

## RESOLUTION

### Conditionally Approving a Charter to Great Work Montessori School

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2016, the Administration of Jefferson County School District No. R-1 ("District") received a charter school application ("Application") from Great Work Montessori School ("Great Work"); and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2016, the Board of Education of the District ("Board") received the Application for study in accordance with District Policies LBD, LBD-E, and LBD-R; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with C.R.S. § 22-30.5-107(1) and (1.5) and District Policies LBD, LBD-E, and LBD-R, District staff and the District Accountability Committee ("DAC") reviewed the Application using the Rubric for Review of a Standard Charter School Application ("Rubric") approved by the Colorado Department of Education ("CDE") and provided comments and recommendations regarding the Application; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2016, in accordance with the requirements of C.R.S. § 22-30.5-107(2) and District Policy, the Board held a public meeting at which representatives of Great Work presented information about the Application and received and responded to questions from the Board; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2016, the Board adopted a resolution denying the Application because the Board believed that such denial was in the best interests of the District, its students, and the community, for the reasons set forth in the Denial Resolution; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2016, Great Work Montessori School appealed the Board's denial of the Application to the Colorado State Board of Education ("State Board"); and

WHEREAS, at a hearing on December 14, 2016, the State Board made a determination that denial of the Application "was contrary to the best interests of the pupils, school district, or community" and remanded the matter to the Board for reconsideration with instructions that the District and Great Work "collaborate together to address any budgetary concerns as well as amend the budget to include monies received from the Colorado Charter Schools Program grant and any additional grants that the Great Work Montessori School has received" (the "Remand Order"); and

WHEREAS, following the appeal, District and Great Work representatives met to address the matters that the State Board directed the parties to discuss in the Remand Order; and

WHEREAS, at the Board's regular meeting on January 12, 2017, a resolution was introduced to conditionally approve the Application, but such resolution failed for lack of a majority; and

WHEREAS, following the January 12, 2017 meeting, District and Great Work representatives continued to discuss the matters set forth in the Remand Order; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been fully advised of the nature of the discussions between District and Great Work following the January 12 meeting and has carefully considered the information generated as a result of those discussions; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that conditional approval of the Application is in the best interests of the District, its students, and the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the Application is conditionally approved and a charter is conditionally granted for a term of four (4) years, with operations to begin in the fall of 2017, subject to and pending satisfaction of the following terms and conditions, as well as other terms and conditions as may be required by law:

1. That the District and Great Work negotiate and enter into a mutually acceptable charter school contract no later than forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this Resolution. Such contract shall include the District's standard terms and conditions, including, but not limited to, (a) a provision incorporating the conditions precedent set forth in Paragraphs 2-4 of this Resolution and providing that if such conditions are not satisfied within the time required, the contract shall terminate and be of no further force or effect, and (b) a mutual agreement with regard to Great Work's request for non-automatic waivers from state statutes and District policies. The Board hereby authorizes the Board President, the Superintendent of Schools, or their respective designees to negotiate and execute such charter contract.

2. That Great Work increase its proposed Year 1 enrollment for its K-8 program by thirty (30) full-time equivalent students over its current proposal of 107.4 full-time equivalent students.

3. That on or before April 1, 2017, Great Work shall submit evidence acceptable to the Superintendent of Schools, or his designee, that it has received at least 120 letters of intent for its ECE program for Year 1 and at least 206 letters of intent for its K-8 program for Year 1.


4. That on or before April 1, 2017, Great Work shall submit a revised board policy to the Superintendent of Schools, or his designee, which revised policy shall reflect that charter board members may not be removed without cause.

Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

By:   
Ron Mitchell  
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

By:   
Amanda Stevens  
Secretary, Board of Education