

Manor Independent School District

Board of Trustee Meeting Agenda Item

2/18/25

ACTION ITEM SHEET

RE: Consideration and Approval of Third Future Schools to be the 1882 Charter Partner for Manor MS (Sormani - Action)

Supporting Documents:

1. 1882 Partner Application

District Goals*: By 2028, 90% of Manor ISD scholars will graduate prepared for college, career, trade, and/or military services based upon their individual goals.

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Background Information:

Manor MS has 3 Unacceptable ratings. The 2024 ratings have not been released due to a court injunction, but our internal calculations based on data released by TEA indicate Manor MS will receive a 4th unacceptable rating. The chain of unacceptable ratings can only be broken by a C or higher rating from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). This led district administrators to consider an 1882 Turnaround Charter Partner. Having an 1882 Partner provides several advantages. First, the partner will bring new ideas and a rebrand for Manor MS while building upon the strengths and traditions that already exist at Manor MS. Second, an 1882 Partnership program provides three extra years for Manor MS to score a C or higher before TEA imposes sanctions up to and including a take over of Manor ISD as a whole. Finally, the 1882 Partnership program comes with additional funding from the state that can be used at Manor MS.

An 1882 Turnaround Charter has greater requirements than a regular 1882 Charter. They must have been in existence operating for at least three years and have a proven track record of raising a failing school to and acceptable level according to the Texas Education Agency's metrics.

Manor ISD solicited applications for a charter partner. The district administration invited staff and community to a meeting on September 11th to gather input to add to input already gathered a year ago from community and staff. We originally chose Texas A & M San Antonio in October, but after consultation with the Texas Education Agency, determined they would not be the best fit for our district. District administration then put out a second call for applications directly from 12 charter operators, 5 charter organizations, and had the solicitation posted on a TEA website. We ultimately received only one application and that was from Third Future Schools. Finally, a group of ten administrators, parents, and Manor MS teachers, gathered to interview and evaluate the charter applicant. The group approved of the applicant.

With board approval of the charter operator, administration will then engage in contract negotiations to bring forth a recommendation to trustees at the November board meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

The 1882 Partnership will qualify Manor MS for new funding starting in the 25-26 fiscal year. This is an estimate that can change based on student enrollment, applicable law, and the evaluation by TEA of our application for 1882 charter benefits.

Motion Language (fill in the blank):

I recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the naming of Third Future Schools as the 1882 Charter Partner for Manor MS to begin operations in the 25-26 school year.

Robert Sormani
Contact Person

Robert Sormani
Approved by Superintendent
