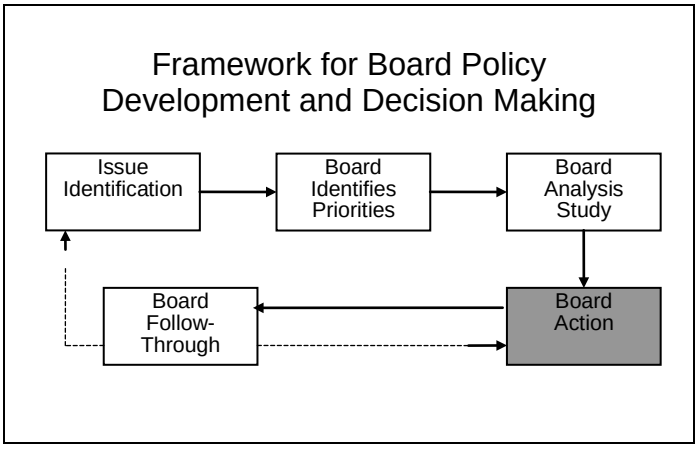
Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 31, 2012



Agenda Item: Des Moines Public Charter School – Request to Amend Charter

Iowa Goal: All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.

Equity Impact Statement: Iowa Public Charter Schools are required to be open to all students in accordance with Iowa's nondiscrimination policies and federal Charter School Guidelines.

Presenter: Isaiah McGee, Consultant
Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services

David Tilly, Deputy Director
Administrator, Division of Learning and Results

Attachments: 2

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the request from the Des Moines Independent Community School District and Board of Education to amend the charter for the Des Moines Public Charter School.

Background: In 2010, the Iowa State Board of Education (State Board) granted the Des Moines Independent Community School District Board of Education (DMPS Board) a charter to operate the Des Moines Public Charter School. The Charter School has been in operation for two years. Because of an absence of evidence indicating progress toward achieving the mission and goals of the Charter School, difficulty recruiting staff, and the inability to recruit a highly qualified director for the Charter School, the DMPS Board of Education is requesting an amendment

to the charter that would allow them to suspend classes at the Charter School for the upcoming school year. During that time, the DMPS District and Board would develop a plan to meet the Charter School's objectives, and take specific steps to increase accountability to the State Board and the students of the District. These steps are outlined in the attachments.

The DMPS District and Board would report its findings back to the State Board by November 1st, determine whether it is able to re-propose the Charter (re-proposal due in December), with the intent of resuming services to students for the 2013-14 school year.

DesMoines PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

July 20, 2012

State Board of Education
Deputy Director
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 E. 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear State Board of Education Members,

Enclosed please find our request for postponement of the Des Moines Public Charter School's service to students for the 2012-2013 school year. Des Moines Public Schools requests a revision of the contract between our Board of Directors and the State Board.

Specifically, we have enclosed the following:

- A copy of the Des Moines Public School Board of Directors approval for this request.
- The First Amendment to the Iowa Public Charter School Agreement.
- An overview of the strategic planning process, focus, and timeline for the 2012-13 school year.

Our intention is to collaborate with leadership of the Charter Advisory Board and Charter Foundation Board during this year of postponement in order to resume service to students for the 2013-2014 school year.

We will have a team attend your July 31st Board meeting to answer any questions regarding this request.

Please contact me if further details are required.

Sincerely,

Thomas Ahart
Superintendent

901 Walnut Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309-3506
515-242-7766 Fax: 515-242-7679 Web site: www.dmschools.org

First Amendment to Charter School Contract

Between

The Iowa State Board of Education

And

The Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District

Pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 256F and 281 Iowa Administrative Rules 68, this First Amendment to the Iowa Public Charter School Agreement (Amendment) is made between the Iowa State Board of Education (State Board) and the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Independent Community School District (District), Parties to the Iowa Public Charter School Agreement dated March 11, 2010 (Charter).

The Parties agree that a review of the operation and structure of the Des Moines Charter School is necessary to ensure the continued success of students attending the School.

The original Charter is amended by adding the following information as paragraph 12A:

12A. No Classes During the 2012-13 School Year. During the 2012-13 school year, no classes will be held at the Des Moines Charter School to give the District time to review the Charter and perform the following steps to increase accountability to the State Board and to the students of the District:

1. Undertake a complete review and outline the status of the Des Moines Charter School as related to each of the six (6) goals and eleven (11) objectives identified in the Charter (pages 4-5), and further referenced in the attached Request for Revision incorporated herein by reference.

