

January 25, 2023

**AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE LITTLE BLACK PEARL ART AND DESIGN ACADEMY WITH
CONDITIONS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize renewal of the Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy Agreement (the “Contract School Agreement”) with conditions for an additional two-year period. A new Contract School Agreement applicable to this renewal term will be negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written Contract School Agreement is not executed by the Board and the school operator within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. The Renewal and any related contracts must be executed by the current contract's expiration date in order for First Quarter funding to be released for the new contract term. Information pertinent to this renewal is stated below.

42 West Madison Street, 3

rd Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60602

Phone: 773-553-1530

Contact Person: Alfonso Carmona, Chief Portfolio Officer

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT: The original Contract School Agreement (authorized by Board Report 13-0522-EX4) was a term commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2018 and authorized the operation of a contract school serving no more than 100 students. The Contract School Agreement was renewed for a term commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021 (authorized by Board Report 1206-EX22).

CONTRACT RENEWAL PROPOSAL: Little Black Pearl Workshop submitted a renewal proposal for the term commencing July 1, 2022 to continue the operation of Little Black Pearl Art and Design Academy (“Little Black Pearl”) as a contract school. The contract school shall continue to be located at 1060 East 47th Street and shall serve

grades 9 through 12 with a maximum enrollment of 200 students.

The agreement will incorporate an accountability plan in which the contract school is evaluated by the Board each year based on numerous factors related to its academic, financial and operational performance.

CONTRACT SCHOOL EVALUATION: After receiving the contract renewal proposal, the Office of Innovation and Incubation conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Little Black Pearl’s academic performance, financial viability, and legal and contract compliance. This evaluation included a review of the proposal, academic results, financial performance, governance documents, parental issues, facilities surveys, and special education documentation. A public hearing was held on January 10, 2023 for all contract and charter schools going through renewals to receive public comments, including Little Black Pearl. The Office of Innovation and Incubation recommends that, based on the school’s performance on these and other accountability criteria, as well as the school’s demonstration of intent to satisfy the

“Additional Terms and Conditions” referred to herein below, Little Black Pearl be authorized to continue operating as a contract school.

RENEWAL TERM: The term of Little Black Pearl’s agreement is being extended for a two (2) year term commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Additional terms and conditions will be communicated to the contract school by the Chief Executive Officer or her designee in a formal letter of Conditions and will be included as an attachment to the Contract School Agreement with Little Black Pearl Workshop.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to the school operator, in the written Contract School Agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the written Contract School Agreement.

