



MEMORANDUM

June 8, 2017

To: Members of the Charter Schools Committee
From: Joseph W. Belluck, Chair, Charter Schools Committee
Subject: Approval of Proposal to Transfer DREAM Charter School (Manhattan)

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the transfer of authority to oversee and supervise DREAM Charter School, a not-for-profit charter school education corporation authorized by the New York City Schools Chancellor, to the Board of Trustees pursuant to New York Education Law § 2851(5).

Resolution

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

Whereas the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute"), acting on behalf of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with Subdivision 2851(5), issued an Application for SUNY to Authorize an Existing Charter School Education Corporation (the "Application Request"); and

Whereas DREAM Charter School (the "Education Corporation"), which is currently authorized by the New York City Schools Chancellor and operates one school located in Manhattan, submitted an application in response to the Application Request indicating its desire to have the Board of Trustees oversee and supervise the Education Corporation, which the Institute reviewed and recommends for approval (the "Recommended Application") as set forth in the Institute's Summary and Recommendation (copy on file in the Office of the Secretary of the University and in the Albany office of the Institute) that was made available to the Board of Trustees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Recommended Application demonstrates the Education Corporation: 1) has met the requirements of Article 56 of the Education Law (as amended); 2) is not in violation of any material legal requirement, on probationary status under Education Law § 2855(3), or “slated for closure” by its current authorizer within the meaning of Subdivision 2851(5); and, be it further

Resolved that the Recommended Application be, and hereby is, approved for transfer to oversight and supervision by the Board of Trustees; and, be it further

Resolved that the Institute be, and hereby is, directed to: 1) enter into a charter agreement with the Education Corporation, which shall include such assurances and terms as the Institute shall deem necessary and appropriate; and, 2) inform the New York State Board of Regents of the transfer of oversight and supervision and provide a copy of such charter agreement for its files.

Background

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2012-038 dated June 12, 2012, the Board of Trustees delegated to the Charter Schools Committee policy matters related to charter school education corporations.

Amendments to the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended, the “Act”) effective June 23, 2016, permit existing charter school education corporations to change authorizers without permission of the current authorizer for one year. See Subdivision 2851(5). The State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”) released an Application for SUNY to Authorize an Existing Charter School Education Corporation (the “Application Request”) in October 2016. The application period is open until June 23, 2017.

Prior to recommending the charter school education corporation for transfer, the Institute reviewed the application for transfer from the legal, educational and financial perspectives, and met with the board of the applicant education corporation. The Institute published its findings and recommendation in a Summary and Recommendation (copy on file in the Office of the Secretary of the University and in the Albany office of the Institute, and available at: http://www.suny.edu/Board_of_Trustees/meetingnotices.cfm), which was made available to the Board of Trustees.

If the Charter Schools Committee approves this resolution, the Board of Trustees will enter into a charter agreement with the education corporation, and commence oversight immediately thereafter.