State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Summary of Findings and Recommendation Commission Charter Application for Expedited Review

School: Fulton Leadership Academy (FLA) located in College Park, Georgia

Fulton Leadership Academy received a charter from the former Charter Commission in 2009 and

transitioned to a State-Chartered Special School in 2011.

The mission of Fulton Leadership Academy is "to provide a rigorous academic environment that

empowers students in grades 6-12 to become productive civic leaders."

Attendance Zone: Fulton County

Grade Levels Served: Grade 6 – Grade 12

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Charter School Commission **approve** a charter for the Fulton

Leadership Academy for a five-year term to run from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2018.

Summary of Findings: <u>Academics (Educational Plan)</u>

FLA serves a sixth through twelfth-grade population with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and a thematic approach that integrates experiences with aviation and aeronautics. FLA is a single-gender school serving young men and proposes to serve approximately 540 students by the fifth year of the charter term.

Fulton Leadership Academy has established rigorous performance-based goals and measurable objectives designed to improve student achievement that directly relate to increased performance on the CRCTs, EOCTs, the GHSWT and the ITBS. These academic goals and objectives include achieving standards that exceed those of the district and state. Fulton Leadership Academy has also established goals related to daily attendance, parental satisfaction and fiscal feasibility. Fulton Leadership Academy made AYP for the 2010-2011 school year. Although AYP was not calculated for 2011-2012, Fulton Leadership Academy demonstrated overall growth, with strong growth in Math.

Capacity (Organizational Plan)

FLA's Governing Board consists of an array of highly competent individuals who possess knowledge and experience that enable successful governing of a charter school. In addition to the Governing Board, FLA has an Advisory Council which consists of representatives from Lockheed, Boeing, the Federal Aviation Association, Law Firms, and the Georgia Center of Innovation for Aerospace, the Museum of Aviation, Georgia Power Company, and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Members of the community, local organizations, and the local affiliates of national organizations provide an additional "Cushion of Support" for FLA and its students.

<u>Significant Changes from Previous Charter</u>

All academic goals have been updated to reflect the state-wide change in federal accountability. New goals are aligned with the state performance targets and the College and Career Readiness Performance Index (CCRPI).

Additional Assurances:

FLA completed GaDOE's full petition review process (requesting renewal) within the last year, and was recommended for renewal by GaDOE staff in 2012.