



Charter School Renewal Application

For Schools Seeking Renewal from Both
DeKalb County School District and the
State Board of Education

to

Operate in SY25-26

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PAST PERFORMANCE		
1.	Complete and attach as Exhibit 5 the Accountability Report available on the GaDOE’s Charter Schools Division website to show the school’s performance during each year of your current charter term and include with your charter school renewal application. This Accountability Report will be presented to the State Board of Education with your charter petition, so please ensure it is accurate.	
2.	Provide a narrative describing how the charter school performed in meeting the academic and organizational goals set forth in its current charter contract.	
3.	Describe the school’s current financial situation.	
4.	Provide a brief overview of the school’s current governance structure.	
5.	Describe how the school provides state- and federally-mandated services to students with disabilities.	

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6.	Describe how the charter school provides state- and federally-mandated services for English Learners (ELs).	
7.	Provide the number and percentage of students receiving In-School Suspensions, Out-of-School Suspensions, or Expulsions during the current charter term (e.g., the past 5 years). How does this discipline and dismissal data compare to the Office of Civil Rights data ?	
8.	Describe in detail how the charter school’s students, governing board, faculty, and staff reflect the sociodemographic diversity of the community served by the charter school.	
9.	Describe in detail any difficulties faced during the charter term that were not already addressed above, how the school dealt with such difficulties, and if they remain an issue for the school. Also explain how the school plans to avoid these difficulties during the upcoming charter renewal term.	
PROPOSED CHANGES		
10.	If the answers given above to questions 1 - 9 reflect a change to any of the following, please provide the rationale for the change.	
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE		
11.	Briefly describe how the school has and will continue with its proposed changes to serve the needs of its students for the upcoming (renewed) charter term.	
EXHIBITS CHECKLIST		
The following Exhibits are required to complete your Charter School Application Package. Please tab the Exhibits to match the item numbers below. Exhibits should be as limited in size as possible.		
1.	Attach an official copy of the certificate of incorporation for the required Georgia nonprofit corporation from the Georgia Secretary of State. Please note that <u>all charter school contracts – including those of start-up and renewal conversion charter schools – must be held by a Georgia nonprofit corporation.</u>	
2.	Attach a copy of the by-laws for the nonprofit corporation.	
3.	Attach a copy of the governing board’s Conflict of Interest Policy.	
4.	Attach a copy of the governing board’s Conflict of Interest Form.	

