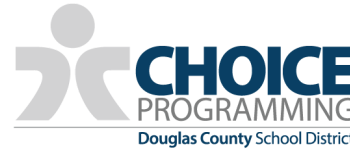


**To:** Erin Kane, Superintendent  
DCSD Board of Education Directors

**From:** Gordon Mosher, Executive Director of Choice Programming

**Date:** February 21, 2025

**Subject:** Global Village Academy Expansion Request



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Superintendent Kane, and DCSD Board of Education Directors,

In August of 2024, the Choice Programming Office received communication from Global Village Academy (GVA-DC) indicating their request to expand on the grades served on their existing site from K-6 to K-8. The expansion application is to increase building capacity to the current location while also expanding grade levels. The DCSD Charter Procedure Manual LBD-R-1 indicates the following:

#### **CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSION PROCEDURE**

For existing district charter schools interested in expanding grade levels (i.e. from an elementary K-5 or K-6 to a middle school or a K-8 to a high school) or planning to establish an additional location, the following criteria will need to be met first:

- The school must have been in operation for at least three years;
- The school must have a proven program demonstrating compliance with district and contract standards in the areas of academics, finance, operations and governance; and
- There is demonstrated demand for the expansion.

Global Village Academy was originally chartered by DCSD as a K-8 campus. Due to low enrollment in grades 6-8 in their early years, the decision was made to focus on strengthening grades K-5 until there was demonstrated success which would result in more students maintaining enrollment through grade 8. This decision was mutually agreed upon by the GVA-DC Board and the DCSD Board. Due to GVA-DC's unique immersion program for multiple languages, there were not enough students enrolled in the middle school program because they had not been enrolled in the language immersion programming long enough to find success at the higher levels GVA had seen in their other campuses. When students are enrolled in GVA-DC in the primary years, they establish the language fluency needed to perform successfully in middle school where language immersion is the focus. In recent years, there has been a larger push from the GVA-DC community for students to remain at

GVA-DC through grade 8. This has led to strong cohorts of students who are demonstrating language immersion successfully and intend to stay enrolled through middle school at GVA-DC.

Currently, students are matriculating to neighborhood middle schools (mostly in the Parker area) where they struggle to find accessibility to foreign language opportunities at the level of rigor they require. In 2024, there was an amendment to the GVA-DC contract for the school to serve students in grades K-6. The successful expansion back into grade 6 has created excitement in the parent community, along with evidence of demand for an expansion application and charter amendment which would bring GVA-DC back to a K-8 charter school.

The GVA-DC campus in Parker is undersized, and does not have adequate space for the existing student population in grades K-6. GVA has worked with architecture firms and has an existing project plan in place which they have brought to the Town of Parker in alignment with all local municipal requirements. Even without expansion of grade levels, GVA will need capital improvements to add classroom space on the current property. There are presently 2 mobiles on the GVA-DC property, which support 4 classrooms. The facility proposal GVA has submitted to the Town of Parker would remove these 2 mobiles, while adding a 12 classroom addition to the existing school resulting in an additional 8 classrooms.

Global Village Academy does not intend to increase enrollment in grades K-5. The application for expansion does allow for more students to enroll in grades 6-8. This would increase the overall enrollment at GVA-DC by approximately 130 students at full capacity which is projected to be 2029/30. The current enrollment at GVA is 450, and the projected enrollment in 2029/30 would be 580 students. It should be noted that GVA enrolls minimal numbers of students after grade 2 due to their language immersion programming. All growth would be realized by students remaining at GVA through their middle school years. There are 27 students in grade 6 at GVA this year.

In a review of the student matriculation trends at GVA, the majority of students move to attend Sierra Middle School after their last grade. There are fairly low numbers of students that have left GVA to attend other neighborhood schools other than Sierra. If there are 30 students in current grade 6 at GVA, data shows about 15 of them would matriculate to Sierra and the other 12 are spread across DCSD Charter Schools, with 2-3 choosing to leave the District annually.

## **DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS**

Global Village Academy has received Effective ratings on the DCSD Annual Site Reports in the areas of Finance, Academics, Operations, and Budget. In their recent renewal, an outside evaluator indicated a rating of Exemplary in all areas.

### Budget and Finance:

Asset Sufficiency Ratio (ASR) Benchmark $\geq 1$			Operating Reserve Ratio (ORR) Benchmark $\geq .0192$			Operating Margin Ratio (OMR) Benchmark $\geq .01$			Change in Fund Balance Ratio (CFBR) Benchmark $> 0$			Default of loan covenant or delinquent on payment	Accreditation Issues Current Year	Accreditation Issues Prior Year	CDE Comment 22-23
2024	2023	2022	2024	2023	2022	2024	2023	2022	2024	2023	2022		2024	2023	2023
2.73	3.68	2.72	0.11	0.18	0.09	-0.01	0.08	0.06	-0.11	1.02	2.65	No	None	None	None

A review of the past three years shows Global Village Academy has met many of the benchmarks set forth by Douglas County School District, showing good fiscal health. The school is below the Operating Margin Ratio benchmark in 2024. Operating Margin Ratio indicates the amount added to reserves for every \$1 in total general fund gross revenue. Operating Margin has a benchmark of  $>.01$ , Global Village Academy has fluctuated over the years from below the benchmark in 2021 with -0.02, to a .06 in 2022 and .08 2023. The school also missed the Change in Fund Balance ratio in 2024, this ratio indicates the change in the general fund balance and a consistent decline is not sustainable. Global Village Academy has fluctuated over the past three years from 2.65 in 2022 1.02 in 2023 down to a -0.11 in 2024. Global Village Academy shows overall good fiscal health and meets all financial deadlines.

### Recommendation:

The Choice Programming Office recommends that the charter contract for Global Village Academy be amended to include grades K-8. Additionally, staff recommends that GVA-DC move forward with capital improvements which would add needed space for educational opportunities at their current location. There are no concerns about compliance with District and contract standards in the areas of academics, finance, operations and governance. GVA-DC is working with the Town of Parker, and has had a third party agency review their financial and construction plans. The charter Board has engaged with an owner's representative in this expansion application. GVA-DC completed a full renewal in 2024 and is in good standing. When the original charter contract was approved for GVA, the District approved grades K-8. GVA-DC and their Board of Directors has agreed to work with families throughout this process with clarity and overt communication on construction timelines.

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Gordon L Mosher III  
Douglas County School District  
Executive Director of Choice Programming