

**VI.A.**

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO BE PROPOSED:**

July 14, 2020

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-66ss of the Connecticut General Statutes, denies the July 1, 2020, charter amendment proposal of Stamford Charter School for Excellence to the extent such proposal seeks enrollment expansion beyond the current maximum approved enrollment cap of 392, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-66ss of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the July 1, 2020, charter amendment proposal of Stamford Charter School for Excellence to the extent such proposal seeks modification of its grade configuration to add Grade 6 in 2020-21 with a maximum approved enrollment cap of 392, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-66ss of the Connecticut General Statutes, approves the July 1, 2020, charter amendment proposal of Stamford Charter School for Excellence to the extent such proposal seeks acquisition of an additional school building, and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_, this fourteenth day of July, Two Thousand Twenty.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** July 14, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Material Change to Stamford Charter School for Excellence

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

Stamford Charter School for Excellence (“SCSE” or “the School”) opened in the fall of 2015 and has completed its fifth year in operation. The School is a state charter school serving a maximum enrollment of 392 students in Grades PK-5. The School’s charter was renewed and approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) on February 6, 2020, for a five year period from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2025. The School has been recognized as a School of Distinction per the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability 2017-18 for high student performance and as a School of Distinction per the Connecticut Next Generation Accountability 2018-19 for high growth for all students and high needs students in ELA.

SCSE’s charter amendment proposal, submitted on July 1, 2020<sup>1</sup>, calls SBE to consider to amend its charter to:

- expand grade configuration to add Grades 6-8 over a three-year period, with Grade 6 added in 2020-21, Grade 7 in 2021-22, and Grade 8 in 2022-23;
- increase enrollment to 560 seats; and
- acquire an additional school building.

SCSE’s charter amendment proposal is attached hereto as Attachment A.

**Background/Process**

Connecticut law requires that a charter school governing council that “plans to make a material change in the school’s operations” submit such request to amend its charter to the SBE. The law defines “material change” to be “a change that fundamentally alters a charter school’s mission,

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<sup>1</sup> SCSE amended its July 1 charter amendment proposal via email dated July 2, 2020, from SCSE’s legal counsel to various SDE staff members. SCSE’s charter amendment proposal of July 1 is deemed to include the additional proposals made in SCSE’s email of July 2.

organizational structure or educational program,” including, among other things, changing a school’s grade configuration; opening an additional school building; or increasing or decreasing the total student enrollment capacity by 20% or more (Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) Section 10-66ss(a)).

In accordance with C.G.S. Section 10-66ss, the SBE must review the charter school’s amendment proposal, solicit comments from the board of education in which the charter school is located, and vote on the proposal within 60 days of receipt. On July 8, 2020, Dr. Tamu Lucero, Superintendent of Stamford Public Schools responded to the request on behalf of the Stamford Board of Education (Attachment B).

### **Recommendation**

During the 2019-20 school year, SCSE operated with a PK-5 grade configuration under an enrollment cap of 392 students. While SCSE seeks to increase enrollment to 560 students by the 2022-23 as shown by Table 1 (included in the Appendix), their request is not financially viable at this time. As communicated to SCSE, the School’s maximum enrollment is capped at 392 for the 2020-21 school year.

To remain within the 392 seat cap and provide a pathway for the 2020 graduating fifth graders, SCSE proposes to fill 56 seats in Grade 6 seats and forgo serving PK in 2020-21. In subsequent years, if enrollment remains at 392 students and class sizes remain unchanged, SCSE would matriculate students as depicted in Table 2. As Table 2 illustrates, when operating under these assumptions, SCSE will not serve the full PK-8 spectrum of students in any given year. Rather, assuming constant overall enrollment and grade size, three grades within the PK-8 range will be vacant in any given year.

On the basis of its demonstrated record of success, CSDE recommends adding Grades 6-8 over the three-year period between 2020-21 and 2022-23 with a maximum approved enrollment cap of 392. In addition, CSDE recommends that SCSE’s charter be amended to authorize SCSE to acquire an additional school building.