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5.	Attach a completed Accountability Report.	
6.	Attach a copy of the governing board’s Governance Training Plan using the governance training memo available on GaDOE’s website.	
7.	Attach a completed Locally-Approved Charter School Partners Roles and Responsibilities chart. This chart shows the balance of authority between the charter school’s board and management, as well as the autonomy of the charter school from the district.	
8.	Attach a copy of any admissions (pre-lottery) application the charter school proposes to use. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2066 and SBOE Rule 160-4-9-.05, any admissions application must conform to the open enrollment requirement. Therefore, admissions applications should be limited to a student’s name, contact information, home address for the purpose of verifying the student’s residence within the school’s attendance zone, grade level, and information required for any enrollment preference, such as identifying a sibling already enrolled at the charter school. If the charter school proposes to utilize a weighted lottery for educationally disadvantaged students, the admissions application may also include questions tailored to the subgroup(s) the school will offer an increased chance of admission according to the weighted lottery guidance available on GaDOE’s website.	
9.	Attach a copy of the policy setting annual enrollment, re-enrollment, and lottery deadlines, including a description of the lottery procedures detailing how enrollment priorities will be applied and an assurance of complete transparency in its procedures.	
10.	Attach the charter school’s annual calendar and the charter school’s daily school schedule.	
11.	Attach a copy of a sample scope and sequence for a proposed course/grade level.	
12.	Attach a copy of the charter school’s Student Code of Conduct.	
13.	Attach a copy of the charter school’s Student Discipline Policy and Procedures, including any Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports (PBIS).	
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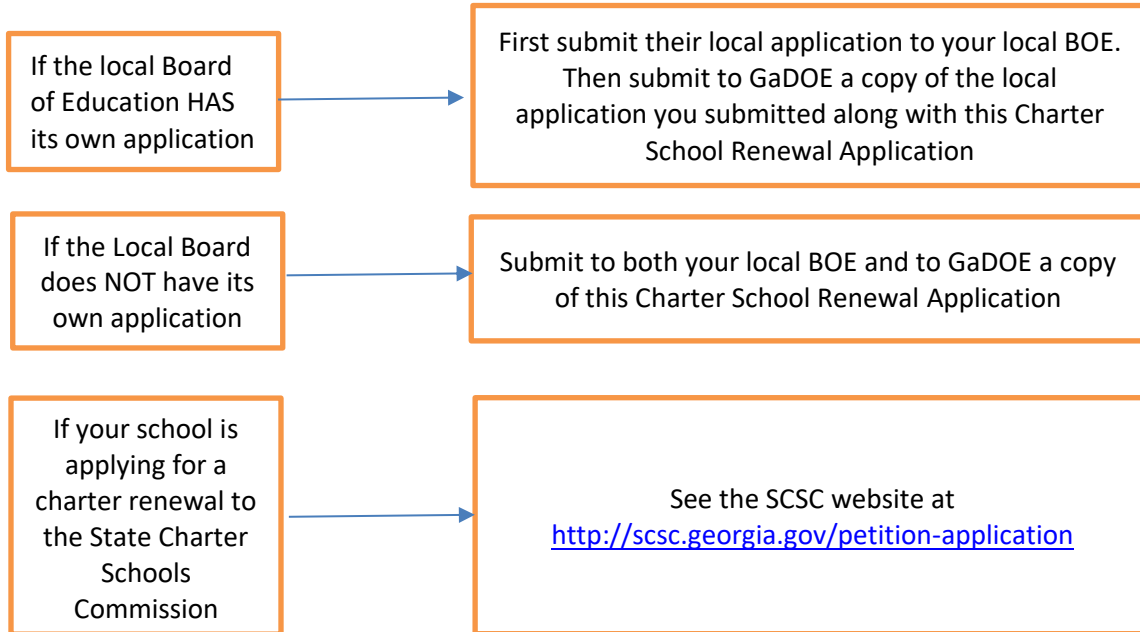
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16.	Attach proof of the school’s insurance coverage, including the terms, conditions, and coverage amounts.	
17.	Attach a copy of any intended education service provider contracts or arrangements for the provision of education management or support services, including with any EMO, CMO, ESO, etc. Such contracts shall describe the specific services for which the contracting organization is responsible. Such contracts should clearly delineate the respective roles and responsibilities of the management organization and the governing board in the management and operation of the charter school. Such contracts must also include the fee structure.	
18.	Attach a copy of any agreements with your local school district or Board of Education. (Exhibit 18 – DCSD Assurances and Required Statements)	
19.	Attach a copy of any Letters of Intent and/or agreements detailing any proposed partnerships, including agreements with other local schools/systems for the charter school students’ participation in extracurricular activities such as interscholastic sports and clubs.	
20.	Attach a copy of any MOU/lease/proof of ownership for a proposed facility.	
21.	Attach a copy of the school’s Certificate of Occupancy.	
22.	Attach a copy of the facility’s Emergency Safety Plan.	
23.	Complete and attach the budget template located on the Charter Schools Division’s website: Please note that the budget template includes:	
	23a. A monthly cash flow projection detailing revenues and expenditures for the charter school’s first two (2) years of operation;	
	23b. A spreadsheet projecting cash flow, revenue estimates, budgets, and expenditures on an annual basis for each of the five (5) years of the initial charter term.	
	23c. Back-up documentation proving the legal reality of additional sources of revenue included in the budget template, including any funds other than state and local funding, including bank statements and/or signed grant award letters.	
24.	Attach the résumé for the charter school’s Chief Financial Officer.	
25.	Attach the charter school’s signed GADOE Assurances Form.	

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26.	Attach the charter school's signed and notarized.	
27.	Attach the charter school's signed Local Board of Education Resolution approving the charter school's application.	
28.	Attach the charter school's signed Governing Board Resolution approving the charter school's application. This will serve as the formal petition to the SBOE.	
29.	For conversion schools only, attach the charter school's Confirmation of Teacher and Parent Vote.	

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH APPLICATION TO SUBMIT?

