

Board Policy IBB Revisions Chart

Section or Content	Current IBB	Proposed IBB	Proposed IBB-R
Overall Structure	<i>Does not have a clear numeral or ordinal structure</i>	The proposed version of IBB has a clear structure with numbered sections in a traditional policy format. This will allow easier reference to the policy's requirements. The policy is brief and aligns directly with the Georgia Charter Schools Act.	The proposed version of IBB-R has a clear structure with numbered sections in a traditional policy format. This will allow easier reference to the regulation's requirements. The regulation is longer and tracks directly with State Board Rule, Guidelines, and DeKalb procedures.
Preamble	<i>Has no preamble</i>	A preamble has been added to the policy that states the district's mission to authorize high quality charter schools.	A preamble has been added to the policy that states the district's mission to authorize high quality charter schools.
Definitions	<i>The Definitions section contains both definitions of legal terms and policy requirements labeled as definitions. Some of the words' definitions did not match their legal definitions under the Georgia Charter Schools Act and/or State Board Rules and Guidelines for Charter Schools and Authorizers. It was not arranged alphabetically.</i>	The definitions section was moved to IBB-R to maintain conciseness for policy IBB. All policy requirements that were included in the current IBB's definitions section have been moved to their appropriate sections in the proposed IBB and IBB-R.	The section now only contains definitions. If the definitions have a legal definition in statute or State Board rule, the definitions are identically defined. If the term does not have a legal definition, it matches DeKalb procedures. For example, the term "community" is defined as DeKalb County School District in its entirety. All terms are now arranged alphabetically.
Section I. Overview	<i>There is no clear demarcation between any sections in the current IBB. The definitions section bleeds over into including policy requirements which are not otherwise organized in any overarching order or section.</i>	Section I. of the proposed IBB outlines the DCSD charter petition submission process and closely tracks requirements in the Georgia Charter Schools Act.	IBB-R includes more details regarding the procedures for charter petition submission that closely track requirements in State Board Rule and Guidelines, as well as DeKalb procedures.
"Public Interest"	<i>Current IBB uses a definition of public interest created by DCSD. It is defined as: "In order to be considered to be in the public interest by the DeKalb</i>	The definition of public interest has been moved to IBB-R.	The term "public interest" is not defined in the Charter Schools Act but is defined in the implementing State Board rule. The definition of "public interest" now tracks the State Board Rule's definition of the

	<p><i>County Board of Education, a charter petition or any request for a charter renewal, must, at a minimum, demonstrate that the curriculum, instruction and accountability programs set forth in the petition combine to create an innovative, unique opportunity for student learning which does not duplicate existing DeKalb programs or exist in any DeKalb County school(s). Further, the proposed charter school(s) must demonstrate it will increase student achievement through academic and organizational innovation in accordance with O.C.G.A. 20-2-2065(a). The petition must also show how the intended location of the school is in the public interest of the community. In addition, the charter petitioner must demonstrate ability, financial resources, expertise and other resources necessary to manage successfully all aspects of a charter school."</i></p>		<p>term but also adds considerations DCSD will take to determine whether an action is in the public interest to increase transparency.</p> <p>"When considering whether a proposed, or in the case of renewal, existing, charter school or cluster is in the public interest, the Board will determine whether the proposed school will more likely than not promote the welfare or well-being of students, staff, the community or the general public, including but not limited to, increased student achievement, financial stability, and positive school climate."</p> <p>To come to this conclusion, the Board will consider the following: 1) whether the curriculum, instruction and accountability programs set forth in the petition create an innovative, unique, and feasible plan to increase student achievement; 2) whether the petition's proposed programming duplicates existing District programs; 3) whether the proposed school can benefit the students in its intended location; 4) whether the proposed school would have negative consequences on students in its intended location or the greater community; 5) whether the charter petitioning group and/or Founding Board have demonstrated the capacity and fiscal knowledge and fiscal responsibility to create and operate a highly performing charter school; 6) whether the proposed school is designed to serve all students in its intended location; 7) whether the proposed school ensures equity of access for all students in its intended location; and 8) any other compelling information that</p>
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			demonstrates that the proposed school is or is not in the public interest of the community."
Waivers	<i>Current IBB states that DCSD will not favor charter petitions that request the broad flexibility waiver afforded by the Georgia Charter Schools Act.</i>	This statement and sentiment has been removed to align DCSD charter procedure and policy with the Georgia Charter Schools Act and State Board Rules and Guidelines.	Charters must simply indicate how they will use the broad flexibility waiver with some illustrative examples, as required by the State Board Petitions process and charter application.
Timelines for submission	<i>Timelines for charter petition submission reflect DCSD procedures only.</i>	Timelines now state that petitions will be submitted in accordance with DCSD and GADOE guidelines.	Specific timelines are included to increase transparency for different types of petition submission that comply with GADOE timelines as well.
General Requirements	<i>The section entitled General Requirements contains general language akin to a preamble.</i>	The language in the current IBB's General Requirements has now been expounded upon in the proposed IBB and IBB-R's preambles.	The language in the current IBB's General Requirements has now been expounded upon in the proposed IBB and IBB-R's preambles.
Funding	<i>Funding states that it will be in accordance with state law, State Board Rule, and DCSD policies.</i>	Funding will still be done in accordance with state law, State Board Rule, and District policies. In addition, language regarding the district's legally allowed 3% withhold fee to support administration of charter schools has been added. This is located in Section II. of the proposed IBB.	Funding language in IBB-R is identical to the proposed IBB policy.
Capacity	<i>Current DCSD practices involve assessing charter petitioners for capacity to govern and operate high quality charter schools, but this requirement was not spelled out directly in current IBB.</i>	Language regarding capacity was included in the proposed IBB to increase transparency to charter petitioners.	IBB-R includes details on the capacity interview that charter petitioners will participate in with the district to provide concrete information on how the district assesses capacity.
Assurances and Required Statements	<i>Current IBB has no language regarding assurances to the district, although it is currently a DCSD practice to collect the charter school's assurances that they will observe all non-waivable laws, policies, and procedures.</i>	Language requiring charter petitioners to submit assurances that they will operate according to all non-waivable laws, policies, and procedures was included in policy to increase transparency to petitioners. Authorizers are specifically allowed by State Board Rule to use assurances this way to	IBB-R includes same language as the proposed IBB on assurances and required statements.

