



H. Carl McCall SUNY Building
353 Broadway, Albany, New York 12246

www.suny.edu

MEMORANDUM

December 16, 2020

To: Members of the Charter Schools Committee

From: Joseph W. Belluck, Chair, Charter Schools Committee

Subject: Approval of Revisions for:

- **Brilla College Preparatory Charter School (Bronx);**
- **Boys Preparatory Charter School of New York (Bronx);**
- **Girls Preparatory Charter School of the Bronx (Bronx); and,**
- **Girls Preparatory Charter of New York (Manhattan)**

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes revisions, pursuant to New York Education Law § 2852(7), of the charters of Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools and Public Prep Charter School Academies, each an education corporation with the authority to operate more than one school including: Brilla College Preparatory Charter School; Boys Preparatory Charter School of New York; Girls Preparatory Charter School of the Bronx; and, Girls Preparatory Charter of New York, respectively, all of which are currently permitted to serve grades within Kindergarten through 8th grade range. The proposed revisions would add a joint high school program to each charter for the schools listed to operate at one site commencing with 9th grade in the 2022/23 school year creating what would be known as "Vertex Partnership Academies" to be managed by a newly formed not-for-profit charter management organization, Ventoux Partnership Network, Inc.

Resolution

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

Whereas Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools (the “Brilla Education Corporation”) currently has the authority to operate more than one school including Brilla College Preparatory Charter School (the “Brilla School”), located in the Bronx, which is chartered to serve approximately 756 students in Kindergarten through 8th grade in the 2022/23 school year, the final year of its current charter term; and

Whereas Public Prep Charter School Academies (the “Public Prep Education Corporation,” together with Brilla Education Corporation, the “Education Corporations”), currently has the authority to operate more than one school including:

- Boys Preparatory Charter School of New York, located in the Bronx, and chartered to serve approximately 850 students in Kindergarten through 8th grade in the 2023/24 school year, the final year of its current charter term;
- Girls Preparatory Charter School of New York, located in Manhattan, and chartered to serve approximately 600 students in Kindergarten through 8th grade in the 2024/25 school year, the final year of its current charter term; and,
- Girls Preparatory Charter School of the Bronx, located in the Bronx, and chartered to serve approximately 735 students in Kindergarten through 8th grade in the 2021/22 school year, the final year of its current charter term (collectively, the “Public Prep Schools”); and

Whereas the Education Corporations each desire to add a high school program to the Brilla School and Public Prep Schools, respectively, which program will serve approximately 941 students in 9th through 12th grade across all schools by 2026/27, and be: jointly operated; co-sited; managed by Ventoux Partnership Network, Inc. (“Ventoux”), a New York not-for-profit corporation; and, named “Vertex Partnership Academies” to open in the 2022/23 school year, all as more fully described in the Summary of Findings of the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”), which was distributed to the Board of Trustees and is available in the Office of the Secretary of the University and the Albany office of the Institute, (the “Proposed Changes in Program”); now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Proposed Changes in Program be, and hereby are, approved; and, be it further

Resolved that the Charter Schools Committee finds: 1) the Proposed Changes in Program meet the requirements of Article 56 of the New York Education Law (and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations); 2) approval of the Proposed Changes in Program (together with the other terms of each Education Corporation's charter) would permit the Education Corporations to operate the joint high school program in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; and, 3) approval of the Proposed Changes in Program are likely to improve student learning and achievement, and materially further the purposes set out in Education Law § 2850(2); and, be it further

Resolved that the Institute (the "Institute"), acting for the Board of Trustees, be, and hereby is, directed to: 1) enter into proposed revisions to the Education Corporations' charters in accordance with this resolution and the terms described in the Institute's Summary of Findings, which proposed charters shall also include such assurances and terms as the Institute deems necessary and appropriate; 2) review and, in its discretion, approve a) the management contract, or terms thereof, between Ventoux and the Brilla Education Corporation, and b) the contract, or terms thereof, between the Education Corporations; and, 3) only upon such approvals, submit the proposed revisions to the New York State Board of Regents for its review, comment, and potential approval.

Background

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2012-038, dated June 12, 2012, the Board of Trustees delegated authority to revise charters to the Charter School Committee. The SUNY Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute") determined the changes set forth in this resolution require revisions of the charter school education corporations' charters pursuant to Subdivision 2852(7), which must be approved by the Board of Trustees in its capacity as a "charter entity" under the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended, the "Act").

The SUNY Charter Schools Institute (the "Institute") reviewed the proposed high school program elements (including enrollment projections, curriculum and staffing) and budgets, and found them satisfactory. The Institute also reviewed the proposed revisions from the legal and fiscal perspectives, and finds them suitable under the Act and applicable law as set forth in the Institute's Summary of Findings (copy on file in the Office of the Secretary of the University and the Albany office of the Institute). Based on the foregoing, the Institute recommends the Charter Schools Committee approve the requested revisions.

Pursuant to Education Law § 2857(1), the Institute properly notified the school district in which all of the schools are located regarding the receipt of applications for charter revision. As of December 8, 2020, the Institute received no district comments.