

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Staff Recommendation for the 2018 Cycle February 28, 2018

School:	Ivy Preparatory Academy at Gwinnett
Attendance Zone:	Gwinnett County Public Schools, DeKalb County School District and Fulton County Schools
Grade Levels:	K-8
Staff Recommendation:	SCSC staff recommends that the renewal petition for Ivy Preparatory Academy at Gwinnett be approved by authorizing the SCSC Chair to execute a 3-year charter contract for the operation of a state charter school to begin on July 1, 2019.

Rationale:

Ivy Preparatory Academy at Gwinnett (Ivy Gwinnett) substantively met the expectations established by the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) during the current charter term. Given the academic track record and improvement Ivy Gwinnett demonstrated during its charter term in meeting 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

Ivy Gwinnett met SCSC academic expectations as measured by the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) in three out of the four years of its charter term for which academic data is available. Ivy Gwinnett outperformed its comparison district (Gwinnett County Public Schools, DeKalb County School District and Fulton County Schools) in all grade bands served utilizing achievement and progress scores as measured by the CCRPI.

2. Financial Performance

Ivy Gwinnett met standards in only one year of the current charter term for which data is available on the Financial portion of the Performance Framework. On-site monitoring revealed significant deficiencies relating to financial compliance with established financial policies and procedures. Although audits were not submitted in a timely manner before the deadline in at least two of four years of the charter term, the school appears to demonstrate the ability to adequately manage cash and debt. Despite these deficiencies, Ivy Gwinnett demonstrated marked improvement in the school's financial systems over the course of the current charter term.

3. Operational Compliance

Ivy Gwinnett did not meet standards on the Operational portion of the CPF in any year of the current charter term for which data is available. Although annual on-site monitoring revealed deficiencies, the school has a history of quickly remedying any identified deficiencies. Additionally, Ivy Gwinnett demonstrated marked improvement in the school's operational systems over the course of the current charter term.

Link to Petition and Related Materials:

[View the petition for Ivy Preparatory Academy at Gwinnett here.](#)
