



MEMORANDUM

February 3, 2015

To: Members of the Charter Schools Committee

From: Joseph W. Belluck, Chair, Charter Schools Committee

**Subject: Approval of the Application for Charter Renewal of
Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School
(Roosevelt)**

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the approval of a five-year, full-term charter renewal with conditions for Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School pursuant to New York Education Law § 2851(4).

Resolution

I recommend that the Charter Schools Committee adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the Charter Schools Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as required by New York Education Law § 2851(4)(e), has considered, prior to approval of the application for charter renewal of Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School (the "Education Corporation"), located in Roosevelt, the means by which the Education Corporation will meet or exceed the enrollment and retention targets of students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the federal free and reduced price lunch program as set forth in the application, which targets were prescribed by the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute") on behalf of the Board; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Education Corporation's application for charter renewal, be, and hereby is, approved to the extent and as limited, restricted, and described in the Institute's Renewal Report for the Education Corporation (copies available in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees and in the Albany office of the Institute), and the charter be renewed for a full term of five years subject to the following conditions for the duration of the renewal charter term:

- the Education Corporation must continue to implement the educational improvement plan that was part of the remedial action plan, dated April 15, 2013, including, but not limited to, submitting budgets and budget narratives that demonstrate adequate support for the educational; and
- the Education Corporation shall engage an independent fiscal monitor or independent private sector inspector general with appropriate fiscal experience to review fiscal operations at the school and specifically approve the following after Education Corporation board of trustees' or appropriate administrative approval:
 - contracts, leases, or other obligations in excess of \$25,000 or that aggregate to over \$25,000 over the term of same;
 - withdrawals, redemptions or sales of cash, bonds, securities or investments of any type in excess of \$25,000, or any pattern of same totaling in excess of \$25,000;
 - execution of new debt instruments or the securing of new credit lines or extensions of credit in excess of \$25,000; and,
 - purchase or sale of any real property, or option thereon; and

- The Education Corporation is prohibited from seeking to increase its number of facility sites, and any requests for approval of facility agreements shall be limited to consolidations of the number of facilities or replacement or expansion within current facilities;

and be it further;

Resolved that: 1) the Education Corporation's school as described in its application for charter renewal, and as limited and restricted, meets the requirements of the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended) and applicable laws, rules and regulations; 2) the Education Corporation, as limited and restricted, can demonstrate the ability to operate its school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; and, 3) so approving the renewal application and renewing the charter, as limited and restricted, is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in Education Law § 2850(2); and be it further

Resolved that the Institute, acting for the Board of Trustees, be, and hereby is, directed to: 1) enter into a proposed renewal charter with the Education Corporation in accordance with this resolution, which proposed charter shall include such assurances and terms as the Institute shall deem necessary and appropriate; and 2) thereafter to submit the proposed renewal charter to the Board of Regents for its review, comment and potential approval.

Background

The New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended) permits the Board of Trustees to renew the charters of education corporations it has authorized. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2012-038 dated June 12, 2012, the Board of Trustees delegated authority to renew charters to the Charter Schools Committee. Pursuant to the *Policies for the Renewal of Not-for-Profit Charter School Education Corporations and Charter Schools Authorized by the State University Board of Trustees* (the "SUNY Renewal Policies") (last amended September 4, 2013 and available at:

<http://www.newyorkcharters.org/category/operational-resources/renewal/>, the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute") conducts a renewal site visit; reviews the information in the renewal application as well as other relevant information, such as assessment data and site visit reports; interviews education corporation trustees and staff; and produces a draft renewal report containing its findings and preliminary recommendation. The draft renewal report also contains an evaluation of the performance of an education corporation's school over the charter term based on the criteria provided in the renewal benchmarks described in the SUNY Renewal Policies. The education corporation receives a copy of the draft renewal report and is given an opportunity to comment on it before it is finalized. The Institute makes final renewal reports available in its Albany office and at: <http://www.suny.edu/about/leadership/board-of-trustees/meetings/meetingNotices.cfm>. Copies of applications for renewal are on file in the Albany office of the Institute.

As set forth in the Institute's Renewal Report for Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School (the "Education Corporation"), which was distributed to the Board of Trustees, the Institute conducted a renewal review of the Education Corporation pursuant to the SUNY Renewal Policies. As a result of this review, the Institute recommends that the Education Corporation's application for subsequent charter renewal should be granted for a full-term of five years with conditions. If this resolution is approved, the Education Corporation's charter will be renewed through July 31, 2020.

For the education corporation listed above, the Institute properly notified the school district in which the education corporation is located regarding the receipt of an application for charter renewal. As of January 23, 2015, no comments were received.