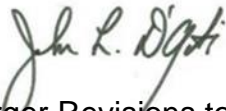





**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** John L. D'Agati 

**SUBJECT:** Charter Schools: Merger Revisions to Charters Authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor

**DATE:** May 1, 2020

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

**SUMMARY**

**Issues for Decision**

Should the Board of Regents approve the merger of New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (an education corporation authorized by the NYC Department of Education) with and into AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation (an education corporation authorized by the Board of Regents), with AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation as the surviving education corporation under the amended name "AECI Charter Schools Network" and an increase in enrollment for the New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries from 450 students to 500 students?

AND

Should the Board of Regents approve the merger of Hellenic Classical Charter School (an education corporation authorized by the NYC Department of Education), and Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island (an education corporation authorized by the Board of Regents), with Hellenic Classical Charter School as the surviving education corporation under the amended name "Hellenic Classical Charter Schools"?

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State Statute.

**Proposed Handling**

This issue will be before the Full Board for action at its May 2020 meeting.

## **Procedural History**

The May 2010 amendments to Education Law §2853(1)(b-1) eliminated language that prohibited education corporations in New York from operating more than one charter school. The law now allows charter schools and the families they serve to realize the many potential benefits of governance and operational merger.

## **Background Information**

The merger of existing charter school governing boards requires revisions to each of the charters of the merging schools, which must be approved by the respective chartering entity or entities involved. This means that, in situations where schools that wish to merge have different chartering entities, the approval of all parties – the boards of trustees of the schools and each chartering entity – is required before any such merger may occur.

## **Related Regents Items**

### **New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI)**

#### **[February 2008 Initial Charter](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/February2008/0208emsca5.htm)**

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/February2008/0208emsca5.htm>)

#### **[February 2013 Provisional Renewal \(through June 30, 2013\)](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf)**

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf>)

#### **[April 2013 First Renewal](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/413p12a4Revised_0.pdf)**

([http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/413p12a4Revised\\_0.pdf](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/413p12a4Revised_0.pdf))

#### **[March 2016 Second Renewal](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/316p12a5.pdf)**

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/316p12a5.pdf>)

#### **[March 2019 Third Renewal](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/319p12a2.pdf)**

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/319p12a2.pdf>)

### **AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation**

#### **[November 2018 Initial Charter](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf)**

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf>)

## Hellenic Classical Charter School

### [January 2005 Initial Charter](#)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/February2005/0205emscvesida3.htm>)

### [June 2008 Revision](#)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/June2008/0608emsca4.htm>)

### [February 2010 First Renewal](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/February2010/0210emsca12.htm>)

January 2015 Second Renewal

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

### [May 2019 Third Renewal](#)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/519p12a5REVISED.pdf>)

## Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island

### [November 2018 Initial Charter](#)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1218p12a1.pdf>)

## Recommendation

### **AECI Charter Schools Network**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

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 the **New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries** and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

VOTED: That pursuant to the authority contained in Education Law §§223 and 2853(1)(b-1):

1. New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries be and hereby is merged with AECI II: NYC Charter High School for

Computer Engineering and Innovation, with AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation as the surviving education corporation under the amended name AECI Charter Schools Network.

2. AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation, the surviving corporation, shall continue to administer the educational operations and purposes of the constituent corporations in the same manner as they presently exist.
3. The separate existence of New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries and AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation hereby ceases, and AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation, the surviving corporation under the amended name AECI Charter Schools Network, is hereby vested with all the rights, privileges, immunities, powers and authority possessed by or granted by law to each of the constituent corporations. All assets and liabilities of the respective constituent corporations are hereby assets and liabilities of such surviving corporation. All property, real, personal, and mixed and all debts to each of the corporations on whatever account are hereby attached to AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation, the surviving corporation under the amended name AECI Charter Schools Network, and may be enforced against it to the same extent as if the debts, liabilities and duties had been incurred or contracted by it.
4. The merged corporation shall operate under the provisional charter granted to AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation under the amended name AECI Charter Schools Network, which is hereby amended to authorize the operation of two public charter schools as follows:
  - i. New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries; and
  - ii. AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation
5. The merger and revision herein shall take effect on July 1, 2020; and it is further

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that: (1) **AECI Charter Schools Network** meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) **AECI Charter Schools Network** 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 schools operated by **AECI Charter Schools Network**, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

## Hellenic Classical Charter Schools

VOTED: That pursuant to the authority contained in Education Law §§223 and 2853(1)(b-1):

