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Board Cover Memorandum

To Board of Education

From Dr. Denise Saddler, Interim Superintendent
Jenine Lindsey, General Counsel
Kelly Krag-Arnold, Director, Office of Charter Schools

Meeting Date January 26, 2026

Subject Initial Public Hearing – Downtown Charter Academy Charter Petition and Request for Material Revision – Grades 6-8, Change of Enrollment Preference and Enrollment Increase, Effective July 1, 2026

Ask of the Board Board members will have the opportunity to ask the lead charter petitioners questions following the presentation.

Background Downtown Charter Academy (“DCA”), which is managed by Amethod Public Schools (“AMPS”), submitted a material revision request on December 9, 2025. The Charter School indicated that the proposed material revision provides an enrollment pathway for students displaced by the anticipated voluntary closure of Oakland Charter Academy (“OCA”), also managed by AMPS, at the end of the 2025-26 school year. Under the Material Revision, DCA proposes to update its enrollment priorities to establish a one-year enrollment preference for current 6th and 7th grade students displaced by the closure of OCA. The temporary policy would apply only for the 2026-27 school year. DCA’s material revision request also includes a 36% increase in projected enrollment from 330 in 2025-26 to 448 in 2026-27, in order to accommodate the students displaced by the anticipated OCA voluntary closure.

Discussion Board members will have the opportunity to ask the lead charter petitioners questions at the Initial Public Hearing.

Fiscal Impact No direct fiscal impact.

Attachment(s) ● DCA Material Revision Petition – Red Line
● DCA Material Revision Petition - Clean
● DCA Initial Petition Hearing Presentation