



TO: P-12 Education Committee

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

SUBJECT: Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized

by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor

In L. Das

**DATE:** March 4, 2021

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

SUMMARY

### **Issue for Decision**

Should the Board of Regents approve the proposed renewal charters for the following charter schools authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor pursuant to Article 56 of the Education Law (the New York Charter Schools Act):

- 1. Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School (short term three-year renewal).
- 2. Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation (full term five-year renewal and a revision to change the school name to Innovation Charter High School).
- 3. St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School (full term five-year renewal).

## Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

# **Proposed Handling**

This issue will come before the P-12 Education Committee and the Full Board for action at its March 2021 meeting.

### **Procedural History**

The New York City Department of Education Chancellor made the renewal recommendations being presented to the Board of Regents for approval and issuance as required by Article 56 of the Education Law.

## **Background Information**

The New York City Department of Education Chancellor and Board of Regents are bound by Article 56 of the Education Law regarding the criteria that can be considered in decision-making pertaining to charter school renewals.

## **Related Regents Items**

## Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School

February 2008 Initial Charter

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/February2008/0208emsca11.htm)

April 2013 First Renewal

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/413p12a4Revised 0.pdf)

June 2015 Revision to Change the School Name

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Jun%202015/615p12a6.pdf)

March 2018 Second Renewal

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/318p12a3revised.pdf)

# **Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation**

December 2009 Initial Charter

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009/2009-12-10)

May 2014 Revision to Management Structure

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/514p12a2revised.pdf)

December 2014 First Renewal

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1214p12a3Revised.pdf)

March 2018 Second Renewal

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/318p12a3revised.pdf)

# St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School

January 2008 Initial Charter

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008/2008-01-42)

May 2009 Revision to End an Institutional Partnership

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009/2009-05-6)

March 2013 First Renewal

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/313p12a5%5B1%5D.pdf)

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/318p12a3revised.pdf)

### **Recommendations**

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

Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application 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 this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the renewal application of the Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including June 30, 2024.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that, the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application 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 this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the renewal application of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including June 30, 2026.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that, the **St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application 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 this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the renewal application of the **St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2026**.

### <u>Timetable for Implementation</u>

The Regents action for the above-named charter schools will become effective July 1, 2021.

#### Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School

In accordance with Education Law, Article 56, Sections 2851(4) and 2852(2), Commissioner's Regulation 119.7, the New York City Department of Education recommends a short-term renewal for a period of three years for Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School. The charter term would begin on July 1, 2021, and expire on June 30, 2024.

**Charter School Summary** 

Name of Charter School	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The						
Name of Charter School	Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School						
Board Chair	Dina Velez & Hanna Campbell						
District of Location	NYC CSD 7 <sup>1</sup>						
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2008						
Charter Term(s)	<ul> <li>Initial Term: February 12, 2008 – February 11, 2013</li> <li>First Renewal Term: February 12, 2013 – June 30, 2013</li> <li>Second Renewal Term: July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2018</li> <li>Third Renewal Term: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021</li> </ul>						
Current Term Authorized Grades / Authorized Enrollment	K – Grade 8 / 450 students						
Proposed Renewal Term Authorized Grades / Proposed Authorized Enrollment	K – Grade 8 / 450 students						
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None						
Facilities	750 Concourse Village West, Brooklyn, NY 10451 – Public Space						
Mission Statement	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School ("BGLIG," pronounced Big League) will provide an exceptional education to young girls through dual language instruction in a technology-rich environment, while building on cultural heritage to foster leadership characteristics and strong values, promote self-confidence and create global leaders. Through highly motivated and accomplished teachers, our students will receive a standards-based, research-proven, technology-infused curriculum focusing on core subjects that will create a strong foundation for life-long learning. Our intellectually challenging curriculum, enriched by a cultural perspective, a focus on successful women leaders, and a dual language program, will promote excellence in all areas: cognitive, social, emotional, and moral. A single-sex environment coupled with a rigorous instructional program ensures that each student is able to disengage from traditional social pressures and focus on personal development and academic achievement.						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 31 percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Key Design Elements	<ul> <li>Academic Rigor</li> <li>Dual Language Program</li> <li>Data Driven Small Group Differentiated Instruction</li> <li>Single Gender Instruction Focusing on Creating Female Leaders</li> <li>Strong Professional Development for Teachers and Teaching Assistants</li> <li>Collaborative Professional Learning Environment</li> <li>Performing Art Programs</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Performing Art Programs</li> <li>Technology Infused Instruction</li> </ul>
	Parent Engagement
<b>Recommended Material Revisions</b>	None

Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School, The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School (BGLIG) is approaching or meeting most standards set forth in the New York City Department of Education Charter School Accountability Framework. The school is implementing the mission, key design elements, education program, and organizational plan set forth in the charter.