This Charter School Renewal Application form is for locally-approved start-up and conversion charter schools seeking charter renewal from both a local Board of Education (BOE) and the State Board of Education (SBOE).



INTRODUCTION

A charter school renewal application is a legal petition to a local Board (or Boards) of Education and the State Board of Education seeking renewal of a charter school contract.

There are two types of locally-approved charter schools – start-up charter schools and conversion charter schools. This Charter School Renewal Application is for both start-ups and conversions.

- A start-up charter school was a brand new school that did not exist before it received your initial charter school contract.
- A conversion charter school is an existing public school that became a charter school when it received its initial charter school contract.

The evaluation of your application will focus on whether your charter school has achieved the academic, organizational, and financial performance you promised in exchange for broad flexibility from Georgia's education rule and laws when you received your most recent charter contract. The evaluation will also determine whether:

- The charter school has complied with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures (including the Charter Schools Act of 1998, as amended [O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-2060 through 20-2-2071] and State Board of Education Rule 160-4-9-.04 *et seq.*);
- The academic, organizational, and financial plans are still viable; and

Insert Name of Proposed Charter School Here
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- The charter school is still in the public interest.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to review all resources available on the GaDOE's Charter Schools Division website prior to drafting and submitting a charter school renewal application (<http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Charter-Schools/Pages/default.aspx>), including the standard charter contract template, which is what the State Board of Education will approve, and the most recent Charter School Renewal Memo.

Georgia has a commitment to ensuring all children receive quality educational opportunities. For this reason, we prioritize approving and renewing charter schools that focus on serving at risk populations, including students who are economically disadvantaged and/or live in rural communities.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Before the State Board of Education can renew a charter contract for your locally-approved charter school, your charter school renewal application first must be approved by your local Board of Education in accordance with the rules and regulations of that local board. To facilitate the state's review of your locally-approved application, you must submit to GaDOE an exact copy of the application you submit to your local BOE.

GaDOE will review the charter school renewal petition you submitted locally at the same time that your local BOE is reviewing it. If you agree to make changes to your application to obtain local BOE approval, you must also submit to GaDOE a copy of the final version of the application that your local BOE approved. The final version of your locally-approved application is the one GaDOE will share with the State Board of Education when recommending approval or denial of your charter contract renewal.

A successful charter school renewal application approval process includes (1) your local BOE's review and approval, (2) GaDOE's review, (3) a panel interview at GaDOE, (4) a recommendation from GaDOE's Charter Schools Division for State Board of Education approval, and (5) SBOE approval.

Please note that, while GaDOE does not have an application deadline, applications are processed and interviews are scheduled by GaDOE on a first-come, first-served basis. This means that you must submit your application early enough to obtain SBOE approval at least 6 months in advance of your upcoming academic year. Since it can take up to 4 months to move through the various review processes, please plan accordingly.

Please also note that filing a charter school renewal application does not guarantee that a renewed charter school contract will be granted. Failure of an applicant to adhere to any requirement may yield a defective application that is rejected before consideration. In addition, complete applications that are not strong enough to guarantee a continued successful charter school implementation will be recommended for denial.

Submission to GaDOE of the initial charter renewal application you submitted to your local BOE and, later, of the final version of your application approved by your local BOE, must be by mail, UPS/FedEx, or hand-delivered to: **Georgia Department of Education, Charter Schools Division, 2053 Twin Towers East, 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE, Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

Please note that faxed or emailed applications will *not* be accepted as your formal submission. Only complete petitions that comply with these guidelines and the technical requirements below will be evaluated.

Applications will not be returned, so please keep a copy for your records. In addition, please note that all information in applications submitted to GaDOE are subject to the Georgia Open Records Act.

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Applications will not be returned, so please keep a copy for your records. In addition, please note that all information in applications submitted to GaDOE are subject to the Georgia Open Records Act. To fill in the check boxes, double click on the check box; a dialog box will come up for you to choose checked; then click okay and the dialog box will close.

GADOE & DCSD CHARTER APPLICATION PACKAGE CHECKLIST

The Charter Application Package must comply with the following submission procedures.

