MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Trustees

From: Susan Miller Carello, Executive Director, SUNY Charter Schools Institute

Subject: SUNY Charter Schools Institute Update

Revisions

The SUNY Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”), under provisions of the State University of New York Board of Trustees’ (the “SUNY Trustees”) delegation of duties to the Institute, has reviewed and will approve the following revision requests:

- **East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School**, an education corporation with the authority to operate two schools:
  - **East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School** located at 2050 Second Avenue, New York, New York 10029, and temporarily located at 320 East 96th Street, New York, New York 10128 in New York City Community School Districts (“CSDs”) 4 and 2, respectively, is authorized to serve 621 students in grades K-9 for the 2019-20 school year; and,
  - **East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School II** located at 1573 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10029 in CSD 4 is authorized to serve 462 students in grades K-7 for the 2019-20 school year;

  seeks to amend its common admissions policy for the 2020-21 school year and beyond by providing an at-risk preference to students who reside in housing operated by the New York City Housing Authority, and eliminating the current preference for students with disabilities.

- **Harlem Village Academy East Charter School**, located at 2351 First Avenue, New York, New York 10035 (serving grades K-8) in CSD 4 and 35 West 124th Street, New York, New York 10027 (serving grades 9-12) in CSD 5, is currently authorized to serve 957 students in grades K-12 for the 2019-20 school year, has requested an enrollment reduction to serve 634 students in grades K-12 for the 2019-20 school year, the final year of the current charter term.
• **Storefront Academy Harlem Charter School**, located at 70 East 129th Street, New York, New York 10035 in CSD 5, currently authorized to serve 100 students in grades K-1 for the 2019-20 school year, has requested an enrollment reduction solely for the 2019-20 school year to serve 60 students in grades K-1. As originally approved, the school would grow to 300 students in grades K-5 by the 2023-24 school year, the final year of the current charter term.

**Updates**

**2020 Request for Proposals**

As required in statute, the Institute anticipates releasing the draft 2020 Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for public comment. After considering public comments, we will finalize the RFP with an anticipated release in January 2020. There are 97 charters available for applicants seeking to open and operate a charter school outside of New York City. Two application rounds are scheduled for 2020. The Institute anticipates presenting proposals recommended for approval to the SUNY Trustees in June 2020. The earliest opening date for any school approved in this cycle is fall 2021.

**Pre-Kindergarten**

AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation, Institute team members, experts from the field, and staff from the New York State Education Department and the New York City Department of Education, as well as SUNY authorized charter leaders from schools operating pre-K programs will gather at the SUNY Global Center on January 16, 2020. The goals for the gathering are to explore, share and inspire the spread of best practices for integrating early learning programs into quality K-12 programs.

**Information Update**

The Institute’s monthly newsletter *More Great Seats for Kids*, is available here: [https://mailchi.mp/633aa12df472/more-great-seats-for-kids-nov-2019](https://mailchi.mp/633aa12df472/more-great-seats-for-kids-nov-2019). The Institute’s new Director for Charter School Information, Michael Lesczinski and Director for New charters, Maureen Foley, have also finalized a podcast that shares advice and information to potential applicants. Listen to the trailer episode here: [https://www.newyorkcharters.org/about/more-great-seats-for-kids-podcast/](https://www.newyorkcharters.org/about/more-great-seats-for-kids-podcast/)