



TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: Angelique Johnson-Dingle *Angelique Johnson-Dingle*

SUBJECT: Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools
Authorized by the Board of Regents

DATE: June 6, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Bellamy*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents approve the proposed renewal charters for the following charter schools authorized by the Board of Regents pursuant to Article 56 of the Education Law (the New York Charter Schools Act):

Bronx (6):

- **Bronx Charter School for Children** (Five-year renewal);
- **Bronx Charter School for the Arts** (Five-year renewal);
- **Harriet Tubman Charter School** (Two-year renewal);
- **New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries** (Five-year renewal and a revision to (1) increase the school's grade span from its current Grade 9 through 12 configuration to include Grades 6 through 8 and make a corresponding increase to the school's authorized enrollment from 500 students to 875 students by year four of the renewal charter term, and (2) amend the school's Key Design Elements);
- **Rosalyn Yalow Charter School** (Four-year renewal);
- **South Bronx Community Charter High School** (Five-year renewal);

Brooklyn (6):

- **Brooklyn RISE Charter School** (Five-year renewal and a revision to (1) increase the school's grade span from kindergarten through Grade 5 to include Grades 6 through 8 and make a corresponding increase to the

school's authorized enrollment from 312 students to 468 students by year five of the renewal charter term, and (2) amend the school's Key Design Element regarding the school calendar);

- **Compass Charter School** (Five-year renewal);
- **Hellenic Classical Charter School** (Five-year renewal and a revision to increase the school's authorized enrollment from 498 students to 638 students by year five of the renewal charter term);
- **Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School** (Three-year renewal and a revision to amend the school's Key Design Elements);
- **LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School** (Four-year renewal);
- **Williamsburg Charter High School** (Five-year renewal)

Queens (1):

- **New Dawn Charter High School II** (Five-year renewal and a revision to amend the school's key design elements);

Staten Island (2):

- **Bridge Preparatory Charter School** (Three-year renewal and a revision to (1) increase the school's grade span from its current Grade 1 through Grade 5 configuration to add kindergarten and make a corresponding increase to the school's authorized enrollment from 242 students to 272 students by year one of the renewal charter term, and (2) amend the school's key design elements);
- **Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island** (Five-year renewal and a revision to increase the school's grade span from its current kindergarten through Grade 5 to include Grades 6 through 8 and make a corresponding increase to the school's authorized enrollment from 450 students to 675 students by year five of the renewal charter term);

Buffalo City School District (1):

- **Health Sciences Charter School** (Five-year renewal);

Greece Central School District (1):

- **Discovery Charter School** (Five-year renewal);

Rochester (2):

- **Academy of Health Sciences Charter School** (Four-year renewal); and
- **Vertus Charter School** (Five-year renewal)?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the P-12 Education Committee and for recommendation to the Full Board for action at the June 2024 meeting.

Procedural History

The New York State Education Department (NYSED or “the Department”) made the renewal recommendations being presented to the Board of Regents for approval and issuance as required by Article 56 of the Education Law and 8 NYCRR §119.7.

Background Information

The Board of Regents and the Department are bound by law, regulation, and Regents-endorsed policies regarding the criteria that can be considered in decision-making pertaining to the authorization of new charter schools, charter school renewals, and charter school revisions. Detailed information on these laws, regulations, and Regents-endorsed policies can be found in the Appendix. For each school, a link to the school’s *Renewal Visit Report*, which provides detailed information on the school’s assessment results and status in relation to each Performance Benchmark can be found in each school’s Table 1.

Related Regents Items

November 2012: [Board of Regents Charter School Renewal Policy](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/November2012/1112p12a1.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/November2012/1112p12a1.pdf>)

Bronx (6):

Bronx Charter School for Children

December 2002: [Initial Charter – Board of Regents Item: Summary of Applicant Information](https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/charter-schools/board-of-regents-item-charter-schools-12-3-2002.pdf)
(<https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/charter-schools/board-of-regents-item-charter-schools-12-3-2002.pdf>)

December 2002: [Initial Charter – Preliminary Approval by Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/Summaries/1202summary.html)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/Summaries/1202summary.html>)

January 2003: [Approval of Charter School Charter Agreements](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2003Meetings/January2003/0103bra1.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2003Meetings/January2003/0103bra1.pdf>)

January 2003: [Initial Charter Addendum – Board of Regents Item: Charter School Agreement and Application](https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/charter-schools/board-of-regents-item-addendum-charter-school-agreement-1-10-2003.pdf)
(<https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/charter-schools/board-of-regents-item-addendum-charter-school-agreement-1-10-2003.pdf>)

June 2005: [Revisions to Charter School Charters](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/June2005/0605emscvesida3.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/June2005/0605emscvesida3.htm>)

December 2007: [Charter School Initial Applications, Renewals, and Revisions](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2007Meetings/December2007/1207emscvesida1.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2007Meetings/December2007/1207emscvesida1.htm>)

June 2010: [Charter Schools: Proposed Revision to the First Renewal Charter for the Bronx Charter School for Children](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/June2010/0610emsca1.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/June2010/0610emsca1.htm>)

December 2010: [Charter Schools: Charter Renewals Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/December2010/1210p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/December2010/1210p12a1.pdf>)

May 2016: [Renewal Decisions for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/516p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/516p12a3.pdf>)

April 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf>)

Bronx Charter School for the Arts

December 2001 Initial Charter

(Not available on NYSED website)

December 2006: [Charter School Renewals](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2006Meetings/December2006/1206emscvesida2.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2006Meetings/December2006/1206emscvesida2.htm>)

July 2009: [Charter Schools: Proposed Revision to the First Renewal Charter for the Bronx Charter School for the Arts](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/July2009/0709bra8.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/July2009/0709bra8.htm>)

December 2009: [Charter Schools: Proposed Second Renewal Charter for Bronx Charter School for the Arts](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/December2009/1209emsca5.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/December2009/1209emsca5.htm>)

February 2015: [Renewal Decisions for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/215p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/215p12a3.pdf>)

April 2017: [Revision to Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/417p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/417p12a3.pdf>)

March 2020: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/320p12a1.pdf>)

Harriet Tubman Charter School

January 2000 Initial Charter
(Not available on the website)

December 2004: [Renewal of Existing Charters](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2004Meetings/December2004/1204emscvesida2.htm>)

December 2006: [Charter School Renewal: Addendum to EMSC-VESID \(A\) 2](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2006Meetings/December2006/1206emscvesida2adden.htm>)

April 2007: [Charter Schools: Renewal Charter](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2007Meetings/April2007/0407bra5.html>)

December 2008: [Charter Schools: Proposed Fourth Renewal Charter for the Harriet Tubman Charter School](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008/2008-12-27>)

July 2010: [Charter Schools: Proposed First Revision to the Fourth Renewal Charter for Harriet Tubman Charter School](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/July2010/0710p12a16.doc>)

July 2011: [Proposed Revision to the Charter of the Harriet Tubman Charter School – Authorized by the Board of Regents](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/July2011/711p12a3.pdf>)

May 2016: [Renewal Decisions for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/516p12a3.pdf>)

April 2021: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/421p12a3.pdf>)

New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries

February 2008: [Charter Schools: Proposed Charter for New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Industries](#)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/February2008/0208emsca5.htm>)

February 2013: [First Renewal Charter Schools: Short-term Renewals for 5 Charter Schools Authorized by Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education \(NYCDOE\)](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf>)

April 2013: [Charter Schools: Renewal of Seven Charters Authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education \(NYCDOE\)](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/413p12a4Revised_0.pdf)

(http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/413p12a4Revised_0.pdf)

March 2016: [Charter Schools: Renewal of Charters Authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education \(NYCDOE\)](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/316p12a5.pdf)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/316p12a5.pdf>)

March 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the New York City Department of Education](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/319p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/319p12a2.pdf>)

May 2020: [Charter Schools: Merger Revisions to Charters Authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf>)

Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

June 2014: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications and Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/614p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/614p12a2.pdf>)

March 2019: [Revision to a Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419brca12.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419brca12.pdf>)

March 2020: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/320p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/320p12a1.pdf>)

South Bronx Community Charter High School

November 2015: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications and Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1115p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1115p12a2.pdf>)

May 2021: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/521p12a3revised.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/521p12a3revised.pdf>)

Brooklyn (6):

Brooklyn RISE Charter School

November 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf>)

Compass Charter School

December 2013: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications and Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1213p12a2%5b1%5d.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1213p12a2%5b1%5d.pdf>)

October 2015: [Revisions to a Charter Authorized by the Board of Regents: Compass Charter School](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/meetings/Oct%202015/1015p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/meetings/Oct%202015/1015p12a2.pdf>)

May 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/519p12a4.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/519p12a4.pdf>)

April 2021: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents Second Renewal](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/421p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/421p12a3.pdf>)

Hellenic Classical Charter School

February 2005: [Charter School Applications](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/February2005/0205emscvesida3.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/February2005/0205emscvesida3.htm>)

June 2008: [Charter Schools: Proposed Revisions for Hellenic Classical Charter School Accountability, Assessment, and Curriculum Revisions](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/June2008/0608emsca4.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/June2008/0608emsca4.htm>)

February 2010: [Charter Schools: Proposed First Renewal Charter for Hellenic Classical Charter School](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/February2010/0210emsca12.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/February2010/0210emsca12.htm>)

January 2015: [Charter Schools: Charter Renewal Recommendations for Thirteen Charters Authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education \(NYCDOE\)](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/115p12a4.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/115p12a4.pdf>)

May 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the New York City Department of Education](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/519p12a5REVISED.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/519p12a5REVISED.pdf>)

