

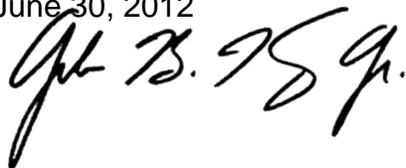


**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** Ken Slentz 

**SUBJECT:** Revisions to Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents: Democracy Prep III Charter School and Mott Hall Charter School

**DATE:** June 30, 2012

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

#### **SUMMARY**

#### **Issue for Decision**

Should the Regents approve the proposed revisions to the charters for Democracy Prep III Charter School and Mott Hall Charter School?

#### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by state statute.

#### **Proposed Handling**

This issue will be before the full Board of Regents for discussion and action at the July 2012 meeting of the Board of Regents.

#### **Procedural History**

N/A

#### **Background Information**

As part of the more rigorous charter school application process initiated by the Board of Regents in 2010, the Regents issued charters to both of these schools, Democracy Prep III Charter School and Mott Hall Charter School, in December 2010. Both schools are scheduled to open for instruction in the 2012-13 school year. The tables below provide more information about the schools and the proposed revisions.

Name of Proposed Charter School	Democracy Prep III
Applicant	Khary Barnes, BoT President
Management Company	Democracy Prep Public Schools
Other Partner(s)	N/A
District of Location	CSD 5
Facility	The school will be co-located with P.S. 154 Harriet Tubman, a PK-5 elementary school at 250 West 127 <sup>th</sup> Street.
Proposed Opening Date	Fall 2012
Grade Levels/ Number of Students	Opening with 104 students in Grade 6. Expanding to 312 students in Grades 6-8
<b>Proposed Revision</b>	<b>Change the name of the school to: Democracy Prep Endurance Charter school</b>

In its request to revise the charter the school indicated that it wishes to change its name to reflect one of the attributes the school will instill in its students: Endurance.

Name of Proposed Charter School	Mott Hall Charter School
Applicant	Sarah Calderon, BoT President
Management Company	Replications, Inc.
Other Partner(s)	N/A
District of Location	CSD 9
Facility	The school will be co-located with P.S. 63 Author's Academy, a PK-5 elementary school at 1260 Franklin Avenue.
Proposed Opening Date	Fall 2012
Grade Levels/ Number of Students	Opening with 110 students in Grade 6. Expanding to 315 students in Grades 6-8.
<b>Proposed Revision</b>	<b>Dissolve agreement to work with the CMO, Replications, Inc., and revise the management structure to include an Executive Director to whom the Principal and Director of Operations will report. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Trustees.</b>

The school originally planned to contract with Replications, Inc., as its Charter Management Organization (CMO). At the time the original charter application was approved by the Regents, Replications, Inc., was a NYCDOE Partnership Support Organization (PSO). In June 2010, Replications Inc.'s contract with the NYCDOE was discontinued and it ceased its NYC-based school support operations. The Board of Trustees of the Mott Hall Charter School voted to dissolve the agreement with Replications, Inc., and instead build capacity internally to manage the school. To accomplish this, the school proposes to revise its management structure to include an Executive Director to whom the Principal and Director of Operations will report. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Trustees. The individual who has been

selected for this role has been directly involved in the initial planning and start-up of this school and is knowledgeable in all aspects of the Mott Hall model and available resources to support the implementation of the education program. He will report directly to the Board of Trustees and will oversee, evaluate and work to continuously improve all school programs, finances, facilities and operations management. Other responsibilities for the Executive Director include community outreach, coaching of the Principal and leadership team, facilitation of Quarterly Reviews to assess school progress and collaborative networking with external partners that will provide expertise in key areas.

### **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 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 for Democracy Prep III Charter School and the provisional charter for the Democracy Prep III Charter School is amended accordingly.

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 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 for Mott Hall Charter School and the provisional charter for the Mott Hall Charter School is amended accordingly.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents actions for the above-named charter schools will become effective immediately.