/11/2013 Provisional Charter Extension: 02/12/2013 – 06/30/2013 First Renewal: 07/01/2013 – 06/30/2018
Current Term Authorized Grades/Maximum Authorized Enrollment	Grades K-8/ 650
Proposed Renewal Term Authorized Grades/Maximum Authorized Enrollment	Grades K-8/ 615
Facility	1349 Inwood Avenue, Bronx NY, 10452 (private space)
Mission	<i>Bronx Academy of Promise strives to engage students in academic progress through high expectations, differentiated instruction, and a focus on literacy. We have a unique mission to address career education and will provide our students with information and experiences to broaden their knowledge of possible occupational choices.</i>
Requested Revisions	To decrease the maximum authorized enrollment from 650 to 615 students at the start of the new charter term on July 1, 2018.

Rationale for Recommendation

Taking into consideration the entirety of the Accountability Framework for NYC DOE Chancellor-authorized charter schools, the NYC DOE Chancellor is recommending a 5 Year, full-term renewal for Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School with three conditions. BAOP’s renewal conditions are in the areas of governance and enrollment targets for at-risk students. The Board of Trustees must hold monthly meetings totaling no fewer than 12 meetings per year by the end of the next charter term. Additionally, the school must demonstrate growth in enrolling English Language Learners (ELLs) and Students with Disabilities (SWDs) that meet or exceed the host district rates by the end of the next charter term. Throughout the charter term, the NYC DOE charter authorizing team will conduct annual reviews (Annual Comprehensive Reviews) to serve as a mechanism to monitor the school’s growth in these areas and provide feedback as to whether the school is on track to meeting the conditions in each year of the charter term.

¹ Additional information can be found in the NYC DOE renewal report at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/6F18A1AD-52A0-4968-9911-D8D9855C8970/0/84X419BronxAcademyofPromiseRenewalReport201718WITHRECOMMENDATION.pdf>

Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School has consistently exceeded accountability standards and has performed above the CSD in both ELA and Math in each year of the charter term by significant amounts (20 points above in ELA and 24 points in Math in the most recent year). Additionally, the school has increased proficiency in each year of the charter term in both ELA and Math.

Table 2: Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2013-2014	Year 2 2014-2015	Year 3 2015-2016	Year 4 2016-2017	Year 5 2017-2018
Grade Configuration	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-8	K-8
Total Approved Enrollment	438	516	615	615	650

Table 3: Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School Proposed Enrollment

	Year 1 2018-2019	Year 2 2019-2020	Year 3 2020-2021	Year 4 2021-2022	Year 5 2022-2023
Grade Configuration	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Total Approved Enrollment	615	615	615	615	615

Table 4: Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School Academic Achievement Compared to Their District of Location

	ELA					Math				
	BAOP	CSD 9	Var to CSD	NYS	Var to NYS	BAOP	CSD 9	Var to CSD	NYS	Var to NYS
All Students										
2015-2016	40.7%	20.4%	+20.3	37.9%	+2.8	39.8%	18.0%	+21.8	39.1%	+0.7
2016-2017	42.2%	22.2%	+20.0	39.8%	+2.4	43.7%	19.5%	+24.2	40.2%	+3.5

Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School enrolls a lower percentage of ELLs, and a lower percentage of SWDs (see Table 5). The school is demonstrating progress in the enrollment of SWDs and is closely working with the NYC DOE to increase the enrollment of ELLs and economically disadvantaged students as well. The under enrollment of ELLs and SWDs has resulted in a condition for the school in each of these areas. These conditions will be monitored yearly during the Annual Comprehensive Review process. Although Table 5 demonstrates that the school enrolls fewer Economically Disadvantaged students, the school is its own School Food Authority and is working with the NYC DOE to ensure that its data is accurately reported. Through these efforts, the school and the NYC DOE are working to ensure that all students in the Bronx have access to the strong academic program for at-risk students that has been developed at Bronx Academy of Promise.

Table 5: Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School Demographics Compared to District of Location

	2015 -2016			2016-2017		
	BAOP	CSD 9	Variance	BAOP	CSD 9	Variance
Economically Disadvantaged	80.0%	92.0%	-12.0	80.8%	91.4%	-10.7
English Language Learners	20.6%	25.2%	-4.6	17.6%	25.5%	-7.9
Students with Disabilities	12.5%	22.2%	-9.7	13.6%	23.0%	-9.4

The school’s recruitment efforts, which are described in the Renewal Application include employing a Parent Coordinator that supports the school’s economically disadvantaged (ED) student recruitment efforts. The school also advertises in various places (radio, newspaper, and flyer) in languages other than English as well as makes attempts to reach immigrant communities with multi-lingual staff members. The school’s recruitment advertisements also include information about the special needs services they offer.

Summary of Public Comment

As required by the Charter School Act, the NYC DOE held a public hearing about the proposed renewal on November 20, 2017. Seventy-six individuals attended the hearing. Sixteen comments were made in support and none were made in opposition to the proposed charter renewal.