May 2020: [Charter Schools: Merger Revisions to Charters Authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf>)

Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School

June 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf>)

June 2023: [Revisions to Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/623p12a7.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/623p12a7.pdf>)

LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School

November 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf>)

Williamsburg Charter High School

February 2004: [Charter Schools](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2004Meetings/February2004/0204emscvesida3.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2004Meetings/February2004/0204emscvesida3.htm>)

June 2005: [Revisions to Charter School Charters](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/June2005/0605emscvesida3.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2005Meetings/June2005/0605emscvesida3.htm>)

February 2009: [Charter Schools: Proposed Second Revision to Initial Charter, and Proposed First Renewal Charter, for Williamsburg Charter High School First Renewal with Comprehensive Management Service, Education Program, and Enrollment Expansion Revisions](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/February2009/0209emsca2.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/February2009/0209emsca2.htm>)

May 2009: [Charter Schools: Proposed Second Renewal Charter for Williamsburg Charter High School](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/May2009/0509emsca2.htm)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/May2009/0509emsca2.htm>)

May 2014: [Charter Schools: Charter Renewal Recommendations for Four Charter Schools Authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education \(NYCDOE\)](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/514p12a4.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/514p12a4.pdf>)

May 2018: [Charter Schools: Transfer Application: From the New York City Department of Education Chancellor to the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/518p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/518p12a1.pdf>)

April 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf>)

Queens (1):

New Dawn Charter High School II

June 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf>)

Staten Island (2):

Bridge Preparatory Charter School

June 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/618p12a3.pdf>)

Hellenic Classical Charter School - Staten Island

December 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Application Authorized by the Board of Regents Initial Charter](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1218p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1218p12a1.pdf>)

May 2020: [Charter Schools: Merger Revisions to Charters Authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor Merger Revision](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra6.pdf>)

Buffalo City School District (1):

Health Sciences Charter School

September 2009: [Charter Schools: Issuance of Initial Charter for the Health Sciences Charter School](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/September2009/0909emsca1.htm)

(<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/September2009/0909emsca1.htm>)

April 2011: [Proposed Revision to the Initial Charter of the Health Sciences Charter School – Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/April2011/411p12a3.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/April2011/411p12a3.pdf>)

March 2014: [Renewal Decisions for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/413bra2_1.pdf)

(https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/413bra2_1.pdf)

March 2017: [Renewal Decisions for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/317p12a4.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/317p12a4.pdf>)

May 2020: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra7-REVISED.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/520bra7-REVISED.pdf>)

Greece Central School District (1):

Discovery Charter School

December 2010: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications and Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/December2010/1210p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2010Meetings/December2010/1210p12a2.pdf>)

March 2013: [Revisions to Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents: Riverhead Charter School and Discovery Charter School](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/313brca5.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/313brca5.pdf>)

April 2016: [Renewal Decisions for Charter School Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/416p12a2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/416p12a2.pdf>)

April 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf>)

March 2021: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/321p12a6revised.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/321p12a6revised.pdf)

April 2023: [Revisions to Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/423p12a3.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/423p12a3.pdf)

Rochester City School District (2):

Academy of Health Sciences Charter School

November 2018: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1118p12a1.pdf)

Vertus Charter School

December 2013: [Charter Schools: Initial Applications and Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1213p12a2%5B1%5D.pdf)

April 2019: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/419p12a1.pdf)

May 2021: [Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Regents](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/521p12a3revised.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/521p12a3revised.pdf)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action(s):

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Bronx Charter School for Children**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Bronx Charter School for Children** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Bronx Charter School for the Arts**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore,

approves the renewal application of **Bronx Charter School for the Arts** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Harriet Tubman Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Harriet Tubman Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2026**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Rosalyn Yalow Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Rosalyn Yalow Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2028**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **South Bronx Community Charter High School** (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore,

approves the renewal application of **South Bronx Community Charter High School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Brooklyn RISE Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Brooklyn RISE Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Compass Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Compass Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Hellenic Classical Charter School** (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Hellenic Classical Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School** and that a

renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2027**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School** (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2028**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Williamsburg Charter High School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Williamsburg Charter High School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **New Dawn Charter High School II**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **New Dawn Charter High School II** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Bridge Preparatory Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Bridge Preparatory Charter School** and that a

renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2027**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Hellenic Classical Charter School – Staten Island**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Hellenic Classical Charter School – Staten Island** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Health Sciences Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Health Sciences Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Discovery Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Discovery Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that the **Academy of Health Sciences Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Academy of Health Sciences Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2028**.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that **Vertus Charter School**: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article; and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents, therefore, approves the renewal application of **Vertus Charter School** and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including **June 30, 2029**.

Timetable for Implementation

The Regents action for the above-named charter schools will become effective immediately.

Bronx Charter School for Children

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Bronx Charter School for Children (BCSC)
Board Chair	Mr. Paul Libretta
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 7 ¹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2004
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter Term: January 15, 2003 - January 15, 2008 • First Renewal: January 16, 2008 - June 30, 2011 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2016 • Third Renewal: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2019 • Fourth Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary grades: 388 Willis Ave. Bronx NY, 10454 - Private Space • Middle grades: 423 E 138 St. Bronx NY, 10454 = Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	<p>Bronx Charter School for Children stands out as a learning institution in that it empowers children to achieve their greatest potential both as students and as members of their communities early on at a foundational level, particularly in subjects that stand to impact their overall learning trajectory. The mission of Bronx Charter School for Children is to empower children to achieve their greatest potential both as scholars and as members of their communities. As reflected in the school mission, engagement with families and the surrounding community is a cornerstone of the Bronx Charter School for Children approach. To support this, BCSC implements a community-based school model. The Board of Trustees, administrators, teachers, and staff share a vision of creating unprecedented opportunities for our community, and for exceeding state and district performance standards. Equally important for the school is to drive home to each student and family that we are committed to nurturing social-emotional development and cultivating personal ownership of lifelong education as a pathway to change. The school's paradigm operates along four pillars: academics, enrichment, whole-child development, and whole-family support. Bronx Charter School for Children recognizes the importance of community partnerships and has strong relationships with the following organizations: the New York Psychotherapy and Counseling Center, NY Common Pantry, Lincoln Hospital, the Mercy Center, Masa, JCCA, NY Restoration Project, and Code 4 Life.</p>
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/bronx-charter-school-children <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

¹ Thirty-eight percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 7	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Approved Enrollment	432	512	592	672	672

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	672	672	672	672	672

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCSC has been rated as “Meets” for nine of the ten benchmarks. Throughout the school’s charter term, BCSC has outperformed the DOL by wide margins in terms of percent of student proficiency for all students and each subgroup on the New York State Testing Program (NYSTP) 3-8 for math and ELA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention has remained “Approaches” throughout the charter term due to the school’s consistent under-enrollment of SWD as compared to the DOL. The school’s actual enrollment as a percentage of its authorized enrollment has fallen in each year of the charter term, and the school failed to meet its contracted enrollment target of 85% by seven percentage points in the 2022-2023 school year.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Recruitment because of under-enrollment of SWD as compared to the DOL, and not meeting its overall contracted enrollment.
 - BCSC met its enrollment targets four out of five years during this charter term. The school has identified the area of need and has already implemented a plan of action to ensure that they maintain sufficient enrollment for the school to meet the expectations detailed in the enrollment plan outlined in the charter and within the parameters set forth in the charter agreement. Efforts include community outreach, emphasis on family involvement, enrichment offerings, and referral programs.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²
Bronx Charter School for Children

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

² Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 1, 2023. Sixty-one people attended, and eight spoke. Eight were in favor of the renewal. No one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO one letter of support from the elementary school principal.

Bronx Charter School for the Arts

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Bronx Charter School for the Arts (Bronx Arts)
Board Chair	Barbara Scott
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 8 ³
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2003
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: April 23, 2002 - April 22, 2007 • First Renewal: April 23, 2007 - August 31, 2010 • Second Renewal: September 1, 2010 - August 31, 2015 • Third Renewal: September 1, 2015 - June 30, 2020 • Fourth Renewal: July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary grades: 950 Longfellow Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474 - Private Space • Middle grades: 1440 Story Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473 – Co-located
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronx Arts’ ongoing commitments to integrating the arts in all aspects of teaching and learning and providing a culturally affirming student experience every single day are innovations that make the school unique amongst charters in the city and state if not the whole country. • Bronx Arts continually invests in and refines offerings in dance, music, theater, and the visual arts, as demonstrated through regular and frequent skills-based instruction. • At the elementary level, students can participate in Afro-Caribbean Dance, African Drums, Capoeira, and Hip Hop Dance. • At the middle school level, students can participate in Jazz Band, Voice, Dance, and BAMZine.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/bronx-charter-school-arts <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2020 to 2021	Year 2 2021 to 2022	Year 3 2022 to 2023	Year 4 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Approved Enrollment	624	624	624	624

³ Twenty-four percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	624	624	624	624	624

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023, the school exceeded the proficiency rate of the district of location (DOL), NYC CSD 8, in both ELA and math and met or exceeded the proficiency rate of the state overall and for all three subgroups. • Bronx Arts has adopted a new curriculum to better align to standards and make the curriculum more rigorous, culturally relevant, and engaging. The school has a comprehensive assessment program and is using results to inform instruction, target intervention, and evaluate programs and practices. The school also has a robust response to intervention programs and offers a variety of special education and ELL services. • Bronx Arts has a strong, positive school culture, ample family engagement, and a variety of resources for social-emotional learning. • The school has maintained good financial health and management. • The school has an active, engaged board that has refocused the school on increased academic achievement and support for at-risk students. • Bronx Arts has a new leadership team that has raised expectations and is forming a strong adult culture through regular coaching and supervision. • The school continues to maintain the role of the arts across the curriculum, is raising expectations for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the charter term, Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance has been consistently an “Approaches” due to ongoing compliance issues related to fingerprint clearances and teacher certifications. The school has a history of allowing new hires to begin working at the school prior to receiving fingerprint clearance. In addition, in the 2022-2023 school year, 36 of the 75 teachers did not have certification. This exceeds the statutory allowance of 15.

student learning, devotes substantial resources to professional development, and actively builds community among students, staff, and families. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bronx Arts is meeting or coming close to its overall enrollment targets.	
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Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the 10 NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance due to ongoing compliance issues with fingerprint clearances and teacher certifications.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings⁴
Bronx Charter School for the Arts

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Meets
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Approaches

⁴ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In May 2021, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address teacher certification. The school has satisfactorily implemented the CAP.
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on October 30, 2023. Thirty-nine people attended, and 16 spoke. Sixteen were in favor of the renewal. No one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO two letters of support from a teacher and the director of finance.