- An Application Package includes original and 2 copies of the following items:
 - APPLICATION COVER PAGE** (Use the form on page 10 of this application; the form may not be altered in any way.)
 - CHARTER APPLICATION** (Answers to the questions posed on pages 11-14 of this application.)
 - The Application is limited to 75 double-spaced pages using an 11-point Times New Roman font and one-inch margins with a header showing the school's name and a footer showing consecutive page numbers.
 - The original must be signed in blue ink. Stamped signatures will not be accepted.
 - ASSURANCES FORMS, SIGNATURE SHEETS, AND AFFIDAVIT** (Use the Assurances Forms, Signature Sheets, and Affidavit on pages 17-20 of this application; the forms and sheets may not be altered in any way.)
 - The original must be signed in blue ink; stamped signatures will not be accepted.
 - Electronic copy of assurances must be signed. Blank copies will not be accepted.
 - DOCUMENTATION OF VOTE – FOR CONVERSIONS ONLY** (Use the form on page 21/Exhibit 29)
 - The original must be signed in blue ink; stamped signatures will not be accepted.
 - EXHIBITS** (See list of required Exhibits on pages 15-16 of this application.)
 - Required Exhibits should be as limited in size as possible.
 - All Exhibits must be tabbed with a header showing the school's name and a footer showing consecutive page numbers.
- The Application Package must be submitted electronically to charterschools@dekalbschoolsga.org via DropBox.
- The Application Package must include a:
 - 1. Microsoft Word version of the Application Cover Page (page 10)
 - 2. Microsoft Word versions of the Application and Exhibits
 - 3. PDF Version of the Complete Application Packet in the following order: Cover Sheet, Application, signed Assurances Form(s), Affidavit, and Exhibits (including Exhibit 18 - DCSD Assurances and Required Statements). Exhibit 18 – DCSD Assurances and Required Statements may not be altered in any way.
 - 4. PDF version of the Locally-Approved Charter School Partners Roles and Responsibilities Chart
 - 5. Excel version of the completed Budget Templates
- Faxed or emailed copies will not be accepted. Only complete applications that comply with these guidelines will be evaluated.

SIGNATURES REQUIRED UPON DELIVERY. COMPLETE APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY 12:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, October 17, 2024 IN ORDER TO BE IN THE 2024 REVIEW CYCLE FOR OPERATING IN 2025-2026.

Petition for (Name of School): _____

Delivered by (Charter School Representative): _____

Received by (DCSD Representative): _____ Date and Time: _____

CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Check One: ___ Start-up Renewal ___ Conversion Renewal

When was the original charter term start date? _____

How many charter terms has the school been in existence? _____

Name of Charter School: _____

Name of the Georgia nonprofit corporation that currently holds the charter:

Local school system in which charter school is physically located: _____

Contact Information for the Governing Board Chair

Contact Person: _____

Name

Title

Contact Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Contact Information for the Person Filling out this Application

Contact Person: _____

Name

Title

Contact Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL APPLICATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Name of Charter School: _____

Proposed Charter Term Length: _____

Current Grade Range: _____ Grade range at the end of the charter term: _____

Expected enrollment at the end of the charter term: _____

This application was approved by _____ Local Board of Education on _____, 202__

For each year of the NEW charter term, indicate the number of students the charter school plans to serve.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Year 1														
Year 2														
Year 3														
Year 4														
Year 5														

1. State the charter school's mission and describe why this initiative is important to the community it serves. Also provide a brief description of any defining features of the school. Include how stakeholders were involved in the petition process and how they will continue participating. (350 words or less)
2. Describe the charter school's academic program, specifically focusing on why it is innovative in your school district(s). Include mention of any waivers of state law and SBOE rule that are needed to implement the academic program. Be sure to describe any special characteristics of your charter school, such as a special population or some other feature or features which enhance educational opportunities. (350 words or less)
3. Describe the charter school's organizational structure, specifically focusing on its innovation and need for flexibility, its general partnership structure with an educational service provider (ESP) if any, and the school's community interest and need. (350 words or less)

