MEMORANDUM

March 10, 2020

To: Members of the Charter Schools Committee

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

Subject: Approval of Planning Years for Uncommon New York City Charter School #1

Action Requested

The proposed resolution approves additional planning years for Uncommon New York City Charter School #1, a charter school to be operated by the Uncommon New York City Charter Schools education corporation, pursuant to section 3.1 of the education corporation’s charter agreement.

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, reviewed a request by Uncommon New York City Charter Schools (the “Education Corporation”) to have one of its schools, Uncommon New York City Charter School #1 (the “Planning Year School”), commence instruction in the 2022/23 school year rather than as determined by section 3.1 of the Charter Agreement between the Board of Trustees and the Education Corporation, dated July 28, 2016, (as amended to date, the “Charter Agreement”); now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Education Corporation’ request to extend the date to commence instruction for the Planning Year School be, and hereby is, approved, which will require the Planning Year School to open by the beginning of the 2022/23 school year on a date determined in accordance with the Charter Agreement.
Background

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2012-038, dated June 12, 2012, the Board of Trustees delegated authority to extend a charter for a period of greater than two school years to the Charter Schools Committee.

This resolution provides for the extension of the date by which an education corporation must open a school. The SUNY charter agreement, not state statute, requires each school to open by a date certain, which may be extended by the SUNY Charter Schools Institute for up to two years. Thereafter, the Board of Trustees delegation requires the Charter Schools Committee to approve additional planning years. Extra time to open may be needed when facilities, staffing, leadership, or other elements key to the successful launch of a school are not in place during the planning period permissible under the SUNY charter agreement.

In the case of the school referenced in this resolution, the Charter Schools Committee is providing up to two additional planning years from the last date by which it was to open. The school has been unable to secure facilities.