		ensure charter petitioners are aware of federal and state requirements that cannot legally be waived.	
Technical Submission Requirements	<i>Current IBB contains technical submission requirements which do not track with new provisions of the Georgia Charter Schools Act, State Board Rule and Guidelines, or GADOE procedures.</i>	All technical submission information has been located in IBB-R so that it may be updated to reflect changes in law, State Board Rule and Guidelines, and GADOE procedures easily.	All technical submission requirements now reflect the requirements in state law, State Board Rule and Guidelines, and GADOE procedures (e.g., petition submission timeframes, dates, letters of intent). In addition, DCSD procedures have been updated and included to increase transparency and efficiency.
Technical Operational Requirements	<i>Current IBB contains operational requirements based on the Georgia Charter Schools Act and State Board Rules and Guidelines that have since been updated and changed.</i>	All operational requirements have been moved to IBB-R.	IBB-R contains all technical operational requirements that are required by the current State Board Rules and Guidelines, such as charter schools utilizing a conflict of interest policy, being incorporated as non-profit governing boards, and conducting yearly audit requirements.
Termination and Non-Renewal	<i>Current IBB's language regarding termination and non-renewal hearings are copied from an older version of the Georgia Charter Schools Act which has since been updated and changed.</i>	The proposed IBB contains updated language regarding termination and non-renewal which tracks the requirements in the current Georgia Charter Schools Act.	IBB-R includes same language as the proposed IBB on termination and non-renewal.
Petition Pre-submission process	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	IBB-R contains a requirement for petitioners to attend an informational session with DCSD prior to submission to increase transparency of DCSD procedures and the quality of charter petitions received.
Special Education	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	IBB-R provides clarity on charter school special education programmatic requirements that tracks with federal and state law requirements that are not waivable.
Periodic	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	In order for DCSD to meet its legal

Reporting and Monitoring			obligations of control and management of its locally approved charter schools, charter schools may be required to submit periodic reports to DCSD.
Grievance Policy	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	IBB-R contains the requirement that charter schools have a defined grievance policy for parents and students to use for dispute resolution.
Notification Requirements	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	IBB-R contains requirements that the charter school provide notice to DCSD before making any significant alterations to the fundamental academic or operational plan of the charter school approved by the Board so that amendments to the charter contract can be considered in collaboration with the district.
Notice of Breach of Charter Contract	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	To increase transparency to DCSD charter schools, IBB-R details how the district will notify charters of potential or actual breaches of the charter school contract in order to provide notice of issues that must be remedied in order for the charter school to remain in compliance with its charter contract.
District Services	<i>Not included</i>	Not included	IBB-R contains language that the district may offer services for purchase to charter schools as negotiated in the terms of a separate agreement (e.g., transportation).