Harriet Tubman Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Harriet Tubman Charter School (HTCS)
Board Chair	Jerima DeWese-Bowens
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 9 ⁵
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2001
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter Term: January 13, 2000 - January 12, 2005 • First Renewal Term: January 13, 2005 - January 12, 2007 • Second Renewal Term: January 13, 2007 - June 30, 2007 • Third Renewal Term: July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2009 • Fourth Renewal Term: July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2011 • Fifth Renewal Term: July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2016 • Sixth Renewal Term: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2021 • Seventh Renewal Term: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary grades: 3565 Third Avenue, Bronx - Private Space • Middle grades: 1176 Franklin Avenue, Bronx - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Since its establishment in 2001, Harriet Tubman Charter School (HTCS) has consistently demonstrated academic excellence, surpassing benchmarks set by both its district of location, NYC CSD 9, and comparable institutions across New York State in key subjects such as English Language Arts (ELA), math, and science. This commendable achievement extends inclusively across diverse student demographics, including students with disabilities, English language learners, and economically disadvantaged students.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/harriet-tubman-charter-school <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades K - 8	Grades K - 8	Grades K - 8
Total Approved Enrollment	675	675	675

⁵ Twenty-eight percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026
Grade Configuration	Grades K - 8	Grades K - 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	675	675

Rationale for Renewal

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Renewal Conditions: The school shall:

- By July 15, 2024: The school will develop and implement communication protocols that enable the CSO to have immediate, direct, and ongoing written and verbal communication with various school stakeholders for all monitoring and oversight activities pursuant to NYS Education Law, the school’s charter agreement, and the CSO Monitoring Plan. This plan, which is subject to CSO approval, shall be implemented no later than the start of the 2024-2025 school year.
- By October 1, 2024: Remove the HTCS Board of Trustees Chair from the board and appoint a new board chair following NYSED guidelines for the approval of new board members. The newly appointed board of trustee chair should possess specific skills and experience in the areas of oversight and governance, strategic planning, and data analysis.
- By July 15, 2024: Submit to the CSO for approval a plan for how the school will communicate regularly to the CSO that the school has made its monthly contribution to the Teachers’ Retirement System of the City of New York (TRS).

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HTCS began operations in September 2001 and is seeking its eighth charter renewal. • The school “Meets” Benchmark 1: Student Performance and posted strong academic outcomes, consistently exceeding both the DOL and the State average at school and subgroup level for the percentage of students proficient in ELA, math, and science. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has received a notice of deficiency for subgroup enrollment, fingerprint clearances, and fiscal concerns during the charter school term. These issues have not been resolved. • The school has been rated as “Falls Far Below” on Benchmark 4: Financial Condition due to operating losses, increases in expenditures proportionately larger than increases in revenue, financial repercussions due to declining enrollment, and a significant working capital deficit.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has been rated “Falls Far Below” on Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance due to the school’s continued lack of communication with the CSO, lack of successful oversight of fiscal operations, the ongoing absence of a board treasurer, and failure to obtain CSO approval prior to implementing revised policies. • The school has been rated “Falls Far Below” for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention due to consistent under-enrollment of all subgroups, declining retention rates, and declining overall enrollment. • The school has been rated “Falls Far below” on Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance due to an ongoing deficiency regarding timely Teacher Retirement System employer and employee contributions.
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Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the 10 NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on Benchmark 1: Student Performance, Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning, and Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 5: Financial Management, Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity, and Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements because of fiscal concerns, organizational capacity, and partially implemented Key Design Elements.
- The school received a “Falls Far Below” rating on Benchmark 4: Financial Condition, Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance, Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention, and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance because of fiscal concerns, lack of communication and board oversight, not meeting enrollment targets as outlined in its charter, and legal compliance.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings⁶
Harriet Tubman Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Falls Far Below
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Approaches
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Falls Far Below
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Approaches
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Approaches
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Falls Far Below
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Falls Far Below

⁶ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In June 2021, the NYSED CSO issued renewal conditions based on communication, enrollment, and assessment plan deficiencies. (The communication deficiency remains an area of concern.)
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: In February 2024, the NYSED CSO issued a continuation of the previous term’s Notice of Deficiency from February 2019 and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address enrollment, fingerprint clearance, and fiscal deficiencies. (The school remains under corrective action for these issues.)

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 1, 2023. Sixty-seven people attended, and seven spoke. Seven were in favor of the renewal and no one was opposed.

New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries (AECI)
Board Chair	Carlo Schiattarella
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 7 ⁷
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2008
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: February 12, 2008 - February 11, 2013 • First Renewal: February 12, 2013 - June 30, 2013 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2016 • Third Renewal: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2019 • Fourth Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	838 Brook Ave, Bronx, NY 10451 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	The New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering, & Construction Industries provides a quality high school program with an emphasis on careers in architecture, engineering, construction, and related fields. Courses designed at industry standards, dual credit courses, and industry partnerships enhance an innovative program.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/new-york-city-charter-high-school-architecture-engineering-construction-industries <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 9-12	Grades 9-12	Grades 9-12	Grades 9-12	Grades 9-12
Total Approved Enrollment	450	500	500	500	500

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9-12	Grades 6, 9-12	Grades 6-7, 9-12	Grades 6-12	Grades 6-12
Total Proposed Enrollment	500	625	750	875	875

⁷ Thirty-eight percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revision(s) Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AECI began operations in February 2008 and is seeking its fifth charter renewal. • The 2019 cohort achieved a four-year August graduation rate for all students of 96%, 10 percentage points higher compared to the New York State average. The graduation rates for SWD, ELL, and ED were also above the State average, by 14, 32, and 14 percentage points, respectively. • The school provides students with a rigorous academic program, architecture and engineering-themed courses, and opportunities for students to earn college credits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has been rated as “Approaches” on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because of the under enrollment of SWD and ELL.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the 10 NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because the enrollment of SWD and ELL is below the DOL by 5 and 11 percentage points respectively.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings⁸
New York City Charter High School for Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industries

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students’ well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students’ social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school’s academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

⁸ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

Material Revisions:

The school is seeking approval of the following material revisions to the charter.

- A revision to increase the school’s grade span from Grade 9 through Grade 12 to include Grades 6 through 8 and make a corresponding increase to the school’s authorized enrollment from 500 students to 875 students by year four of the renewal charter term.
- A revision to amend the Key Design Elements **from** Rigorous Instruction; College Readiness; Staff Development; X-Period; Curriculum and Teacher Support; **to** Teaching and Learning; Supportive Environment for Student Growth & Development; Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement; College and Career Readiness; Support for Diversified Learners; Organizational Capacity.

Approving the Key Design Elements revision request is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the revised Key Design Elements are more understandable and help align AECI with the other schools in the AECI Network.

Approving the grade expansion revision request will result in a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the school because the revision will allow the school to expose middle school students to architectural concepts at a younger age, and students will have more time to develop the foundational skills necessary to be successful at AECI.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 2, 2023. Nine people attended, and no one spoke.

The school provided evidence of community support for the grade expansion recommendation by submitting letters of support from two parents and 12 current students and a petition signed by 104 parents.

Please note that for all charter school revisions, the school was required to conduct community engagement prior to submitting the revision request.

Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Rosalyn Yalow Charter School (RYCS)
Board Chair	Ross Lyon
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 7 ⁹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2015
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: September 1, 2015 - June 30, 2020 • First Renewal: July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	650 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	English language learners (ELL) and students with disabilities (SWD) are key participants in the RYCS chess team. At the 2023 National Elementary Chess Championships, the RYCS team of kindergarten and 1st-grade students comprised entirely of ELL (including one SWD), took 3rd place. A second team of 2nd-5th graders took 4th place; 55% are ELL, 20% have IEPs, and 55% are female. RYCS ELL and SWD have learned they can compete with the very best players in the country, despite their risk factors.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/rosalyn-yalow-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2020 to 2021	Year 2 2021 to 2022	Year 3 2022 to 2023	Year 4 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	536	536	536	536

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Recommended Enrollment	536	536	536	536

⁹ Thirty-eight percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has committed to providing a positive academic and social culture that reflects strong academic programming using curricula such as Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA), Singapore Math, and an inquiry-based science curriculum through Amplify. • Rosalyn Yalow Charter School has an arts education program that provides students access to chorus, violin, and visual art and is facilitated by an external partnership with the Bronx Arts Ensemble. • The school has a variety of external community partnerships that address both the academic and social-emotional needs of the students. These partnerships include curriculum coaches from Amplify and the University of Chicago to support lesson planning and instructional strategies, subject-matter experts in the field through the Kasparov Chess Foundation, fencing instruction from a U.S. Olympic fencing coach, and the Kids in Need Foundation. These partnerships showcase the extensive use of community collaborators RYCS utilizes to enhance access, opportunities, and resources for families and students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RYCS struggles to enroll a comparable percentage of SWD compared to the DOL. This has caused the school to receive a rating of “Approaches” for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention. • The school has had difficulty implementing the full staffing structure as described in the charter. • Implementation of a performance-based evaluation process for school leadership, administration, and providers is incomplete and has resulted in the school receiving a rating of “Approaches” for Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Management. • The school had been operating one floor of its facility for over a year with an expired certificate of occupancy. The school currently has a temporary certificate of occupancy for that space. This along with board governance issues that resulted in the school being placed under a Corrective Action Plan have caused the school to receive an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on five of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Management; Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity; Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention; and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance due to board governance, organizational capacity, subgroup enrollment, and compliance with Certificates of Occupancy requirements.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings¹⁰

Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and career. Families, community members and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Approaches
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Approaches
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Approaches

¹⁰ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In May 2021, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Concern based on the school's failure to enroll a comparable number of SWD. The issue remains an area of concern.
- Year 2: In October 2021, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address a fundamental misunderstanding of the relationship between governance and management and failure of the board to provide consistent oversight. (The school remains under corrective action for this issue.)
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 13, 2023. Four people attended, and one spoke in favor of the renewal.