**Innovative and Noteworthy Programs:** BGLIG is an all-girls school that provides a dual-language, English-Spanish, model and a strings music program, including Suzuki Violin, to the South Bronx Community.

### **Renewal Condition(s):**

- By June 30 of each year of the next charter term, the school must demonstrate growth in meeting the school's community school district of location enrollment rates for English Language Learners (ELLs) and ultimately, by the end of the charter term, meet the enrollment rate for ELLs of the school's community school district of location.
- By June 30 of each year of the next charter term, the Board must submit a report to the school's
  authorizer detailing what special programming was added in the current academic year and what
  programming will be added in the upcoming year, as well as a reflection on the school's progress
  toward increasing the enrollment rate of ELLs.

**Table 1: Current Grade Levels and Authorized Enrollment** 

	Year 1 2018 to 2019	Year 2 2019 to 2020	Year 3 2020 to 2021
Grade Configuration	K – Grade 8	K – Grade 8	K – Grade 8
Total Authorized Enrollment	450	450	450

Table 2: Proposed Renewal Term Grade Levels and Proposed Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K – Grade 8	K – Grade 8	K – Grade 8
Total Proposed Enrollment	450	450	450

# **Summary of Evidence for Renewal**

**Key Performance Area: Educational Success** 

#### **Student Performance – Elementary/Middle School Outcomes**

See Figure 1 regarding assessment proficiency regarding 3-8 math and English language arts (ELA). See Table 3 below regarding 3-8 math and ELA exam aggregate and subgroup student performance compared to the district and State average. According to the 2020-2021 school year ESEA accountability designations, BGLIG is In Good Standing.

Academic Program for Elementary School/Middle School: BGLIG offers curricula and coursework aligned to New York State Next Generation learning standards in ELA, math, Social Studies and Science. The school offers a dual-language program in English and Spanish where students receive instruction in both languages. Every student in kindergarten to Grade 5 receives instructional support from two teachers and two teaching assistants. Every student in Grades 6-8 receives support from a content teacher and a teaching assistant in each content area. The school also employs three academic intervention teachers. In addition, the school offers strings music classes, dance, chess and physical education.

**Academic Program for Students with Disabilities (SWDs) and ELLs:** The school offers Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) in kindergarten and hopes to expand to all grades. The school provides Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS) for SWDs, as well as counseling. The school employs one ELL teacher to work with ELL students.

Figure 1: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency State and District Differentials Over Time Comparison to NYC CSD 7

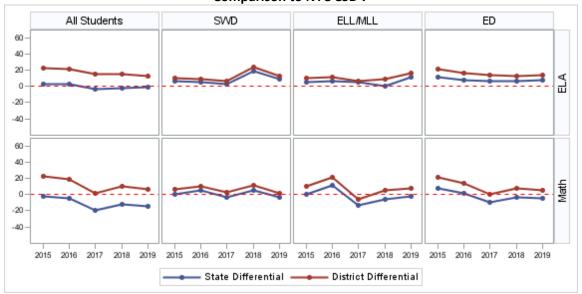


Table 3: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency Outcomes: Charter School, District & NYS

	5. Elemen		<u> </u>	ELA		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	Math	, 2.5ti i	
		Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodriguez- Remeneski School	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodriguez- Remeneski School	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS
	2014-2015	34%	11%	+23	31%	3	38%	15%	+23	40%	-2
	2015-2016	41%	19%	+22	38%	+3	35%	16%	+19	39%	-4
All Students	2016-2017	37%	22%	+15	40%	-3	20%	18%	+2	40%	-20
	2017-2018	43%	28%	+15	45%	-2	33%	23%	+10	45%	-12
	2018-2019	44%	31%	+13	45%	-1	32%	26%	+6	47%	-15
	2014-2015	14%	4%	+10	7%	+7	14%	7%	+7	14%	0
	2015-2016 2016-2017	15%	6%	+9	10%	+5	18%	8%	+10	13%	+5
SWD		14%	7%	+7	11%	+3	11%	8%	+3	14%	-3
	2017-2018	35%	11%	+24	16%	+19	22%	11%	+11	17%	+5
	2018-2019	24%	11%	+13	15%	+9	14%	12%	+2	17%	-3
	2014-2015	16%	6%	+10	11%	+5	21%	11%	+10	21%	0
	2015-2016	19%	8%	+11	13%	+6	32%	10%	+22	20%	+12
ELL	2016-2017	17%	10%	+7	12%	+5	6%	12%	-6	19%	-13
	2017-2018	25%	16%	+9	25%	0	23%	18%	+5	29%	-6
	2018-2019	36%	20%	+16	25%	+11	29%	21%	+8	31%	-2
	2014-2015	32%	11%	+21	20%	+12	37%	15%	+22	29%	+8
	2015-2016	35%	19%	+16	27%	+8	30%	16%	+14	28%	+2
ED	2016-2017	36%	22%	+14	29%	+7	19%	18%	+1	29%	-10
	2017-2018	41%	28%	+13	35%	+6	31%	23%	+8	34%	-3
	2018-2019	44%	30%	+14	36%	+8	31%	26%	+5	36%	-5

## **Key Performance Area: Organizational Soundness**

#### **Financial Condition**

BLGIG appears to be in sound financial condition as evidenced by performance on key indicators derived from the school's independently audited financial statements.

