



TO: P-12 Education Committee
FROM: Charles A. Szuberla, Jr. *Charles A. Szuberla Jr.*
SUBJECT: Charter Schools: Revision to a Charter Authorized by the
Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education
(NYCDOE)
DATE: June 10, 2015
AUTHORIZATION(S): *Eugene P. Berlin*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Regents approve the proposed charter revision for the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, which is authorized by the Chancellor of the NYCDOE?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by New York State Law.

Proposed Handling

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

Procedural History

The Chancellor of the NYCDOE has approved the proposed charter revision for the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School as set forth below, and submitted a recommendation to the Regents for approval and issuance of the revised charter as required by Article 56 of the Education Law, the New York Charter Schools Act.

Background Information

I forward the recommendation for the revision to the charter of Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, as proposed by the Chancellor of the NYCDOE in her capacity as a charter school authorizer under Article 56 of the Education Law.

Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School (BGLIG or “the School”) was first authorized by the Chancellor of the NYCDOE as a charter school to open for the 2008-2009 school year. The School is in its second charter term and was issued a full renewal in March 2013. The School is authorized to serve 450 students in Grades K-8 at the end of its charter term, June 30, 2018. The School currently enrolls 383 students in grades K-7 and is projected to reach full scale in 2015-2016.

The School has submitted a charter revision request to the Chancellor of the NYCDOE to take the following actions: change the school’s name to the **Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School**.

The chart below outlines the material terms of the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School’s charter and the proposed revision.

Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	
Board Chair(s)	Alana Barran
School Leader(s)	Celia Domenech (ES), Sylvia Keitt (Interim Acting MS)
Charter Management Organization (if applicable)	N/A
Other Partner(s)	Service Provider: Victory Education Partners
District(s) of Location	NYC Community School District 7
Physical Address(es)	750 Concourse Village West, Bronx
Facility Owner(s)	DOE
School Opened For Instruction	2008-2009
Current Charter Term Expiration Date	June 30, 2018
Current Authorized Grade Span	K-8
Current Authorized Enrollment	450
Proposed Changes with Material Charter Revision	Change its name from the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, to the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School

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 and issues the charter revision for the **Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School** as proposed by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education, and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

Timetable for Implementation

The Regents action for the School's name change will become effective immediately.

Attachments

School: Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School (84X389)

CSD: 7

Enrollment/ Grades Served in 2014-2015:¹ 383/ K-7

Revision Background

- Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School received a full-term renewal in March 2013. At the time of renewal, the School demonstrated academic achievement and progress. The school was also approved to grow to become a K-8 school, starting with sixth grade in the 2013-2014 school year and adding one grade per year until 2015-2016, when the school will reach its full grade span.
- The school achieved ELA and math proficiency rates above those of both the comparable Community School District (CSD) 7 and citywide rates in the most recent school year, 2013-2014.
 - In 2013-2014, 29.0% of the School's third through sixth grade students demonstrated proficiency in New York State (NYS) assessments in English Language Arts (ELA), a rate which was 19.3 percentage points higher than the comparable third through sixth grade proficiency rate for CSD 7 and 0.3 percentage points higher than the comparable citywide rate.
 - In 2013-2014, 42.2% of the School's third through sixth grade students demonstrated proficiency in NYS math assessments, a rate which was 27.6 percentage points higher than the comparable third through sixth grade proficiency rate for CSD 7 and 4.4 percentage points higher than the citywide third through sixth grade proficiency rate.
- The school demonstrated strong growth in both ELA and math from the 2012-2013 school year to the 2013-2014 school year.
 - The School's ELA median adjusted growth percentile of 68% placed it in the 66th percentile of all elementary schools citywide and in the 80th percentile of all elementary schools in CSD 7.²
 - The School's math median adjusted growth percentile of 63% placed it in the 53rd percentile of all elementary schools citywide and the 45th percentile of all elementary schools in CSD 7.
- According to the 2013-2014 NYC School Survey Report, 97% of parents who responded to the survey agree or strongly agree that the "school has high expectations for [their] child."³
- The proposed name change would allow the school to honor the work and dedication of the school's founding Board Chair and current Board Chair Emeritus, Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski.

¹ Enrollment reflects ATS data as of October 31, 2014.

² The School was classified as an elementary school by the NYCDOE in 2013-2014.

³ According to the 2013-2014 NYC School Survey, 64% of parent respondents strongly agree that Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School has teachers who have high expectations for their child; another 33% agree with the statement.

ES/MS students scoring at or above Level 3 on NYS assessments, compared to CSD, NYC and State averages Over the Current Charter Term

% Proficient in English Language Arts	
	2013-2014
Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	29.0%
CSD 7	9.7%
Difference from CSD 7 *	19.3
NYC	28.7%
Difference from NYC *	0.3
New York State **	30.6%
Difference from New York State	-1.6

% Proficient in Mathematics	
	2013-2014
Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	42.2%
CSD 7	14.6%
Difference from CSD 7 *	27.6
NYC	37.8%
Difference from NYC *	4.4
New York State **	36.2%
Difference from New York State	6.0

* All comparisons to either the CSD or NYC take into account only grades the school itself served. CSD comparisons are particular to the CSD in which the school was sited each year.

** New York State proficiency rates were taken from data.nysed.gov.

The NYCDOE Progress Report was discontinued beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. As a result, Progress Report data is not available for Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School over the current charter term.

