

CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL UPDATE



Presented to the Iowa Department of Education
Wednesday, November 9, 2022



Executive Summary - Provided Exhibits are Included Below

“The Department has a duty to monitor the effectiveness of charter schools pursuant to Iowa Code section 256E.3 and Iowa Administrative Code r. 281 - 19.13. Under this authority, the Department is requesting an initial charter school update from each new charter school be sent electronically to my attention by the close of business on Wednesday, November 9, 2022. The update shall include the components below.”

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I. Student Enrollment

a. Student enrollment on start date
9/6/2022 = 65 students ([Attendance report 9/06/2022](#))

b. Current (certified enrollment) count

Certified Enrollment 2022

Non-Resident Public Students Attending your District

Enrollment on 10/15/2022 = 86 students

Enrollment on 11/4/2022 = 96 students

c. Projected year-end student enrollment

It is projected that our enrollment will reach 300 by the year-end. Currently we have 96 students with about 5 new students added weekly. With this trajectory alone, by year-end Choice Charter School should have roughly 246 students. There will be a media campaign in December and January to encourage more students to participate. This should bring in another 100+ students. Our capacity for year one is 300 but we would take up to 600 if that happens.

II. Course offerings

a. Current course offerings

Core (Project-based classes that work with students in multiple disciplines)

IDMS1 provides students with 1 Carnegie unit of physics and 1 Carnegie unit of algebra 1 over two terms, and conforms to the recommendation of the National Science Teachers Association to teach physics in 9th grade as a way to make science accessible and equitable for all. Algebra concepts are intertwined with the units.

IDMS2 provides students with 1 Carnegie unit of geometry and 1 Carnegie unit of computer science over two terms, and uses technology applications such as Desmos, Scratch and Tinkercad to help students become more adept at conceptualizing geometry in the real world.

IDBE provides students with 1 Carnegie unit of biology and 1 Carnegie unit of environmental and integrated earth science over two terms, and focuses on the interdynamics of a changing planet and our place within it.

IDEASS1 provides students with 1 Carnegie unit of US History and 1 Carnegie unit of English over two terms, and focuses on essential topics, primary and secondary source documents, and related English texts and writing.

IDEASS2 provides students with 1 Carnegie unit of World History and 1 Carnegie unit of English over two terms, and focuses on essential topics, primary and secondary source documents, and related English texts and writing.

IDEASS3 provides students with $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit of Government, $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit of Economics and 1 Carnegie unit of English over two terms, and focuses on essential topics, primary and secondary source documents and technical reading.

PE is a $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit class that provides students with experiences that are aligned to the Iowa high-quality PE standards and focus on movement, strength, and skills for healthy living.

Health is a $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit class that provides students with the information and goal-setting skills to make healthy choices as an individual and in group settings.

Health 2 is a $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit class that provides individuals with information and skills to develop and evaluate personal nutrition, choices and activity for lifelong physical, social, and emotional wellness.

English/Language Arts

Core Classes	3 Carnegie Units (IDEASS1, IDEASS2, IDEASS3)
Electives	4 Carnegie Units (English 9, 10, 11, 12) 1 Carnegie Unit (Myths and Folklore) ½ Carnegie Unit (Psychology of Entertainment-English) 1 Carnegie Unit (English and the Hero's Journey) ½ Carnegie Unit (Creative Writing) ½ Carnegie Unit (Speech) (in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (Drama) (in development)

Social Studies

Core Classes	3 Carnegie Units (IDEASS1, IDEASS2, IDEASS3)
Electives	½ Carnegie Unit (Psychology of Entertainment) ½ Carnegie Unit (Government) ½ Carnegie Unit (Financial Literacy) ½ Carnegie Unit (Sociology) ½ Carnegie Unit (Iowa History and Geography) (in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (US Issues and Analysis) 1 Carnegie Unit (World History) 1 Carnegie Unit (US History)

Mathematics

Core Classes	2 Carnegie Units (IDMS1, IDMS2)
Electives	1 Carnegie Units (Prealgebra) ½ Carnegie Unit (Consumer Math/Financial Literacy 1) ½ Carnegie Unit (Consumer Math 2) ½ Carnegie Unit (Basic Math 1) ½ Carnegie Unit (Basic Math 2) 1 Carnegie Unit (Algebra 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Geometry) 1 Carnegie Unit (Algebra 2) 1 Carnegie Unit (Data Driven Decisions) (Boaler-in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (Statistics) (in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (Trigonometry) (in development)

