

Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc.

January 22, 2020

RESOLUTION GCES 20-01

CORPORATE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE CT RIVER ACADEMY MAGNET SCHOOL TO INCLUDE GRADES SIX THROUGH EIGHT

The undersigned Secretary of Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. (“Corporation”) hereby certifies that the following Resolution was adopted by the Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. Board of Trustees on **January 22, 2020**, and that such resolution has not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof:

WHEREAS, based on the settlement of the Sheff vs. O’Neill litigation, approved by the court on January 10, 2020, which is summarized in Attachment 1 of this Resolution, Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc., along with the recommendation by the Goodwin University President and the Superintendent of Goodwin University Magnet Schools, will recognize and approve the following, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Goodwin College Educational Services Inc. approves the following stipulation from the Sheff vs. O’Neill January 10th, 2020 settlement:

- i. For the school year 2020-2021, CT River Academy (CTRA) may offer all of its currently enrolled 5th grade Riverside Magnet School students the opportunity to remain enrolled at CT River Academy for 6th grade. If fewer than 50 of the existing Riverside students elect to transition to the 6th grade, CTRA may fill seats in the 6th grade up to a maximum of 50 seats, of which 50% shall be allocated for Hartford resident students.
- ii. For the school year 2021-2022, CTRA may continue enrolling its currently enrolled students from Riverside Magnet School up from 5th grade into 6th grade, and from CTRA 6th grade into CTRA 7th grade. If fewer than 50 of the existing Riverside Magnet School and CTRA middle grade students in each grade elect to transition to the next grade level at CTRA, CTRA may fill seats in the 6th and 7th grades up to a maximum of 50 seats per grade, of which 50% shall be allocated for Hartford resident students, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. will approve the anticipated magnet grant funding required to make payment of the per-pupil increased enrollment for the State Department of Education’s (SDE) biannual budget submission covering fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023. The submission will anticipate, where determined by SDE to be consistent with educational policy, an expansion to complete the pathway between Riverside and CTRA, up to a maximum of 150 students for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades through fiscal year 2023. Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. will support any appropriations from SDE and the Connecticut General Assembly, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. approves the following in support of the 6th grade expansion of CTRA:

- i. Authorizes the Goodwin University President and the Goodwin University Magnet School Superintendent to identify a necessary and appropriate building to house the expansion of the CTRA 6th grade,
- ii. Authorizes the Goodwin University Magnet School Superintendent to identify and hire any and all appropriate staff, by the University or by contract with a public, third-party educational vendor, a Regional Educational Service Center (RESC) or local school district, to support an appropriate and exemplary middle school program,
- iii. Authorizes the Goodwin University Magnet School Superintendent, in collaboration with the Director of Magnet School Business Operations, to present an operating budget for the 2020-21 school year, for the CTRA 6th grade to Goodwin College Educational Services Inc. and Goodwin College Magnet School Board, Inc., for approval,
- iv. Authorizes the Goodwin University President and the Goodwin University Magnet School Superintendent to approve any additional seats granted to Goodwin University Magnet Schools for middle school programming offered by a public, third-party educational vendor, a Regional Educational Support Center (RESC), or SDE
- v. Authorizes the Goodwin University Magnet School Superintendent, in recognition of the time constraints from the date of the settlement (January 10th, 2020) to submit an operational plan by January 24, 2020 on behalf Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. approves the implementation and management of the required elements of this Resolution by Goodwin College Magnet Schools, Inc.,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned officer has executed this Resolution as of the date set forth above.

Mark E. Scheinberg, Secretary

Maria Ellis M.D. Chair

Date_____

Date_____

RESOLUTION GCES 20-01

ATTACHMENT 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE CT RIVER ACADEMY MAGNET SCHOOL TO INCLUDE GRADES SIX THROUGH EIGHT

On January 10, 2020, the state of Connecticut resolved the *Sheff vs O'Neill* case, “which held that students in Hartford Public Schools were racially, ethnically, and economically isolated in violation of the state Constitution” (*Sheff vs O'Neill* settlement, 2020). Based on the stipulated agreement, Goodwin University and its magnet schools were a part of the settlement with the following stipulation:

The SDE shall authorize LEARN and Goodwin College to increase the enrollment at Riverside Magnet School (Riverside) as detailed below, in response to their request to add grades six, seven and eight to that program. Prior to implementing this expansion, LEARN will provide SDE with an updated operations plan, which shall include all relevant details for implementing this increased enrollment:

- 1. For school year 2020-2021, Riverside may offer all of its currently enrolled 5th grade students the opportunity to remain enrolled at Riverside for 6th grade. If fewer than 50 of the existing Riverside students elect to transition to the 6th grade, Riverside may fill seats in the 6th grade up to a maximum of 50 seats, of which 50% shall be allocated for Hartford resident students.*
- 2. For school year 2021-2022, Riverside may continue enrolling its currently enrolled students up from 5th grade into 6th grade, and from 6th grade into 7th grade. If fewer than 50 of the existing Riverside middle grade students in each grade elect to transition to the next grade level at Riverside, Riverside may fill seats in the 6th and 7th grades up to a maximum of 50 seats per grade, of which 50% shall be allocated for Hartford resident students.*
- 3. SDE will include the anticipated magnet grant funding required to make payment of the per-pupil increased enrollment in this section in its biannual budget submission covering fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023. The submission will anticipate, where determined by SDE to be consistent with educational policy, an expansion to complete the pathway between Riverside and the Connecticut River Academy, up to a maximum of 150 students for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades through fiscal year 2023. Any appropriations required to support this expansion will be subject to the approval of the Connecticut General Assembly.*

- (*Sheff vs O'Neill* settlement, 2020)

While the stipulated agreement specifically mentions Riverside Magnet School, the Superintendent of Goodwin Magnet Schools confirmed with the State Department of Education

(SDE) the preference to expand the CT River Academy by adding 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, which they verbally permitted on January 14, 2020.

Therefore, with Goodwin College Educational Services, Inc. Board approval, Goodwin University would like to propose the expansion of CT River Academy for middle school programming, beginning in 2020-2021, with the addition of 6th grade, followed by 7th grade in 2021-2022, and 8th grade in 2022-2023.