2. Develop objective criteria to assess the progress in student learning, and review and implement additional ways to improve student learning.

3. Review the learning opportunities that were provided to past students of the Des Moines Charter School, and determine whether there are better ways to facilitate and nurture existing partnerships, and identify other opportunities through use of technology and community involvement.

4. Review the professional development afforded the teachers and other educators at the school site, and develop additional avenues that will be helpful in creating a professional learning community dedicated to the success of the Des Moines Charter School.

5. Review and construct a realistic budget and use allocation of resources in innovative ways to determine whether the Des Moines Charter School can be financially viable in the future.

6. Review the programming, staff assignments, and building to determine whether the health and safety of the students are being met at the same level of care as students in conventional middle schools within the District.

7. Report these findings to the State Board no later than November 1, 2012.

8. Determine, based on the findings of the District in its review of the Charter goals and objectives and the additional factors cited above, whether it is able to re-propose the Charter for the Des Moines Charter School, said re-proposal due in December, 2012.

The Parties further agree that this Amendment will allow the District to pause the school year, and that classes at the Des Moines Charter School will not begin on August 1, 2012, as previously determined by the District.

Except as set forth in this Amendment, the Charter is unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with its terms. If there is conflict between this Amendment and the Charter, the terms of this Amendment will prevail.

Signatures from Des Moines Independent Community School District and its Board of Education, and the Iowa State Board of Education have been authorized by approval of this Amendment by a majority vote of the respective Boards.

For the Board of Directors:

This 20th day of July, 2012

President, Des Moines Independent Community School District Board of Education

Teree Caldwell-Johnson

For the District:

This 20 day of July, 2012

Superintendent, Des Moines Independent Community School District

Thomas M. Ahart

This 20th day of July, 2012

Executive Director, Secondary Schools

Timothy Schott

For the Iowa State Board of Education:

This _____ day of _____, 2012

Rosie Hussey, President Iowa State Board of Education

_____

Signature of President, Iowa State Board of Education

Item: ***ADDENDUM*** **Page 1 of 3**

Subject: **CHARTER SCHOOL — UPDATE**

For: **ACTION**

Contact: **Tom Ahart and Tim Schott** **Attachments:** **None**

(thomas.ahart@dmschools.org; 242-7536/timothy.schott@dmschools;242-7766)

Issue: The Director position remains unfilled, and the first day of school has been scheduled for August 1, 2012. It appears unlikely that the District will be able to hire a Director with the background necessary to move the school forward.

Recommendation: The recommendation is to request a modification of the charter between the School Board and the State Board of Education. The State Board's next meeting is scheduled for July 31, and the request can be placed on the agenda for the meeting. District personnel have been in discussion with appropriate employees of the Department of Education for technical assistance in writing and submitting the request.

District personnel will communicate with current Charter families and provide supportive transition assistance.

Presentation: None. Tom Ahart and Tim Schott will be available for questions.

Speakers:

Amy Sheeler 1435 31st ST
Laurie Clinton
Mary Ann Spicer 6001 Creston Ave

Board Action:
Ms. Elsbernd moved approval of the administration's recommendation to seek the state's approval to suspend operations of the charter school for one year; second by Boesen.

Aye: Boesen, Caldwell-Johnson, Sweeney, Elsbernd, Howard, Jongewaard,

Nay: None

Motion carried 6-0

DesMoines PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Request for Revision of Contract

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 256F.6, the contract between a school board and the state board of education "may be revised at any time with the approval of both the state board and the school board".

256F.6 Contract.

1. a. An approved charter school or innovation zone school application shall constitute an agreement, the terms of which shall, at a minimum, be the terms of a four-year enforceable, renewable contract between a school board, or the boards participating in an innovation zone consortium, and the state board. The contract shall include an operating agreement for the operation of the charter school or innovation zone school. The terms of the contract may be revised at any time with the approval of both the state board and the school board or the boards participating in the innovation zone consortium, whether or not the stated provisions of the contract are being fulfilled.

In order to meet the mission of the school and fulfill the elements of the charter agreement with the Iowa Department of Education, the ***Board of Directors of the Des Moines Public Schools requests a revision to the charter agreement authorizing a one year postponement of active services to students*** for the purpose of investing in strategic planning.