South Bronx Community Charter High School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	South Bronx Community Charter High School (SBCCHS)
Board Chair	Alvarez Symonette
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 9 ¹¹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2016
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: September 16, 2016 - June 30, 2021 • First Renewal: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	1110 Washington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10456 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	South Bronx Community Charter High School provides a unique model of education. This includes a three-tier approach that focuses on development in the areas of college, career, and community. Prior to graduation, every student must take a college class, thus preparing them for the rigorous academic life of college. In addition, students must complete an internship prior to graduation, giving them work experience in the real world as well as meaningful connections with reputable companies. Lastly, students engage with the local and global communities by participating in the Rites of Passage program. This program promotes community engagement, team building, and service.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/south-bronx-community-charter-high-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Approved Enrollment	385	385	385

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Recommended Enrollment	385	385	385	385	385

¹¹ Nineteen percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public-school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school demonstrated a strong mission and clear objectives and goals. • The school has a comprehensive system to provide social-emotional support to students. • The school implements a competency-based framework that is grounded in differentiation. • The SBCCHS Board of Trustees possesses expertise in key areas, such as finance, law, marketing, data analytics, fundraising, education, and community development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBCCHS continues to under-enroll ELL compared to the DOL.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the 10 NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because of under enrollment of ELL compared to the DOL.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings¹²
South Bronx Community Charter High School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations and that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned to New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistent high levels of engagement, thinking and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and career. Families, community members and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

¹² Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In June 2020, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency with a request for a corrective action plan due to subgroup enrollment deficiency for ELL. (The issue remains an area of concern.)
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on October 30, 2023. One person attended, and the one person who spoke was in favor of the renewal.

Brooklyn RISE Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Brooklyn RISE Charter School (Brooklyn RISE)
Board Chair	Christina Hu
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 15 ¹³
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter: August 26, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	9 Hanover Place, Brooklyn, New York 11201 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategic organizational leadership structure of Brooklyn RISE Charter School (Brooklyn RISE) enables staff to work cohesively to design and implement programs and supports to successfully graduate students. • Brooklyn RISE aims at serving historically underserved populations of students, including students with disabilities (SWD), English language learner(s) (ELL), and economically disadvantaged (ED) students. • The school was designed as a two-teacher classroom model. • Brooklyn RISE utilizes a sheltered instruction observation protocol (SIOP) implemented across the inclusive classrooms.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/brooklyn-rise-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 1	K - Grade 2	K - Grade 3	K - Grade 4	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	104	156	208	260	312

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 7	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	364	416	468	468	468

¹³ Eight percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revisions Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has been rated as “Meets” for eight of the ten benchmarks. • Brooklyn Rise has outperformed New York State for all students and each subgroup on the State assessments in ELA and math in terms of the percentage of students who are proficient. • In the 2022-2023 school year, Brooklyn Rise enrolled a substantially higher percentage of ED students than the DOL (89% vs. 49%). The school also enrolled three percentage points more SWD and 12% more ELL in that school year, a pattern that has been consistent since the school began operation. • The Brooklyn RISE inclusive learning approach focuses on successfully educating students in an inclusive and responsive environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school is underperforming the DOL in terms of State ELA and math assessment results, although this difference largely disappears when results are adjusted for the difference in the composition of the school’s enrollment compared to the DOL. • During the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years, the school had challenges in enrolling a sufficient number of students to meet its contractual obligation due to space issues, which have now been resolved, with 2023-2024 school year enrollment being within the target range.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on eight of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 1: Student Performance and Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention. The reasons are due to proficiency rates for ELA and math that were below the DOL, NYC CSD 15, and the school’s low overall enrollment rate and declining retention rates during the charter term.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings¹⁴
Brooklyn RISE Charter School

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

¹⁴ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Material Revisions:

The school is seeking approval of the following material revisions to the charter:

- Increase the school’s enrollment configuration from kindergarten through Grade 5 to kindergarten through Grade 8 and make a corresponding increase to the school’s authorized enrollment from 312 to 468 students.
- Amend its Key Design Elements, beginning in the 2024-2025 school year.

Approving this revision request to expand the grade levels served is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the school will continue to serve its current students as they move into higher grades and the revision to the key design elements will allow the school greater flexibility to provide extended learning time more strategically.

Approving these revision requests will result in a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school because of the school’s two-teacher classroom model and the SIOP implemented across inclusive classrooms.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 16, 2023. Twenty-nine people attended, and five spoke. Four were in favor of the renewal/revisions and one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal and revisions recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO 16 letters of support from families, parents, and stakeholders.

Please note that for all charter school revisions, the school was required to conduct community engagement prior to submitting the revision request.

Compass Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Compass Charter School (CCS)
Board Chair	Joshua Gordon
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 13 ¹⁵
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2014
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: September 1, 2014 - June 30, 2019 • First Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	300 Adelphi Street, Brooklyn, New York 11205 - Public Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Compass Charter School (CCS) provides a progressive, student-centered, inquiry-based education that focuses on sustainability through an integrated curriculum that is organized around the three tenets of sustainability: social justice, economic justice, and the environment.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/compass-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	300	300	300

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment*

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Recommended Enrollment	324	324	324	324	324

¹⁵ Twenty-five percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS provides a progressive, student-centered, inquiry-based education that focuses on sustainability through an integrated curriculum that is organized around the three tenets of sustainability: social justice, economic justice, and the environment. • CCS provides students with authentic contexts to apply the literacy and math skills they develop. The lens of sustainability is woven into all the units of study in K - Grade 5 as evidenced by in-depth content and projects connected to the school's sustainability key design element. • CCS's leaders have been with the school since its founding and continue to build the school's instructional coaching capacity. • CCS met Benchmark 1: Student Performance and posted strong academic outcomes, with proficiency rates in the 2022-2023 school year that exceed both the DOL and State average at the school and subgroup level in ELA, math, and science. • CCS has been rated as "Meets" for 9 of the 10 benchmarks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS has experienced some challenges in recruiting ED students. Despite various outreach/recruitment strategies, CCS enrolls a lower percentage of ED students than its DOL, NYC CSD 13.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a "Meets" rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an "Approaches" rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because of consistent under-enrollment of ED students.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings¹⁶
Compass Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A

¹⁶ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 6, 2023. Twenty-three people attended, and seventeen spoke. Seventeen people were in favor of the renewal.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal recommendation by providing 51 letters of support to the NYSED CSO from community members as part of their renewal application. An additional two letters of support were emailed directly to the NYSED CSO by community members.

Hellenic Classical Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Hellenic Classical Charter School (HCCS)
Board Chair	Charles Capetanakis
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 15 ¹⁷
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2005
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: February 8, 2005 - February 7, 2010 • First Renewal: February 8, 2010 - February 7, 2015 • Second Renewal: February 8, 2015 - June 30, 2019 • Third Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	646 5 th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Hellenic Classical Charter School (HCCS) is a National Blue-Ribbon awarded school and has been awarded the ESEA accountability designation of “Local Support and Improvement,” which is the highest designation level for a school. HCCS is in year eighteen of operation and serves students in K - Grade 8. The founding school leadership team and most of the founding board continue to steward the school’s growth.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/hellenic-classical-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Approved Enrollment	498	498	498	498	498

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	498	554	582	610	638

¹⁷ Eight percent of students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCS is in year eighteen of operation and serves students in K - Grade 8. • HCCS has outperformed the DOL, NYC CSD 15, and NYS consistently over the charter term in terms of the percentage of students proficient in ELA, math, and science for all students and economically disadvantaged (ED) students, often by significant margins. • In 2019, the United States Department of Education recognized HCCS as an exemplary high-performing National Blue Ribbon School. • HCCS has been rated as “Meets” for nine of the ten benchmarks. • Classroom instruction was consistently observed as engaging and rigorous. The school utilizes a variety of formative, diagnostic, and summative assessments. Data is analyzed through recurring meeting protocols and teachers’ close collaboration with the school’s deans. The school leadership is well-tenured, and mission-aligned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCS has not met the enrollment targets for all subgroups. While the percentage of ED students closely approaches the DOL, NYC CSD 15, the school has not met the district levels of enrollment for SWD or ELL. In 2022-2023, HCCS was 8 percentage points below NYC CSD 15 for SWD enrollment and 14 below for ELL enrollment.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention due to under-enrollment of two of the three subgroups.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings¹⁸
Hellenic Classical Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

¹⁸ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

Material Revision:

The school is seeking approval of a material revision to the charter to increase its authorized enrollment from 498 students to 638 students by year five of the renewal charter term.

