

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Staff Recommendation for the 2018 Cycle February 28, 2018

School:	Georgia Connections Academy
Attendance Zone:	Statewide
Grade Levels:	6-12
Staff Recommendation:	SCSC staff recommends that the renewal petition for Georgia Connections Academy be approved by authorizing the SCSC Chair to execute a 3-year charter contract for the operation of a state charter school.

Rationale:

Georgia Connections Academy (GACA) met the expectations established by the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) in the fourth year of its current charter term. Given the improvement GACA demonstrated during its charter term in meeting academic, financial and operational expectations, the school's performance evidences that the school will likely demonstrate its ability to consistently meet SCSC expectations during a renewed 3-year charter term.

1. Academic Performance

Georgia Connections Academy met SCSC academic expectations as measured by the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) in the fourth year of its current charter term when considering the school's proposed new grade composition of grades 6-12. In the fourth year of its charter term, GACA outperformed its comparison district (statewide average) in grades 6-8 as measured by the CCRPI Achievement subscore. Additionally, GACA performed statistically similar to its comparison district in grades 9-12 as measured by the CCRPI Progress subscore in the fourth year of its charter contract. Further, GACA's performance in grades 6-12 as measured by the CCRPI Achievement and CCRPI Progress subscores has improved over the course of its current charter term.

2. Financial Performance

Georgia Connections Academy met standards in the fourth year of the current charter term on the Financial portion of the CPF. Audits were submitted in a timely manner before the deadline and appear to demonstrate the school's ability to adequately manage cash and debt.

3. Operational Compliance

Georgia Connections Academy met standards on the Operational portion of the CPF in three out of four years for which data is available. On-site monitoring revealed minimal findings and the school has a history of quickly remedying any identified deficiencies.

Link to Petition and Related Materials:

View the petition for Georgia Connections Academy [here](#).
