

# State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

## Staff Recommendation for DuBois Integrity Academy Charter Amendment

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**Action:** To amend the DuBois Integrity Academy charter contract to add sixth, seventh and eighth grade to the allowable grades served and increase the student enrollment limit by 570 students to 1870 students at full enrollment in Section 3 Enrollment Limit of the charter contract.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Charter Schools Commission **approve** the DuBois Integrity Academy's request to amend its charter contract to add sixth, seventh and eighth grades and increase the student enrollment limit by 570 students.

**Rationale:** DuBois Integrity Academy (DIA) currently serves students in grades K-5. The school requested a charter contract amendment to expand its grade offerings to include 6<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2021-2022 school year, 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the 2022-2023 school year and be at full enrollment of grades K-8 in the 2023-2024 school year. The expansion plan of adding one grade per years allows for controlled growth and a natural matriculation pattern for students currently enrolled. The SCSC maintains established evaluation priorities in reviewing requests for expansion that require schools to establish a track-record of success by meeting SCSC performance expectations, particularly academic performance expectations. **DIA met academic performance standards consistently for the previous three years and was approved for a second 5-year charter term during the charter renewal process earlier this year.** The school submitted documentation evidencing support for the grade expansion from families, a feasible budget to account for adjustments to revenue and expenses, adequate enrollment projections and facility plans.

Should the SCSC vote to approve this amendment, and the school actualize the projected future growth, the school anticipates an increase of approximately 570 students in the additional grades over the course of its charter term. The school's charter contract permits a maximum enrollment of 1300 students. Thus, the school is requesting to increase its maximum enrollment to 1870.

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## DuBois Integrity Academy Background and Performance History

### DuBois Integrity Academy

Attendance zone: Clayton County

Grades: K-5

Charter Term: July 2020- June 2025

### Background:

DuBois Integrity Academy (DIA) is located in Riverdale, Georgia and serves all of Clayton County. The school opened in the 2015-16 school year serving students in grades K-5. The school is in its first year of its second 5-year charter term and requests a charter contract amendment to expand its grade offerings to include 6<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2021-2022 school year, 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the 2022-2023 school year and be at full enrollment of grades K-8 in the 2023-2024 school year. The expansion plan of adding one grade per year allows for controlled growth and a natural matriculation pattern for students currently enrolled. With the additional grade band expansion, the school is also requesting to increase its student enrollment limit by 570 students. Currently the DIA's enrollment limit is 1300 students; thus, the increase would allow the school to enroll up to 1870 students within the course of its charter term.

SCSC standards require that a school demonstrate a positive performance track record on the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) to warrant grade and enrollment limit expansion. DIA's charter contract was up for renewal in 2020. **As a school completing its initial charter term, DIA met SCSC performance standards as outlined in the CPF to earn a standard 5-year charter renewal. The school consistently outperformed its attendance zone in terms of academic performance.** Additionally, the school met standards in all areas of the CPF in the most recent year for which we have data and has shown growth and improvement in all sections of the CPF over the course of its initial charter term.

### Supporting Data:

| Proposed Enrollment |            |        |        |       |
|---------------------|------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Year/Grade          | Elementary | Middle | Grades | Total |
| 2020-21             | 870        | 0      | K-5    | 870   |
| 2021-22             | 950        | 150    | K-6    | 1100  |
| 2022-23             | 1100       | 280    | K-7    | 1380  |
| 2023-24             | 1200       | 390    | K-8    | 1590  |
| 2024-25             | 1300       | 570    | K-8    | 1870  |

| Comprehensive Performance Framework Results |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Year  | ACA | FIN | OPS |
| 2018-19                                     | 100 | 80  | 100 |
| 2017-18                                     | 98  | 70  | 80  |
| 2016-17                                     | 97  | 50  | 79  |
| 2015-16                                     | 1   | 65  | 69  |