Approving this revision request is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the school has a solid track record of outperforming the DOL.

Approving this revision request will result in a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the school because the school has been recognized by the United States Department of Education as an exemplary high-performing school.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 16, 2023. Twenty-seven people attended, and 14 spoke. Thirteen were in favor of the renewal/revision and one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for the enrollment increase recommendation by submitting five letters of support from parents to the Charter School Office.

Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School (IHP)
Board Chair	Nancy Olisma
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 18 ¹⁹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter: August 28, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	475 E 57th St, Brooklyn, NY 11203 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School’s commitment to raising the educational outcomes of students is evident in its use of Ujima plans. These unique plans are co-created by educators and parents to support students’ academic and social-emotional needs. They are constantly revisited and assessed to support students appropriately.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/ivy-hill-preparatory-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 1	K - Grade 2	K - Grade 3	K - Grade 4	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	120	180	240	300	265

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Recommended Enrollment	265	265	265

¹⁹ Thirty-two percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school staff engages in high-quality instruction and offers martial arts, theater, dance, and art as electives. • IHP has a comprehensive approach to supporting diverse learners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school had low participation rates for the 2023 NYSTP 3-8 Assessments (25% not tested in ELA and 42% not tested in math). • The school has been rated as “Falls Far Below” on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance due to inconsistent and incomplete reporting, overall and subgroup under-enrollment, ongoing fingerprint clearance issues, and teacher certification issues. • The school has experienced a decline in overall enrollment, consistent under-enrollment of subgroups, and a decline in retention rates.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on seven benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 1: Student Performance due to low test participation rates.
- The school received a “Fall Far Below” rating on Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance because of overall and subgroup under-enrollment and legal compliance.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²⁰
Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Falls Far Below
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Falls Far Below

²⁰ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

Material Revision:

The school is seeking approval for a revision to the charter to amend its Key Design Elements:

From:

“Reading is fundamental. Literacy is power. Ivy Hill Prep anticipates that a significant number of students will enroll in the school at a significant academic disadvantage than their more affluent peers. Incoming students will have been exposed to approximately 30 million fewer words. The “word gap” plays a large role in the achievement gap, in school and life, and the school intends to close this “word gap” starting in kindergarten with robust literacy instruction. **Students will have 225 minutes of literacy instruction Monday through Thursday, and 135 minutes on Fridays** to master decoding, fluency, accuracy, and comprehension in small groups by literacy levels to ensure all students, including those with special needs and ELL, receive the targeted skills necessary for their independent development. With a prioritized focus on literacy, students will be reading at grade level, able to engage in content across subject areas, and communicate and defend their thoughts effectively and confidently by the end of second grade.”

To:

“Reading is fundamental. Literacy is power. Ivy Hill Prep anticipates that a significant number of students will enroll in the school at a significant academic disadvantage than their more affluent peers. Incoming students will have been exposed to approximately 30 million fewer words. The “word gap” plays a large role in the achievement gap, in school and life, and the school intends to close this “word gap” starting in kindergarten with robust literacy instruction. **Ivy Hill Prep’s extended day schedule will include no less than 90 minutes of math instruction and no less than 150 minutes of literacy instruction on full instructional days** to master decoding, fluency, accuracy, and comprehension in small groups by literacy levels to ensure all students, including those with special needs and ELL, receive the targeted skills necessary for their independent development. With a prioritized focus on literacy, students will be reading at grade level, able to engage in content across subject areas, and communicate and defend their thoughts effectively and confidently by the end of second grade.”

The requested revision will have no bearing on the number of students being served by this charter school, which will not change, nor will the revision impact the number of charters available for issuance in New York City or the State.

Approving this revision request is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the revision will provide the school with greater scheduling flexibility for instructional time.

Approving this revision request will result in a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school because students will continue to receive extended literacy and math instruction.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 1, 2023. Sixty-seven people attended, and seven spoke. Seven were in favor of the renewal. No one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal/revision request by submitting to the NYSED CSO one letter of support from a parent and describing how staff were engaged to allow them to provide feedback. This revision request was also discussed with the board during a scheduled IHP Board Meeting, allowing board members to provide feedback. Subsequently, the proposed change was communicated to all stakeholders via email.

LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School (LEEP)
Board Chair	Alejandro Montoya
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 15 ²¹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter Term: August 26, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	5323 5th Avenue - 2nd Floor, Brooklyn 11220 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School offers students a unique 90:10 Dual Language Instructional model. • Unique “Pedagogy of Cariño” (Caring). • Every teacher and staff member at the school is bilingual in English and Spanish.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/leep-dual-language-academy-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 1	K - Grade 2	K - Grade 3	K - Grade 4	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	153	249	337	420	499

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Recommended Enrollment	499	499	499	499

²¹ Eight percent of students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEEP offers students a unique 90:10 Dual Language Instructional model, characterized by a “Pedagogy of Cariño” (Caring). • Every teacher and staff member at the school is bilingual in English and Spanish. • LEEP now has leadership in place who is experienced and passionate and has a vision for a successful future. • LEEP has shown significant growth in its fiscal management, organizational capacity, and attention to issues of compliance since the last midterm site visit in 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEEP has been rated as “Approaches” on Benchmark 1: Student Performance, Benchmark 4: Financial Condition, and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance. • The renewal report notes that: “On July 1, 2020, the school entered into a lease and subsequently took on a finance lease liability of nearly \$44 million and a right-of-use asset of nearly \$41 million with those recognitions resulting in a substantial annual non-cash amortization expense. This impacted the school’s statements of financial position and statement of activities and thus several of its key financial indicators.” • To address the school’s legal compliance issues, the school has committed to implementing a new fingerprint clearance policy; resolving teacher certification issues; making improvements in board meeting notices, remote public access, and provision of dual-language board materials; hiring a new director of operations to submit reports and data promptly; and making improvements in seeking approvals of its revision requests.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on seven of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 1: Student Performance, Benchmark 4: Financial Condition, and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance. The reasons are due to the school’s academic achievement being below the DOL, NYC CSD 15, continued (though improving) financial challenges, and continued (though improving) issues of compliance.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²²
LEEP Dual Language Academy Charter School

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Approaches
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Meets
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Approaches

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

²² Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 16, 2023. Thirteen people attended, and two spoke. One was in favor of the renewal, and one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal and revision recommendation by providing a letter of support from the pastor of the Grace Baptist Church.

Williamsburg Charter High School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Williamsburg Charter High School (WCHS)
Board Chair	Lourdes Putz
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 14 ²³
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2004
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: February 23, 2004 - February 22, 2009 • First Renewal: February 23, 2009 - July 27, 2009 • Second Renewal: July 28, 2009 - July 27, 2014 • Third Renewal: July 28, 2014 - June 30, 2019 • Fourth Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	198 Varet St. Brooklyn, 11206 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	At Williamsburg Charter High School each student is supported by a team that consists of an advisor, guidance counselor, social worker, academy leader, and grade-level leaders who provide individualized attention to students for academic and social-emotional needs. The school is focused on community. Every board member is from the community or has done work to support the community. WCHS participates with many community-based organizations and has a former parent as parent coordinator.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/williamsburg-charter-high-school <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Approved Enrollment	963	963	963	963	963

²³ Fifteen percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Recommended Enrollment	963	963	963	963	963

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public-school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCHS began operations in February 2004 and is seeking its fifth charter renewal. • For all students and the ED, ELL, and SWD subgroups, the school has had graduation rates each year for the 4-, 5-, and 6-year graduation cohorts that met or exceeded the State average. • WCHS is rated “Meets” in Benchmarks 2 - 9. • WCHS continues to do significant work in actualizing its mission and key design elements by offering programs and learning environments that are diverse, community-oriented, college- and career-ready, collaborative, and multifaceted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCHS needs to continue to focus on improving student performance in the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, ELA, Global History, Chemistry, and Physics for all students and subgroups. These results caused the school to receive an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 1: Student Performance. • WCHS needs to continue to create intervention plans and support systems for all students to be on track for graduation. Data shows the 2019 cohort having 65% of third year students on-track to graduate. This is a significant decrease from the 2018 cohort, which had 93% of third year students on track to graduate. • CSO analysis of the faculty/staff roster submitted with the school’s 2022-2023 Annual Report found three employees whose fingerprint clearance could not be verified. This contributed to the school receiving an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on eight benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” on Benchmark 1: Student Performance, and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance due to the decline of Regents cohort scores, on-track to graduate rates, and unverified fingerprint clearances.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²⁴

Williamsburg Charter High School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations and that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned to New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistent high levels of engagement, thinking and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and career. Families, community members and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Meets
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Approaches

²⁴ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In February 2020, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Concern based on ELL subgroup enrollment and complaints regarding bullying. (The issues have been resolved.)
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 8, 2023. Thirty-six people attended, and 13 spoke. Thirteen were in favor of the renewal. No one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal by submitting 71 letters of support from stakeholders to the NYSED CSO, including ones from current and past students, employees, and community members.

