



Charter School Petition Guidance

For the 2025 review cycle for schools proposed to open during the
2026-2027 school year

Dr. Emily Coady
Director, Program Development and Improvement
October 23, 2024
2-4pm, Instructional Resource Center

Agenda



- Walkthrough district's timeline and requirements
- Discuss district's petition guidance and template
- Engage in Q&A

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District Vision and Mission



Gwinnett County Public Schools will become a system of world-class schools where students acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and careers. The mission of Gwinnett County Public Schools is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.



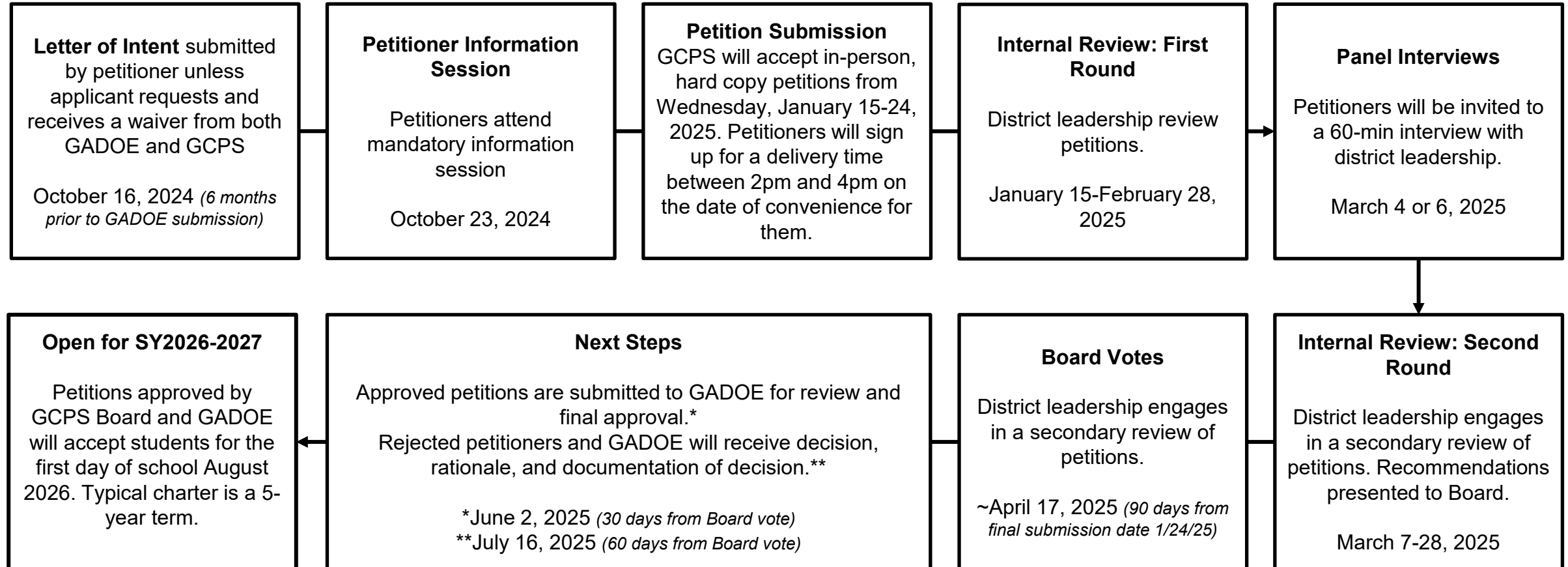
We embrace the opportunity to provide its students the choice of educational experiences that align with the mission and vision of the Board of Education.



GCPS will engage in a fair, transparent, and efficient process in rendering decisions regarding charter school petitions. The goal is to approve high-quality charter schools that provide students with those educational opportunities they would otherwise not receive from the district.



2025 Charter Review Cycle



Petition Submission Window

Petition Submission

GCPS will accept in-person, hard copy petitions from Wednesday, January 15-24, 2025. Petitioners will sign up for a delivery time between 2pm and 4pm on the date of convenience for them.