Circumstances leading to this request include:

- The absence of evidence indicating progress toward the mission and goals of the Charter School.
- The absence of evidence indicating progress toward the nine elements of Iowa Code section 256F.1(2).
- The absence of approved policies, procedures, and handbooks.
- The absence of a reconstituted Charter Advisory Council.
- The difficulty recruiting staff to work and remain at the Charter School.
- The inability to recruit a highly qualified director for the Charter School.

Additionally, our role as authorizer of the Des Moines Public Charter School had been interpreted, up until the past few months, to be quite limited. Our Board of Education and district administration team did not provide active oversight of Charter Advisory Board or Charter School operations. The year of postponement afforded by approving this revision request will allow our Board of Education and district administration to actively partner with the Charter Advisory Council to develop a strategic plan to support the mission and goals of the Charter School that include active oversight, accountability, and supervision.

An example of this new partner relationship will be the process to successfully recruit a highly qualified director. This position is central to the success of the Charter School and will require a comprehensive market study regarding compensation and scope of responsibility, the development of clearly defined relationships with the Charter Advisory Council and DMPS Board of Directors, and a timeframe that begins in the winter and thus allows for participation in planning efforts by the new director during the spring semester.

Mission and Purpose

The Des Moines Public Charter School will meet the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs of young men and women of great potential who have struggled to find success in the traditional middle school setting and are at risk of dropping out of school.

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 256F.1(2), the purpose of the charter school is to accomplish the following goals:

a. Improve student learning
b. Increase learning opportunities for students
c. Encourage the use of different and innovative methods of teaching
d. Require the measurement of learning outcomes and create different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes
e. Establish new forms of accountability for schools
f. Create new professional opportunities for teachers and other educators, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site
g. Create different organizational structures for continuous learner progress
h. Allow greater flexibility to meet the education needs of a diverse and constantly changing student population
i. Allow for the allocation of resources in innovative ways through implementation of specialized school budgets for the benefit of the school served.

Objectives and Achievement Data

During the year of postponement, district personnel, in collaboration with the Charter School Advisory Board, and in consultation with the National Alliance of Public Charter Schools and the National Association of Charter School Authorizers, will develop a strategic plan to implement a sound and innovative approach to meeting the Charter School's objectives.

Des Moines Public Charter School Objectives

Objective 1: *Implement a high-quality educational program that is aligned with the rigorous academic standards in the Iowa Core Curriculum and Des Moines Public Schools Ends in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, and health/wellness as measured by Iowa Assessments, criterion- referenced tests, performance-based assessments, and students earning sufficient credits in grades 9 through 12 needed to be on track for graduation.*

Objective 2: *Ensure that all students meet or exceed the standards of the Iowa Core Curriculum and develop 21st century skills through the implementation of a variety of research-based student-centered instructional strategies as measured by student assessments, Iowa Assessments, teacher observation, student feedback, and parent feedback.*

Objective 3: *Utilize multiple forms of assessment to inform instruction, to monitor student progress towards learning goals, and to document success in meeting state standards as measured by student achievement data, authentic assessments, Iowa Assessment results, and teacher observation.*

Objective 4: *Increase student engagement with the school and facilitate social/emotional development through personalized goal-setting, advocacy, and mentoring as measured by progress towards goals, attendance, positive behavior, student feedback, and parent feedback.*

Objective 5: *Provide a network of continuous monitoring, early intervention, and support for students to assist them in overcoming barriers to school success as measured by attendance, student assessment data, number of students being served, types of services, student feedback, and parent feedback.*

Objective 6: *The Des Moines Charter School will function as an autonomous school, governed by an advisory council, and the principles outlined in the Charter granted by the Des Moines Independent Community School District and the Iowa Department of Education which ensures that all students learn at high levels and meet/exceed state standards as measured by multiple student assessments and Iowa Assessment scores.*

Objective 7: *The advisory council will ensure that the educational program will take place in a safe and secure facility and is supported with the necessary infrastructure of support services.*

Objective 8: *Parents/families will be equal partners in their student's educational program and actively involved in school programming decisions as measured by Ten-Year Plans, advisory board meeting minutes, and parent/family feedback.*

Objective 9: *The Des Moines Charter School will employ a diverse, high-quality faculty to create a caring community of learners that supports the success of all students as measured by staff qualifications, resumes, career development plans, student assessment data, as well as student and parental feedback.*

Objective 10: *The Des Moines Charter School will protect the physical and emotional safety of all students through a culture of high expectations, cultural responsiveness, positive behavior, and supportive relationships as measured by discipline referrals, student feedback, staff observation, parent feedback, and student assessment data.*

