



(REVISED)

M E M O R A N D U M

March 6, 2015

TO: Members of the Charter Schools Committee

FROM: Joseph W. Belluck, Chair

**SUBJECT: Approval of the Application for Charter Renewal of UFT
Charter School (Brooklyn)**

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the approval of a three year charter renewal outside of the SUNY Renewal Polices for the UFT Charter School education corporation pursuant to New York Education Law § 2851(4) that would limit the school to grades 9 - 12.

Resolution

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

Whereas the Charter Schools Committee, on February 26, 2013, approved a renewal with conditions for the UFT Charter School (the "Education Corporation"), allowing instruction in Kindergarten through 12th grade subject to *inter alia* certain academic conditions that if not met would make the Education Corporation ineligible to apply for renewal; and

Whereas the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute) has determined that the Education Corporation did not meet its academic conditions, but made progress toward meeting the conditions for the high school grades; and

Whereas the Education Corporation has submitted a renewal application limited to grades 9 – 12 whereby it would cease instruction in Kindergarten through 8th grade at the end of the current school year; and

Whereas the Charter Schools Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as required by New York State Education Law § 2851(4)(e), has considered, prior to approval of the application for charter renewal of the Education Corporation, located in Brooklyn, 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 Institute on behalf of the Board of Trustees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the application for charter renewal of the Education Corporation be, and hereby is, approved to the extent and as limited, restricted and described herein, and the Education Corporation's charter be, and hereby is, renewed for a period of three years through and including July 31, 2018 limited to instruction in grades 9 – 12; and be it further

Resolved that 1) the Education Corporation's school as described in its application for charter renewal, 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) as limited and restricted, the Education Corporation 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 subdivision 2850(2) of the Education Law; 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 permits the Board of Trustees to renew the charters of not-for-profit 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.

The State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute") reviewed student performance data and other information about the UFT Charter School (the "Education Corporation") and drafted a memorandum, which was distributed to the Board of Trustees, and is available in the Institute's Albany office and at: <http://www.suny.edu/about/leadership/board-of-trustees/meetings/meetingNotices.cfm>. Copies of Education Corporation's application for renewal are on file in the Albany office of the Institute. If this resolution is approved, the Education Corporation's charter will be renewed through July 31, 2018 for grades 9 - 12 only.

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 February 27, 2015, the Institute did not receive any comments in response.