The New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) reviews the financial performance and management of charter schools using quantitative and qualitative methods. Near-term indicators, such as the current ratio and unrestricted days cash, are measures of liquidity and of the charter school's

capacity to maintain operations. Long-term indicators, such as total margin and debt-to asset ratio, are measures of the charter school's capacity to remain viable and to meet financial obligations.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Financial Management**

NYCDOE reviewed BGLIG's 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 audited financial statements to determine whether the independent auditor observed sufficient internal controls over financial reporting. The auditor did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that could be considered material weaknesses in either year.

### Key Performance Area: Faithfulness to the Charter and Law

### **Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention**

The school is far from meeting its targets for SWDs and is coming close to but not yet meeting targets for economically disadvantaged (ED) students or ELLs (see Table 4 below).

The school is making good faith efforts to recruit, serve, and retain at-risk students.<sup>3</sup> The school has added a preference for ELL students and will add a preference for SWDs. Efforts to recruit and retain students in the ED, ELL, and SWD populations include:

- Recruiting at CSD 7 daycares, taking out advertisements in local and Spanish-language newspapers, launching social media campaigns;
- Sending mailers in both English and Spanish; and
- Having many staff that speak both English and Spanish.

<sup>2</sup> These rigorous indicators of fiscal soundness are aligned with those recommended by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

Education Law §2854(2)(a) requires that schools demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, FRPL-eligible students and English language learners when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter is located. SUNY and the Regents were charged with setting specific enrollment and retention targets for each charter school, including those authorized by the NYCDOE Chancellor, and have done so (Education Law §2852(9-a)(b)(i)). All charter schools that were initially chartered after August 2010 or renewed after January 1, 2011 are expected to meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets set by the Regents and SUNY. When submitting an application for renewal of the charter, schools are required to provide information detailing the means by which they will meet the enrollment and retention targets (Education Law §2851(4)(e)), and this information is considered by the Regents in the review of the school's performance over the charter term. A school's plan to change its enrollment practices, whether by weighting the lottery or preferencing, may also be considered when determining whether the school will meet the targets in the upcoming charter term. A school's repeated failure to meet or exceed its enrollment and retention targets, when combined with a failure to show that extensive efforts to meet the targets have been made, may be cause for termination or revocation of the charter, pursuant to Section Education Law §2855(1)(e).

Table 4: Subgroup Enrollment: Students with Disabilities, ELLs, and Economically Disadvantaged

1 4. 345		SWD			ELL	·		ED	avantage
	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodrguez-Remeneski School	AYC CSD 7	Differential to District	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodrguez-Remeneski School	AYC CSD 7	Differential to District
2015-2016	13%	27%	-14	12%	23%	-11	85%	95%	-10
2016-2017	12%	28%	-16	12%	21%	-9	87%	95%	-8
2017-2018	13%	28%	-15	19%	24%	-5	90%	96%	-6
2018-2019	14%	28%	-14	21%	24%	-3	90%	95%	-5
2019-2020	12%	28%	-16	22%	23%	-1	92%	95%	-3

**Table 5: Aggregate and Subgroup Retention** 

	Д	All Students			SWD		ELL				SD 7 GD Strict	
	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School	AYC CSD 7	Differential to District	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodrguez-Remeneski School	AYC CSD 7	Differential to District	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodrguez-Remeneski School	NYC CSD 7	Differential to District	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodrguez-Remeneski School	AYC CSD 7	Differential to District
2015-2016	93%	85%	+8	91%	85%	+6	84%	87%	-3	92%	85%	+7
2016-2017	87%	84%	+3	90%	83%	+7	93%	86%	+7	88%	84%	4
2017-2018	89%	85%	+4	90%	85%	+5	84%	87%	-3	89%	85%	4
2018-2019	84%	84%	0	86%	83%	+3	84%	83%	+1	84%	84%	0
2019-2020	81%	84%	-3	79%	84%	-5	77%	83%	-6	80%	84%	-4

Table 6: Aggregate Enrollment: Reported vs Contracted (Target = 100%)

Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls CS, the Shirley Rodriguez- Remeneski School	Contracted Enrollment	Reported Enrollment	Percent of Contracted Enrollment
2015-2016	450	430	96%
2016-2017	450	433	96%
2017-2018	450	443	98%
2018-2019	450	422	94%
2019-2020	450	441	98%

## **Legal Compliance**

BGLIG operates in accordance with applicable law, regulations, rules, and other policies, including the terms of its charter, by-laws, and other school-specific policies. It is also in compliance with federally mandated disciplinary procedures for students with disabilities and the Dignity for All Students Act. The board holds meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on December 14, 2020. Sixty people attended, and twenty-five spoke. Twenty-five were in favor of the renewal. None were opposed.

