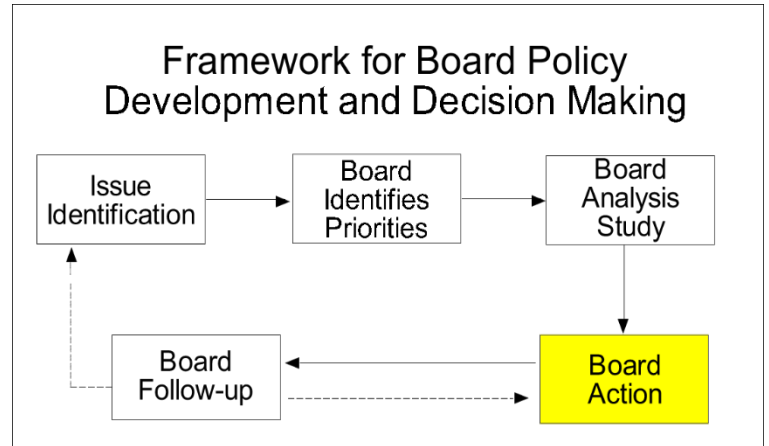


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

January 9, 2025



Agenda Item: Charter School Application Recommendation, Horizon Science Academy Davenport

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 Horizon Science Academy Davenport 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.

Horizon Science Academy

Charter Overview

Location Davenport

Grades K-10

Education Service Provider Concept Schools

Opening Year for Students 2025-2026

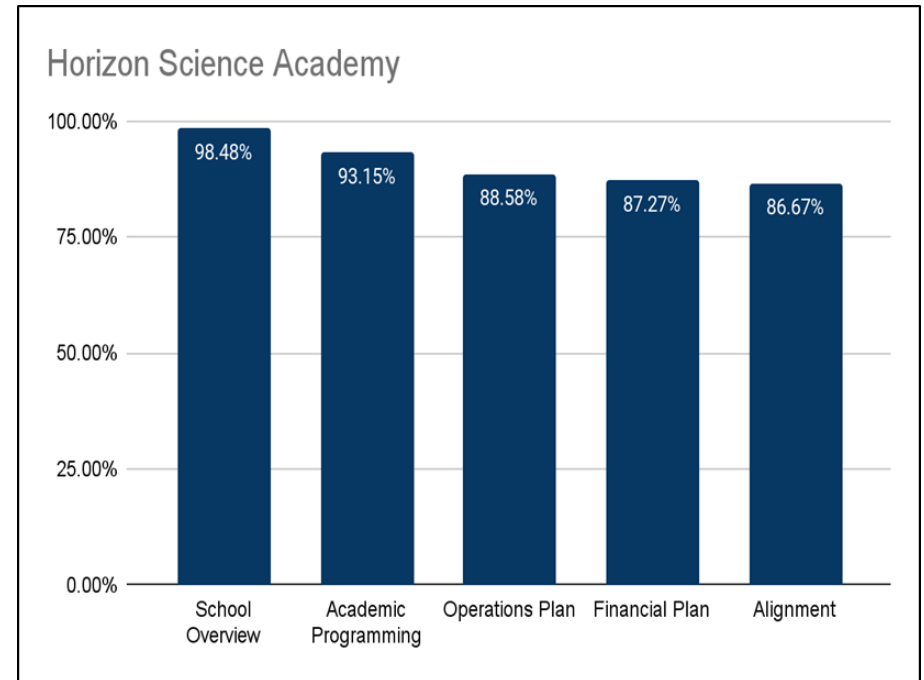
	Year 1	Year 5
Projected Staff	21	36
Projected Student Enrollment	210 (Grades K - 6)	410 (Grades K - 10)
Projected Revenue	\$2,843,690	\$4,725,908
Projected Expenses	\$2,802,469	\$4,474,003
Projected Balance	\$41,221	\$708,890

Environmental Scan and Summary of Need

- Engaged with civic and business leaders including the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce, Estes Construction, and United Way of the Quad Cities
- Partnered with local resource center to meet local families, learning their needs and programming interests

Review Team Recommendation: Approval

Charter Application Review Scores



Innovative Model Description	Requested Waivers
<p>Horizon Science Academy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), career and technical education (CTE), and college and career readiness through instruction rooted in project-based, collaboration, the science of reading, and Universal Design for Learning ➤ Young Scholars Program designed to improve academic success and develop skills through community service, competitions, college trips, and other excursions 	N/A

Academic Program

- The application details a variety of extra-curricular activities, directly related to the charter purpose/vision including codeathons and robotics clubs, STEM Expos, and a schoolwide science fair with winners going to the Concept Science and Engineering Fair
- Instructional practices integrate evidence-based teaching methods including direct teaching, differentiated instruction, problem/project-based learning, collaborative learning, data-driven instruction and use of technology

Operations Plan

- Planned professional development, coaching and evaluation plans are thorough and detailed
- Concept Schools currently operates a successful charter school in Des Moines
- The founding group has expertise in a wide variety of innovative school approaches
- The application describes a clear plan for student recruitment

Financial Plan

- The Concept Schools organization and its sister organization pledged to provide upfront and ongoing facilities and financial support
- The application presents evidence of a realistic and viable five-year budget

Five-Year Projected Budget	Year One 2025-2026	Year Two 2026-2027	Year Three 2027-2028	Year Four 2028-2029	Year Five 2029-2030
Projected Enrollment	210	260	310	360	410
Total Revenue	\$2,843,690.49	\$3,076,052.97	\$3,617,123.42	\$4,167,031.58	\$4,725,908.90
Total Expenditures	\$2,802,469.05	\$2,776,241.62	\$3,561,343.73	\$4,106,859.64	\$4,474,003.08
Net Revenue/Expenditures	\$41,221.44	\$299,811.35	\$55,779.70	\$60,171.94	\$251,905.82
Prior Year Surplus/Deficit		\$41,221.44	\$341,032.79	\$396,812.49	\$456,984.43
Remaining Balance	\$41,221.44	\$341,032.79	\$396,812.49	\$456,984.43	\$708,890.25