

**Action on a Request to Approve the Non-Instrumentality Charter School Contract with Carmen High School of Science and Technology, Inc. for Carmen High School of Science and Technology, South, Carmen High School of Science and Technology Southeast, and Carmen Middle/High School of Science and Technology, Northwest**

Carmen High School of Science and Technology, South, was established in fall 2007 and is located at 1712 N. 32nd Street. Carmen Middle/High School of Science and Technology, Northwest, was established in fall 2013 and is located at 5496 N. 72nd Street. Carmen High School of Science and Technology, Southeast, was established in fall of 2016 and is located at 2500 W. Oklahoma Avenue. Carmen Middle School of Science and Technology, South, was established in fall 2018 and is located at 2427 S. 15th Street.

Carmen's Mission is to graduate all students as critical thinkers and self-directed learners who are prepared for success in college, meaningful careers, community involvement and family life.

The current contract provides for the following maximum full-time-equivalent (FTE) pupils: 360 FTE at Carmen South in grades 9-12; 800 FTE at Carmen Northwest in grades 6-12; 800 FTE pupils at Carmen Southeast in grades 9-12; and 300 FTE pupils at Carmen Middle School South in grades 6-8.

On January 14, 2021, the Administration recommended a five-year renewal recommendation for Carmen. On January 28, 2021, the Board approved a three-year renewal for Carmen and authorized the Administration, in collaboration with the Board's Designee and the Office of the City Attorney, to begin contract negotiations with representatives from the Carmen Foundation, Inc. for Carmen Charter School.

In May 2021, representatives from Carmen, the MPS Office of Board Governance, the Office of the City Attorney and the MPS Administration reviewed and negotiated the proposed modifications to the model non-instrumentality charter school contract and agreed to the attached redline contract.

Contingent upon the Board's approval, Carmen High School of Science and Technology, Inc. accepts the attached, non-instrumentality charter contract with the following:

- a. Whereas clause has been added to clarify that operator's governing board is a party to the contract, to reflect current law, and to reflect historical background;
- b. Whereas clause has been added to reflect the statutory language of one operator for each charter school;
- c. The name of the school is Carmen High School of Science and Technology, Inc. for Carmen High School of Science and Technology, South located at 1712 South 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Carmen High School of Science and Technology, Southeast located at 2500 West Oklahoma Avenue and Carmen Middle/High School of Science and Technology, Northwest located at 5496 North 72<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- d. The name of the person who will be in charge of the charter school has been updated to reflect that Jennifer Lopez shall be the school leader, and language has been added to reflect the manner in which administrative services will be provided;
- e. Language has been revised to reflect applicability of MPS policies and statutes;

- f. Language relating to performance indicators has been updated to reflect applicability, current practice and local measures;
- g. Language relating to charter school governance has been updated to provide clarity and to be consistent with statutory language relating to charter school governance;
- h. Language relating to requirements for admission to school has been updated;
- i. Language relating to financial and performance audits has been updated to reflect current practices and to reflect selection of method for financial and performance audits;
- j. Language has been updated to reflect selection of disciplinary guidelines;
- k. Language relating to facilities, indemnification and insurance has been updated;
- l. Language relating to the effect of the establishment of the Charter School on the liability of the Board has been updated;
- m. Language relating to background screening has been updated;
- n. Language relating to right to inspect and receive requested information and reports has been updated;
- o. Language relating to calendar has been updated;
- p. Language relating to administrative fee has been updated;
- q. Language relating to purchasing has been updated;
- r. Language relating to transportation and nutrition has been updated;
- s. Language relating to Local Education Agency (LEA) responsibilities and district's responsibilities as School Food Authority (SFA) has been clarified;
- t. Language has been updated to reflect that Carmen will serve up to a maximum of 2000 FTEs;
- u. The term of the contract is updated to reflect five years, to start with the 2021-2022 school year and to end with the last regularly scheduled day of the 2025-2026 school year;
- v. Language relating to modification or termination of contract has been revised to provide clarity and reflect current practices;
- w. Language has been added to demonstrate that parties mutually agree to the terms of the contract; and
- x. Technical revisions have been made throughout the contract.