1. Hellenic Classical Charter School be and hereby is merged with Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island, with Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island as the surviving education corporation under the amended name Hellenic Classical Charter Schools.
2. Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island, the surviving corporation, shall continue to administer the educational operations and purposes of the constituent corporations in the same manner as they presently exist.
3. The separate existence of Hellenic Classical Charter School and Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island hereby ceases, and Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island, the surviving corporation under the amended name Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, is hereby vested with all the rights, privileges, immunities, powers and authority possessed by or granted by law to each of the constituent corporations. All assets and liabilities of the respective constituent corporations are hereby assets and liabilities of such surviving corporation. All property, real, personal, and mixed and all debts to each of the corporations on whatever account are hereby attached to Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island, the surviving corporation under the amended name Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, and may be enforced against it to the same extent as if the debts, liabilities and duties had been incurred or contracted by it.
4. The merged corporation shall operate under the provisional charter granted to Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island under the amended name Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, which is hereby amended to authorize the operation of two public charter schools as follows:
  - iii. Hellenic Classical Charter School; and
  - iv. Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island
5. The merger herein shall take effect on July 1, 2020; and it is further

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that: (1) **Hellenic Classical Charter Schools** meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) **Hellenic Classical Charter Schools** 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 schools operated by **Hellenic Classical Charter Schools**, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

**Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action for New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries and AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation will become effective on July 1, 2020.

The Regents action for Hellenic Classical Charter School and Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island will become effective on July 1, 2020.

**Merger/Revision of New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI) and AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation**

**New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI)**

**Table 1: School Summary**

<b>Name of Charter School</b>	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI)
<b>Board Chair</b>	Irma Zardoya
<b>District of Location</b>	NYC CSD 7
<b>Opening Month/Year</b>	Fall 2008
<b>Current Charter Term</b>	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024
<b>Management Company</b>	None
<b>Current Authorizer</b>	New York City Department of Education Chancellor
<b>Approved Grade Levels/ Number of Students</b>	Grades 9 - 12/450 students
<b>Proposed Grade Levels/ Number of Students</b>	Grades 9 - 12/500 students
<b>Proposed Revisions</b>	<p>The board of the New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering &amp; Construction Industries (AECI), a charter school education corporation authorized by New York City Department of Education, in 2008, located at 838 Brook Avenue, Bronx, New York in CSD 7 seeks to merge with the board of AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation, a charter school education corporation authorized by the New York State Board of Regents (“Board of Regents”) in 2018, located at 423 East 138th Street, New York in CSD 7, such that when the merger is approved, AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation would be the surviving education corporation under the amended name, “AECI Charter Schools Network” and authorized by the Board of Regents.</p> <p>If the merger is approved, a revision to increase AECI’s authorized enrollment from 450 students to 500 students beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.</p>

**Table 2: Academic Achievement – Regents 4-Year Cohort Outcomes**

		All Students				SWD				ELL/MLL				ED			
		Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS	Differential to NYS
ELA	2012 Cohort	80	96%	85%	+11	12	100%	53%	+47	14	0.86	51%	+35	69	100%	79%	+21
	2013 Cohort	86	95%	85%	+10	17	100%	55%	+45	16	81%	41%	+40	80	96%	80%	+16
	2014 Cohort	84	82%	84%	-2	17	65%	54%	+11	13	54%	52%	+2	81	81%	78%	+3
	2015 Cohort	101	95%	84%	+11	22	82%	55%	+27	15	87%	55%	+32	98	95%	79%	+16
Global History	2012 Cohort	80	84%	78%	+6	12	75%	42%	+33	14	0.64	40%	+24	69	86%	70%	+16
	2013 Cohort	86	91%	78%	+13	17	88%	42%	+46	16	81%	35%	+46	80	91%	70%	+21
	2014 Cohort	84	87%	77%	+10	17	76%	42%	+34	13	85%	43%	+42	81	86%	69%	+17
	2015 Cohort	101	90%	78%	+12	22	64%	43%	+21	15	80%	48%	+32	98	90%	70%	+20
Math	2012 Cohort	80	96%	86%	+10	12	92%	52%	+40	14	0.93	61%	+32	69	99%	81%	+18
	2013 Cohort	86	92%	85%	+7	17	82%	50%	+32	16	88%	53%	+35	80	93%	80%	+13
	2014 Cohort	84	93%	83%	+10	17	82%	49%	+33	13	92%	59%	+33	81	93%	77%	+16
	2015 Cohort	101	97%	84%	+13	22	86%	51%	+35	15	93%	60%	+33	98	97%	78%	+19
Science	2012 Cohort	80	93%	84%	+9	12	67%	51%	+16	14	0.86	49%	+37	69	96%	78%	+18
	2013 Cohort	86	88%	84%	+4	17	71%	52%	+19	16	75%	42%	+33	80	89%	78%	+11
	2014 Cohort	84	85%	83%	+2	17	65%	52%	+13	13	69%	50%	+19	81	84%	76%	+8
	2015 Cohort	101	88%	83%	+5	22	64%	51%	+13	15	67%	51%	+16	98	88%	76%	+12
US History	2012 Cohort	80	85%	81%	+4	12	58%	49%	+9	14	0.71	46%	+25	69	88%	74%	+14
	2013 Cohort	86	97%	81%	+16	17	94%	49%	+45	16	94%	40%	+54	80	98%	74%	+24
	2014 Cohort	84	86%	80%	+6	17	65%	48%	+17	13	69%	50%	+19	81	85%	72%	+13
	2015 Cohort	101	95%	79%	+16	22	86%	48%	+38	15	93%	48%	+45	98	95%	71%	+24