#### **Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation**

In accordance with Education Law, Article 56, Sections 2851(4) and 2852(2), Commissioner's Regulation 119.7, the New York City Department of Education recommends a full-term renewal for a period of five years for Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation. The charter term would begin on July 1, 2021, and expire on June 30, 2026, and the school would be permitted to revise its charter to change the school name to Innovation Charter High School.

#### **Charter School Summary**

	Charter School Summary
Name of Charter School	Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Board Chair	Sonia Karia
District of Location	NYC CSD 4 <sup>4</sup>
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2010
Charter Term(s)	<ul> <li>Initial Term: December 15, 2009 – December 14, 2014</li> <li>First Renewal Term: December 15, 2014 – June 30, 2018</li> <li>Second Renewal Term: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021</li> </ul>
Current Term Authorized Grades / Authorized Enrollment	Grades 9-12 / 460 students
Proposed Renewal Term Authorized Grades / Proposed Authorized Enrollment	Grades 9-12 / 460 students
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	410 E 100 Street, New York, NY 10029 – Public Space
Mission Statement	Our vision is to create a learning environment that addresses the needs of our students through creative and engaging instruction with career readiness tracks designed for their future success. We actively seek to provide opportunities for our students to apply what they learn in the classroom thus giving our students, and their families, access to transformative experiences that will prepare them for life after graduation.
Key Design Elements	<ul> <li>College &amp; Career Readiness (CCR) Experiential Programming</li> <li>Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) Program</li> <li>At-Risk Intervention through Data Informed Decisions</li> <li>Literacy Through Reading and Writing Across All Curriculum</li> <li>Ongoing Enrollment</li> <li>Shared Leadership Through Staff Development</li> <li>Equitable Student Culture and Discipline</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended Material Revisions</b>	Change the school name to Innovation Charter High School

Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation (Innovation) is approaching or meeting most standards set forth in the New York City Department of Education Charter School Accountability Framework. The school is implementing the mission, key design elements, education program, and organizational plan set forth in the charter.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 27 percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

### **Innovative and Noteworthy Programs:**

Innovation is the first charter school in NYC, and the second in NYS, with a NYS-approved career and technical education certified program. The program includes a four-year course sequence in culinary arts, a financial literacy component, and a fourth year internship program. Over one-third of the students enrolled in the program are Students with Disabilities (SWDs). The program provides additional pathways to graduation for all enrolled students.

Innovation is the only charter school participating in NYCDOE's Software Engineering Pilot (SEP). Courses include computer programming, electronics, web design and programming, robotics, mobile computing, digital fabrication, 3-D printing and animation. The four-year program concludes in an Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles course. In compliance with the requirements of the SEP, Innovation's software engineering and computer technology career and technical training programs are aligned with citywide and industry standards.

#### Renewal Condition(s):

By June 30 of each year of the next charter term, the school must demonstrate growth in post-secondary enrollment rates and ultimately meet or exceed the rate of comparable students by the end of the charter term.

**Table 1: Current Grade Levels and Authorized Enrollment** 

	Year 1 2018 to 2019	Year 2 2019 to 2020	Year 3 2020 to 2021
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 – 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Authorized Enrollment	460	460	460

Table 2: Proposed Renewal Term Grade Levels and Proposed Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024	Year 4 2024 to 2025	Year 5 2025 to 2026
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 – 12	Grades 9 – 12	Grades 9 – 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Proposed Enrollment	460	460	460	460	460

# **Summary of Evidence for Renewal**

**Key Performance Area: Educational Success** 

## <u>Student Performance – High School Outcomes</u>

The school has demonstrated mixed but positively trending academic performance in regard to cohort Regents exam outcomes in the high school grades, meeting or exceeding the State average in some subjects, and showing strong growth for each successive cohort, as well as annual pass rates. According to the 2018-2019 school year ESEA accountability designations, Innovation is *Targeted Support and Improvement*. The school's recently released high school graduation outcomes show marked growth in the five year cohort graduation rate for all students but SWDs and English language learners (ELLs) in particular.

**Academic Program for High School:** The school offers courses that lead to Regents exams in Common Core Algebra and Algebra II, Geometry, US History, ELA, Earth Science, Living Environment, and Global History. In addition, the school offers AP courses and exams for Software Engineering and Language & Composition. The school also offers a CTE-certified Culinary Arts program.