Science

Core Classes	2 Carnegie Units (IDMS1, IDBE3)
Electives	½ Carnegie Unit (Intro to Science) ½ Carnegie Unit (Earth Science) ½ Carnegie Unit (Renewable Energy) (in development) 1 Carnegie Unit (Forensics) 1 Carnegie Unit (Conceptual Chemistry) 1 Carnegie Unit (Astronomy) 1 Carnegie Unit (Biology) 1 Carnegie Unit (Anatomy & Physiology 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Anatomy & Physiology 2)

Fine Arts

PE and Fine Arts	1 1/2 Carnegie Units (PE, Health 1, Health 2)
Electives	½ Carnegie Unit (Dance) ½ Carnegie Unit (Drama) ½ Carnegie Unit (Voice Lessons) (in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (Guitar) (in development) ½ Carnegie Unit (Studio Art) ½ Carnegie Unit (Drawing 1) ½ Carnegie Unit (Digital Photography)

World Lang.

Electives	1 Carnegie Unit (Spanish 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Spanish 2) 1 Carnegie Unit (Spanish 3) 1 Carnegie Unit (Spanish 4) 1 Carnegie Unit (French 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (French 2) 1 Carnegie Unit (ASL 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (ASL 2)
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Career Tech Ed

Electives	<p>1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Business 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Business Ownership) 1 Carnegie Unit (Office Management 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Marketing 1) 1 Carnegie Unit (Finance 1)</p> <p>1 Carnegie Unit (Personal Development 1 and 2) 1 Carnegie Unit (Child Development 1 and 2) ½ Carnegie Unit (Foods 1) ½ Carnegie Unit (Foods 2) ½ Carnegie Unit (Foods 3) ½ Carnegie Unit (Textiles and Clothing 1) ½ Carnegie Unit (Textiles and Clothing 2) ½ Carnegie Unit (Textiles and Clothing 3)</p> <p>1 Carnegie Unit (Agronomy 1) (in development) 1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Vet Science) (in development) 1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Agriculture) (in development) 1 Carnegie Unit (Zoology) (in development)** we are working with Edynamics and currently searching for an agriculture teacher)</p> <p>1 Carnegie Unit IDMS2 (Intro to Computer Science) 1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Webpage Design) 1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Game Design) 1 Carnegie Unit (Intro to Game Design 2)</p>
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Work-based Experience

Iowa WorkForce Development, Electrician/Plumber/Construction/Brick-Layers Unions, Central Iowa Works, and other business partners- collaborative J-term laboratory courses (1 unit each) TBD. Student in school-to-work is an “employee” for worker’s compensation law.

b. Comparison as listed in the charter school plan

We currently are offering more than what we had planned in the original application. We are adding a computer strand of courses for information systems. We are looking for a music teacher to add to our course offerings. Student government has also been added which is vital for student voice and choice. We are offering more than the minimum Iowa Code Chapter 22. We are working on articulating the 4 CTE strands in greater detail and are partnering with Edynamics and community colleges on courses where there are gaps.

c. Anticipated changes

In the Career Tech Ed section, Choice Charter School is adding 3 courses in Information Science and anticipating adding 3 courses in Agriculture as well. We are also in the process of negotiating to have articulation agreements with all the community colleges in the state of Iowa which will increase the Health Science opportunity.

We are working on apprenticeships with Axis-U, and college courses through TEL and Iowa Wesleyan College and community colleges.

III. Student success

a. Current pass/fail numbers by course offering

We do not fail students. Currently no student is failing any course. The number of courses offered up in Hex 1 is 24; in Hex 2 is 36.

