

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** August 21, 2012  
**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FROM:** S. Dallas Dance, Ph.D., Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **CONSIDERATION TO EXTEND IMAGINE DISCOVERY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL'S CHARTER AGREEMENT**

**ORIGINATORS:** Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent

**RESOURCE**

**PERSON(S):** Patricia Lawton, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Zone 2  
Kathleen McMahan, Executive Director, Special Programs

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education approve extending the Imagine Discovery Public Charter School's charter agreement for two years (2012-2013 and 2013-2014) under the following conditions:

- Imagine Discovery Public Charter School and Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) collaborate to update the current Charter Agreement addressing issues important to both parties and conditions for contract renewal or revocation.
- Imagine Discovery Public Charter School and BCPS collaborate to conduct a joint evaluation in January 2013 to monitor achievement data and allow Imagine Discovery Public Charter School to make needed instructional adjustments for the second semester of the 2012–2013 school year.
- Imagine Discovery Public Charter School and BCPS identify a consultant to conduct an independent evaluation at the conclusion of 2012–2013 school year, to detail the five-year academic trend, and make particular note of student achievement during the 2011–2012 and 2012–2013 school years.
- After reviewing the results of the independent evaluation, the superintendent will make a recommendation to the Board no later than November 2013 whether Imagine Discovery Public Charter School should receive a two-year or four-year extension of its charter, or whether the charter should be revoked for the 2014–2015 school year.

# Board of Education of Baltimore County

6901 Charles Street

Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, President

Towson, MD 21204-3711

## RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Baltimore County entered into a Charter School Agreement with Imagine Baltimore County, LLC, doing business as Discovery Public Charter School on January 30, 2008, for a term of four (4) fiscal years, through June 30, 2012; and
- WHEREAS, Pursuant to the terms of the Charter School Agreement, the Charter School could apply for an extension of the Agreement during the first three months of the last fiscal year of the term of the existing Agreement; and
- WHEREAS, The Charter School sought an extension of the Charter School Agreement, but not in a timely manner; and
- WHEREAS, The Superintendent has conducted a review of the Charter School and has given the Board an update on its operation; and
- WHEREAS, The Superintendent, as a result of that review, has recommended that the Board extend the Charter School Agreement for two school years – 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, under several conditions, including reopening the Charter School Agreement to address several issues; jointly conducting a “soft evaluation” in January, 2013, to monitor first semester student achievement; and having a third party complete a full evaluation at the end of the 2012-2013 school year, after which the Board will decide, by no later than November, 2013, whether a further extension will be granted; and
- WHEREAS, The Superintendent has further recommended that the Charter School Agreement be amended to reflect these changes and to place greater accountability on Imagine Discovery Charter School; and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Education agrees, in principle, with the recommendations made by the Superintendent; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent to communicate with the Charter School regarding the requisite terms of an amended Charter School Agreement, to contain the terms set forth in the Superintendent’s recommendations to the Board and after the Charter School has indicated its acceptance, to present the final Agreement to the Board for its approval.

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Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esq., President

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S. Dallas Dance, Ph.D., Secretary-Treasurer

August 21, 2012

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