

Integrated Day Charter School  
Gov. Board Minutes  
August 19, 2009

Absent: George Rezendes, Scott Swartz, Carl Davis, Anna James

•A presentation was given by BL Company on their Hazardous Materials Report, which was an environmental analysis of the blue building. No dangerous materials were found. The property contained typical urban fill with low level metals typical of urban sites. BL Company also looked for PCB's and lead paint; some of the flooring contains asbestos. The cost of asbestos abatement was estimated at \$20,000-\$25,000.

No Public Comment

•A motion was made by Michael Seroussi and seconded by June Morrone to accept the July 15, 2009 Governing Board minutes. It passed unanimously, with eight votes in favor.

#### Committee Reports

•Finance—did not meet because the state budget has not been passed. The July payment from the state is 13% below the existing per pupil amount and we will get the difference retroactively if the final state budget restores level funding.

#### Committee Assignments

•Michael Seroussi – volunteered to serve on the Curriculum Committee; he would also like to sit in on Governance when possible. Jen Spangle volunteered for the Governance Committee and Brianne Temple volunteered for the Planning Committee.

#### Business Report

•Condo Board representative—Jason Jones offered to go to Condo Association meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and Brianne Temple indicated interest as well.

•See Business Report for update on building issues.

•Jason Jones offered to help with setting up the classrooms if needed.

•Carl Davis noted that the non-contract task force needs to resume meeting.

#### Action Items

•A motion was made by Dr. Frank Maletz and seconded by Michael Seroussi to appoint the following Board members to committees: Michael Seroussi, Curriculum, Jen Spangle, Governance and Brianne Temple, Planning. It passed unanimously.

•A motion was made by Dr. Frank Maletz and seconded by Laura McMahon to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

**Next meeting: September 16, 5:30 p.m.**

**Integrated Day Charter School  
Director's Agenda Items  
August 19, 2009**

**I Budget Updates from the State Department of Education**

Charter School Directors discussed budgetary issues during a conference call in July. It was the consensus of the group that we have not been given timely updates nor been included in conversations about budget cuts or reallocations. Our July check reflects a 12.7% reduction. While state officials have mentioned that they are working to reinstate that funding, it is not guaranteed at this time. A subsequent meeting of all Directors with state officials will be scheduled.

**II Professional development – Teaching Mathematics**

Throughout the 2008-2009 academic year, there were discussions of mathematics instruction at IDCS and opportunities for peer visitations. During the June Retreat, one day was designated to discuss standards and examine grade level expectations for the instruction of mathematics. Teachers met in grade level teams and we also initiated cross grade level conversations so teachers could visualize the skill progress from Pre-Kindergarten to the eight grade.

Cross grade level discussions of expectations and standards will continue during our fall PD. Methodology and student engagement will be topics that will be continued.

**III Personnel Updates:**

- **New Faculty**

- **Julia Cronin – Middle School Science Teacher**

- A former Pfizer scientist, Ms. Cronin has completed the ARC program with the State Department of Education. She has a MA degree in Education from Harvard and has taught many science classes in Ledyard Public Schools through a Pfizer partnership. She is very familiar with the Responsive Classroom philosophy as it is implemented in Ledyard.

- **Laurie Gervasini – Special Education**

- Ms. Gervasini will be a temporary four month substitute while Kristen Maletz is on leave.

- All teaching positions have been filled. Since we have not been funded at anticipated levels, we have not filled an open paraprofessional position vacated when Hannah Sheppard resigned to pursue an internship and Master's degree.


**IV Copy of letter sent to all parents**

## Connecticut State Department of Education

### MEMORANDUM

Bureau of Choice Programs  
25 Industrial Park Road  
Middletown, CT 06457  
Telephone: 860-807-2119  
Fax: 860-807-2195

**TO:** Charter Schools Directors

**FROM:** Mark Linabury, Chief   
Bureau of Choice Programs

**DATE:** July 16, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Charter School July Payment

Charter schools will be receiving their July payments in the next few days based on the student enrollments approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) on June 3, 2009. Please keep in mind that absent a state budget, the Governor could have opted to provide no funding for charter schools until such a budget is adopted. Fortunately, the Governor decided to provide funding. The calculation of your July payment is based upon \$9,300 per student consistent with the 2008-09 fiscal year. Given that without an approved budget there is currently a plan to address the state's revenue shortfall which is in the billions of dollars, the Governor's July allotment does require a 12.7 percent reduction for the time being.

The absence of an approved state budget makes this an unusual time. Until a state budget is adopted, the Governor will continue to issue Executive Orders to allot state funds on a monthly basis. Note that once a biennial budget is adopted, the department will make every effort to bring your revenues up to date as quickly as possible.