IV. Staffing

a. List of Current staff including titles

Folder	Name	Primary Building	Position (FTE)
	Andrews, Abigail	Choice Charter School(Union)	School Business Officials - Other (0.250) HR/Personnel Manager (0.500)
1003409	BONEFAS, ROBIN	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (1)
339670	BRANUM, RACHELLE	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
1023896	Buehler, Erin	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (1)
	Campbell, Jessica	Choice Charter School(Union)	Paraprofessionals/Aides (0.500)
	Dawkins, Forrest	Choice Charter School(Union)	Student Support (0.500)
	Gracey, Jeremy	Choice Charter School(Union)	Technology (0.500)
967482	HANNA, JUSTIN	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (1)
	HIPSHUR, MALISA	Choice Charter School(Union)	Student Support (1)
	Hohensee, Clarissa	Choice Charter School(Union)	Student Support (1)
230377	KNIGHT, CYNTHIA	Choice Charter School(Union)	Supervisor - Licensed (0.100) Director/Coordinator/Department Head (0.900)
	Knight, Lori	Choice Charter School(Union)	District Wide Administrative Support (1)
	Koester, Adam	Choice Charter School(Union)	Student Support (1)
159748	Krueger, Charles	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
312283	LUNN, COREY	Choice Charter School(Union)	Assistant Superintendent (0.250)
345332	Mausser, Charles	Choice Charter School(Union)	Principal (1)
1108449	McCray, Almatior	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
360414	Moench, Angela	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
333568	Mogle, Andrew	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
350225	MORRIS, GARY P	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
238603	Powell, Marcia	Choice Charter School(Union)	Content/Curriculum Consultant (0.750) Regular Education Teacher (0.250)
	Simpson, Karrie	Choice Charter School(Union)	Other Support (0.500)
984833	SLOOTHEER, JORDAN	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
816983	Smith, Amanda	Choice Charter School(Union)	Special Education Teacher (1)
226485	Stephas, Beth E Haywood	Choice Charter School(Union)	Counselor (0.500) Regular Education Teacher (0.500)
Folder	Name	Primary Building	Position (FTE)
1043351	VANDALL, RYAN	Choice Charter School(Union)	Regular Education Teacher (1)
	Weno, Barbara	Choice Charter School(Union)	District Wide Administrative Support (0.500)
	Woods, Val	Choice Charter School(Union)	Student Support (0.250)

V. Finance: Expenditures and Revenues

a. Monthly financials - through October

For all reports - Ensure expenditures and revenues are provided. Identify revenue sources (e.g., State aid, donations) and the basis (e.g., pupil enrollment, car wash fundraiser) of each. Also, differentiate between salary costs and other operational costs.

Choice Charter School 2022-23 Income Statements				
	July	August	September	October
<i>Revenues</i>				
Business Loan	\$5,000.00		\$42,567.48	
Per Pupil Enrollment			\$44,698.81	\$44,698.81
State Aid				
Remimbursed Expenses			\$1,342.81	\$133,057.76
ESSR State Grant				
<i>Expenditures</i>				
Operational Costs	\$3,093.83	\$277.53	\$857.04	\$47,994.87
Salaries			\$87,752.06	\$60,877.64
Employee Benefits				\$21,143.85
<i>Net Reserves</i>	\$1,906.17	(\$277.53)	\$0.00	\$47,740.21

b. Year-end projections

Choice Charter School Operating Budget 2022 - 2023 Fiscal Year	Annual Budget	Projections
Academic Tracking System - JMC	\$5,750.00	\$5,750.00
Advertising & Marketing	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Background Checks/fingerprinting	\$3,420.00	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$836.00
Bambee	\$4,712.00	\$4,712.00
Books	\$9,600.00	\$9,600.00
Business Insurance	\$3,000.00	\$6,406.00
Business Operating Taxes/Fees Federal	\$48,000.00	\$48,000.00
Business Operating Taxes/Fees State	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00
Computers	\$33,333.00	\$122,700.00
Conference Registrations/Memberships	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00
Contracted Services	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
Docuhub Costs	\$60.00	\$60.00
Interest Expense	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Iowa Testing	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
Lawyer Fees	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Lost Equipment	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Meals & Entertainment	\$600.00	\$600.00
Mileage Reimbursements	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00
Postal/Shipping	\$2,880.00	\$2,880.00
Recruiting Staff	\$900.00	\$900.00
Rent	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Teaching Equipment	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Travel	\$600.00	\$600.00
Utilities	\$840.00	\$840.00
Webpage	\$500.00	\$500.00
WiFi	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00
Payroll & Contractor Costs	\$1,846,620.00	\$1,345,369.00
TOTALS	\$2,114,915.00	\$1,674,853.00

c. Comparison of submitted budget compared to current budget

Provide a budget to actual compared to the budget that was shared as part of the application.

