

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

June 18, 2026

Agenda Item: Hamburg Charter High School Amendment

State Board Goal: Goal 5

State Board Role/Authority: The State Board of Education is the sole authorizer of Iowa charter schools Iowa Code section 256E.1(4).

Presenter(s): Tina Wahlert, Division Administrator
Division of PK-12 Learning

Barbara Ohlund, Executive Officer
Division of PK-12 Learning

Alec Hendrickson, Principal/Superintendent - Elect
Hamburg Charter High School and Hamburg Community
School District

Attachment(s): One

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the amendment request for Hamburg Charter High School.

Background: After authorization, “an enforceable and renewable charter school contract shall be executed between the founding group and the State Board setting forth the academic and operational performance expectations and measures by which the charter school will be evaluated” pursuant to Iowa Code sections 256E.9 and 256E.10 and the other rights and duties of the parties of Iowa Code subsection 256E.6(1). As the authorizing agent for the State Board, the Department of Education has reviewed the charter school contract amendment request and provides a recommendation.

Hamburg Charter High School has submitted contract amendment language, rationale, desired outcome and evidence of a public meeting.

Iowa Charter School Amendment Request Hamburg Charter High School

The *Iowa Charter School Amendment Request Form* is completed by an authorized Charter School that requests consideration of a proposed contract amendment to the State Board of Education.

1. Requested Amendment

A. Cite existing contract language to be amended.	B. Provide specific proposed amended language.
Section 6.1- School grade levels. In accordance with Iowa Code 256E.5(d), the Charter will provide educational services for grades 9 thru 12.	Section 6.1 School Grade Levels "In accordance with Iowa Code subsection 256E.5(d), the Charter will provide educational services for grades 7 thru 12."

2. Rationale Describe the rationale for the language revision from 1A to 1B. Provide sufficient detail to explain the need for the amendment.

The Hamburg charter board proposes expanding the charter program from grades 9 - 12 to 7 - 12. The charter high school has provided meaningful career and technical educational opportunities to grades 9 - 12. The board wishes to expand to provide earlier exposure to those meaningful educational opportunities in career and technical areas.

3. Desired Outcome Describe the desired outcome of the amendment.

To expand meaningful educational and career path opportunities to more students by expanding the Hamburg Charter School to include grades 7 and 8.

4. Best Practices Describe how previous practices that led to the established contract language (1A) will change to support the current amended language (1B). How will the charter ensure effective implementation of the proposed amendment?

The charter high school has grown from 35 to 68 students in four school years. Students are graduating with skills and certifications in the career paths of welding, construction, culinary, nursing and technology. The goal is to expose students at an earlier age and provide more exposure to coursework at an earlier age. Also, the district hopes to appeal to students from other communities to enroll in career programs at earlier ages by offering the career tracks to grades 7 and 8.

5. Documentation

- a. The amendment is approved by the charter school governing board (meeting agenda and minutes reflecting approval of the amendment request).
- b. A public meeting with stakeholders addressing the proposed change/s to the charter contract. Note that a designated public comment specific to the amendment on the governing board agenda may fulfill the public meeting requirement. Include names and roles of each individual that participated in public comment and a summary of their input.

A board meeting was held on May 18, 2026, to discuss the proposed amendment to add grades 7 and 8 to the charter school. Enclosed is the evidence of a public meeting: [PMAmendment](#) and board minutes [GBAmendment Approval](#), from May 18, 2026.