

CHALLENGE TO EXCELLENCE REQUEST FOR EXPANSION

December, 2023



Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow

DCSD Choice Programming
and Charter Leadership

DCSD Process

DCSD Policy **LBD R-1** States that:

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.

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 - **Challenge To Excellence MEETS**
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 - **Challenge To Excellence MEETS**
- There is demonstrated demand for the expansion.
 - **Challenge To Excellence MEETS**

Overview of the Request

The Need:

- **Current enrollment is 550** students, with some grade levels at 2 sections and others at 3 - Creates staffing and enrollment inconsistencies
 - Expansion of current building would allow for **total enrollment of 675**
 - At **opening in fall of 2025**, all grade levels K-8 would have 75 students (3 sections)
- Expansion on current site in 2 phases to add an additional 10 classrooms (replacing 4 mobiles), a middle school cafeteria, and an administration office
- Waitlist has grown from 232 in school year 2020-21 to 408 students in 23-24
- Increase of FTE aligns with increase in student enrollment

Staff Recommendation

RECOMMENDATION: It is the recommendation of DCSD staff that the expansion application of Challenge to Excellence Charter be **approved**.

Questions for Staff and C2E Leadership?