

Charter Application Recommendations to Denver Board of Education
District Accountability Committee 2017

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The CUBE [9 to 12]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An innovative model using project base learning as the starting point of learning rather than after.• Strong in-house leadership team link with DSST.• Strong, connected Board.• Sufficient local support and connections to sustain creative energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would work best as a magnet school => best if located w/ good public transportation access.• Admitting no new students in grades 11 and 12. Transfer out problems?• Curriculum and lessons not yet created, requiring much teacher creativity.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

PODER Academy Greenlee [ECE-5]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership team has three people who are of the culture and language of most of the school's students.• The leadership has two successful school in operation in Wyoming.• The leadership team has high expectations supported with multiple tutoring and remediation venues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laramie County spends \$17,314 per student, and Wyoming spends \$16,597 per student. Operating a PODER Academy with the DPS much lower PPR may be a challenge.• Taking over a low performing ECE-5 school of 335 students, and turning it around.• Insufficient community outreach, insufficient community knowledge.• distinctive strategy better suited to magnet school

Overall Recommendation: Deny Application

Colorado High School Charter GES [9 to 12]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small H.S. with dropout recovery, alternative education focus can provide a sheltered environment for challenged student success.• Conversion of a satellite campus into its own school with existing enrolled students based on an existing successful school model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local need exists, but undetermined if sufficient to make school viable.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

University Prep III (Amesse) [ECE to 5]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Team is a replication of a successful local elementary school.• Four week summer training for new teachers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CMO Central office management fee of \$1,028 per student may limit funds directed to the classrooms.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

University Prep 4, 5, and 6 [ECE to 5]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These elementary schools are replications of the U. Prep III.• U. Prep Arapahoe , a K-5 is SPF blue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CMO supporting services are 9.4 percent of the budget, or \$434,383 at full build (\$1,006 per student). This may limit funds directed to classrooms.• Rapid expansion may suffer from not finding talented, energetic teachers and leaders.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

Rocky Mountain Prep 4, 5, and 6 [ECE to 5]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RM Prep has one green K-5 school operating, RMP Creekside.• Three board members have prior school board experience.• relationship and support from existing CCA administration and community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rapid replication of one functioning school presents capacity challenges.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

5280 High School [9 to 12]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addiction sensitive staff and program can help a projected 10% of the students.• The identified school principal has two years prior CLA experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5280 H.S. is a blend of an addiction recovery school and a traditional charter school.• Some aspects make this best suited to be a comprehensive wellness-focused magnet school, or with the addiction recovery program integrated into existing schools..

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

STRIVE Prep 4, 5, and 6 [K-5]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replication of a local blue STRIVE operating K-5 school will help inform the STRIVE 4, 5 and 6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capacity to maintain quality while rapidly expanding may be a challenge.• Finding teachers willing to work at the below DPS pay scale may be a challenge.

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

KIPP Sunshine Peak Elementary School [ECE to 4]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KIPP has one elementary school which is SPF green.• This application adds a KIPP feeder school to a southwest Denver KIPP middle school.• KIPP has a long history operating in DPS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KIPP has uneven SPF ratings in their network. KIPP Montbello College Prep (5-8) is SPF Accredited, on Priority Watch.• Student transitions between schools (from 4th grade to 5th grade) out of sync w/ broader DPS conventions (more common transitions from 5th to 6th and 8th to 9th), may minimize appeal for families who do not want to lock into KIPP model at ECE or K. (Strong concern on this point)

Overall Recommendation: Approve Application

SLAM Colorado [K to 12]

Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A vision that gives students opportunities to work in the field of sports through community partnerships.• The design team from SLAM has opened three 6-8 or 6-12 schools in Florida and Nevada.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School location far from the sports teams they intend to engage, making long-term engagement problematic in both directions.• Charter Management Organization is both expensive and very distant.• No proposed school leadership person or team identified or involved in the school design or writing of the application.• Intents to open 7 grades in the first year.• SLAM Network has no record of opening a K-5 school.• SLAM model may be best suited to 9-12 or 6-12 magnet similar to DSA.

Overall Recommendation: Deny Application