



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Educating Georgia's Future"

Georgia Department of Education
Item for State Board of Education Approval
– Other –

Item Name

EAP – Charter System – Gordon County Schools

Recommendation – Action Item

It is recommended that the State Board of Education renew a system charter for Gordon County Schools System, a grades K-12 charter system for a ten-year term beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2026.

Supports the Following Education Strategy or Strategies in the Agency Strategic Plan

- Provide School Districts Flexibility from State Board Rules and State Statutes
Measurable Outcome: Percent of Charter Systems whose increase in CCRPI exceeds the state average.

Rationale

The petition submitted by Gordon County Schools meets all requirements of Rule and Law.

Details

N/A

Budget History (minimum of three years):

N/A

Performance, Criteria, and Results:

The charter system will be evaluated based on the academic achievement goals set forth in the charter.

Summary

The Gordon County Schools Board of Education approved the Gordon County Schools charter system petition on April 26, 2016. Gordon County Schools' mission is, "to provide a relevant, rigorous, results-based education made possible through nurturing relationships."

The Gordon County School District will implement the following educational enhancements for its students during their initial charter term:

- Implement 1:1 technology for students to diversify use of instructional methods and learning options;
- Utilize school-based employees as route drivers, as well as including a stipend or flexible calendar or salary schedule in an effort to reduce the bus driver shortage;
- Create Wall-to-wall career-themed academies in middle and high schools where every student will become a part of a small-learning community with a career focus and to increase relevance and engagement by students;
- Alternate use of facilities, off-site lab spaces to increase instructional access;
- Utilize trainers from industry and business partners to provide technology instruction for

teachers and students;

- Provide job-embedded professional learning in the area of instructional technology for classroom teachers;
- Continue to build and implement programs at the College and Career Academy;
- Provide professional learning externships for teachers and industry professionals;
- Develop webpage for elementary career lessons;
- Implement STE(A)M education at all levels; and
- Offer industry-recognized credentialing instruction (i.e., Six Sigma, OSHA, etc.)

The Gordon County School District has established rigorous performance-based goals and measurable objectives designed to improve student achievement on the EOGs, the EOCs and graduation rate. The Gordon County School District has also established goals for increased school-level governance, stakeholder satisfaction, student attendance and fiscal responsibility of the charter system. The Gordon County School District seeks the broad flexibility allowed by law in exchange for the agreement to meet or exceed the goals that are set forth in the charter contract. Consistent with the Charter Schools Act, the Charter System is required to comply with all federal law, the Charter Schools Act of 1998, the State Board of Education Charter Schools Rules, school reporting and accountability provisions set forth in the Charter Schools Act, and all other excluded areas included in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2065(b). In particular, the Charter System must comply with the Charter Schools Act's incorporation of the QBE Act and will earn funding for each system charter school under the terms of the QBE Act.

Contacts

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