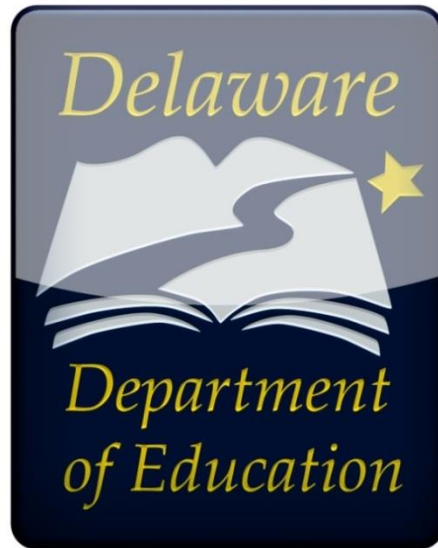


# CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



## **Early College High School at Delaware State University**

### **MAJOR MODIFICATION APPLICATION FINAL REPORT**

CSAC Final Meeting: February 24, 2015  
CSAC Final Report Published: February 27, 2015

By December 31, 2014, Early College High School at DSU submitted an application for a major modification of its charter.

The following were in attendance at the Final Meeting of the CSAC on February 24, 2015:

**Voting Committee Members of the Charter School Accountability Committee**

- David Blowman, Chairperson of the Charter School Accountability Committee and Deputy Secretary of Education, DDOE
- Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary, Financial Reform and Resource Management, DDOE
- Barbara Mazza, Education Associate, Exceptional Children Resources, DDOE
- Tasha Cannon, Deputy Officer Talent Recruitment, Selection and Strategy, Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit (TLEU), DDOE
- Charles Taylor, Community Member and Former Charter School Leader

**Ex-Officio Members (Non-voting)**

- Kendall Massett, Executive Director, Delaware Charter School Network
- Donna Johnson, Executive Director, Delaware State Board of Education

**Staff to the Committee (Non-voting)**

- Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General, Counsel to the Committee
- Jennifer Nagourney, Executive Director, Charter School Office, DDOE
- Brook Hughes, Education Associate, Financial Reform and Resource Management

**Representatives of Early College High School at DSU**

- Judi Coffield, Director

## Discussion

The following issues were discussed:

- Enrollment preferences relative to the federal Charter School Program (CSP) grant – The school explained that the main reason for removing the two enrollment preferences is to make the school more appealing to a broader audience. The Board was concerned that an interest preference based the school model might deter some students from applying. Additionally, the CSP grant determined that an interest preference deterred students from applying and requested that it be removed from the admission policy to comply with the eligibility requirements for the grant.
- Ms. Johnson asked for clarification about the legal authority for the requirement to remove the specific interest enrolment preference. Dr. Coffield explained that the requirement came from the terms of the federal CSP grant, and not federal or state law.

## Conclusion

The CSAC voted unanimously to recommend approval of the school's major modification request.

## Next Steps:

- The CSAC will provide the school with a Final Report no later than February 27, 2015.
- A second and final public hearing will be held on March 9, 2015, in the 2nd floor auditorium of the Carvel State Office Building, located at 820 North French Street, Wilmington DE.
- The public comment period ends on March 13, 2015.
- The State Board of Education will hold a meeting on March 19, 2015, in the 2nd floor Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building at 401 Federal Street, Dover DE, at which time the Secretary will announce his decision on the application.