



Voices for Business and Education Board Meeting

Agenda Item

Purpose: Board Action

Submitted by: Karen Mayer Dwyer

Background:

The International High School of New Orleans (IHSNO) submitted for and in March of 2022 was awarded the Reimagine School Systems Grant valued at \$720,00.00. To improve access to high quality education, this grant allows IHSNO to expand the International Baccalaureate Program (IB) to include a Middle Year's Program in grades six, seven, and eight. This is a two-year process with expectations of opening our doors to Middle Schoolers in 2023.

Together with Empower Schools and Steady State Impact, IHSNO staff have been working through the Phase One, the planning phase, creating committees, norms, goals, and building plans, including the Stakeholder Engagement, Change Management, and the School Academic and Culture plan. There have been regular meetings to outline the planning and implementing stages of this process. The Voices for International Business and Education (VIBE) Board's role is to apply to the BESE Board for approval of a Material Change to our Charter to expand our services to the middle grades (Grades 6, 7, and 8). The VIBE Board can at any time in this process choose to or not to expand but the first step is to submit to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) a Board Resolution stating our intent.

Recommendation: To approve the following Board Resolution.

The Board of Voices for International Business & Education operators of the International High School of New Orleans, a Type 2 Charter, hereby resolves after having been awarded the LDOE Reimagine School Systems Grant is now confirming its intention to expand the International Baccalaureate Program to include the IB Middle Years Program and in doing so will submit an application to BESE Board for a Material Charter Change to include expanding its class offerings to include grades six, seven, and eight.

We hereby authorize Adierah Berger to submit on behalf of the VIBE Board an application/request for a Material Charter Change to include grades six, seventh, and eighth.