**Table 3: High School Graduation Rates by Cohort**

		All Students				SWD				ELL/MLL				ED			
		Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS Graduation Rate	NYS Differential	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS Graduation Rate	NYS Differential	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS Graduation Rate	NYS Differential	Charter Total Cohort	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYS Graduation Rate	NYS Differential
2011 Cohort	4 Year	96	88%	80%	+8	18	89%	54%	+35	14	79%	48%	+31	84	88%	73%	+15
	5 Year	91	96%	84%	+12	17	100%	60%	+40	12	100%	57%	+43	79	96%	79%	+17
	6 Year	91	96%	85%	+11	17	100%	62%	+38	12	100%	60%	+40	79	96%	81%	+15
2012 Cohort	4 Year	80	93%	82%	+11	12	92%	57%	+35	14	79%	49%	+30	69	96%	75%	+21
	5 Year	80	95%	85%	+10	12	100%	62%	+38	13	85%	56%	+29	68	99%	80%	+19
	6 Year	80	95%	86%	+9	12	100%	64%	+36	13	85%	58%	+27	68	99%	82%	+17
2013 Cohort	4 Year	86	97%	82%	+15	17	100%	58%	+42	16	88%	42%	+46	80	98%	76%	+22
	5 Year	86	98%	85%	+13	17	100%	64%	+36	16	94%	50%	+44	81	98%	80%	+18
	6 Year	86	98%	86%	+12	17	100%	66%	+34	16	94%	53%	+41	81	98%	82%	+16
2014 Cohort	4 Year	84	94%	83%	+11	17	94%	60%	+34	13	92%	54%	+38	81	94%	76%	+18
	5 Year	84	96%	86%	10	17	100%	66%	+34	13	100%	62%	+38	80	96%	81%	+15
2015 Cohort	4 Year	101	95%	83%	+12	22	91%	62%	+29	15	80%	58%	+22	98	95%	77%	+18

**Table 4: AEI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation Demographics Compared to NYC CSD 7**

	SWD			ELL/MLL			ED		
	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	New York City CHS for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District
<b>2015-2016</b>	23%	24%	-1	21%	19%	+2	90%	88%	+2
<b>2016-2017</b>	25%	24%	+1	15%	18%	-3	93%	88%	+5
<b>2017-2018</b>	24%	25%	-1	16%	23%	-7	95%	90%	+5
<b>2018-2019</b>	21%	24%	-3	16%	23%	-7	93%	89%	+4

**Table 5: Retention – Aggregate and Subgroups**

	All Students			SWD			ELL/MLL			ED		
	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District
2016-2017	86%	80%	+6	81%	75%	+6	92%	79%	+13	87%	82%	+5
2017-2018	89%	83%	+6	84%	77%	+7	90%	83%	+7	90%	84%	+6
2018-2019	83%	79%	+4	80%	74%	+6	81%	81%	0	83%	79%	+4

**AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation**

**Table 1: School Summary**

<b>Name of Charter School</b>	AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation
<b>Board Chair</b>	Carlo Schiattarella
<b>District of Location</b>	NYC CSD 7
<b>Opening Month/Year</b>	Fall 2019
<b>Current Charter Term</b>	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024
<b>Management Company</b>	None
<b>Current Authorizer</b>	Board of Regents
<b>Approved Grade Levels/ Number of Students</b>	Grades 9 - 12/500 students
<b>Proposed Revisions</b>	The board of the New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI), a charter school education corporation authorized by New York City Department of Education, in 2008, located at 838 Brook Avenue, Bronx, New York in CSD 7 seeks to merge with the board of AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation, a charter school education corporation authorized by the New York State Board of Regents (“Board of Regents”) in 2018, located at 423 East 138th Street, New York in CSD 7, such that when the merger is approved, AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation would be the surviving education corporation under the amended name, “AECI Charter Schools Network” and authorized by the Board of Regents.

