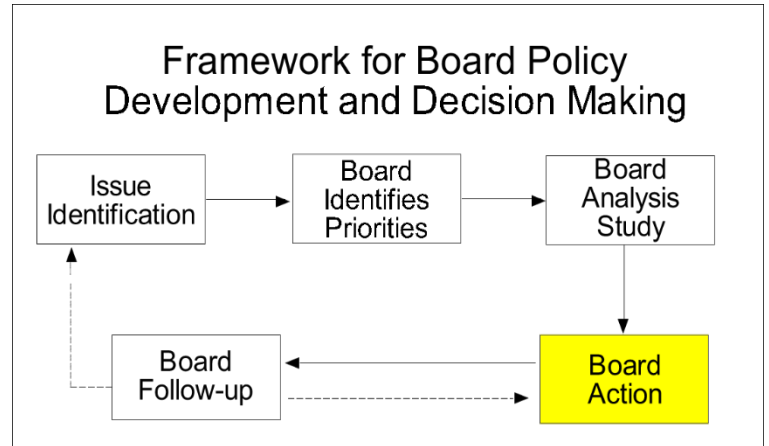


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

January 9, 2025



- Agenda Item:** Charter School Application Recommendation, Great Oaks High School and Career Center Des Moines
- State Board Priority:** Goal 5
- State Board Role/Authority:** The State Board of Education is the sole authorizer of Iowa charter schools 256E.1(4).
- Presenter(s):** Deborah Elder
Chief Operating Officer
- Attachment(s):** One
- Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board approve the application for Great Oaks High School and Career Center Des Moines charter school.
- Background:** The Iowa State Board of Education “shall employ procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with nationally recognized principles and standards for reviewing charter school applications.” 256E.1(5). As the authorizing agent for the State Board, the Department of Education has reviewed the charter school application and provides an evidence-based recommendation in alignment with nationally recognized standards.

Great Oaks High School and Career Center

Charter Overview

Location South Des Moines

Grades 9 - 12

Education Service Provider Oakmont Education

Opening Year for Students 2026-2027

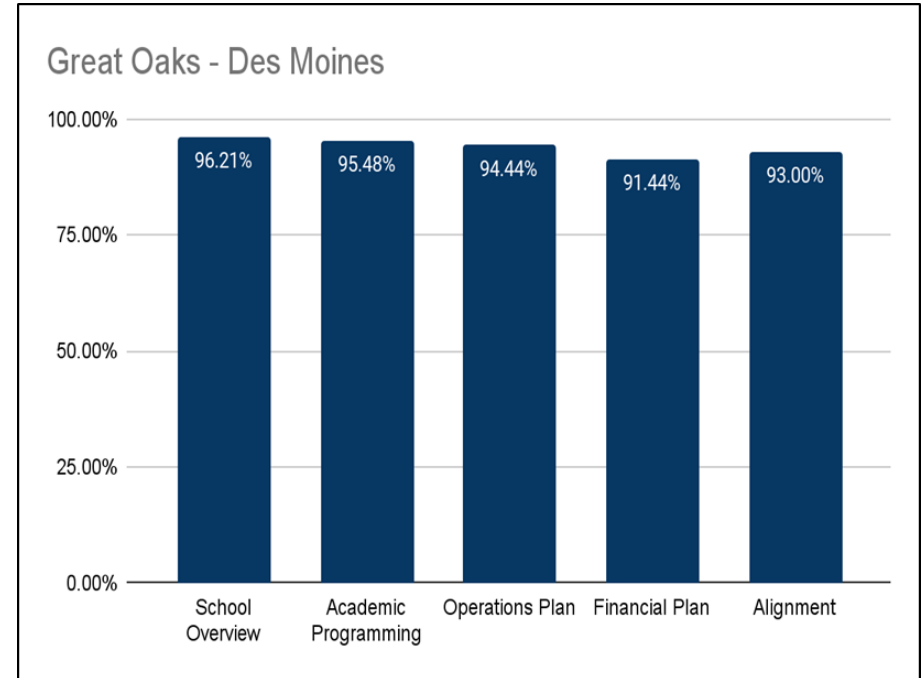
	Year 1	Year 5
Projected Staff	13	19
Projected Student Enrollment	138 (Grades 9 - 12)	325 (Grades 9 - 12)
Projected Revenue	\$1,755,568	\$2,946,455
Projected Expenses	\$1,731,487	\$2,652,884
Projected Balance	\$24,081	\$617,332

Environmental Scan and Summary of Need

- 3,158 high school dropouts since 2019 and 14% youth unemployment in the target area
- Partnerships with Iowa Workforce Development, Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG), Urban Dreams and Central Iowa Workforce Development Board
- Engaged with Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)

Review Team Recommendation: Approval

Charter Application Review Scores



Innovative Model Description	Requested Waivers
<p>Great Oaks High School and Career Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focus on opportunity youth and dropout recovery ➤ Personalized learning, wraparound support, small class sizes, field experience 	<p>Provision of Iowa Code section 256.7(21) and the required Offer and Teach educational standards of Iowa Code section 256.11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project-based, personalized learning program is designed for the target population to provide an effective alternative to traditional instruction <p>Provision of instruction for at least the number of days or hours required by Iowa Code section 279.10(1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Academic programming schedule alternates weekly between extensive field experience and classroom personalized instruction

Academic Program

- Personalized learning, wraparound support, career and technical education (CTE), aligned academic/career centers, innovation and adaptability, community engagement, and community partnerships: Sector Strategy Approach
- The student schedule alternates between work-based learning in the field and individualized academic instructional support and credit recovery

Operations Plan

- The founding group brings experience in planning, opening and sustaining a charter school
- Oakmont Education currently operates a successful charter school in northern Des Moines
- Comprehensive plans for administrative, teacher, and governing board recruitment, development, and evaluation
- The application describes a clear plan for student recruitment

Financial Plan

- The Oakmont Education organization pledged to provide financial support to assist with startup funding and ongoing operations
- Several grants have been identified for pursuit in order to further strengthen ongoing financial projections, including grants previously secured by Great Oaks
- The founding group presented evidence of a realistic and viable five-year budget

Five-Year Projected Budget	Year One 2026-2027	Year Two 2027-2028	Year Three 2028-2029	Year Four 2029-2030	Year Five 2030-2031
Projected Enrollment	138	210	275	325	325
Total Revenue	\$1,755,568	\$1,916,427	\$2,449,376	\$2,913,173	\$2,946,455
Total Expenditures	\$1,731,487	\$1,901,544	\$2,217,747	\$2,589,413	\$2,652,884
Net Revenue/Expenditures	\$24,081	\$14,884	\$231,629	\$323,761	\$293,572
Prior Year Surplus/Deficit		\$24,081	\$14,884	\$231,629	\$323,761
Remaining Balance	\$24,081	\$38,965	\$246,513	\$555,389	\$617,332