Objective 11: *Build community support for the Charter School as measured by number of mentors, volunteers, sites for internships, and community-based learning, services for students and families, and annual applications of new students.*

Student Achievement Data

Iowa Assessment 2011-2012
Percent Proficient

		Charter	District
Reading	7th	63	52
	8th	59	51
	9th	55	41
Math	7th	56	39
	8th	59	45
	9th	67	38
Science	7th	49	49
	8th	53	43
	9th	58	39

Timeline and District Support

Date	Action
August 2012	Charter Advisory Council reconstitution
September 2012	Strategic Plan presentation to DMPS Board
October 2012	National Association of Charter School Authorizers Conference participation
November 2012	Progress Update to DMPS Board
January 2013	Director recruiting begins
February 2013	Student recruiting begins
March 2013	Staff recruiting begins
July 2013	Year 3 of charter agreement commences

School District Support

The DMPS Board of Directors is committed to assisting the Charter School's Advisory Council. Regularly scheduled joint meetings will be established, and topics such as these will be discussed: implementation of governance structures; use of meaningful and data-driven reports on student achievement; and, assistance in developing and monitoring innovative curriculum offerings.

These joint meetings will engage the partnership between the Board and the Advisory Council, and provide opportunities for each to discuss unique challenges and successes found in the Des Moines Public Schools.

The DMPS Executive Director team, consisting of school and curriculum leadership, will provide technical and supervisory assistance during the postponement year through participation in Charter Advisory Council's activities and alignment of department resources to assist in planning and implementation of the strategic plan.

Iowa Public Charter School Agreement

This Public Charter School Agreement, together with any attachments, addenda, and amendments (hereafter, the "Charter"), is made and entered into this March 11, 2010 by and between the Iowa State Board of Education, Des Moines, Iowa and the Des Moines Independent Community School District Board of Education, Des Moines, Iowa.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256F.6, the Iowa State Board of Education, grants the Des Moines Independent School District Board of Education (hereafter, "Local Board") a charter to operate Des Moines Charter School, a public charter school (hereafter referred to as "Charter School"). As per Iowa Code section 256F.6(1), the approved Charter School application constitutes an agreement between the Local Board and the Iowa State Board of Education.

This agreement is for an initial term of four (4) years commencing with the 2010-2011 school year, and may be renewed upon consent of both the Local Board and the Iowa State Board of Education. Additionally, the terms of this charter agreement may be revised at any time with the approval of both the Iowa State Board of Education and the Local Board, whether or not the stated provisions of the contract are being fulfilled.

1. **Application/Agreement-Binding.** The Iowa State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Education, has reviewed and approved the application submitted and approved by the Local Board, subject to adherence to all requirements set forth in this Agreement and in Iowa Law. The application is fully incorporated in this Agreement and all representations and conditions contained in the Agreement are binding on the Local Board. The charter authorizer, Des Moines Independent Community School District and administration shall immediately submit in writing to the Local Board and Iowa Department of Education, any proposed substantial changes to the application, including attachments or approved amendments, or the representations or conditions contained in the original application or Charter School status. Both the local school board and the Iowa State Board of Education reserve the right to reject any proposed changes to the Agreement once the application and Agreement have been approved.

2. **Operation of School.** The School shall at all times be operated by the Des Moines Independent School District School Board in accordance with Iowa Code section 256.7(5), and all other applicable laws and regulations, including the assurances signed by the Charter Developer in the application.

3. **Compliance with Other Laws.** The Charter School shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, such laws and regulations governing employment, environment, disabilities, civil rights, children with special needs, transportation, and student records. The Charter School shall also comply with all applicable health and safety laws and regulations, whether federal, state, or local. The Local Board assumes the duty to oversee the operations of the School except as may otherwise be provided by law.

   Both the Local Board and the Department of Education shall monitor the Charter School for compliance with applicable laws and regulations consistent with Iowa Code.

The Charter School, in partnership with the Local Board, is required to notify parents, students, and staff of the School in writing of the provisions of this paragraph.

4. **Enrollment.** Admission and enrollment of students shall be as prescribed in Iowa Code Sections 256F.4(3) and (4). A lottery process must be described in the application for public charter schools in the event that the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of the public Charter School. The admission process shall not discriminate against prospective students on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability, except if a Charter School limits enrollment pursuant to Iowa Code Section 256F.4(3).

   Failure to adhere to the requirements of random selection, under this section may be grounds for termination of this Charter.