I have every hope that charter schools will receive the funding referenced in the June 3, 2009, SBE resolution. As new information emerges regarding charter school funding, we will contact you. If you have any questions, please contact Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager, at 860-807-2029.

Thank you for your attention.

ML:rka

cc: George A. Coleman, Deputy Commissioner  
Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner  
Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer  
Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



June 5, 2009

Ms. Anna James  
Director  
Integrated Day Charter School  
68 Thermos Avenue  
Norwich, CT 06360

Dear Ms. James:

This is to notify you that on June 3, 2009, the Connecticut State Board of Education voted unanimously to authorize 330 seats at Integrated Day Charter School for the 2009-10 school year, pending final legislative authorization.

If you have any questions regarding this action, please contact Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager, at 860-807-2029.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. McQuillan", written over a horizontal line.

Mark K. McQuillan  
Commissioner of Education

MKM:rka  
cc: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner  
Mark Linabury, Bureau Chief  
Karen Flanagan, Director  
Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager

Enclosure

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Mark K. McQuillan, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** June 3, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Authorization of State Charter School Enrollments for the 2009-10 School Year

*Executive Summary*

**Introduction**

In accordance with the provisions of the Section 10-66bb(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.), pending final state budget authorization, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) seeks the State Board of Education's (SBE) approval of the charter school enrollments for the 2009-10 school year.

**History/Background**

Section 10-66bb(c) of the C.G.S. provides, in part, "(1) Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no state charter school shall enroll (A) (i) more than two hundred fifty students, or (ii) in the case of a kindergarten to grade eight, inclusive, school, more than three hundred students. (2) In the case of a state charter school found by the State Board of Education to have a demonstrated record of achievement, such school may, upon application to and approval by said board, enroll up to eighty-five students per grade, if within available appropriations."

The CSDE seeks the SBE's approval of charter school enrollments on an annual basis. Each charter school submitted its 2009-10 projected enrollment request to CSDE in April 2009. This projected enrollment number exceeds the Appropriations Committee's budget for 2009-10 by 79 seats. Adjustments to the charter school enrollment requests are necessary to ensure that the enrollment authorization approved by the SBE meets the Appropriations Committee's budget for 2009-10. Each enrollment increase submitted in April 2009 was reduced proportionately to meet the Appropriations Committee's budget recommendation. The exception was the Charter School for Young Children on Asylum Hill. This enrollment increase has been accepted in total due to its designation as a Sheff charter school. Asylum Hill's student enrollment directly impacts the State's efforts in meeting the obligation to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation of Hartford public school students pursuant to the second Sheff Phase II Stipulation and Order.

The SBE's authorization will provide a total of 5,170 seats in existing charter schools for the 2009-10 school year. It represents an additional 430 seats from last year and is within the Appropriations Committee's budget of \$48,082,000 for the 2009-10 fiscal year. If the Appropriations Committee budget is modified by the General Assembly, CSDE will need to return to the SBE with revised enrollments that meet the charter school budget appropriation.

The total increase of 430 seats includes the projected growth of 164 seats in six charter schools operating within the enrollment cap (Achievement First Bridgeport, Asylum Hill, Common

Ground, Odyssey, Park City Prep, Trailblazers) and 266 seats requested pursuant to CSDE's authority to waive enrollment caps pursuant to 10-66bb(c)(2).

### Enrollment Increase Waiver Requests

As noted above, charter schools must apply to the CSDE for permission to expand enrollment beyond the statutory limit of 300 seats for schools authorized to serve Grades K-8 and 250 for all other grade levels. Applications were received from Achievement First Hartford, Amistad Academy, Elm City College Preparatory School and Jumoke Academy. The applications were reviewed by a charter school advisory committee consisting of staff from the Bureaus of Data Collection, Research and Evaluation; Educator Standards and Certification; and Choice Programs. Of the authorized 430 seats, 266 seats were requested by the four schools noted above.

#### **Achievement First Hartford**

Achievement First Hartford (AFH) has requested an increase of 144 seats in Grades 2 and 6, which are new grade levels. On August 13, 2008, the SBE approved the funding of 53 seats for AFH during the 2008-09 school year, while acknowledging that it serves 252 students. AFH financed the additional 199 seats through funds received from the Hartford Public Schools and private sources. In 2009-10, the State Department of Education will fund the total enrollment of 396. The school presented a strong record of student achievement and steady academic improvement.