In 2008, New York City Department of Education (“NYCDOE”) approved and chartered the New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (“AECI”), which operates in the New York City Geographic District 7. In November 2018, the Board of Regents approved and chartered the AECI II: NYC Charter High School for Computer Engineering and Innovation (“AECI II”), which operates in the New York City Geographic District 7, and which began instruction in the 2019-2020 school year. AECI II will be the surviving education corporation and will be renamed “AECI Charter Schools Network”. Both schools will be authorized by the Board of Regents after this merger, and the individual school names will not change.

The schools expect the following benefits to result from the merger:

*Generally:* The schools and their education corporations are currently operating as separate entities but under a board with the same members and bylaws. The merger will allow the schools, which already have an informal partnership, to: 1) formalize that partnership; 2) share resources and staff; 3) enhance the educational programs; and 4) lessen the financial and administrative costs of having staff across different unmerged entities.

*Benefit to students:* AECI II was established by the AECI board of trustees as a "sister school" to extend the mission and success of AECI to more families in the South Bronx. Having a "sister school" benefits all students through the transfer and sharing of knowledge, talent and resources. A merger will institutionalize this collaboration, making it easier to share these resources between the schools; will result in economies of scale and economies of experience that will allow the schools to devote more resources to the educational program; and will give students access to space, resources and specialized programming which the schools might not otherwise be in a position to provide.

*Benefit to the community and/or stakeholders:* The AECI board of trustees pursued the opening of AECI II in response to a need for more high-quality educational opportunities for high school students in the South Bronx. The merger will enable the schools to solidify the strong support they have found in the community and further cultivate unified support for both schools from community leaders, businesses, educators, and other stakeholders. Post-merger, parents/guardians, and other stakeholders will be able learn about important developments at both schools by attending board meetings. The merger will also facilitate collaboration between the schools and various institutions such as the ACE Program, Dream Yard Programs, including Design and Technology, Cooper Union, CCNY STEM Intensive, Code Now!, Cooper Hewitt, and the NYSSA Program held during the summer at SUNY New Paltz, providing a single point of contact for the critical dialogues which lead to innovative, project-based learning opportunities, which is a Key Design Element for both schools.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

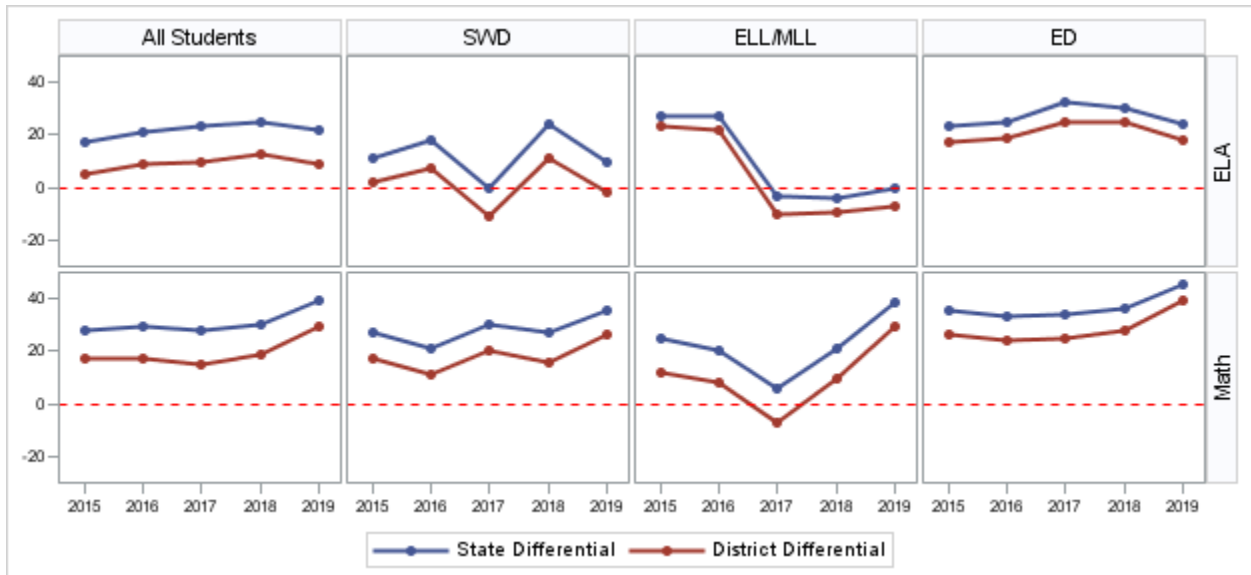
The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on Monday, March 2, 2020. Two people attended, and one person spoke in favor of the revision/merger.