The school has implemented The Writing Revolution across all subject matters and grade levels. This is a research-based strategy for literacy and college-level writing instruction. In 2019, Innovation's ELA pass rate was 86 percent, compared to 56 percent in 2017 and 63 percent in 2018. In addition, 79 percent of SWDs, 76 percent of ELLs, and 86 percent of Economically Disadvantaged (ED) students demonstrated proficiency in writing ability.

**Academic Program for SWDs and ELLs:** The school provides Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) and 15:1 sections in each grade, in addition to counseling. The school also employs ESOL teachers to work with ELL students.

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

			All Stu	idents			SV	VD			Е	LL			E	D	
		Charter Total Cohort	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	SAN	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	SAN	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	SAN	Differential to NYS	Charter Total Cohort	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	SKN	Differential to NYS
	4 Year	109	53%	80%	-27	25	28%	54%	-26		•			94	54%	73%	-19
2011 Cohort	5 Year	109	72%	84%	-12	25	68%	60%	+8		•			90	76%	79%	-3
	6 Year	107	78%	85%	-7	25	72%	62%	+10	-	-			85	86%	81%	+5
	4 Year	100	58%	82%	-24	27	52%	57%	-5	12	0.33	0.49	-16	81	59%	75%	-16
2012 Cohort	5 Year	98	66%	85%	-19	26	58%	62%	-4	12	33%	56%	-23	72	72%	80%	-8
	6 Year	97	70%	86%	-16	28	61%	64%	-3	11	36%	58%	-22	72	75%	82%	-7
	4 Year	97	55%	82%	-27	46	46%	58%	-12	9	22%	42%	-20	79	56%	76%	-20
2013 Cohort	5 Year	94	69%	85%	-16	45	56%	64%	-8	9	33%	50%	-17	78	69%	80%	-11
	6 Year	94	73%	86%	-13	46	59%	66%	-7	9	44%	53%	-9	76	75%	82%	-7
	4 Year	112	62%	83%	-21	38	61%	60%	+1	24	63%	54%	+9	94	61%	76%	-15
2014 Cohort	5 Year	110	68%	86%	-18	37	65%	66%	-1	25	76%	62%	+14	92	67%	81%	-14
	6 Year	111	71%	87%	-16	38	63%	68%	-5	25	76%	66%	+10	92	72%	83%	-11
2015 Cohort	4 Year	123	78%	83%	-5	36	75%	62%	+13	20	85%	58%	+27	103	76%	77%	-1
2015 C0110TT	5 Year	125	83%	87%	-4	37	78%	67%	+11	21	86%	68%	+18	106	81%	82%	-1
2016 Cohort	4 Year	120	75%	85%	-10	40	63%	63%	0	20	65%	63%	+2	106	74%	80%	-6

### **Key Performance Area: Organizational Soundness**

#### **Financial Condition**

Innovation appears to be in sound financial condition as evidenced by performance on key indicators derived from the school's independently audited financial statements.

NYCDOE reviews the financial performance and management of charter schools using quantitative and qualitative methods. Near-term indicators, such as the current ratio and unrestricted days cash, are measures of liquidity and of the charter school's capacity to maintain operations. Long-term indicators, such as total margin and debt-to asset ratio, are measures of the charter school's capacity to remain viable and to meet financial obligations.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Financial Management**

NYCDOE reviewed Innovation's 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 audited financial statements to determine whether the independent auditor observed sufficient internal controls over financial reporting. The auditor did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that could be considered material weaknesses in either year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> These rigorous indicators of fiscal soundness are aligned with those recommended by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

### **Key Performance Area: Faithfulness to the Charter and Law**

#### **Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention**

Through efforts toward increasing the percentage of at-risk students enrolled, the school is meeting its targets for all of the special population subgroups – ED, SWDs, and ELLs, (see Table 4 below).

In addition, Innovation's enrollment of over-aged, under-credited students is significant and has grown during the last two charter terms. Currently, 22 percent of Innovation's students are over-aged and under-credited. This represents a substantial increase from the roughly 9.5 percent of students who were overaged and under-credited during the school's first and second charter terms.

The school is making good faith efforts to recruit, serve, and retain at-risk students<sup>6</sup>. The school does not currently offer an enrollment preference for any at-risk group. However, efforts to recruit and retain students in the ED, ELL, and SWD populations include:

- Presenting at local middle schools, community-based organizations, housing developments, Community Board meetings and Tenants' Associations;
- Working closely with middle school parent coordinators; and
- Attending community youth fairs.

