January 31, 2013

RE: Follow-Up Letter with Additional Information on the Request for a One-Time Good Cause Extension to Execute Seneca Preparation Academy Foundation (SPAF) Charter so that School Can Start Providing Educational Instruction in August 2015.

Mr. Hugh Thompson
1616 West Adams Street, Ste 170
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I am sending this letter to provide the information requested in your e-mail of January 24, 2014.

Seneca Preparatory Academy Foundation (SPAF; the Foundation) is requesting a One-Time Good Cause Extension to execute the charter. With the extension, Seneca Preparatory Academy (SPA; the School) will start providing the educational instruction in August 2015, instead of August 2014 as initially stated in the charter school application submitted to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

The new timeline is viable and adequate for achieving the proposed start-up date of August 2015 because SPAF will use the additional time to secure a school facility and complete the pre-opening planning activities required to open the School successfully. In addition, the new timeline is appropriate for operating a charter school in accordance with the performance frameworks adopted by the Board and statute since the School will begin providing educational instruction in August 2015; that is, "within 12 months after signing the charter or within 24 months after the Board grants the charter, whichever occurs later" as stipulated by Arizona R7-5-204-D statute.

Soon after the approval of the charter school application on February 11, 2013, Seneca Preparatory Academy Foundation hired a real estate broker from CBRE and started looking for a suitable school facility in the target area in Tucson, Arizona. Over the next couple of months, the real estate agent presented SPAF with several facilities and potential school sites that the Foundation dutifully and diligently checked.

Meanwhile in March 2013, SPAF contacted Charter Schools Development Corporation (CSDC) at 26546 N. Alma School Road, Suite 115, Scottsdale, AZ 85255; and connected with Ms. Laura Fiemann, the Senior Vice President for Western and CDFI Operations. Charter Schools Development Corporation (CSDC) is a non-profit organization and the only Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) in the country that focuses exclusively on helping charter school organizations finance, build or expand their school facilities.

Charter Schools Development Corporation (CSDC) agreed to partner with and help SPAF secure a school facility in the target area. Subsequently, Ms. Fiemann traveled to Tucson on April 10 and October 10, 2013 to check the selected facilities and potential school sites that SPAF felt might be suitable for Seneca Preparatory Academy (SPA). In addition, she commissioned a consultant from Bouma USA Construction to travel to Tucson on November 11, 2013 to assess

some of these facilities and potential school sites. Ultimately, a suitable school site was identified in December 2013 and initial construction cost and feasibility studies were conducted by CSDC.

While working with CSDC to secure a school facility, SPAF has also been conducting the pre-opening planning activities required to open the School successfully. To conduct these planning activities, the Foundation is using the very detailed and elaborate Start-Up Action Plan developed by the Arizona Charter Schools Association. These activities are implemented over an 18-month pre-opening period, and they can be subdivided into: 1) operations and governance activities; 2) student recruitment and marketing outreach activities; and 3) staff recruitment and professional development activities. The Start-Up Action is provided in the attachment.

As of December 2013 when this request was first introduced, SPAF was eight months away from opening Seneca Preparatory Academy (SPA) as specified in the charter school application submitted to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. However, an assessment of the School project conducted at that time by Ms. Fiemann and SPAF led to the following two conclusions that are also valid today.

First, with the identification of a suitable school site in December 2013, some substantial and significant progress had been made to secure a school facility. However, Ms. Fiemann felt very strongly that the school opening be moved back by one year, to August 2015, because more time would be required to secure the land and build the school facility. Second, a One-Time Good Cause Extension to execute SPAF charter was also needed to complete the pre-opening planning activities listed in the enclosed Start-Up Action Plan, and required to open the School successfully.

In conclusion, Seneca Preparatory Academy Foundation (SPAF) is requesting a One-Time Good Cause Extension to execute the charter because Charter School Development Corporation needs the additional time to secure the land and build the school facility. In addition, a One-Time Good Cause Extension to execute the charter is required because SPAF needs the additional time to implement the necessary pre-opening planning activities listed in the enclosed Start-Up Action Plan. With the extension, the School will start providing educational instruction in August 2015. The new timeline is viable and appropriate for operating a charter school in accordance with the performance frameworks adopted by the Board and Arizona R7-5-204-D statute because the School will begin providing instruction "within 12 months after signing the charter or within 24 months after the Board grants the charter, whichever occurs later".

Thank you for considering Seneca Preparatory Academy (SPA) Foundation request.

Sincerely yours.

Jean-Claude Abougou, PhD., MBA

Jean-Claude Abougou, PhD., MBA
President, Seneca Preparatory Academy Foundation
Tucson, Arizona