**Merger of Hellenic Classical Charter School  
and Hellenic Classical Charter School—Staten Island**

**Table 1: School Summary**

<b>Name of Charter School</b>	Hellenic Classical Charter School
<b>Board Chair</b>	Charles Capetanakis
<b>District of Location</b>	NYC CSD 15 (Brooklyn)
<b>Opening Month/Year</b>	Fall 2005
<b>Current Charter Term</b>	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024
<b>Management Company</b>	None
<b>Current Authorizer</b>	New York City Department of Education Chancellor
<b>Approved Grade Levels/ Number of Students</b>	K-Grade 8/498 students
<b>Proposed Revisions</b>	The board of the Hellenic Classical Charter School (HCCSI), a charter school education corporation authorized by New York City Department of Education in 2005, located at 646 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, New York in CSD 15 seeks to merge with the board of Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island (HCCSSI), a charter school education corporation authorized by the New York State Board of Regents (“Board of Regents”) in 2018, located at 1641 Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, New York in CSD 31, such that when the merger is approved, Hellenic Classical Charter School would be the surviving education corporation under the amended name, “Hellenic Classical Charter Schools” and authorized by the Board of Regents.

**Figure 1: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency State and District Differentials Over Time**



**Table 2: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency Outcomes**

		ELA					Math				
		Hellenic Classical CS	NYCCSD 15	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS	Hellenic Classical CS	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS
All Students	2014-2015	48%	43%	+5	31%	+17	66%	49%	+17	38%	+28
	2015-2016	59%	50%	+9	38%	+21	68%	51%	+17	39%	+29
	2016-2017	63%	53%	+10	40%	+23	68%	53%	+15	40%	+28
	2017-2018	70%	57%	+13	45%	+25	75%	56%	+19	45%	+30
	2018-2019	67%	58%	+9	45%	+22	86%	57%	+29	47%	+39
SWD	2014-2015	18%	16%	+2	7%	+11	39%	22%	+17	12%	+27
	2015-2016	27%	20%	+7	9%	+18	33%	22%	11	12%	+21
	2016-2017	11%	22%	-11	11%	0	44%	24%	+20	14%	+30
	2017-2018	40%	29%	+11	16%	+24	44%	28%	+16	17%	+27
	2018-2019	25%	27%	-2	15%	+10	53%	27%	+26	18%	+35
ELL/MLL	2014-2015	38%	15%	+23	11%	+27	46%	34%	+12	21%	+25
	2015-2016	40%	18%	+22	13%	+27	40%	32%	+8	20%	+20
	2016-2017	9%	19%	-10	12%	-3	25%	32%	-7	19%	+6
	2017-2018	21%	30%	-9	25%	-4	50%	40%	+10	29%	+21
	2018-2019	25%	32%	-7	25%	0	69%	40%	+29	31%	+38
ED	2014-2015	44%	27%	+17	21%	+23	62%	36%	+26	27%	35
	2015-2016	52%	33%	+19	27%	+25	61%	37%	+24	28%	33
	2016-2017	61%	36%	+25	29%	+32	63%	38%	+25	29%	+34
	2017-2018	66%	41%	25	36%	30	70%	42%	28	34%	36
	2018-2019	60%	42%	+18	36%	+24	82%	43%	+39	37%	+45

**Table 3: Hellenic Classical Charter School Student Demographics  
Compared to NYC CSD 15**

	SWD			ELL/MLL			ED		
	Hellenic Classical CS	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	Hellenic Classical CS	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	Hellenic Classical CS	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District
<b>2015-2016</b>	10%	22%	<b>-12</b>	4%	26%	<b>-22</b>	56%	52%	<b>+4</b>
<b>2016-2017</b>	10%	22%	<b>-12</b>	5%	23%	<b>-18</b>	60%	50%	<b>+10</b>
<b>2017-2018</b>	9%	22%	<b>-13</b>	5%	25%	<b>-20</b>	57%	55%	<b>+2</b>
<b>2018-2019</b>	11%	22%	<b>-11</b>	6%	24%	<b>-18</b>	55%	53%	<b>+2</b>