New Dawn Charter High School II

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	New Dawn Charter High School II (New Dawn II)
Board Chair	Ronald Tabano
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 28 ²⁵
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter: September 4, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	89-25 161st St, Queens, NY 11432 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Dawn Charter High School II (New Dawn II), located in Queens, New York, is a transfer high school designed to serve under-credited and/or overaged students. • The school serves this unique student population through an extended day and extended school year, a literacy-rich curriculum, full inclusion special education and English language learner support services, comprehensive social-emotional learning, and college-and-career readiness programming. • The school provides an important lifeline for the mental and physical well-being of the students enrolled.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/new-dawn-charter-high-school-ii (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grade 9	Grades 9 - 10	Grades 9 -11	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 -12
Total Approved Enrollment	150	240	340	400	550

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment*

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 -12	Grades 9 -12	Grades 9 -12	Grades 9 -12	Grades 9 -12
Total Recommended Enrollment	350	350	350	350	350

²⁵ Five percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revisions Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Dawn II is a transfer high school designed to serve under-credited and/or overaged students. • New Dawn II serves this unique student population through an extended day and extended school year. The school has been rated as “Meets” for eight of the ten benchmarks. • All staff members contribute to both academic and non-academic programming toward fulfilling the school’s mission and key design elements. • The school has upheld financial and board governance oversight practices with no compliance issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Dawn II graduation rates are a persistent problem caused by attendance and long-term absences, which the school acknowledges and has adapted strategies to address the challenges facing their high-needs student population. • The school has been significantly under-enrolled in each year of its charter and is seeking a revision to reduce its authorized enrollment from 550 to 350 students. As of October 2024, the school only had an enrollment of 280 students, although the school has responded that many students enroll throughout the school year and enrollment is higher in the spring than in the fall.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on eight of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 1: Student Performance and Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because this is a transfer school in its first term, and it can take well into a second term for this type of school before enough data is collected to support a “Meets” rating in Benchmark 1, and due to low overall enrollment and declining retention rates.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²⁶

New Dawn Charter High School II

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

²⁶ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Material Revision:

The school is seeking approval to amend the following Key Design Element: College and Career Readiness: Internship Program (IP) as described in the public notice.

Approving this revision request is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the revision will permit the school to move on from partnering with the City University of New York (CUNY) on the school's College and Career Readiness Internship Program and begin offering the program using in-house resources.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 15, 2023. Five people attended, and no one spoke.

Bridge Preparatory Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Bridge Preparatory Charter School (BPCS)
Board Chair	Laurel Wedinger-Gyimesi
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 31 ²⁷
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter Term: August 29, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	715 Ocean Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301- Public Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Bridge Preparatory Charter School offers a highly structured and multisensory Orton-Gillingham (OG) approach to teaching reading, writing, and spelling to all learners, including those with dyslexia and other language-based learning needs.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/bridge-preparatory-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 1 - 2	Grades 1 - 3	Grades 1 - 4	Grades 1 - 5	Grades 1 - 5
Total Approved Enrollment	86	148	195	242	242

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5	K - Grade 5
Total Recommended Enrollment	272	272	272

²⁷ Five percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revisions Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPCS offers a highly structured and multisensory Orton-Gillingham (OG) approach to teach reading, writing, and spelling to all learners, including those with dyslexia and other language-based learning needs. • In its initial charter term, BPCS has created systems to support student’s social and emotional health that have contributed to an observably safe and respectful learning environment. • BPCS is fully enrolled, and the school’s population is over two-thirds SWD. The school has created an academic program that emphasizes literacy development, social-emotional learning, and a multisensory approach to learning. • In 2022-2023, the school population included students with autism (2%) and students with a speech or language impairment (29%), potentially including dyslexia. • BPCS enrolls a higher percentage of SWD than the district of location (DOL), NYC CSD 31. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPCS has received a notice of deficiency during the charter school term for poor proficiency outcomes. The school performed far below the DOL, NYC CSD 31, and the state for both ELA and math. • In 2022-2023, general education students (33%) scored 39 percentage points below the district of location’s general education students for proficiency in both ELA and math and 23 and 29 percentage points below NYS, respectively. • The school has been rated as “Approaches” on six Benchmarks out of ten. • BPCS enrollment of English language learner(s) (ELL) is 14 percentage points below the DOL, NYC CSD 31. • During the BPCS renewal site visit, concerns with Individualized Education Program (IEP) compliance were observed by the Department’s Special Education Quality Assurance (SEQA) Office.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on four of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating on Benchmark 1: Student Performance, Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning, Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity, Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements, Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention, and Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance because of deficiencies identified in the school’s Notice of Deficiency; weakening support of diverse learners including a lack of differentiation for ELL students; Committee on Special Education (CSE) concerns about the school’s use of grade retention and monitoring of students with extended absences from school; the use of exit tickets and individualized goals not observed in classrooms; the decreased effectiveness of the organizational capacity, including a continuing decline in student learning and a lack of clearly defined processes and roles of the adults in the classroom; the fact that key design elements are not fully implemented; low enrollment of ELL; and continuing issues with fingerprinting and certification issues.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings²⁸
Bridge Preparatory Charter School

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Approaches
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Approaches
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Approaches
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Approaches

²⁸ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: In September 2023, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the poor academic results. The school submitted the plan on October 16, 2023.
- Year 5: The school's corrective action plan remains active.

Material Revisions:

The school is seeking approval to:

- Increase the school's grade span from its current Grade 1 through Grade 5 configuration to add kindergarten and make a corresponding increase to the school's authorized enrollment from 242 students to 272 students by year one of the renewal charter term, and
- Amend its key design elements to add an Innovative Charter Program as a new Key Design Element to be focused on differing learners with Special Education Needs. And, to amend details within other Key Design Elements to include references to the Science of Reading, The Writing Evolution, dedicated periods for Creative Arts Programming, Professional Learning Offerings, and maintenance of partnerships with the larger community.

Approving these revision requests is likely to improve student learning and achievement because the revised key design elements will add clarity to the school's mission and scope. The school indicated that there has been substantial interest from currently enrolled families, as well as families in the community, to add a kindergarten. The school will use a kindergarten curriculum aligned to its existing program used for Grades 1-5. The school indicated that its current space has adequate capacity to accommodate the kindergarten students.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 15, 2023. Thirty-two people attended, and nine spoke. Nine were in favor of the renewal/revision and none were opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for the renewal and revisions recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO nine letters of support from families and parents.

Please note that for all charter school revisions, the school was required to conduct community engagement prior to submitting the revision request.

Hellenic Classical Charter School – Staten Island

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Hellenic Classical Charter School – Staten Island (HCCS-SI)
Charles Capetanakis	Charles Capetanakis
District of Location	New York City (NYC) Community School District (CSD) 31 ²⁹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter Term: September 4, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	1641 Richmond Ave, Staten Island, NY 10314 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	The school provides a rigorous classical education model that blends the Paideia Model for instruction with the classical study of the Greek and Latin languages.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/hellenic-classical-charter-school-staten-island (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 1	K - Grade 2	K - Grade 3	K - Grade 4	K - Grade 5
Total Approved Enrollment	150	225	300	375	450

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 7	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8	K - Grade 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	525	600	675	675	675

²⁹ Five percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal and Revision Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term (and revisions) described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCS-SI is in its first charter term and has drawn upon the success of Hellenic Classical Charter School by sharing its school leadership, board of trustees, and curricular resources. • HCCS-SI has exceeded both its DOL (NYC CSD 31) and NYS in proficiency rates for the NYSTP 3-8 assessments for both testing years of its first (current) charter term. • HCCS-SI offers a rigorous classical education that is rich in challenging content. • HCCS-SI supplements instruction with the study of the Greek and Latin languages as well as history, art, and other cultural and classical studies. • HCCS-SI prepares students for long-term academic success. • HCCS-SI has been rated as “Meets” for nine of the ten benchmarks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCCS-SI has been consistently under-enrolled for SWD, ELL, and ED students.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention. The reason is due to the under-enrollment of all three subgroups.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings³⁰
Hellenic Classical Charter School – Staten Island

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A
- Year 5: N/A

³⁰ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Material Revisions:

The school is seeking approval to amend its grade span to add grades 6 through 8 to its current kindergarten through Grade 5 configuration and make a corresponding increase in the school's authorized enrollment from 450 students to 675 students.

Approving this revision request is likely to improve student learning and achievement because HCCS-SI has exceeded both its DOL (NYC CSD 31) and NYS in proficiency rates on the NYSTP 3-8 assessments for both testing years of the school's first (current) charter term.

Approving these revision requests will result in a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the school because of the school's rigorous classical education that is rich in challenging content that supplements instruction with the study of the Greek and Latin languages that helps prepare students for long-term academic success.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the New York City Department of Education on November 16, 2023. Twenty-four people attended, and ten spoke. Nine were in favor of the renewal/revision and one was opposed.

The school provided evidence of community support for the expansion recommendation by submitting three letters of support from parents and one from the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church to the Charter School Office.

Health Sciences Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Health Sciences Charter School (Health Sciences)
Board Chair	Andrew Davis
District of Location	Buffalo City School District ³¹
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2010
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: September 15, 2009 - June 30, 2014 • First Renewal: July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2017 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2020 • Third Renewal: July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facility	1140 Ellicott Street, Buffalo New York 14209 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Health Sciences Charter School (HSCS) carries out its stated mission and key design elements through a coordinated work-based learning program and key community partnerships with health care providers, health equity advocates, and other community stakeholders, through which students participate in career exploration, internships, apprenticeships, dual-credit courses, and community service.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/health-sciences-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2020 to 2021	Year 2 2021 to 2022	Year 3 2022 to 2023	Year 4 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Approved Enrollment	480	480	480	480

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Recommended Enrollment	480	480	480	480	480

³¹ Twenty-seven percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school’s four-year, five-year, and six-year graduation rates for all students, SWD, ELL, and ED have exceeded the State average in every year of the charter term. The August 2023 four-year graduation of 92% exceeded the State average by six percentage points. • The school has made significant progress reimplementing its mission and key design elements following a return to in-person instruction, including integrating many of the school’s key design elements within a schoolwide work-based learning program, expanding community partnerships, and strengthening board governance. • The school has significantly reformed its curriculum and assessment systems to accelerate academic achievement and improve mission alignment. • Overall enrollment has rebounded after several years below the 85% threshold and was 92% of contracted enrollment in the 2022-2023 school year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school continues to fall below enrollment targets for subgroup populations, but has developed specific recruitment strategies to address these issues. • Projected staffing cost increases and facility project demands may present budget difficulties for the school during the next charter term.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because the school has not yet met the targets for enrollment of subgroups. However, improvement has resulted in a rating of “Approaches,” which is up from the “Falls Far Below” rating the school received in its previous charter term.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings³²
Health Sciences Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

³² Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term: N/A

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A
- Year 4: N/A

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the Buffalo Public Schools on October 4, 2023. Twenty-four people attended. Ten people participated in a question-and-answer session, with seven positive comments being made about Health Sciences. No one spoke in favor of the renewal. No one was opposed.

