



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: P-12 Education Committee
FROM: Charles A. Szuberla, Jr. *Charles A. Szuberla Jr.*
SUBJECT: Revisions to a Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents: Compass Charter School

DATE: October 19, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S):

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SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Regents approve the proposed revision to the charter of Compass Charter School?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by New York State law.

Proposed Handling

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

Background Information

The Board of Trustees of the Compass Charter School has submitted a request to amend the School's charter, proposing a reduction in enrollment. Information about the revision request is provided below.

Name of Charter School	Compass Charter School
Board Chair	Jason K. Horowitz
District of Location	New York City CSD 13
Opening Date	September 2014
Current Charter Term	September 1, 2014 - June 30, 2019
Facility	Currently in co-location space at 300 Adelphi Street, Brooklyn, New York
Current Grade Levels/Number of Students	Serving students in grades kindergarten through grade 2 (growing up to 396 students in grades kindergarten through grade 5 in 2017-2018)
Mission	<i>"Compass Charter School is a safe and nurturing educational environment that honors the individuality of each learner. By engaging in a process of inquiry, our graduates will be equipped with the necessary skills to lead fulfilling personal and professional lives, including a developed sense of self, the ability to think in innovative and flexible ways, and the inspiration to make a positive impact on their community."</i>
Proposed Revision	Seeks to decrease the maximum approved student enrollment of 396 students to serve a maximum of 300 students.

On December 17, 2013, the Board of Regents approved and chartered the Compass Charter School (or the "School"), co-located at 300 Adelphi Street, in the New York City School District CSD 13. The School opened for instruction in September 2014, and has a current enrollment of 154 students in kindergarten through grade two.

The School's Trustees request that the Board of Regents approve a material revision to its charter to allow the School to change the approved enrollment size; specifically to decrease the maximum student enrollment from 396 students to 300 students. This change will enable the school to have two classes per grade level instead of three. It will also allow the school to meet the needs of the community they are currently serving by continuing to occupy the co-location space provided by the New York City Department of Education at full growth.

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 reduction in student enrollment on August 26, 2015. One individual attended the hearing and no comments were made.

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 revise 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 revise the charter would 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 Compass Charter School and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

Timetable for Implementation

The Regents action for Compass Charter School will become effective immediately.

Attachments.