**Table 4: Retention – Aggregate and Subgroups**

	All Students			SWD			ELL/MLL			ED		
	Hellenic Classical Charter School	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	Hellenic Classical Charter School	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	Hellenic Classical Charter School	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District	Hellenic Classical Charter School	NYC CSD 15	Differential to District
2016-2017	94%	88%	<b>+6</b>	85%	87%	<b>-2</b>	94%	87%	<b>+7</b>	92%	88%	<b>+4</b>
2017-2018	94%	88%	<b>+6</b>	86%	89%	<b>-3</b>	77%	86%	<b>-9</b>	93%	87%	<b>+6</b>
2018-2019	96%	88%	<b>+8</b>	95%	88%	<b>+7</b>	91%	85%	<b>6</b>	95%	87%	<b>+8</b>

**Hellenic Classical Charter School—Staten Island**

**Table 1: School Summary**

<b>Name of Charter School</b>	Hellenic Classical Charter School—Staten Island
<b>Board Chair</b>	Charles Capetanakis
<b>District of Location</b>	NYC CSD 31 (Staten Island)
<b>Opening Month/Year</b>	Fall 2019
<b>Current Charter Term</b>	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024
<b>Management Company</b>	None
<b>Current Authorizer</b>	Board of Regents
<b>Approved Grade Levels/ Number of Students</b>	K - Grade 5/450 students
<b>Proposed Revisions</b>	The board of the Hellenic Classical Charter School (HCCSI), a charter school education corporation authorized by New York City Department of Education in 2005, located at 646 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, New York in CSD 15 seeks to merge with the board of Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island (HCCSSI), a charter school education corporation authorized by the New York State Board of Regents (“Board of Regents”) in 2018, located at 1641 Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, New York in CSD 31, such that when the merger is approved, Hellenic Classical Charter School would be the surviving education corporation under the amended name, “Hellenic Classical Charter Schools” and authorized by the Board of Regents.

In 2005, the New York City Department of Education approved and chartered the Hellenic Classical Charter School (HCCS), which operates in the New York Community School District 15 (NYC CSD 15). In 2019, the Board of Regents approved and chartered the Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island (HCCSDSI), which operates in the New York Community School District 31. Hellenic Classical Charter School will be the surviving education corporation and will be renamed Hellenic Classical Charter Schools (“HCCSs”). Both schools will continue to be authorized by the Board of Regents after this merger, and the individual school names will not change.

The schools expect the following benefits to result from the merger:

*Generally:* The schools and their education corporations are currently operating as separate entities but under a board with the same members and bylaws. The merger will allow the schools, which already have an informal partnership, to: 1) formalize that partnership; 2) share resources, programs, services, and staff; 3) enhance the educational programs; and 4) lessen the financial and administrative costs, including efficiencies and cost savings from pooled purchasing opportunities.

*School Leadership and Staff:* The schools will share one Chief of Operations and one Director of Finance and Operations in order to coordinate operations and eliminate duplicative procedures. Back office operations such as data collection and analysis, procurement, budgeting, human resources and other functions will see



increased efficiency and effectiveness. The schools will continue to allow transfers of staff between the two schools.

The Board will have one board meeting instead of multiple back-to-back meetings. Paperwork and compliance burdens will be reduced, due to elimination of one Education Corporation and consolidated Board meetings. The Board will still focus on the oversight of each individual school.

*School Resources:* The merger would create efficiencies in operations and finance, which ultimately translate into more resources for teaching and learning (both in terms of dollars and staff time). After the merger, as one Education Corporation, the schools would be able to achieve economies of scale in the purchase of products and services, such as professional development, school materials, technology, and health insurance.

*School Community:* After the merger, there will be more collaboration across schools, which will result in implementation of best practices to increase the success of students, teachers, and leaders. There will be additional opportunities for collaboration between the two schools to improve services for students with disabilities and English Language Learners. By combining resources, staff will be able to create more opportunities and programs for all students. Merging will benefit the community and stakeholders by allowing a more streamlined approach to authorizer oversight and meeting aligned performance benchmarks at both schools having one authorizer.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Twenty people attended, and nine people spoke. Six were in favor of the revision/merger and three were opposed.