
School: **Cobb Preparatory Academy**

Attendance Zone: Statewide

Grade Levels: K-8

Staff Recommendation: SCSC staff recommends that the SCSC **deny** the petition for the Cobb Preparatory Academy.

Rationale:

1. The petition did not demonstrate the community need and support at the level needed to sustain enrollment and school operations. While the proposed school cited the popularity of its sister-schools in Cherokee and Coweta counties, there was no written documentation evidencing community desire that would indicate ultimate student enrollment in the proposed school.
 2. The proposed school identified a statewide attendance zone, but the school did not establish its ability or commitment to serve students across the state or from a large geographic area.
 3. The proposed school did not outline a clear governance structure. While the interview did provide some clarification as to the reporting structure and respective decision-making authority of the Georgia Charter Education Foundation, local governing council, and school administration, further written explanation is needed for a complete understanding of school governance.
 4. The proposed school did not demonstrate that the local governing council possesses adequate governing capacity to operate a charter school that operates as its own Local Education Agency (LEA). The legal and operational requirements of operating an LEA necessitate broad knowledge as well as specialized expertise in a variety of areas. The proposed local governing council, while passionate about education and the school, did not establish its ability to hold school leadership accountable for the implementation of the educational plan and adherence to all legal requirements.
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