Table 4: Subgroup Enrollment: Students with Disabilities, ELLs, and Economically Disadvantaged

	SWD			ELL				ED	
	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District
2015-2016	38%	17%	+21	14%	11%	+3	83%	84%	-1
2016-2017	39%	17%	+22	15%	11%	+4	80%	85%	-5
2017-2018	35%	18%	+17	18%	14%	+4	84%	86%	-2
2018-2019	34%	18%	+16	17%	14%	+3	86%	82%	+4
2019-2020	35%	18%	+17	15%	12%	+3	88%	82%	+6

Education Law §2854(2)(a) requires that schools demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, FRPL-eligible students and English language learners when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter is located. SUNY and the Regents were charged with setting specific enrollment and retention targets for each charter school, including those authorized by the NYCDOE Chancellor, and have done so (Education Law §2852(9-a)(b)(i)). All charter schools that were initially chartered after August 2010 or renewed after January 1, 2011 are expected to meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets set by the Regents and SUNY. When submitting an application for renewal of the charter, schools are required to provide information detailing the means by which they will meet the enrollment and retention targets (Education Law §2851(4)(e)), and this information is considered by the Regents in the review of the school's performance over the charter term. A school's plan to change its enrollment practices, whether by weighting the lottery or preferencing, may also be considered when determining whether the school will meet the targets in the upcoming charter term. A school's repeated failure to meet or exceed its enrollment and retention targets, when combined with a failure to show that extensive efforts to meet the targets have been made, may be cause for termination or revocation of the charter, pursuant to Section Education Law §2855(1)(e).

**Table 5: Aggregate and Subgroup Retention** 

	P	All Student	ts		SWD		ELL			ED		
	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District	Renaissance CHS for Innovation	NYC CSD 4	Differential to District
2015-2016	81%	91%	-10	84%	83%	+1	93%	87%	+6	86%	92%	-6
2016-2017	81%	89%	-8	77%	78%	-1	91%	86%	+5	83%	90%	-7
2017-2018	79%	92%	-13	75%	86%	-11	92%	89%	+3	77%	92%	-15
2018-2019	85%	88%	-3	83%	81%	+2	95%	85%	+10	86%	89%	-3
2019-2020	80%	89%	-9	74%	82%	-8	83%	87%	-4	81%	90%	-9

Table 6: Aggregate Enrollment: Reported vs Contracted (Target = 100%)

Renaissance CHS for Innovation	Contracted Enrollment	Reported Enrollment	Percent of Contracted Enrollment
2015-2016	500	456	91%
2016-2017	500	462	92%
2017-2018	500	447	89%
2018-2019	460	449	98%
2019-2020	460	400	87%

### **Legal Compliance**

Innovation operates in accordance with applicable law, regulations, rules, and other policies, including the terms of its charter, by-laws, and other school-specific policies. It is also in compliance with federally mandated disciplinary procedures for students with disabilities and the Dignity for All Students Act. The board holds meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on December 7, 2020. Seventy-seven people attended, and thirty-two spoke. Thirty-two were in favor of the renewal and revision. None were opposed.

## St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School

In accordance with Education Law, Article 56, Sections 2851(4) and 2852(2), Commissioner's Regulation 119.7, the New York City Department of Education recommends a full-term renewal for a period of five years for St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School. The charter term would begin on July 1, 2021, and expire on June 30, 2026.

**Charter School Summary** 

	Citable School Summary					
Name of Charter School	St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School					
Board Chair	Ankur Dalal					
District of Location	NYC CSD 5 <sup>7</sup>					
Initial Commencement of	Fall 2008					
Instruction	1 all 2008					
	Initial Term: January 15, 2008 – January 14, 2013					
Charter Term(s)	• First Renewal Term: January 15, 2013 – June 30, 2013					
(3)	Second Renewal Term: July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2018					
	Third Renewal Term: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021					
Current Term Authorized Grades /	Grades 6-8 / 300 students					
Authorized Enrollment	Grades 0-6 / 300 students					
Proposed Renewal Term						
Authorized Grades / Proposed	Grades 6-8 / 300 students					
Authorized Enrollment						
Comprehensive Management	None					
Service Provider	None					
Facilities	222 W 134 Street, New York, NY 10030 – Public Space					
	At St. HOPE Leadership Academy, we are committed to educating					
	self-motivated, productive, and critically thinking leaders who					
	are prepared to succeed in a college preparatory high school,					
Mission Statement	committed to serving others, and passionate about lifelong					
	learning. As such, we regularly reflect on our behavior, attitudes,					
	work habits, and performance to track our progress and keep					
	them aligned with our mission.					
	Character Education and Restorative Justice					
	High School Readiness and College Preparation					
	Resource-Rich 6th Grade					
Key Design Elements	Rigorous Standards-Based Grading					
	Developing the Whole Child					
	Differentiated Professional Development					
	Student Centered Learning					
Recommended Material Revisions	None					
11.000111111CHACA MACCHAI NEVISIONS	INDIC					

St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School (SHLA) is approaching or meeting most standards set forth in the New York City Department of Education Charter School Accountability Framework. The school is implementing the mission, key design elements, education program, and organizational plan set forth in the charter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 36 percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

**Innovative and Noteworthy Programs:** St. HOPE provides intensive interventions for students who are performing below grade level, a defined character development program, extensive leadership development and community service opportunities, and an extended school day and school year.