Discovery Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Discovery Charter School (Discovery)
Board Chair	Lisa Lewis
District of Location	Greece Central School District ³³
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2011
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: August 15, 2011 - June 30, 2016 • First Renewal: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2019 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021 • Third Renewal: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 133 Hoover Drive, Rochester, New York 14615 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	Discovery students thrive in a culture of inquiry and enthusiasm, empowered to showcase their talents and discoveries through the Creative Crew program. Multi-age groups of students explore new skills in a holistic learning experience that challenges them to think critically and creatively.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/discovery-charter-school <i>(Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)</i>

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6
Total Approved Enrollment	280	280	300

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6	K - Grade 6
Total Recommended Enrollment	300	300	300	300	300

³³ Three percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery showed growth on NYS ELA and math assessments based on student data from the 2020-2021 school year compared with the 2022-2023 school year. An increase from 5% to 44% proficiency in ELA and an increase from 6% to 70% in math earned the school a rating of “Meets” on Benchmark 1. • The school’s leadership team has been stable with the core team remaining intact over time. The only addition to the leadership team was promoted internally after holding multiple positions of increasing responsibility at the school prior to his promotion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery is under-enrolled for SWD and ELLs when compared with the Rochester City School District, the district of residence of a majority of the students.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the charter school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention because the school has yet to match enrollment rates of SWD and ELLs with the Rochester City School District, the district of residence of a majority of the students.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Rating³⁴
Discovery Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students’ well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students’ social and emotional health and to provide a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and careers. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school’s academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

³⁴ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: In August 2020, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) based on insufficient enrollment of students with disabilities and English language learners. The issues remain an area of concern, despite the implementation of additional recruitment strategies. These include weighted lotteries for SWD and ELLs; extended opportunities for families to visit and learn about Discovery’s offerings for special populations; the creation of a Benchmark 9 Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention Committee to recruit new families; and a monitoring process to measure the effectiveness of each strategy.
- Year 2: repeat
- Year 3: repeat
- Year 4: repeat

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the Greece Central School District on October 3, 2023. No one addressed the Board on behalf of the Discovery Charter School. Five Greece Central School District Board members were in favor of the renewal and three were opposed.

Academy of Health Sciences Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Academy of Health Sciences Charter School (AHS)
Board Chair	Warren Hern
District of Location	Rochester City School District ³⁵
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2019
Charter Term	Initial Charter: August 19, 2019 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	1151 Ridgeway Avenue, Rochester, New York 14615 - Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	The school employs a standards-based curriculum partnered with a standards-based assessment system; grading rubrics are used by teachers. Teachers are supported in their work by coaches, assistant principals, deans, and an extensive individualized professional development program.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/academy-health-sciences-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2019 to 2020	Year 2 2020 to 2021	Year 3 2021 to 2022	Year 4 2022 to 2023	Year 5 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grade 5	Grades 5 - 6	Grades 5 - 7	Grades 5 - 8	Grades 5 - 8
Total Approved Enrollment	100	200	300	425	450

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028
Grade Configuration	Grades 5 - 8	Grades 5 - 8	Grades 5 - 8	Grades 5 - 8
Total Recommended Enrollment	450	450	450	450

³⁵ Twenty-five percent of the students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHS uses a standards-based assessment system that communicates specific levels of mastery for each standard to teachers, students, and families. A new report card format, a goal-setting template, and information sessions for parents have been completed. • AHS has a resource room program with four special education teachers to support and increase the recruitment of students with disabilities (SWD). The school also has an English language learner (ELL) teacher to support ELLs and enhance recruitment efforts for ELLs. • The board of trustees has had consistent membership and makes good use of its committee structure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHS confronts a significant challenge in maintaining an adequate proportion of SWD and ELLs. AHS has identified several action steps to address this challenge. The school believes that the opening of a new building and implementation of a comprehensive marketing strategy will help significantly in meeting this challenge as personnel and programs dedicated to these subgroups do not seem to be an issue. • The school has been rated as “Approaches” on Benchmark 1: Student Performance because the school underperformed the State average in terms of the percentage of students who are proficient in ELA and math for all students and the ED, ELL, and SWD subgroups on both the 2022 and 2023 State assessments. • AHS needs to improve its efficacy in the key design element area of career and college readiness. There is little evidence of the school’s main theme: health sciences. Walls are devoid of items that might bring attention to career and work readiness, even in the context of health-related jobs. • There is no observable evidence of student-driven instruction. Only a few classrooms had lesson objectives posted.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on seven of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 1: Student Performance and Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements. The reasons are academic proficiency did not

meet or exceed that of the district of location and the mission and key design elements have not yet been fully implemented.

- The school received a “Falls Far Below” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention. The reason is subgroup enrollment is not proportionate to the district of location.

2015 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings³⁶
Academy of Health Sciences Charter School

2015 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic trends toward proficiency, proficiency, and high school graduation. At all grade levels and all assessments, scoring proficiently means achieving a performance level of 3 or higher (high school Regents and Common Core Regents exam score of 65 or higher).	Approaches
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations that lead to students’ well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school has a rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistently high levels of engagement, thinking, and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students’ social and emotional health and to provide for a safe and respectful learning environment. Families, community members, and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school’s academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in a sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness, and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, and clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Approaches
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students.	Falls Far Below
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

³⁶ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: In April 2021, the NYSED CSO issued a Notice of Deficiency based on enrollment deficiencies for SWD and ELLs and a request for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP).
- Year 3: Same as Year 2.
- Year 4: Same as Years 2 and 3.
- Year 5: Same as Years 2, 3, and 4. The issues remain an area of concern.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the Rochester City School District on October 3, 2023. Eleven people attended, and no one spoke.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO 10 letters of support from family members and 19 letters of support from community members, including local college and health-related organizations.

Vertus Charter School

Table 1: Charter School Summary

Name of Charter School	Vertus Charter School (Vertus)
Board Chair	Victoria Van Voorhis
District of Location	Rochester City School District ³⁷
Initial Commencement of Instruction	Fall 2014
Charter Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Charter: September 1, 2014 - June 30, 2019 • First Renewal: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021 • Second Renewal: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024
Comprehensive Management Service Provider	None
Facilities	21 Humboldt Street, Rochester, New York 14609 – Private Space
Innovative and Noteworthy Programs (as reported by the school)	The school serves male high school students who have not met with success in traditional school settings. At Vertus, they progress at their individual rate in a combination program of on-line and teacher-led instruction. Ultimately, nearly all students graduate.
Link to Charter School Renewal Report	https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/vertus-charter-school (Note: This report includes academic, enrollment, and fiscal tables.)

Table 2: Current Grade Levels and Approved Enrollment

	Year 1 2021 to 2022	Year 2 2022 to 2023	Year 3 2023 to 2024
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Approved Enrollment	340	340	340

Table 3: Recommended Renewal Term Grade Levels and Recommended Enrollment

	Year 1 2024 to 2025	Year 2 2025 to 2026	Year 3 2026 to 2027	Year 4 2027 to 2028	Year 5 2028 to 2029
Grade Configuration	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12	Grades 9 - 12
Total Recommended Enrollment	340	340	340	340	340

³⁷ Twenty-five percent of all students residing in this district attend charter schools.

Rationale for Renewal Recommendation

Based on the Board of Regents Renewal Policy, NYSED recommends that the Board of Regents grant the renewal term described above in the **Issue for Decision** section.

As the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the district is greater than 5 percent of the total public-school enrollment, pursuant to Education Law Section 2852(2)(d), NYSED notes that granting this renewal application provides a significant educational benefit to the students attending and expected to attend this charter school.

Highlights	
Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vertus employs staff, known as preceptors, who serve as role models and mentors for students and liaisons with families to help students grow academically and build the character traits essential to student success in the community and the workplace. • Vertus continues to fulfill the commitments in its mission by recruiting, training, and retaining staff to support not only students’ academic needs but also to help them build the character traits needed for success in college, the workplace, and the community. • The school’s blended learning approach accommodates students who perform well in the online learning environment along with those who learn best in teacher-led classes. • The board of trustees has defined strategic goals to build board membership and recruit and retain high quality staff who reflect the school’s core mission and values. • The school has maintained a sound financial condition and demonstrates appropriate fiscal management. Vertus continues to prioritize the implementation of its key design elements to best serve the needs of the students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite a variety of outreach strategies, Vertus enrolls fewer ELL and ED students than the DOL, the Rochester City School District. Based on the latest available data, Vertus retains students at a lower rate than the DOL. In addition, school leaders reported persistently high rates of chronic absenteeism that have been challenging to remedy regardless of continuing and varied efforts. However, the school’s 2022-2023 school year chronic absenteeism rate of 43.9% – while above the State average – the secondary school chronic absenteeism rate of 34.1% was well below the DOL’s secondary school chronic absenteeism rate of 71.8%. • The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention due to a lack of enrollment of SWD and ELL proportionate to the DOL.