PAST PERFORMANCE

1. Complete and attach as Exhibit 5 the Accountability Report available on the GaDOE's Charter Schools Division website to show the school's performance during each year of your current charter term and include with your charter school renewal application. This Accountability Report will be presented to the State Board of Education with your charter petition, so please ensure it is accurate.
2. Provide a narrative describing how the charter school performed in meeting the academic and organizational goals set forth in its current charter contract. In your narrative:
 - a. Address the school's performance in each year of your current charter term.
 - b. You are urged to include any supporting charts, tables, or graphs that provide quantitative data.
 - c. If your charter school did not meet all of the goals in its charter contract, explain any mitigating factors to which this can be attributed, and explain how the school plans to address them in the upcoming charter renewal term requested.
3. Describe the school's current financial situation. In your description:
 - a. Include an explanation of financial results.
 - b. Detail any financial successes or struggles the school experienced during the current charter term. Include any instances of fraudulent behavior or accusations of fraudulent behavior by school staff, governing board members, or anyone else associated with the school.
 - c. Explain how the school will address any struggles discussed above as well as any outstanding debts. Explain how the school will allocate any surplus funds.
4. Provide a brief overview of the school's current governance structure. In your description, you must include:
 - a. Specific examples of decisions the governing board has made on behalf of the school;
 - b. Specific examples of decisions the school leader has made on behalf of the school;
 - c. How the governing board holds the school leader, any charter partners (ESP/CMO/EMO), and any independent contractors accountable; and
 - d. The governing board's training program for the current and proposed charter term. Attach as Exhibit 6 a copy of the board's Governance Training Plan.
5. Describe how the school provides state- and federally-mandated services to **students with disabilities**. Reciting the requirements of law and rule is insufficient. Your description must include the school's practices and procedures to:
 - Evaluate and identify students with disabilities;
 - Develop, review, and revise Individualized Education Programs (IEPs);
 - Integrate special education into the general education program;
 - Ensure that the school facility meets the requirements of other related laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504;
 - Address student discipline;
 - Handle programming disputes involving parents;
 - Ensure confidentiality of special education records;
 - Purchase services from special education vendors or to contract with your local district to provide a continuum of special education services and how this arrangement will work; and

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- Secure technical assistance and training.
6. Describe how the charter school provides state- and federally-mandated services for English Learners (ELs). Reciting the requirements of law and rule is insufficient. Your description must include the diagnostic methods or instruments that are used to identify and assess those students, as well as the instructional program that is provided to ELs.
 7. Provide the number and percentage of students receiving In-School Suspensions, Out-of-School Suspensions, or Expulsions during the current charter term (e.g., the past 5 years). How does this discipline and dismissal data compare to the [Office of Civil Rights data](#)?

	In-School Suspensions		Out-of-School Suspensions		Expulsions	
Ethnicity/Race	Number & Percentage of Total Population					
Latino Hispanic		%		%		%
American Indian		%		%		%
Asian / Pacific Islander		%		%		%
Black / African American		%		%		%
White		%		%		%
Two or More Races		%		%		%
Total Population						

8. Describe in detail how the charter school’s students, governing board, faculty, and staff reflect the sociodemographic diversity of the community served by the charter school. If the charter school does not reflect the community’s diversity in one or more areas of the areas listed above, provide a comprehensive plan to address this need for diversity. Included in such a plan could be, for example, the use of targeted recruitment or the use of a weighted lottery to provide an increased chance of admission for educationally disadvantaged students pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2066(a)(1) and State Board Rule 160-4-9-.05(2)(g).
9. Describe in detail any difficulties faced during the charter term that were not already addressed above, how the school dealt with such difficulties, and if they remain an issue for the school. Also explain how the school plans to avoid these difficulties during the upcoming charter renewal term.

PROPOSED CHANGES

10. If the answers given above to questions 1 - 9 reflect a change to any of the following, please provide the rationale for the change:

A. ACADEMIC CHANGES:

- The academic program and curriculum.
- The use of waivers/innovations.
- School programs – this includes Students with Disabilities, Gifted and Talented, English Learners, etc.
- Any assessments being used.
- Any administrative positions.

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B. GOVERNANCE CHANGES:

- The school's governance structure.
- The school's governing board composition, including its diversity.
- The school's relationship with an Educational Service Provider or other Charter Partner.
- The relationship with the local district.

C. FINANCIAL CHANGES:

- The school's financial structure.
- The school's CFO.
- The school's relationship with any major creditors (e.g., landlords, investors etc.)