AFH's record of student achievement was considered using an alternative assessment, the Fountas and Pinnell reading assessment. This was done as AFH administered its first Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) to Grade 5 students in March 2009 and results are not available at this time. Fountas and Pinnell is a reading assessment program that is nationally norm-referenced, aligned to the state standards and the CMT. Fountas and Pinnell is nationally recognized as an accurate measure of reading achievement for elementary grade students. Based on the charter school advisory committee's review of the AFH's Fountas and Pinnell reading assessment results, I recommend granting an enrollment waiver to add 144 seats to the 2009-10 enrollment, for a total of 396 seats.

#### **Amistad Academy**

Amistad Academy has requested an increase of 71 seats in Grades 3 and 12 which are new grade levels. The school presented a strong record of student achievement and steady academic improvement.

Based on the charter school advisory committee's review of Amistad Academy's CMT performance, I recommend granting an enrollment waiver to add 71 seats to the 2009-10 enrollment, for a total of 746 seats.

#### **Elm City College Preparatory School**

Elm City College Preparatory School has requested an increase of 33 seats in Grade 10 which is a new grade level. The school presented a strong record of student achievement and steady academic improvement.

Based on the charter school advisory committee's review of Elm City College Preparatory School's CMT performance, I recommend granting an enrollment waiver to add 33 seats to the 2009-10 enrollment, for a total of 547 seats.

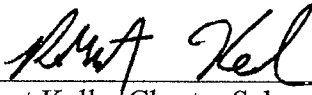
**Jumoke Academy**

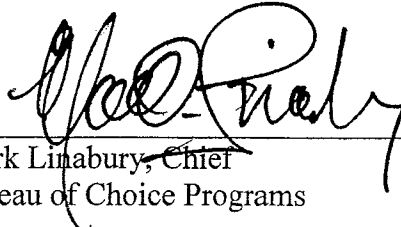
Jumoke Academy has requested an increase of 18 seats to expand Grade 8 from one class to two classes. Jumoke Academy presented a strong record of student achievement and steady academic improvement.

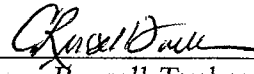
Based on the charter school advisory committee's review of Jumoke Academy's CMT performance, I recommend granting an enrollment waiver to add 18 seats to the 2009-10 enrollment, for a total of 430 seats.

**Recommendation and Justification**

I recommend that the SBE authorize 5,170 seats in existing charter schools for the 2009-10 school year. The authorization of an additional 430 seats for the 2009-10 school year is within the Appropriations Committee's budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year of \$48,082,000. If the Appropriations Committee budget is modified by the General Assembly, CSDE will need to return to the SBE with revised enrollments that meet the charter school budget appropriation. The 2009-10 Charter School Enrollment Summary is attached.

Prepared by:   
Robert Kelly, Charter School Program Manager  
Bureau of Choice Programs

Reviewed by:   
Mark Linabury, Chief  
Bureau of Choice Programs

Approved by:   
Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner  
Division of Family and Student Support Services

## 2009-10 Charter School Enrollment Summary

Charter School Name	2008-09 Grades	2008-09 Eligible Enrollment	2009-10 Additional Grades Requested	2009-10 Enrollment Requested	Enrollment Increase Requested
Achievement First Bridgeport	5-6	166	7	227	61
*Achievement First Hartford	K-1, 5	**252	2 & 6	396	144
*Amistad Academy	K-2, 5-11	675	3 & 12	746	71
Asylum Hill	PK-K	140	1	205	65
The Bridge	7-12	260	None	260	0
Common Ground	9-12	150	None	154	4
*Elm City College Preparatory	K-9	514	10	547	33
Explorations	10-12	85	None	85	0
Highville	PK-8	300	None	300	0
Integrated Day	PK-8	330	None	330	0
ISAAC	6-8	180	None	180	0
*Jumoke Academy	PK-8	412	None	430	18
New Beginnings	K-8	360	None	360	0
Odyssey	4-8	175	None	179	4
Park City Prep	6-8	220	None	238	18
Side by Side	PK-8	236	None	236	0
Stamford Academy	9-12	135	None	135	0
Trailblazers	6-8	150	None	162	12
<b>Total Enrollment</b>		<b>4,740</b>		<b>5,170</b>	<b>430</b>

\* Enrollment waiver requested.

\*\* On August 13, 2008, the State Board of Education approved the funding of 53 seats for AFH during the 2008-09 school year, while acknowledging that it serves 252 students. AFH financed the additional 199 seats through local funds provided by Hartford Public Schools and other private sources. In 2009-10, the State Department of Education will fund the total enrollment of 396 at AFH.