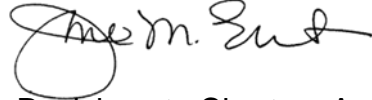





**TO:** P-12 Education Committee  
**FROM:** Jhone M. Ebert   
**SUBJECT:** Charter Schools: Revisions to Charters Authorized by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor  
**DATE:** March 1, 2018  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

## SUMMARY

### Issue for Decision

Should the Regents approve the proposed revisions to the charter of the following school authorized by the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) Chancellor:

#### **Growing Up Green Charter School**

### Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

### Proposed Handling

This issue will be before the Board of Regents P-12 Education Committee and the Full Board for action at the March 2018 Regents meeting.

### Procedural History

The Commissioner and Department staff forward the revision recommendation for the following charter school, as proposed by the New York City Department of Education Chancellor in her capacity as a charter school authorizer under Article 56 of the Education Law. The New York City Department of Education Chancellor asks that the charter be revised as indicated and has provided a summary for the school as set forth below.

## **Background Information**

The New York City Department of Education Chancellor recommends that the Board of Regents amend the charter of the charter school listed above. Information about the revision request is provided below.

### **Growing Up Green Charter School**

**Table 1: School Summary**

Name of Charter School	Growing Up Green Charter School
Board Chair	Jeffrey Mueller
District of Location	NYC CSD 30
Opening Date	Fall, 2009
Current Charter Term	Second Renewal: 07/01/2017 - 06/30/2022
Facility	39-37 28th Street, Queens, NY 11101 (private space) and 36-49 11th Street, Queens, NY 11106 (private space)
Current Grade Levels/Number of Students	Grades K-8/ 784 students
Mission	The Growing Up Green Charter School (GUGCS) empowers children to be conscious, contributing members of their community through a rigorous curriculum and an engaging green culture. Graduates of GUGCS will be prepared to attend high-performing schools where their interdisciplinary academic foundation, knowledge of sustainability, and strong sense of self sets them apart as leaders of the future.
Proposed Revision	<b>Increase the maximum authorized enrollment from 784 to 819 students</b>

### **Rationale for Recommendation**

Growing Up Green was renewed for a 5 year, full-term, charter in the 2016-17 school year. At the time of renewal, Growing Up Green's enrollment of students who are economically disadvantaged was more than 30 percentage points below their district of location, NYC CSD 30. The NYCDOE Chancellor's rationale for recommending the approval of this increase in enrollment is two-fold: first, Growing Up Green has implemented strong student recruitment efforts to close the gap between the school and the CSD in terms of the enrollment of economically disadvantaged students. Second, the additional 35 students being requested are all eligible for free or reduced priced lunch and live in NYCHA housing in the local community. As such, Growing Up Green has demonstrated a good faith effort in continuing to diminish the gap between the school and

the CSD in terms of the enrollment of students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The academic outcomes for economically disadvantaged students enrolled at Growing Up Green are strong.

**Table 2: Growing Up Green Charter School Approved Enrollment For Current Charter Term**

	<b>Year 1 2017-2018</b>	<b>Year 2 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 3 2019-2020</b>	<b>Year 3 2020-2021</b>	<b>Year 5 2021-2022</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	784	784	784	784	784

**Table 3: Growing Up Green Charter School Proposed Enrollment For Current Charter Term**

	<b>Year 1 2017-2018</b>	<b>Year 2 2018-2019</b>	<b>Year 3 2019-2020</b>	<b>Year 3 2020-2021</b>	<b>Year 5 2021-2022</b>
<b>Grade Configuration</b>	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
<b>Total Approved Enrollment</b>	819	819	819	819	819

**Table 4: Growing Up Green Charter School Academic Achievement**

	<b>ELA</b>					<b>Math</b>				
	<b>Growing Up Green CS</b>	<b>CSD 30</b>	<b>Variance to CSD 30</b>	<b>NYS</b>	<b>Variance to NYS</b>	<b>Growing Up Green CS</b>	<b>CSD 30</b>	<b>Variance to CSD 30</b>	<b>NYS</b>	<b>Variance to NYS</b>
<b>2015-2016</b>	48	43	+5	37	+11	52	44	+8	41	+11
<b>2016-2017</b>	45	48	-3	40	+5	43	45	-2	40	+3

**Table 5: Growing Up Green Charter School Demographics  
Compared to District of Location**

	2015 -2016			2016-2017		
	Growing Up Green CS	CSD 30	Variance	Growing Up Green CS	CSD 30	Variance
<b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>	50	67	-17	51	66	-15.0
<b>English Language Learners</b>	9	21	-12	12	25	-13
<b>Students with Disabilities</b>	17	15	+2	22	17	+5

**Summary of Public Comment**

As required by the Charter School Act, the New York City Department of Education held a public hearing regarding the proposed revision on November 28, 2017. Five individuals attended the hearing, but nobody spoke.

**Related Regent’s Items**

**Growing Up Green Charter School**

December 16, 2008 – Initial Charter

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2008Meetings/December2008/1208emsca14.htm>

December 13, 2011 – Enrollment Expansion

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/December2011/1212p12a1.pdf>

December 16, 2013 – First Renewal and Enrollment Expansion

[http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1213p12a3\[1\].pdf](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1213p12a3[1].pdf)

April 4, 2017 –Second Renewal and Enrollment Expansion

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/417p12a6.pdf>

## **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that: (1) the charter school meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the charter school can demonstrate the ability to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the request to revise the charter is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) granting the request to revise the charter would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision for **Growing Up Green Charter School**, as proposed by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

## **Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action for Growing Up Green Charter School will become effective immediately.