*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

### 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906 Telephone: (781) 338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |
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# MEMORANDUM

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:** | Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | June 15, 2018 |
| **Subject:** | Charter Schools – Actions Taken Regarding Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School and Codman Academy Charter Public School |

At its meeting in February 2013, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) voted to authorize the Commissioner to act on its behalf in “(a) granting charter renewals that do not involve probation; (b) approving charter amendments that do not involve changes in grade span, maximum enrollment, or districts served; and (c) removing or continuing conditions imposed on charters of charter schools; provided that the Commissioner shall report to the Board on all charter renewals, charter amendments, and conditions that have been so approved; and provided further, that the Commissioner shall notify the Board in advance of all such intended actions, and a Board member may request that the Commissioner place the charter matter(s) on the agenda of the Board for discussion and action.”

On May 9, 2018, I notified the Board that I intended to remove conditions imposed on the charter of Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School (AMSA) and to extend the academic condition on the charter of Codman Academy Charter Public School (Codman). Because no Board member requested that these matters be brought to the full Board for review, I am now notifying the Board that I have removed the conditions on AMSA’s charter and extended the condition on Codman’s charter requiring academic improvement. I have attached my memoranda to the Board dated May 9, 2018.

This memorandum provides summary information regarding both schools. Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School and Codman, like all other charter schools, shall operate in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 71, § 89; 603 CMR 1.00; and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations and such additional conditions as the Commissioner or the Board may establish, all of which shall be deemed conditions of the schools’ charters.

| **Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School (AMSA)** | | | |
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| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Marlborough |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Regional | **Districts in Region** | Clinton, Hudson, Marlborough, Maynard |
| **Year Opened** | 2005 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2010, 2015 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 966 | **Current Enrollment** | 993[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-12 | **Current Grade Span** | 6-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 537[[2]](#footnote-2) | **Current Age of school** | 13 |
| **Mission Statement:**  The Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School will create an atmosphere of celebration of knowledge where children of all backgrounds and abilities excel in all subjects, especially in math, science, and technology, empowering them to succeed in the workplace in our modern high-tech world. | | | |

| **Codman Academy Charter Public School** | | | |
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| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Year Opened** | 2001 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2006, 2011, 2016 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 345 | **Current Enrollment** | 345 |
| **Chartered Grade Span** | PK-12 | **Current Grade Span** | PK-12 |
| **Students on Waitlist** | 3,159 | **Current Age of school** | 17 |
| **Mission Statement:**  Our mission is to provide an outstanding, transformative education to prepare students for success in college, further education and beyond. | | | |

The condition that follows was placed upon the charter of Codman Academy Charter Public School.

**Condition 1:** By December 31, 2019, Codman Academy Charter Public School must demonstrate that it is an academic success by providing evidence that the school has exhibited significant and sustained academic improvement in mathematics, English language arts, and science. Should Codman Academy Charter Public School fail to demonstrate improvement based on 2018 statewide assessment, the Commissioner and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education will consider further action, rather than wait until December 2019.

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Alison Bagg, Director (781-338-3218); Cliff Chuang, Senior Associate Commissioner, (781-338-3222); or me.

Attachment: Memoranda on the Notification of Intended Actions dated May 9, 2018

1. The school is currently overenrolled by 27 students and, as a result, is out of compliance with the terms of its charter. The school was previously overenrolled in the 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16 school years. In March 2018, AMSA worked with the Department to create an enrollment management plan that will bring the school into compliance with its maximum enrollment by 2019-2020. A charter school does not receive tuition payments for students enrolled over the maximum number allowed by its charter. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. As reported on March 15, 2017, in the Massachusetts Charter School Waitlist Initial Report for 2017-2018 (FY18). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)