



News Release

SUNY Trustees Renew 13 Charter Schools, Vote Not to Renew 2 Charter Schools, and Approve 2 Merger Requests

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New York – Upon recommendation of the SUNY Charter Schools Institute, the SUNY Board of Trustees' Charter Schools Committee ("Committee"), acting on behalf of the full SUNY Board of Trustees, today approved 13 resolutions to renew 13 SUNY authorized charter schools: 11 in or around New York City – in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Long Island; and 2 in upstate New York – in Albany and Rochester.

The Committee voted not to renew 2 SUNY authorized charter schools, both in Albany.

The Committee also voted to approve two merger requests: 1 for Achievement First-Bushwick Charter School and 1 for Leadership Preparatory Bedford Stuyvesant Charter School, both in Brooklyn.

SUNY charter schools currently serve over 49,000 New York students and their families.

Brief summaries of each decision follow. Full Committee resolutions and renewal recommendation reports can be found here: <http://www.suny.edu/about/leadership/board-of-trustees/meetings/meetingNotices.cfm>.

Renewals

- **Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls (Albany)** opened in 2010 and is located in a private facility at 19 Hackett Boulevard, Albany, NY within the Albany City School District. The school currently serves students in 9th through 12th grade. Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls received a short-term renewal of three years.
- **Amber Charter School (Manhattan)** opened in 2000 and is located in a private facility at 220 East 106th Street, New York, NY in New York City Community School District 4. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Amber Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years.
- **Bronx Preparatory Charter School (Bronx)** opened in 2000 and is located in a private facility at 3872 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY in New York City Community School District 9. The school currently serves students in 5th through 12th grade. Bronx Preparatory Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years.

- **Brooklyn Dreams Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2010 and is located in a private facility at 259 Parkville Avenue, Brooklyn, NY in New York City Community School District 22. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 7th grade. Brooklyn Dreams received a short-term renewal of three years and approval to grow to serve students in Kindergarten through 8th grade.
- **Brooklyn East Collegiate Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2010 and is located in public space at 80 Underhill Avenue, Brooklyn, NY in New York City Community School District 13 (5th through 8th grade) and at 6565 Flatlands Avenue, Brooklyn, NY in Community School District 18 (9th grade). Brooklyn East Collegiate Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years and approval to grow to serve students in 5th through 12th grade.
- **Child Development Center of the Hamptons Charter School (Long Island)** opened in 2000 and is located in a private facility at 110 Stephen Hands Path, Long Island within the Wainscott Common School District. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Child Development Center of the Hamptons Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years.
- **Girls Preparatory Charter School of New York (Manhattan)** opened in 2005 and is located in public space at 442 East Houston Street, New York, NY (Kindergarten through 4th grade) and at 420 East 12th Street, New York, NY (5th through 8th grade) both in New York City Community School District 1. Girls Preparatory Charter School of New York received a full-term renewal of five years.
- **Harlem Village Academy Leadership Charter School (Manhattan)** opened in 2005 and is located in public space at 2351 First Avenue, New York, NY in New York City Community School District 4 (Kindergarten through 2nd grade and 5th through 8th grade) and in a private facility at 35 West 124th Street, New York, NY in Community School District 5 (9th through 12th grade). Harlem Village Academy Leadership Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years and approval to grow to serve students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- **Leadership Prep Ocean Hill Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2010 and is located in public space at 51 Christopher Avenue Brooklyn, NY in New York City Community School District 23. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 6th grade. Leadership Prep Ocean Hill Charter School received a full-term renewal of five years and approval to grow to serve students in Kindergarten through 11th grade.
- **New Hope Academy Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2010 and is located in public space at 475 East 57th Street, Brooklyn, NY in New York City Community School District 18. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. New Hope Academy Charter School received a short-term renewal of three years, with conditions.

- **Ocean Hill Collegiate Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2010 and is located in public space at 1137 Herkimer Street Brooklyn, NY in New York City Community School District 23 (5th through 8th grade) and at 6565 Flatlands Avenue, Brooklyn, NY in Community School District 18 (9th grade). Ocean Hill Collegiate Charter School received a full-term renewal of five-years and approval to grow to serve students in 5th through 12th grade.
- **UFT Charter School (Brooklyn)** opened in 2005 and is located in public space at 300 Wyona Street, Brooklyn, NY (Kindergarten through 8th grade) and 800 Van Siclen Ave, Brooklyn, NY (9th through 12th grade), both in New York City Community School District 19. UFT Charter School received a short-term, three-year renewal for its 9th through 12th grade program only. The school will close its Elementary and Middle School programs at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
- **University Preparatory Charter School for Young Men (Rochester)** opened in 2010 and is located in a private facility at 1290 Lake Avenue, Rochester, NY in the Rochester City School District. The school currently serves students in 7th through 12th grade. University Preparatory Charter School for Young Men received a short-term renewal of three years.

Non-Renewals

- **Brighter Choice Charter Middle School for Boys (Albany)** opened in 2010 and is located in a private facility at 395 Elk Street, Albany, NY within the Albany City School District. The school currently serves students in 5th through 8th grade. Brighter Choice Charter Middle School for Boys' charter was not renewed and it will close at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
- **Brighter Choice Charter Middle School for Girls (Albany)** opened in 2010 and is located in a private facility at 395 Elk Street, Albany, NY within the Albany City School District. The school currently serves students in 5th through 8th grade. Brighter Choice Charter Middle School for Girls' charter was not renewed and it will close at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Mergers

- **Achievement First-Bushwick Charter School (Brooklyn):** The Committee approved revisions to the charters of 4 SUNY authorized not-for-profit charter school education corporations to permit them to merge into one education corporation, Achievement First-Bushwick Charter School, which will be renamed "Achievement First Brooklyn Charter Schools."
- **Leadership Preparatory Bedford Stuyvesant Charter School (Brooklyn):** The Committee approved revisions to the charters of 10 not-for-profit charter school education corporations (nine authorized by the SUNY Board of Trustees and one authorized by the New York City Schools Chancellor) to merge into one of the education corporations,

Leadership Preparatory Bedford Stuyvesant Charter School (authorized by the SUNY Board of Trustees), which would be renamed “Uncommon New York City Charter Schools.”

Other

- **Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School (Long Island)** opened in 2000 and is located in a private facility at 105 Pleasant Avenue, Roosevelt, NY and two other locations within the Roosevelt Union Free School District. The school currently serves students in Kindergarten through 8th grade. The Committee voted not to accept the renewal recommendation for Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School, triggering a process in which the school is entitled to a hearing with the Committee to petition for renewal. The SUNY Charter Schools Institute will work with the school and Committee to schedule this hearing.

SUNY is the largest charter school authorizer in New York State and the largest university-based charter school authorizer in the country. The SUNY Charter Schools Institute was created by the SUNY Board of Trustees to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities under the New York Charter Schools Act (the “Act”). Guided by the rigorous standards set by the SUNY Board of Trustees, the Institute’s oversight of SUNY authorized charter schools is comprehensive, including: evaluating initial applications for the opening of charter schools; ongoing oversight and evaluation of operating schools; conducting a comprehensive evaluation when a school applies to renew its charter; and reporting to the school and the public on each school’s performance and progress. Charter schools in New York trade greater autonomy in exchange for greater accountability for academic outcomes. Each charter school has a charter contract that is signed by its board of trustees and the authorizer of the school. As part of the contract, the accountability plan for each school establishes the academic goals that must be met and how those goals will be measured. Contracts last a maximum of five years as set by the Act. In order to continue operating, a charter school must apply to renew its charter at the end of each charter term. Receiving approval to continue operating is the core of accountability required by the Act.

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