**Table 1: Current Grade Levels and Authorized Enrollment** 

	Year 1 2018 to 2019	Year 2 2019 to 2020	Year 3 2020 to 2021
Grade Configuration	Grades 6 - 8	Grades 6 – 8	Grades 6 - 8
Total Authorized Enrollment	300	300	300

Table 2: Proposed Renewal Term Grade Levels and Proposed Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024	Year 4 2024 to 2025	Year 5 2025 to 2026
Grade Configuration	Grades 6 - 8	Grades 6 – 8	Grades 6 – 8	Grades 6 – 8	Grades 6 - 8
Total Proposed Enrollment	300	300	300	300	300

# **Summary of Evidence for Renewal**

**Key Performance Area: Educational Success** 

#### <u>Student Performance – Elementary/Middle School Outcomes</u>

See Figure 1 regarding assessment proficiency regarding 3-8 math and ELA. See Table 3 below regarding 3-8 math and ELA exam aggregate and subgroup student performance compared to the district and State average. According to the 2018-2019 school year ESEA accountability designations, SHLA is *In Good Standing*.

Academic Program for Elementary School/Middle School: SHLA offers curricula and coursework aligned to New York Common Core standards in ELA, math, social studies and science. For math, the school provides one block of instruction on grade level and one block of small group targeted teaching for all students. For ELA, all students receive one block of instruction on grade level and between two and five blocks of targeted individualized instruction through Achieve 3000. In addition, the school offers Visual Arts and Physical Education.

Academic Program for Students with Disabilities (SWDs) and English language learners (ELLs): The school offers Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) in all grades. The school provides Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS) for SWDs, as well as counseling. The school employs one ESL teacher to work with ELL students.

Figure 1: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency State and District Differentials Over Time Comparison to NYC CSD 5

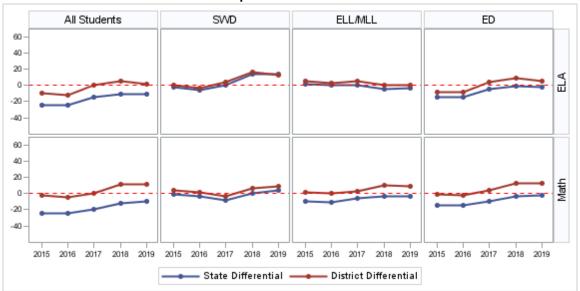


Table 3: Elementary/Middle School Assessment Proficiency Outcomes: Charter School, District & NYS

		(a., y, 11116		ELA		<u> </u>	Math				
		St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	NYS	Differential to NYS
	2014-2015	7%	17%	-10	31%	-24	11%	13%	-2	36%	-25
	2015-2016	12%	24%	-12	37%	-25	9%	14%	-5	34%	-25
All Students	2016-2017	25%	25%	0	40%	-15	14%	13%	+1	34%	-20
	2017-2018	35%	30%	+5	46%	-11	28%	17%	+11	40%	-12
	2018-2019	34%	32%	+2	45%	-11	33%	22%	+11	42%	-9
	2014-2015	4%	4%	0	6%	-2	8%	4%	+4	9%	-1
	2015-2016	2%	5%	-3	8%	-6	5%	3%	+2	8%	-3
SWD	2016-2017	11%	7%	+4	10%	+1	1%	4%	-3	9%	-8
	2017-2018	28%	11%	+17	14%	+14	12%	6%	+6	12%	0
	2018-2019	27%	14%	+13	13%	+14	17%	8%	+9	13%	+4
	2014-2015	9%	4%	+5	7%	+2	6%	4%	+2	16%	-10
	2015-2016	8%	5%	+3	8%	0	3%	3%	0	14%	-11
ELL	2016-2017	9%	4%	+5	8%	+1	6%	3%	+3	12%	-6
	2017-2018	16%	16%	0	20%	-4	18%	8%	+10	21%	-3
	2018-2019	16%	15%	+1	19%	-3	20%	11%	+9	23%	-3
	2014-2015	6%	14%	-8	21%	-15	10%	11%	-1	25%	-15
	2015-2016	12%	20%	-8	27%	-15	9%	11%	-2	24%	-15
ED	2016-2017	25%	21%	+4	30%	-5	14%	10%	+4	24%	-10
	2017-2018	35%	26%	+9	36%	-1	27%	14%	+13	30%	-3
	2018-2019	33%	28%	+5	35%	-2	31%	18%	+13	33%	-2

#### **Key Performance Area: Organizational Soundness**

#### **Financial Condition**

SHLA appears to be in sound financial condition as evidenced by performance on key indicators derived from the school's independently audited financial statements.