Enrollment of Special Populations⁴

Special Population		2013-2014
Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL)	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	87.6%
	CSD 7	96.7%
	NYC	82.4%
Students with Disabilities (SWD)	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	10.7%
	CSD 7	24.5%
	NYC	19.9%
English Language Learners (ELL)	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School	12.4%
	CSD 7	20.4%
	NYC	15.6%

Additional Enrollment Information	
	2013-2014
Grades Served	K-6
CSD(s)	7

⁴ Comparisons of a charter school's special populations to the CSD and City are made relative only to the grades served by the school. For example, if a charter school serves grades kindergarten through five, comparisons of that school's special populations will only be made relative to grades kindergarten through five in the CSD and citywide. CSD comparisons are particular to the grades served in each CSD each year. Enrollment rates reflect demographic characteristics as of June 1 and enrollment as of October 31 for each given school year, with the exception of enrollment in the 2012-2013 school year, which is as of October 26, 2012.

State enrollment targets were generated by a calculator developed by the State Education Department (SED). Once a school's CSD, total enrollment and grade span are entered, the calculator generates a school-specific enrollment target. The CSD for a multi-district school is the primary CSD as determined by each school. The enrollment is determined by the total number of students enrolled as of October 31, 2013. Any school with an unusual grade configuration (i.e. K, 6-9) should use an available grade configuration provided by SED that is most aligned as determined by the DOE, otherwise a school's actual grade span is used. For more information regarding SED's methodology behind the calculation of charter school enrollment and retention targets, please refer to the memo at <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2012Meetings/July2012/712brca11.pdf>.



Notice of Public Hearing: Charter School Revision

- Date:** March 31, 2014
- Time:** Speaker Registration: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM
Presentation, Comments, and Questions: 6:00 PM
- Location:** **Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School**
750 Concourse Village West
Bronx, NY 10451
- Event :** This public hearing is open to anyone interested in learning about the following charter revision for a school located in **Community School District 7** in the Bronx:

Name of Charter School	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School
Terms and Dates of Charter	Second Charter: 2013 – 2018
Current Grade(s) and Approved Enrollment	Academic Year 2013-14 Grades and Number of Students K-6, 347 students
Current Year of Operation	2013-14: Year of Operation 6 th Year of Operation
District of Location	NYC CSD 7
Proposed Charter Revision	
Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, located in New York City Community School District (CSD) 7, has applied for a charter revision to change the school name from Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School to Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remenski School.	

This school is authorized by the New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE). More information can be accessed at: www.schools.nyc.gov/charters.

Comments are welcome; speakers must register within 30 minutes of the hearing's start time. Written comments will also be collected on at the hearing or be submitted via email to: charterschools@schools.nyc.gov or faxed to 212-374-5761 within 48 hours after the hearing's close.

Pursuant to Education Law 2857(1), the New York City Department of Education is required to hold a public hearing to solicit comment from the community in connection with any revision proposal for a charter school.



April 28, 2015

Beth Berlin
Interim Commissioner of Education
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234

Re: Material Charter Revision Approval Rationale – Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School

Dear Commissioner Berlin,

Please be advised that the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) has accepted the material charter revision request made by Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School (the "School") located in the Bronx, in Community School District (CSD) 7. The School currently serves students in kindergarten through grade eight. The School seeks to change its legal name to honor the work and dedication of the school's founding Board chair – Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski. The school's Board of Trustees wishes for this change to be in effect prior to the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

The School's new name would be **Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski Charter School**. The School received a full-term renewal in March 2013 and has continued to demonstrate academic success; it achieved ELA and math proficiency rates above those of both the comparable CSD (7) and citywide averages in the most recent school year, 2013-2014.

As this is a material change to the School's charter, a public hearing was held on March 31, 2014 to discuss the proposed revision. There were approximately two attendees and no speakers.

After reviewing the request, the NYCDOE finds that the proposed charter revision:

- i. will meet the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; and
- ii. will permit the charter school to operate in an educationally and fiscally-sound manner.

As the charter authorizing entity, I approve this material charter revision request. If you require any further information please contact us. The NYCDOE recognizes that the Board of Regents may take up to 90 days from the receipt of the proposed revision to review the recommended material change. If we do not hear from you within that timeframe, the NYCDOE will deem the recommended material revision to be approved by the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Chancellor Carmen Fariña
Chancellor New York City Department of Education

CC:

Alana Barran, Board Chair Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School
DawnLynne Kacer, Office of School Design and Charter Partnerships Executive Director, NYCDOE
Bill Clarke, Executive Director, Charter Schools Office NYSED

Enclosure(s):

NYCDOE revision rationale, Board minutes recording the charter amendment vote, Public hearing notice



Department of
Education

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June 8, 2015

Bill Clarke
Director, Charter School Office
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Mr. Clarke,

This letter is to clarify the charter revision for the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School. This charter revision, being sent by the New York City Department of Education, Chancellor (DOE), to the Board of Regents for consideration at their June, 2015, meeting is regarding a legal name change for the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School.

To clarify, the charter revision with their name change, approved by the DOE, is the name listed on the hearing notice provided to your office, the "Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School." The name listed in the Chancellor's letter to your office contained a typographical error.

To reiterate, the Regents item for the June, 2015 Board of Regents meeting should reflect the correct approved revised name of the school: "Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School"

Sincerely,

David M. Frank