Performance Framework Ratings:

At the time of renewal, the school was rated on each of the ten NYSED Charter School Performance Framework Benchmarks as follows. These ratings reflect performance over the entire charter term and are considered when making a renewal recommendation, pursuant to the Board of Regents Renewal Policy.

- The school received a “Meets” rating on nine of the ten benchmarks.
- The school received an “Approaches” rating for Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention due to a lack of enrollment of SWD and ELL proportionate to the DOL.

2019 Charter School Performance Framework Benchmark Ratings³⁸

Vertus Charter School

2019 Performance Benchmark		Level
Educational Success	Benchmark 1: Student Performance: The school has met or exceeded achievement indicators for academic proficiency, trends toward proficiency, similar schools, college and career readiness, and high school graduation, if applicable. Proficiency at the elementary/middle school level shall be defined as achieving a performance level of 3 or higher on Grade 3-8 state assessments in ELA, math, and science. At the high school level, passing shall be defined as obtaining a Regents exam score of 65 or higher.	Meets
	Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning: School leaders have systems in place designed to cultivate shared accountability and high expectations and that lead to students' well-being, improved academic outcomes, and educational success. The school implements research-based practices and has rigorous and coherent curriculum and assessments that are aligned to New York State Learning Standards for all students. Teachers engage in strategic practices and decision-making in order to address the gap between what students know and need to learn so that all students experience consistent high levels of engagement, thinking and achievement.	Meets
	Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement: The school has systems in place to support students' social and emotional health and to provide for a positive, safe, and respectful learning environment that prepares all students for college and career. Families, community members and school staff work together to share in the responsibility for student academic progress and social-emotional growth and well-being. Families and students are satisfied with the school's academics and the overall leadership and management of the school.	Meets
Organizational Soundness	Benchmark 4: Financial Condition: The school is in sound and stable financial condition as evidenced by performance on key financial indicators.	Meets
	Benchmark 5: Financial Management: The school operates in a fiscally sound manner with realistic budgets pursuant to a long-range financial plan, appropriate internal controls and procedures, and in accordance with state law and generally accepted accounting practices.	Meets
	Benchmark 6: Board Oversight and Governance: The board of trustees provides competent stewardship and oversight of the school while maintaining policies, establishing performance goals, and implementing systems to ensure academic success, organizational viability, board effectiveness and faithfulness to the terms of its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity: The school has established a well-functioning organizational structure, clearly delineated roles for staff, management, and board members. The school has systems and protocols that allow for the successful implementation, evaluation, and improvement of its academic program and operations.	Meets
Faithfulness to Charter & Law	Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design Elements: The school is faithful to its mission and has implemented the key design elements included in its charter.	Meets
	Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention: The school is meeting or making annual progress toward meeting the enrollment plan outlined in its charter and its enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced priced lunch program; or has demonstrated that it has made extensive good faith efforts to attract, recruit, and retain such students. High schools are meeting persistence rates commensurate with the NYSED target.	Approaches
	Benchmark 10: Legal Compliance: The school complies with applicable laws, regulations, and the provisions of its charter.	Meets

Notices of Concern and/or Deficiency in the Current Charter Term:

- Year 1: N/A
- Year 2: N/A
- Year 3: N/A

³⁸ Charter schools authorized or renewed beginning in the 2019-2020 school year and thereafter use the [2019 Charter School Performance Framework](#), and all other charter schools use the [2015 Charter School Performance Framework](#) until renewal. Refer to the appropriate framework for the applicable benchmark standards.

Summary of Public Comment

The required public hearing was held by the Rochester City School District on October 3, 2023. Eleven people attended, and no one spoke.

The school provided evidence of community support for this renewal recommendation by submitting to the NYSED CSO several letters of support from community members.

APPENDIX
Laws, Regulations, and Regents-endorsed internal Policies Applicable to
Board of Regents-authorized Charter School Renewals

Statutory requirements pertaining to Board of Regents charter school decision making are enumerated in Article 56 of the Education Law. This section of the law sets forth the purpose of charter schools to:

- (a) Improve student learning and achievement;
- (b) Increase learning opportunities for all students, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for students who are at-risk of academic failure;
- (c) Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods;
- (d) Create new professional opportunities for teachers, school administrators and other school personnel;
- (e) Provide parents and students with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system; and
- (f) Provide schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems by holding the schools established under this article accountable for meeting measurable student achievement results.

Criteria regarding the evaluation of charter schools, including for renewal decisions, are set forth in Section 2852(2) of the Education Law:

- (a) Does the charter school described in the application meet the requirements set out in applicable laws, rules and regulations;
- (b) Does the charter school demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner;
- (c) Will approving the charter school action make it likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes of the law; and
- (d) In a school district where the total enrollment of resident students attending charter schools in the base year is greater than five percent of the total public school enrollment of the school district in the base year (i) would granting the application have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the proposed charter school or (ii) did the school district in which the charter school will be located consent to such application?

In addition, Renewal Guidelines contained in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education (8 NYCRR §119.7) were adopted by the Board of Regents and require that the Board further consider the following when evaluating a charter renewal application:

- (a) The information in the charter school's renewal application;
- (b) Any additional material or information submitted by the charter school;
- (c) Any public comments received;
- (d) Any information relating to the site visit and the site visit report;
- (e) The charter school's annual reporting results including, but not limited to, student academic achievement;
- (f) The Department's renewal recommendation and the charter school's written response, if any; and
- (g) Any other information that the board, in its discretion, may deem relevant to its determination whether the charter should be renewed.
- (h) The Regents must also consider the totality of the evidence presented in each case, and may accept or reject, in whole or in part, the department's renewal recommendation, provided

however that the Regents are not prohibited from weighing any one factor more heavily than another.

[The Board of Regents Renewal Policy](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/November2012/1112p12a1.pdf) (https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/November2012/1112p12a1.pdf) sets forth the following renewal options and standards upon which the Department's recommendation is based:

Full-Term Renewal: A school's charter may be renewed for the maximum term of five years. In order for a school to be eligible for a full-term renewal, the school must have compiled a strong and compelling record of meeting or exceeding Benchmark 1 during the current charter term and, at the time of the renewal analysis, have met substantially all of the other performance benchmarks in the Framework.

Short-Term Renewal: A school's charter may be renewed for a shorter term, typically of three years. The Regents will place an even greater emphasis on student performance for schools applying for their second or subsequent renewal, which is consistent with the greater time that a school has been in operation and the corresponding increase in the quantity and quality of student achievement data that the school has generated. In order for a school to be eligible for short-term renewal, a school must either: (a) have compiled a mixed or limited record of meeting Benchmark 1 but, at the time of the renewal analysis, have met substantially all of the other performance benchmarks in the Framework, which will likely result in the school's being able to meet Benchmark 1 with the additional time that short-term renewal permits, or (b) have compiled an overall record of meeting Benchmark 1 but "Falls Far Below" meeting one or more of the other performance benchmarks in the Framework.

Nonrenewal: A school's charter will not be renewed if the school does not apply for renewal or the school fails to meet the benchmark standards for either full-term or short-term renewal. In the case of nonrenewal, a school's charter will be terminated upon its expiration, and the school will be required to comply with the [Department's Closing Procedures](https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/oversight-plan-board-regents-authorized-charter-schools) (https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/oversight-plan-board-regents-authorized-charter-schools) to ensure an orderly closure by the end of the school year.

To operationalize these statutory and regulatory requirements, the Board of Regents endorsed the Charter School Performance Framework. This document, and the ten academic, organizational, and legal domains contained within it, were created based on the limited criteria that can be considered when making decisions pertaining to the authorization of new charter schools, charter school renewals, and charter school revisions as set forth in Section 2852(2) of the Education Law. Comprehensive data for these benchmark standards is included in the charter school Regents item, summary documents, and Regents' meeting presentations.

Performance Framework

The Board of Regents Charter School Performance Framework, which is part of the Board of Regents Charter School Renewal Policy and the Oversight Plan included in the Charter Agreement for each school, outlines three key areas of charter school performance: (1) Educational Success; (2) Organizational Soundness; and (3) Faithfulness to Charter and Law. The Charter School Performance Framework sets forth ten performance benchmarks in these three areas. The Charter School Performance Framework is designed to focus on performance outcomes, preserve operational autonomy, and facilitate transparent feedback to schools. It aligns with the Department's ongoing accountability and effectiveness work under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and holds charter schools accountable to standards set forth in the Education Law, while providing the Regents with

discretion. Generally, charter schools are required to demonstrate performance outcomes that exceed those of traditional public schools.

The Department considers evidence related to all ten performance benchmark areas of the Charter School Performance Framework when making recommendations to the Regents concerning charter renewal applications. However, student academic performance is of paramount importance when evaluating each school ([See 8 NYCRR §119.7](https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/charter-school-regulations-1197) (<https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/charter-school-regulations-1197>)). The recommendations in this document were made after a full due-diligence process over the charter term as set forth in the [NYSED Charter School Monitoring Plan](https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/oversight-plan-board-regents-authorized-charter-schools) (<https://www.nysed.gov/charter-schools/oversight-plan-board-regents-authorized-charter-schools>), including review of the information presented by the schools in their Renewal Applications; specific fiscal reviews; a renewal site visit of up to two days conducted by a Department team for each school; comprehensive analysis of achievement data; and consideration of public comment.