Choice Charter School Operating Budget 2022 - 2023 Fiscal Year	July - Oct Budget	July - Oct Actual	Annual Budget	Remaining Budget
Academic Tracking System - JMC	\$1,916.00		\$5,750.00	\$5,750.00
Advertising & Marketing	\$3,332.00	\$295.38	\$10,000.00	\$9,704.62
Background Checks/fingerprinting	\$1,140.00		\$3,420.00	\$3,420.00
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$836.00	\$0.00	(\$836.00)
Bambee	\$1,572.00	\$2,868.00	\$4,712.00	\$1,844.00
Books	\$3,200.00		\$9,600.00	\$9,600.00
Business Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$3,203.00	\$3,000.00	(\$203.00)
Business Operating Taxes/Fees Federal	\$16,000.00		\$48,000.00	\$48,000.00
Business Operating Taxes/Fees State	\$4,800.00		\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00
Computers	\$11,112.00	\$40,900.00	\$33,333.00	(\$7,567.00)
Conference Registrations/Memberships	\$1,000.00		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Contracted Services	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	(\$2,000.00)
Docuhub Costs	\$20.00		\$60.00	\$60.00
Interest Expense	\$0.00	\$532.95	\$0.00	(\$532.95)
Iowa Testing	\$700.00		\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
Lawyer Fees	\$2,000.00		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Lost Equipment	\$800.00		\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Meals & Entertainment	\$200.00		\$600.00	\$600.00
Mileage Reimbursements	\$1,400.00		\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00
Postal/Shipping	\$960.00	\$45.18	\$2,880.00	\$2,834.82
Recruiting Staff	\$300.00		\$900.00	\$900.00
Rent	\$2,000.00		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Supplies	\$400.00		\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Teaching Equipment	\$1,600.00	\$199.95	\$4,800.00	\$4,600.05
Travel	\$200.00		\$600.00	\$600.00
Utilities	\$280.00		\$840.00	\$840.00
Webpage	\$168.00		\$500.00	\$500.00
WiFi	\$33,332.00	\$1,342.81	\$100,000.00	\$98,657.19
Payroll & Contractor Costs	\$615,540.00	\$169,773.55	\$1,846,620.00	\$1,676,846.45
TOTALS	\$704,972.00	\$221,996.82	\$2,114,915.00	\$1,892,918.18

VI. School Board Minutes

Provide a copy of the board minutes from each governing board meeting since July 1, 2022.

a. July Board Minutes 7/27/22

Choice Charter School Board Meeting Agenda - 7/27/22

- Election of Officers - President and Secretary

Motion Aundra - Tara becomes president , 2nd by Lawanda, Carried

Motion Tara - cynthia be secretary, Aundra 2nd, Carried

Adjourned meeting 5:23

Called meeting to order 5:24 July 27, 2022

Attending : Aundra Meeks, Tara Andrews, LaWanda Sanders, Dr. Andrew Mogle, Dr. Cynthia Knight

Went through what has been done so far.

- Approve Mandatory Board Policies - push to next meeting to have everyone read through to then approve.
- Approve Hiring of Teachers/Mentors

Went through the list talked about each one

Aundra motion to approve the hiring of the teachers on the list, Tara

2nd all in favor no opposed

Motion Carried

Tara motion to approve Abigail Andrews to be the treasurer of Choice

Charter School, LaWanda Sanders seconded, all in favor motion carried

Tara motion to approve the administration team Aundra seconded all in

favor motion carried

- Projected Budget

Went over the projected budget

Asked the Governor for \$300,000

Grant writer working on things

Mental health to be included in the package

- Recruiting 300 Students

Dr. Knight - CR, Iowa Press, Posters, cold calls to groups, governor's office, Muscatine,

Tara will reach out to her groups, Davenport, Ames

Next meeting - Approve Board Policies and Bylaws.

Aundra motion to adjourn, Lawanda 2nd , all in favor Motion carried

b. August Board Minutes 8/5/2022

Choice Charter School Board Agenda - 8/5/2022

Called to order at 7:15

Present: Dr. Knight, Tara Andrews, Aundra Meeks, LaWanda Sanders, Andy Mogle

Absent - Trent Grundmeyer

First on the agenda: -

Voting on VP

Aundra nominated Trent vice president, Tara second, all were in favor-passed

Cynthia check on the emails to make sure all have choice charter school emails

Bylaws -

Discussion:

Section 4 - had a question about who has the power to hire the teachers/mentors/principal - that will be up the principal and CEO for teachers/mentors and the board will hire principals/

Tara is a 1 year term student, Trent is on 3 years and Aundra and LaWanda for 2 years.

Will the student be able to stay the year, who will nominate. We will talk about this as we get students who would like to serve.

Tara motioned to pass the bylaws, LaWanda Sanders 2nd all were in favor, motion carries

Policies -

Discussion:

Great discussion on the mandated policies and how they work with our school. How they were found and where they came from.

Tara made a motion to pass the policies as written Aundra 2nd all in favor - motion passed.

Tara motion to end the meeting, LaWanda 2nd all in favor
Motion passed 7:28 pm

c. September - No board meeting was scheduled or held in September.

* Meetings held every three months.

d. October - No board meeting was scheduled or held in October.

* Meetings held every three months.