

**AMEND BOARD REPORT 04-0922-PO4  
ADOPT A NEW POLICY TO ESTABLISH RENAISSANCE SCHOOLS**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

**Purpose and Goals**

"Charter Schools" are independently operated public schools approved and certified under the Illinois Charter Schools Law, Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27A. Charter school teachers and staff are employees of the charter school or its management organization. CDS collective bargaining agreements

do not apply to Charter School teachers and staff. Charter School employees have all rights, guarantees, and privileges guaranteed to them in Sections 2, 3, 7, 8 10, 14 and 15 of the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act, including the right to organize, form, join or assist in employee organizations or engage in

4 a. For Charter Schools: Each Charter School shall enter into a Charter School Agreement that, upon execution, shall be binding on the school's

Education. Only nonprofit organizations are eligible to submit a Charter School proposal.

2-b. For Contract Schools: Each Contract School shall enter into a

C. Other Procedures for Establishing a Renaissance School. A Renaissance School may

~~be established through other procedures developed by the Chief Executive Officer~~

as appropriate to respond to a unique opportunity to create a new educational option or to fulfill an identified educational need. At a minimum, these other procedures shall

1. submission of documentation which details the school's proposed educational program, mission and goals;
2. evaluation of the documentation by the Chief Executive Officer or designee;
3. community input;
4. a public hearing and consideration by the Board.

**IV. Governance**

In order to fully effectuate the autonomies and accountability provided through this policy, each Renaissance School shall be governed by a traditional or advisory Local School Council ("LSC") or other

**V. Autonomy**

CPS experience with alternative, charter, and small schools indicates that students benefit when parents, teachers, and community members are given the opportunity to create new, innovative and more flexible ways of educating children within the public school system. In exchange for higher accountability,



C. For Performance Schools: The Board recognizes the need to support CPS teachers and staff and provide them with new opportunities to innovate and improve academic achievement within CPS led schools and without the extensive involvement of central office administration at the school level. The autonomy that is offered to educators at Charter and Contract Schools may likewise lead to enhanced educational outcomes when that autonomy is provided in exchange for higher accountability in CPS-led schools. Therefore, Performance Schools will be permitted to opt out of certain specified Board policies, rules and initiatives.

1. Teacher recruitment, hiring, evaluation and dismissal. The procedures for recruiting, hiring, evaluating and dismissing Performance School teachers shall be governed by each school's Performance Plan, applicable CPS collective bargaining agreements and State law. All Performance School teachers must

meet any applicable state and federal teacher qualification requirements.

1. Principal qualifications, selection, and removal (unless otherwise specified in the

**VI. Applicability of Board Policies and Rules and Other Laws**

Where appropriate, CPS shall provide support to Renaissance Schools to meet the obligations required by applicable CPS Board policies and rules. Additionally, where appropriate, CPS shall apply for and/or support a Renaissance School's application for available waiver of laws, rules, or regulations that substantially inhibit the implementation of a school's Charter School Agreement, Contract School Performance Agreement or Performance School Plan, including waivers from provisions of the Illinois

School Code and regulations of the Illinois State Board of Education

The applicability of Board Policies and Rules and other laws shall vary with the school type.

~~state and local requirements related to special education, homeless education, civil rights and discriminating health and safety and fire safety and building codes. Performance~~

~~Schools shall also comply with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act. Except as otherwise specified herein, the Chief Executive Officer or his designee shall identify those Board policies and rules from which Performance Schools may be exempt. Each Performance School may submit a proposal containing a request to be exempted from~~



Contract and Performance Schools shall be evaluated in accordance with and by the application of certain ratings set forth within the "Accountability System for All Chicago Public Schools" Policy (Board

Report, 04-0225-PO304), as may be amended and by application of factors identified in each school's Performance Agreement or Plan, including but not limited to:

c) Percentage of students performing at or above normal on norm-referenced assessments:

d) Percentage of students achieving state standards on the ISAT or DSAP.

- D. Support for Capital Expenditures. Each Renaissance School shall be eligible to receive capital support, either through the provision of a CPS owned or leased facility or through supplemental payments or assistance. All Charter and Contract School applicants are encouraged to identify appropriate facilities not owned by CPS and if necessary, request capital support from CPS or other appropriate entities. All reasonable and appropriate requests for capital support that do not create an unreasonable financial risk for the

Board shall be considered by the Chief Executive Officer or his designees and upon favorable recommendation by the Chief Executive Officer, submitted to the Board for consideration and final action.

**IX. Facilities**

~~A number of Renaissance Schools may shall be housed in existing CPS buildings, including those the Chief Executive Officer designates as a Renaissance Facility which the Board will designate for this process. CPS will announce the availability of these buildings publicly. Any existing CPS building that is~~

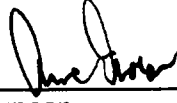
closed and selected for conversion to a Renaissance School shall be closed in accordance with the criteria and process set forth in Board's Closing of Schools Policy, Board Report 04-0225-P02, or

Approved For Consideration:



Barbara Eason-Watkins  
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



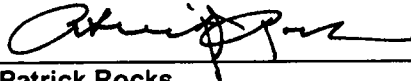
Arne Duncan  
Chief Executive Officer

ME

Approved as to Legal Form



John Maiorca  
Chief Financial Officer



Patrick Rocks  
General Counsel