D. OPERATIONAL CHANGES:

- The school's facilities – this should include any proposed expansion or renovations.
- The school's attendance zone and any enrollment priorities being used (see O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2066(a)(1)).
- Whether the school's students, faculty, and staff reflect the diversity of its attendance zone.
- Whether the school will utilize a weighted lottery to provide an increased chance of admission for educationally disadvantaged students pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2066(a)(1) and State Board Rule 160-4-9-.05(2)(g).
- Any services provided to students such as transportation, food service, etc.
- The grades the charter school will serve. Please note this includes adding additional grades or reducing current grades.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

11. Briefly describe how the school has and will continue with its proposed changes to serve the needs of its students for the upcoming (renewed) charter term.

EXHIBITS

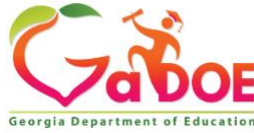
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4. Attach a copy of the governing board's Conflict of Interest Form.
5. Attach a completed Accountability Report.
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22. Attach a copy of the facility's Emergency Safety Plan.
23. Complete and attach the budget template located on the Charter Schools Division's website: Please note that the budget template includes:
 - A monthly cash flow projection detailing revenues and expenditures for the charter school's first two (2) years of operation;
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25. Attach the charter school's signed Assurances Form (see below).
26. Attach the charter school's signed and notarized Affidavit (see below).
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Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Educating Georgia's Future"

O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(e)(2) Affidavit

By executing this affidavit under oath, as an applicant for a charter school contract from the State Board of Education, as referenced in O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1, the undersigned applicant verifies one of the following with respect to my application for a public benefit:

- 1) _____ I am a United States citizen.
- 2) _____ I am a legal permanent resident of the United States.
- 3) _____ I am a qualified alien or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act with an alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal immigration agency.

My alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal immigration agency is:
_____.

The undersigned applicant also hereby verifies that he or she is 18 years of age or older and has provided at least one secure and verifiable document (e.g., driver's license, passport, birth certificate), as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(e)(1), with this affidavit.

The secure and verifiable document provided with this affidavit can best be classified as:

_____.

In making the above representation under oath, I understand that any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in an affidavit shall be guilty of a violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-10-20, and face criminal penalties as allowed by such criminal statute.

Executed in _____ (city), _____ (state).

Signature of Governing Board Chair

Printed Name of Governing Board Chair

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
BEFORE ME ON THIS THE
___ DAY OF _____, 20___

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

ASSURANCES FORM AND SIGNATURE SHEET

Georgia law and State Board of Education Rule requires your school to provide assurances that it will do certain things and comply with certain laws. This Assurance Form enumerates all of these requirements and, when you submit this signed Signature Sheet with this Assurance Form as part of your Charter School Application Package, you are providing the legal assurance that your charter school understands and will do these things. This form must be signed by the school's governing board chair.

As the authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the information submitted in this application for a charter for *(name of school)* located in DeKalb County is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; I also certify that if awarded a charter, the school:

1. Shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations;
2. Shall be subject to the control and management of the local board of the local school system in which the charter school is located, as provided in the charter and in a manner consistent with the U.S. and Georgia Constitutions;
3. Shall not discriminate against any student or employee on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, national origin, gender, disability, age, or sexual orientation;
4. Shall be subject to all federal, state, and local rules, regulations, court orders, and statutes relating to civil rights; insurance; the protection of the physical health and safety of school students, employees, and visitors; conflicting interest transactions; and the prevention of unlawful conduct;
5. Shall be subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A § 20-2-1050 requiring a brief period of quiet reflection;
6. Shall ensure that the charter school and its governing board are subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.* (Open and Public Meetings) and O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 *et seq.* (Open Records);
7. Shall ensure that the charter school's governing board members may only receive compensation for their reasonable and actual expenses incurred in connection with performance of their duties;
8. Shall ensure that the charter school's governing board members receive initial training and annual training thereafter, provided by a SBOE-approved vendor pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2072 and State Board of Education Rule 160-4-9-.06;
9. Shall ensure that the charter school's governing board adopts and abides by a conflict of interest policy;
10. Shall comply with O.C.G.A. §20-2-210(b)(1) and implement an evaluation system as adopted and defined by the State Board of Education for elementary and secondary school teachers of record, assistant principals, and principals;
11. Shall comply with the accountability provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-14-30 through § 20-14-41 and federal accountability requirements, and participate in statewide assessments;
12. Shall adhere to all provisions of federal law relating to students with disabilities, including the IDEA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as applicable;
13. Shall provide state and federally mandated services for English Language Learners, as applicable;

