

PROPOSED BOARD POLICY IBB & IBB-R



DCSD CHARTER OFFICE
JUNE 17, 2015

RATIONALE FOR CHANGES

Current Policy does not reflect current law, rules, and guidance from the State.

Purpose:

- Aligns IBB to current state law
- Aligns IBB-R to current State Board Rules and Guidelines
- Increases transparency for charter petitioners and current charter schools
- Improves quality of charter petitioners and current charter schools
- Improves quality of internal procedures for charter school authorization
- Provides a cost-neutral series of improvements to DCSD's charter program



June 30, 2015

PROPOSED BOARD POLICY IBB

Designed to be a concise document (reflective of the Charter School Act of 1998)

Addresses most important aspects of the District's responsibility to authorize and work with start-up and conversion charter schools

- § I— The DeKalb Charter Application Process
- § II— Funding
- § III— Basis for Termination and/or Non-Renewal of Charter

It contains the exact language found in IBB-R



June 30, 2015

PROPOSED REGULATION

Addresses charter operations and governance

Aligns with District priorities and relevant laws and regulations

- § I— Basis for Charter Schools Policy
- § II— Definitions/Request for Charter Proposal
- § III— Eligibility to Submit a Petition
- § IV— The DeKalb Charter Application Process
- § V— Charter Renewal Application Process
- § VI— Funding
- § VII— District Requirements for Charter Operations
- § VII— Charter Amendments and Administrative Clarifications
- § IX— Notice of Breach of Charter Contract
- § X— Basis for Termination and/or Non-Renewal of Charter
- § XI— District Services

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IMPROVEMENTS TO IBB & IBB-R

IBB and IBB-R were revised to ensure . . .

- DCSD authorizes high quality charter schools using transparent and efficient procedures
 - Increased transparency on petition submission to the district
 - Increased support for charter petitioners through informational and clarification work sessions
 - Increased support for charter schools with periodic monitoring



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SUBSTANTIAL AUTONOMY

The State Board acknowledges that each district will need to define what substantial autonomy looks like within its current operational framework.

The state's current conversion charter contract template includes a provision that allows districts to define the autonomy received by conversion charter schools.



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“AUTONOMY” DEFINED IN PROPOSED IBB & IBB-R

Because the recommended amount of autonomy for charters has changed several times in recent years, IBB and IBB-R do not reference autonomy or try to standardize the amount DCSD charters will receive.

The District can instead review the amount of autonomy requested by each charter petitioner through the charter application process, and if the charter petitioner demonstrates the capacity to operate a high quality charter school with the requested autonomy, the Board can vote to approve that charter school.

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“FUNDING” DEFINED IN PROPOSED IBB & IBB-R

Both the current and proposed versions of IBB and IBB-R state that DCSD will fund its charter schools according to state law, State Board Rules, and Guidelines.

The proposed policy provides cost-neutral measures to improve DCSD’s policy and procedures for charters and to increase transparency.



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WOULD PROPOSED BOARD POLICY IBB IMPACT A CHARTER SYSTEM SCHOOL?

No. The proposed Policy IBB does not define charter system, nor explains it. The term “charter system” is only mentioned once in the policy, located under the non-renewal termination section.

If DCSD is approved for a charter system, DCSD could follow the example of other districts and create a charter system policy and regulation.



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PROPOSED ACTION ON CURRENT POLICY & REGULATION

Board Policy IBB- Approve complete re-write

Board Policy IBB-R- Approve new addition

Board Policy IBB-R(4)- Eliminate

Board Policy IBB-R(5)- Eliminate

Board Policy IBB-R(6)- Rename IBB-R(2)



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