

June 7, 2019

Dear CHAD parents and families,

We are sending this email to share some important information regarding our school. Nearly a year ago, CHAD received a notice of nonrenewal from the School Reform Commission (SRC) of the School District of Philadelphia (SDP) which started the nonrenewal process of our charter. After careful consideration, with the best interests of students in mind, the CHAD Board of Trustees has signed an agreement with SDP. The agreement requires the Charter High School for Architecture and Design (CHAD) to forfeit its charter at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. The agreement was offered to the Board of Education on May 28th to avoid the disruption and uncertainty of a lengthy legal process and as a first step to enable us to work together in CHAD's smooth transition from a charter school to a School District of Philadelphia architecture + design public school. Our goal is to successfully work with SDP in the creation of a newly invigorated City-wide High School for Architecture + Design. A copy of the proposed agreement is attached as Exhibit A.

We realize you may have many questions about the transition process and what this means for your child. The CHAD Board of Trustees is fully committed to providing as many answers as we have at this time and to keep you informed as new information becomes available.

The next step in the process will occur on June 13 when the SDP Board of Education (which replaced the SRC) will consider approval of the proposed agreement. If approved, several things will happen.

- 1. The public hearings on the nonrenewal of CHAD will be cancelled.
- 2. CHAD will continue to operate as a charter school for the 2019-2020 school year -- with current programs and course offerings intact.
- 3. Rising 12th-grade students will graduate from CHAD at the end of the 2019-2020 school year as long as all graduation requirements are met.
- 4. CHAD will surrender its charter on June 30, 2020.
- 5. SDP and CHAD will work together to explore and establish an architecture and design school that would succeed CHAD but be governed and managed by SDP.
- The specific details of such an architecture and design school will be documented in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be completed on or before September 30, 2019. This timing allows CHAD students in grades 9 through 11 for 2019-2020 to make

informed decisions about whether to participate in SDP's School Selection process, enroll in their assigned neighborhood school, apply to another charter school or continue in the new architecture and design school if available for the 2020-2021 school year.

7. Current students will have the option to remain enrolled in the new school without going through an application process.

It is our goal to make this transition a smooth and positive one for every CHAD student and family. We will share more information after the scheduled June 13th vote by the SDP Board of Education. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Dr. Brady (<u>hbrady@chadstaff.org</u>) or me (<u>lrothstein@chadboard.org</u>) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Im M. Kotter

Lance M. Rothstein, AIA CHAD Board of Trustees President