   Requests for the Charter School to increase its enrollment by more than five (5) students beyond that set out in its initial Agreement shall be submitted to the Local Board and Iowa State Board of Education through the Department of Education.

5. **Children with Special Needs.** In accordance with state and federal laws, the Charter School shall provide to the local school board and to the Iowa Department of Education, the total number of children with special needs, identified in accordance with state and federal laws, enrolled in the Charter School.

   The Governing Board of the Charter School accepts and understands that for purposes of federal and state law, including Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Charter School is obligated to provide free and appropriate education and related services to children with special needs. The Charter School may not send special needs students back to resident districts because the Charter School lacks services nor may the Charter School "counsel students" out of the Charter School.

6. **Reporting Requirements.** The Charter School, in conjunction with the local school board, shall submit such reports as required by Iowa law governing school buildings. In addition, the Charter School will submit to the Iowa Department of Education, Charter School Office, the following reports:

   - Mid-Year Progress Report
   - End-of-Year Report
   - Annually, the Charter School is required by Iowa Code Section 256F.10(1) to report to the school board and to the advisory council. At a minimum, each of the reports must include the criteria included in framework for the Mid-Year and End-of-Year Reports. Note: The End-of-Year Report serves as the report to the Iowa State Board of Education.
   - Note: Each Charter School will participate in a first-year Iowa Department of Education on-site visit 60 days prior to the start-up of the Charter School and an on-site visit 30 days prior to the end of the school year. Additionally, the Charter School will be receiving an on-site visit each following year for the length of the Charter agreement.

Failure to submit such reports or to participate in the on-site reviews may be grounds for revocation of the Charter.

7. **Technical Assistance.** The Charter School may request technical assistance from the Iowa Department of Education, the Local Board, and the Area Education Agency.

8. **Financial Management.** The Charter School and the Local Board shall comply with the same financial audits, audit procedures, and audit requirements of school districts. The Charter School will be audited in the same manner as a public school and at the same time. The Local Board selects the audit firm. The Charter School and the Local Board shall maintain the financial records of the Charter School in the same manner, as are the financial records of schools pursuant of the governing authority and the State Auditors Office.

9. **Procurement.** The Charter School is subject to the Iowa Procurement Code to the same extent that ~~as are~~ local boards are.

10. **Indemnity.** The Local Board and the Charter School agree to indemnify and to hold harmless the, United States Department of Education, the Iowa State Board of Education, the Local Board, and other local boards of education, their officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns from all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from any action of the Charter School caused by any intentional or negligent act or omission of the Charter School, its officers, agents, employees, and contractors.

11. **Open Meetings.** The Charter School is subject to the Open and Public Meetings law to the same extent as are local boards.

12. **Revocation or Non-Renewal of the Charter.** As per Iowa Code, Section 256F.8, each Charter School is subject to non-renewal or revocation. The Charter agreement can be revoked by the Iowa State Board of Education or by the Local Board if either board determines that one or more of the following occurred:
    a. Failure of the Charter School to abide by and to meet the provisions set forth in the contract (Charter agreement), including educational goals – see item 16.
    b. Failure of the Charter School to comply with all applicable laws, specifically those referenced in the Charter agreement and application assurances.
    c. Failure of the Charter School to meet generally accepted public sector accounting principals.

    The Local Board shall notify the advisory council, the parents or guardians of the students enrolled in the Charter School, and the teachers and administrators employed at the Charter School of any intent to revoke or not to renew the Charter, at least sixty (60) days prior to revoking the charter, or the date by which the contract must be renewed, but not later than the last day of classes in the school year.

    If the Iowa State Board of Education determines that the Charter School is in substantial violation of the terms of the Charter, the Iowa State Board of Education shall notify the Local Board and advisory council of any intention to revoke the Charter at least sixty (60) days prior to revoking the Charter and the Local Board shall assume oversight

authority, operational authority, or both oversight and operational authority. The notice shall state the grounds for the proposed action in writing and in reasonable detail. The decision of the Iowa State Board of Education to revoke a charter is solely within the discretion of the Iowa State Board of Education and is final.

13. **Notice.** Any report or notice that the Charter School and/or that the Local Board is required or permitted to submit under this Agreement shall be delivered to:

    Del Hoover, Charter School Coordinator
    Iowa Department of Education
    Grimes State Office Building
    400 E. 14th St.
    Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146
    (515) 281-8402

    (All faxes sent by the Charter School or Local Board shall be followed by hard copies postmarked within the next business day of the fax transmittal.)

14. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in effect, unless the Charter is revoked or relinquished.

15. **Legislative Action.** This Agreement and any amendments to it and renewals of it are subject to applicable state and federal laws and shall be deemed amended to reflect applicable changes to those laws. Upon repeal of the statutes authorizing the School Charter, the Charter is null and void.

16. **DES MOINES CHARTER SCHOOL GOALS**

    GOAL 1: (Reading) Students will demonstrate growth as readers using norm-referenced standardized assessments, criterion-referenced teacher-created assessments, and diagnostic probes and inventories.

    GOAL 2: (Mathematics) Students will demonstrate growth as mathematicians using norm-referenced standardized assessments, criterion-referenced teacher-created assessments, and diagnostic probes and inventories.

    GOAL 3: (Science) Students will demonstrate growth as scientific thinkers using norm-referenced standardized assessments and criterion-referenced teacher-created assessments.

    GOAL 4: (Social Studies) Students will demonstrate growth in their understanding of the world using norm-referenced standardized assessments and criterion-referenced teacher-created assessments.

    GOAL 5: (Arts) Students will demonstrate growth in their understanding of the value of fine and applied arts using teacher-created assessments, peer reviews, and student self-reflections.

GOAL 6: (Health-Wellness) Students will demonstrate growth in their understanding of the attributes of physical and mental well-being using teacher-created assessments and student self-reflections. Growth for all students would be indicated through the percent of students working at the mastery level on teacher-created performance assessments and self-reflections of monitored results of personal health goals.

DES MOINES CHARTER SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Implement a high-quality educational program that is aligned with the rigorous academic standards in the Iowa Core Curriculum and Des Moines Public Schools Ends in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, and health/wellness as measured by ITBS/ITED, criterion-referenced tests, performance-based assessments, and students earning sufficient credits in grades 9 through 12 needed to be on track for graduation.

Objective 2: Ensure that all students meet or exceed the standards of the Iowa Core Curriculum and develop 21st century skills through the implementation of a variety of research-based student-centered instructional strategies as measured by student assessments, ITBS/ITED, teacher observation, student feedback, and parent feedback.

Objective 3: Utilize multiple forms of assessment to inform instruction, to monitor student progress towards learning goals, and to document success in meeting state standards as measured by student achievement data, authentic assessments, ITBS/ITED results, and teacher observation.

Objective 4: Increase student engagement with the school and facilitate social/emotional development through personalized goal-setting, advocacy, and mentoring as measured by progress towards goals, attendance, positive behavior, student feedback, and parent feedback.

Objective 5: Provide a network of continuous monitoring, early intervention, and support for students to assist them in overcoming barriers to school success as measured by attendance, student assessment data, number of students being served, different types of services, student feedback, and parent feedback.

Objective 6: The Des Moines Charter School will function as an autonomous school, governed by an advisory council, and the principles outlined in the Charter granted by the Des Moines Independent Community School District and the Iowa Department of Education which ensures that all students learn at high levels and meet/exceed State standards as measured by multiple student assessments and ITBS/ITED scores.

Objective 7: The advisory council will ensure that the educational program will take place in a safe and secure facility and is supported with the necessary infrastructure of support services.

Objective 8: Parents/families will be equal partners in their student's educational program and actively involved in school programming decisions as measured by Ten-Year Plans, advisory board meeting minutes, and parent/family feedback.

Objective 9: The Des Moines Charter School will employ a diverse, high-quality faculty to create a caring community of learners that supports the success of all students as measured by staff qualifications, resumes, career development plans, student assessment data, as well as students and parent feedback.

Objective 10: The Des Moines Charter School will protect the physical and emotional safety of all students through a culture of high expectations, cultural responsiveness, positive behavior, and supportive relationships as measured by discipline referrals, student feedback, staff observation, parent feedback, and student assessment data.

Objective 11: Build community support for the Charter School as measured by number of mentors, volunteers, sites for internships, and community-based learning, services for students and families, and annual applications of new students.

For the Local Board:

This 24th day of August, 2010

PRESIDENT'S NAME
President, Des Moines Independent Community School District Board of Education

Connie Boesen
Signature, President, Des Moines Independent Community School District Board of Education

For the Iowa State Board of Education of Education:

This 17 day of Nov, 2010

Rosie Hussey, President Iowa State Board of Education

Rosie Hussey
Signature of ~~President~~, Iowa State Board of Education