Monday January 13, 2025

Petitioners may sign up for the time and date of their in-person delivery of their petition. Delivery times will be 2-4pm, Wednesday, January 15 through Friday, January 24. Time slots will be for 30 minutes.

Date of Delivery

Dr. Coady, or another district designee, will meet you in the lobby of the Instructional Support Center, 437 Old Peachtree Rd., Suwanee, GA, 30024 at your chosen date and time. Your petition will be reviewed for submission fidelity and both you and district designee will sign off on the submission checklist.

Electronic Submission

At your in-person submission, you will receive instructions on how to submit your petition electronically as well. You will have until January 27th at 4pm to submit your petition electronically.

Charter and District Roles

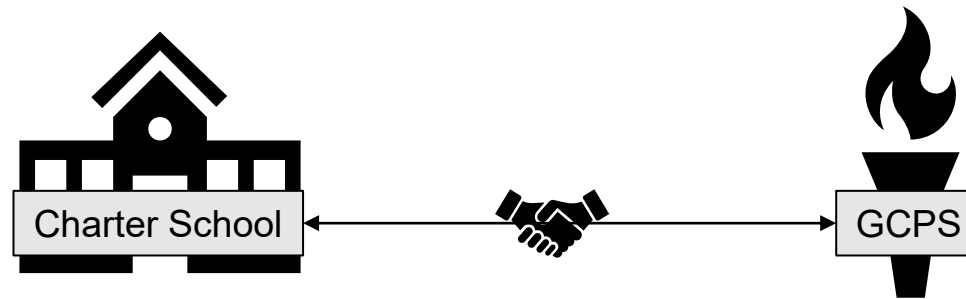
Petition Review Cycle



- Petitions submitted during the January 2025 submission window are being considered for a school opening for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Petitioners are required to follow all district and GADOE instructions, provide all necessary documentation, and be responsive to questions or needs from GCPS.
- Any approvals or denials are the result of Board vote informed by the review committee's recommendations.
- Can not and does not provide feedback or guidance except in the form of revision requests, points of clarity, and decision rationale after Board vote.

Charter and District Roles

Approved Petitions



- Refer to “Locally-Approved Charter School Partners Roles and Responsibilities.” *pg. 28*
- Independent school-level governance, personnel decisions, resource allocation, instruction, student achievement, day-to-day school operations.
- Ensure school receives all per-pupil and other funding to which it is entitled by agreement with the local district as its fiscal agent.
- Holds school accountable on operational compliance and student academic results.
- MOU outlines the remaining aspects of relationship, mutually agreed upon (*SPED support, purchasing, student data management, etc.*)

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Petition Guidance



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★ Both the 2025 Petition Guidance document and the 2025 Petition Template are found at gcpsk12.org/schools/program-development-and-improvement/charter-schools under CHARTER SCHOOL PETITION DOCUMENTS

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Reminders

- All templates, necessary documents, are found on GCPS website.
- You can sign up for a convenient date and time for an in-person delivery of hard copies starting noon on January 13, 2025, also on the GCPS website.
- You will receive electronic submission guidelines at the time of your in-person submission.
- To be considered in this review cycle, intended for schools opening in August 2026, petitions must be received and signed off by 4pm on Friday, January 24, 2025. The district will not provide extensions for any reason.
- The Review Committee may reach out with requests for revisions, points of clarity, and/or additional information during the review cycle. The district will not provide any feedback or guidance for petitions.
- Panel interviews will take place on March 4 and 6, 2025. Review committee will be in touch for you to sign up for a 60-min slot.
- The final vote will take place at the April Board meeting – tentatively scheduled for April 17, 2025 *(90 days from final submission date)*.
- Approved petitions will be forwarded to GADOE by June 2, 2025 *(30 days from Board vote)*.
- Denied petitions will receive rationale and decision documentation by July 16, 2025 *(60 days from Board vote)*.



Thank you!

The mission of Gwinnett County Public Schools is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.