

**RESOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA TO
RETAIN EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE CHARTER SCHOOLS WITHIN
THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SARASOTA
COUNTY FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, over the past decade charter schools have become an increasingly important component in providing public school educational choices for students in grades K through 12; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida approved its first charter school in 1997 and currently has 9 charter schools in operation in the School District of Sarasota County with one more to open in the 2008-2009 academic year; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida has faithfully complied with the provisions of Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, relating to charter schools, and has provided fair and equitable treatment to charter schools in the School District of Sarasota County; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida has authorized the establishment of the Florida Schools of Excellence Commission as a charter school authorizing entity pursuant to Section 1002.335, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, within that statute the Legislature has also established a process by which District School Boards may apply to retain exclusive authority to authorize charter schools within the geographic boundaries of its school district; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida has previously submitted a Resolution to the State Board of

Education seeking to retain exclusive authority to authorize charter schools within the geographic boundaries of the School District of Sarasota County; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida was one of only three school districts granted exclusive authority to authorize charter schools in the county in 2007-2008 by the Florida State Board of Education on October 16, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida desires to retain exclusive authority to authorize charter schools within the geographic boundaries of the School District of Sarasota County for the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida submits this Resolution pursuant to Section 1002.335(5)(c), Florida Statutes, and does so without waiving any of the constitutional powers, rights, and authority given to it under Article IX, Section 4 of the Florida Constitution, which vests in school boards the sole authority to operate, control, and supervise all free public schools within their districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida, in a public meeting duly called and assembled:

1. That pursuant to Section 1002.335(5)(c), Florida Statutes, the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida desires and intends to retain exclusive authority to authorize charter schools within the geographic

boundaries of the School District of Sarasota County for the 2008-2009 school year.

2. That the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida desires and intends to submit an application for this designation to the State Board of Education.
3. That a complete copy of this Resolution shall be provided to each charter school authorized by the School Board on or before the date this Resolution is submitted to the State Board of Education.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 19th day of February, 2008.

ATTEST:

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Dr. Gary Norris,
Ex-Officio Secretary

BY: _____
Kathy Kleinlein,
Chairman