



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

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Charles A. Szuberla, Jr. *Charles A. Szuberla Jr.*
SUBJECT: Revisions to a Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents: Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

DATE: July 13, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Margaret Elin*
SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

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

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by New York State law.

Proposed Handling

This issue will be before the Full Board for action at the July 2015 meeting of the Board of Regents.

Background Information

The Board of Trustees of the Rosalyn Yalow Charter School has submitted a request to amend the School's charter, proposing a change in location. Information about the revision request is provided below.

Name of Charter School	Rosalyn Yalow Charter School
Board Chair	John Carr
District of Location	New York City CSD 10
Opening Date	September 2015
Current Operating Term	July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020
Facility	Private space located 116 East 169 th Street, Bronx, New York
Current Grade Levels/Number of Students	Opening with 202 students in Grade K through 1; growing to 536 students in Grades K through 5
Mission	<i>“The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School will eliminate the learning achievement gap for poor urban children—including special needs students and English language learners—by using an engaging and demanding curriculum to graduate students at or above grade level in literacy and math.”</i>
Proposed Revision	Seeks to relocate from their approved location in New York CSD 10 to CSD 9 beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

On June 24, 2014, the Board of Regents approved and chartered the Rosalyn Yalow Charter School (or the “School”), to be located in the New York City School District CSD 10. The School will open for instruction on September 1, 2015, serving 202 students in kindergarten and first grade.

Pursuant to New York Education Law §2853(3)(e) the School submitted written requests dated May 21, 2014 and July 28, 2014 to the New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE) requesting co-location space. The NYC DOE responded that it did not have appropriate space. The school filed an appeal to the Commissioner of Education, and on December 19, 2014, the Commissioner ordered the NYC DOE to comply with New York Education Law § 2853(3)(e)(5). This led the school to seek space that would accommodate the school.

The School’s Trustees request that the Board of Regents approve a material revision to its charter to allow the School to change the district of location for the School to New York CSD 9; specifically to private space obtained by the School located at 116 East 169th Street, in the Bronx. The proposed lease space is approximately 28,000 square feet and has been renovated to house a charter school.

The School intends to utilize fourteen classrooms, nine office spaces, a large “cafetorium” with a prep kitchen, and other support spaces. Additionally the owner of the building has offered, without obligation, the use of two large multifunction rooms to be used from time to time as needed. There is a fenced parking area large enough for 30

cars which can be reconfigured to provide an outdoor play space for the students. The facility is a short walk from mass transit options.

Summary of Public Comment

As required by the Charter School Act, the New York City Department of Education held a public hearing about the proposed relocation on Monday, June 1, 2015. One comment in support was recorded, along with one comment in opposition.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that: (1) the charter school meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the charter school can demonstrate the ability to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the request to revise the charter is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) granting the request to revise the charter would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision for Rosalyn Yalow Charter School and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

Timetable for Implementation

The Regents action for Rosalyn Yalow Charter School will become effective immediately.