NYCDOE reviews the financial performance and management of charter schools using quantitative and qualitative methods. Near-term indicators, such as the current ratio and unrestricted days cash, are measures of liquidity and of the charter school's capacity to maintain operations. Long-term indicators, such as total margin and debt-to asset ratio, are measures of the charter school's capacity to remain viable and to meet financial obligations.<sup>8</sup>

#### **Financial Management**

NYCDOE reviewed SHLA's 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 audited financial statements to determine whether the independent auditor observed sufficient internal controls over financial reporting. The auditor did not identify any deficiencies in internal controls that could be considered material weaknesses in either year.

#### **Key Performance Area: Faithfulness to the Charter and Law**

#### **Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention**

Through efforts toward increasing the percentage of at-risk students enrolled, the school is meeting its targets for ELLs and ED students; the school is close to but not yet meeting its target for SWDs (see Table 4 below).

The school is making good faith efforts to recruit, serve, and retain at-risk students<sup>9</sup>. The school does not currently offer an enrollment preference for any at-risk group. However, efforts to recruit and retain students in the ED, ELL, and SWD populations include:

- Conducting outreach in high needs neighborhoods, including housing projects;
- Conducting outreach to schools, churches and community-based organizations that serve families with a primary language other than English; and
- Targeting outreach to feeder schools that serve high populations of special needs students.

These rigorous indicators of fiscal soundness are aligned with those recommended by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers.

Education Law §2854(2)(a) requires that schools demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, FRPL-eligible students and English language learners when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter is located. SUNY and the Regents were charged with setting specific enrollment and retention targets for each charter school, including those authorized by the NYCDOE Chancellor, and have done so (Education Law §2852(9-a)(b)(i)). All charter schools that were initially chartered after August 2010 or renewed after January 1, 2011 are expected to meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets set by the Regents and SUNY. When submitting an application for renewal of the charter, schools are required to provide information detailing the means by which they will meet the enrollment and retention targets (Education Law §2851(4)(e)), and this information is considered by the Regents in the review of the school's performance over the charter term. A school's plan to change its enrollment practices, whether by weighting the lottery or preferencing, may also be considered when determining whether the school will meet the targets in the upcoming charter term. A school's repeated failure to meet or exceed its enrollment and retention targets, when combined with a failure to show that extensive efforts to meet the targets have been made, may be cause for termination or revocation of the charter, pursuant to Section Education Law §2855(1)(e).

Table 4: Subgroup Enrollment: Students with Disabilities, ELLs, and Economically Disadvantaged

		SWD			ELL			ED	
	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District
2015-2016	24%	27%	-3	14%	14%	0	92%	82%	+10
2016-2017	28%	27%	+1	12%	12%	0	89%	82%	+7
2017-2018	24%	29%	-5	14%	15%	-1	96%	85%	+11
2018-2019	25%	30%	-5	15%	14%	+1	96%	84%	+12
2019-2020	27%	32%	-5	12%	13%	-1	97%	85%	+12

**Table 5: Aggregate and Subgroup Retention** 

	A	All Student	ts		SWD		ELL			ED		
	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District	St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	NYC CSD 5	Differential to District
2015-2016	87%	83%	+4	93%	83%	+10	97%	83%	+14	88%	82%	+6
2016-2017	61%	69%	-8	61%	63%	-2	66%	62%	+4	60%	68%	-8
2017-2018	56%	70%	-14	52%	68%	-16	62%	63%	-1	58%	69%	-11
2018-2019	86%	87%	-1	83%	86%	-3	91%	90%	+1	86%	87%	-1
2019-2020	81%	86%	-5	83%	85%	-2	90%	83%	+7	81%	86%	-5

Table 6: Aggregate Enrollment: Reported vs Contracted (Target = 100%)

St. HOPE Leadership Academy CS	Contracted Enrollment	Reported Enrollment	Percent of Contracted Enrollment
2015-2016	300	300	100%
2016-2017	300	304	101%
2017-2018	300	303	101%
2018-2019	300	300	100%
2019-2020	300	295	98%

#### **Legal Compliance**

SHLA operates in accordance with applicable law, regulations, rules, and other policies, including the terms of its charter, by-laws, and other school-specific policies. It is also in compliance with federally mandated disciplinary procedures for students with disabilities and the Dignity for All Students Act. The board holds meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.

### **Summary of Public Comment**

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 19, 2020. Ninety-two people attended, and forty-five spoke. Forty-five were in favor of the renewal. None were opposed.