*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

# MEMORANDUM

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:** | Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | January 14, 2022 |
| **Subject:** | Charter Schools – Conditions Amended for Six Charter Schools |

At its meeting in February 2013, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) authorized 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 December 3, 2021, I notified the Board that I intended to amend conditions on the charters of six charter schools to grant them an additional year to demonstrate “significant and sustained academic improvement.” The six schools included Argosy Collegiate Charter School (ACCS), Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School (BGA), Boston Renaissance Charter Public School (BRCPS), Codman Academy Charter Public School (CACPS), Springfield International Charter School (SICS, formerly SABIS International Charter School), and UP Academy Charter School of Boston (UAB). No Board member requested that any of these matters be brought to the full Board for review.

I am now notifying the Board that I have taken these actions. Summary information regarding all six schools is provided in this memorandum. All of the 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 charter.

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| **Argosy Collegiate Charter School** | | | |
| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Fall River |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 644 | **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-12 |
| **Year Opened** | 2014 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2019 |

The charter of ACCS is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing ACCS on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.

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| **Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School** | | | |
| **Type of Charter** | Horace Mann | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 595 | **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-12 |
| **Year Opened** | 2011 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2016, 2021 |

The charter of BGA is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing BGA on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.

| **Boston Renaissance Charter Public School** | | | |
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| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 944 | **Chartered Grade Span** | PK-6 |
| **Year Opened** | 1995 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020 |

The charter of BRCPS is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing BRCPS on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.
2. Until further notice, Boston Renaissance Charter Public School must submit on a quarterly basis to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department), at [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu) or 75 Pleasant St., Malden, MA, 02148, board and committee meeting materials and minutes documenting the board’s efforts to ensure that the school is an academic success.

| **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 |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 345 | **Chartered Grade Span** | PK-12 |
| **Year Opened** | 2001 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021 |

The charter of CACPS is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing CACPS on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.

| **Springfield International Charter School** | | | |
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| **Type of Charter** | Commonwealth | **Location** | Springfield |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 1,574 | **Chartered Grade Span** | K-12 |
| **Year Opened** | 1995 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020 |

The charter of SICS is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing SICS on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.

| **UP Academy Charter School of Boston** | | | |
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| **Type of Charter** | Horace Mann | **Location** | Boston |
| **Regional or Non-Regional** | Non-Regional | **Districts in Region** | N/A |
| **Maximum Enrollment** | 540 | **Chartered Grade Span** | 6-8 |
| **Year Opened** | 2011 | **Year(s) Renewed** | 2016, 2021 |

The charter of UAB is explicitly conditioned as follows. Failure to meet this condition may result in the Board placing UAB on probation, revoking its charter, or imposing additional conditions on its charter.

1. By December 31, 2024, the 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 the school demonstrate significant and sustained academic improvement before 2024, the Commissioner may consider removing this condition, rather than wait until December 31, 2024.
2. By July 31, 2021, UP Academy Charter School of Boston must conduct a comprehensive review of the school’s program and submit an action plan to the Department that addresses areas in need of improvement as outlined in the Summary of Review.

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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: Charter Schools – Notification of Intended Actions (December 3, 2021)