Insert Name of Proposed Charter School Here
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14. Shall provide for supplemental educational services as required by federal law and pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.03, and for remediation in required cases pursuant to SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.01;
15. Shall notify the state of any intent to contract with a for-profit entity for education and/or management services;
16. Shall notify the state of any changes in for-profit entity contracted with for education and/or management services;
17. Shall be subject to the requirement that it shall not charge tuition or fees to its students except as may be authorized by local boards by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-133;
18. Shall comply with federal due process procedures regarding student discipline and dismissal;
19. Shall be subject to all laws relating to unlawful conduct in or near a public school;
20. Shall have a written grievance procedure to resolve student, parent, and teacher complaints;
21. Shall have a written procedure for resolving conflicts between the charter school and the local board of education;
22. Shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20 -2-211.1 relating to fingerprinting and criminal background checks;
23. Shall remit payments to TRS on behalf of employees and shall employ teachers in accordance with TRS;
24. Shall ensure that if transportation is provided for its students, the school shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws;
25. Shall ensure that if the charter school participates in federal school meals programs, then it shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and rules;
26. Shall prepare a safety plan in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1185 and submit and obtain approval from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency;
27. Shall comply with the state facility requirements regarding site codes, facility codes, the submission of architectural plans for any new facility that the school may build or occupy during the charter term and all other facility requirements as established by the Department;
28. Shall be subject to all reporting requirements of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-160, subsection (e) of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-320, and O.C.G.A. § 20-2-740;
29. Shall be subject to an annual financial audit conducted by the state auditor or by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this state;
30. Shall designate a Chief Financial Officer that meets all requirements as established by the Charter Schools Rule 160-4-9-.05(2)(h)(1);
31. Shall secure adequate insurance coverage prior to opening and shall maintain such coverage throughout the charter term in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia;
32. Shall acknowledge that all criteria used to calculate QBE funding may not be waived;
33. Shall ensure that 90% of QBE funds earned for out-of-system students enrolled in a virtual school must be spent on their instruction pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167.1; and

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34. Shall follow any and all other federal, state, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the applicant or the operation of the charter school.

This Charter School Application, Assurance Form, and attached Exhibits were approved by the Charter School's Governing Board on the _____ day of _____, 202_.

Governing Board Chair, Charter School

Date

This Charter School Application, Assurance Form, and attached Exhibits were approved by the DeKalb Board of Education on the _____ day of _____, 202_.

Chair, DeKalb Board of Education

Date

Superintendent, DeKalb Board of Education

Date

If a Charter is granted, Petitioners assure that the proposed charter school's programs, services, and activities will operate in accordance with the terms of the Charter and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

Governing Board Chair, Charter School

Date

Chair, DeKalb Board of Education

Date

Superintendent, DeKalb Board of Education

Date

DOCUMENTATION OF VOTE (*CONVERSIONS ONLY*)

This petition has been agreed to, by secret ballot, by a majority of the faculty or instructional staff members at a meeting called with two weeks advance notice during which time a complete petition draft was available for review.

Date of Faculty and Instructional Staff Vote _____

Total Number of Faculty and Instructional Staff _____

Number Approving _____ Percent Approving _____

Number Disapproving _____ Percent Disapproving _____

Principal's Signature

Date

This petition has been agreed to, by secret ballot, by a majority of the parents or guardians of the students enrolled in the school who were present at a meeting called for the purpose of deciding whether to submit the petition. A student's parent(s) or guardian(s) shall collectively have one vote for each student enrolled in the school although parents of students at the school who are eligible to vote as faculty or instructional staff shall also have a single vote in the vote. Two weeks advance notice of the meeting published during which time a complete petition draft was available for review.

Date of Parent/Guardian Vote _____

Total Number of Parents/Guardians Attending Meeting _____

Number Approving _____ Percent Approving _____

Number Disapproving _____ Percent Disapproving _____

Principal's Signature

Date