Prepared by: Robert E. Kelly, Charter School Program Manager  
Turnaround Office

Reviewed by: Lisa Lamenzo, Division Director  
Turnaround Office

Approved by: Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of  
Academics and Innovation

**Table 1: Stamford Charter School for Excellence Enrollment Aspirations**

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>2019-20 Actual</b>	<b>2021-22 Aspiration</b>	<b>2022-23 Aspiration</b>
<b>Pre-Kindergarten</b>	56	+56	+56
<b>Kindergarten</b>	56	+56	56
<b>Grade 1</b>	56	56	56
<b>Grade 2</b>	56	56	56
<b>Grade 3</b>	56	56	56
<b>Grade 4</b>	56	56	56
<b>Grade 5</b>	56	56	56
<b>Grade 6</b>		56	56
<b>Grade 7</b>		56	56
<b>Grade 8</b>			56
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>560</b>

**Table 2: Stamford Charter School for Excellence Enrollment Plan**  
(within 392 enrollment cap)

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>2020- 21</b>	<b>2021- 22</b>	<b>2022- 23</b>	<b>2023- 24</b>	<b>2024- 25</b>	<b>2025- 26</b>	<b>2026- 27</b>	<b>2027- 28</b>	<b>2028- 29</b>
<b>Pre-Kindergarten</b>				56	56	56	56	56	56
<b>Kindergarten</b>	56				56	56	56	56	56
<b>Grade 1</b>	56	56				56	56	56	56
<b>Grade 2</b>	56	56	56				56	56	56
<b>Grade 3</b>	56	56	56	56				56	56
<b>Grade 4</b>	56	56	56	56	56				56
<b>Grade 5</b>	56	56	56	56	56	56			
<b>Grade 6</b>	56	56	56	56	56	56	56		
<b>Grade 7</b>		56	56	56	56	56	56	56	
<b>Grade 8</b>			56	56	56	56	56	56	56
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>



**VIA EMAIL**

July 1, 2020

Lisa Lamenzo  
Division Director  
Turnaround Office  
School Turnaround, Charters and Federal Programs  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
50 Columbus Blvd.  
Hartford, CT 06013  
[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)

**Re: Stamford Charter School for Excellence**

Dear Ms. Lamenzo:

As a follow-up to recent conversations and as per the email request from Matt Venhorst dated June 29, 2020, this letter shall serve as Stamford Charter School for Excellence's (the "School") request for modification of its charter (the "Charter") as renewed by the Connecticut State Department of Education ("SDE") on February 20, 2020 (the "Renewal").

We thank you for your recent willingness to engage in conversations with the School regarding its desire to ensure that its 5th graders- especially during the time of the Covid-19 Pandemic- have the opportunity to continue their education at the School, which by most measures, is one of the highest performing schools in the State. We are concerned, though, that despite this willingness to engage in conversations that would provide 5th grade students at the School with continuity for this coming year by allowing them to matriculate to 6th grade through expanding the School's approved grades from Pre-K through Grade 5 to Pre-K through Grade 6, the more salient request that has now been raised by the School yet again to be approved to expand to include Grades 7 and 8 as well is once again not being addressed, and rather, a focus on budget and a cap on the number of students imposed by a limitation on funding continues to take center stage, which should occur separate and apart from SDE's statutorily-mandated review the School's request for expansion into Grades 6-8 (the "Middle School Expansion").

As you are aware, in the School's original charter application, the then-applicant team stated "SCSE is proposing a comprehensive Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5 program, with a potential request for expansion to include a middle school upon renewal." See Original Application, Section 1, paragraph 1(a). After a highly-successful Charter term, in the School's renewal application dated September 6, 2019 (the "Renewal Application"), the School indeed requested the middle school expansion it anticipated in its original charter application. Under Question 4 of the renewal application, the School indicated that pursuant to C.G.S.A. §10-66ss, the School requested a material change to its Charter upon renewal to include Grades 6-8, adding one (1) grade per year with approximately 56 kids per grade per the School's existing student-grade distribution. Additionally, in summarizing its request for renewal, the School stated, "Stamford Excellence respectfully requests a full-term five year renewal with permission to expand to a middle school in order to continue our important work of increasing these transformative and equitable educational opportunities for the families we serve." See Renewal Application, Part 4, #14.

Without proper explanation, however, SDE personnel did not meaningfully engage in conversations with the School about its request to materially modify its charter upon renewal to include the Middle School Expansion and contrary to its obligations under C.G.S.A. §10-66ss(b), the SDE Board did not act upon the School's request for Middle School Expansion. Rather, SDE personnel encouraged the School to not bring this request forward nor discuss this request due to inadequately-explained concerns about budgets when in fact, the budgetary process is always a separate process from SDE's approval of charter applications, renewals and expansion—it is understood that indeed all seats at a charter school are subject to budgetary appropriations, and SDE is not and should not be constrained by such appropriation considerations when approving an initial charter or renewal. At the SDE Board meeting on February 2, 2020, while Renewal was granted for a five (5) year term, there is no mention of the School's request for the Middle School Expansion in either the SDE Board Resolutions nor the SDE report accompanying the Resolutions. See SDE Board meeting resolutions: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Board/BoardMaterials020620/Renewal\\_of\\_State\\_Charter\\_Stamford\\_Charter\\_School\\_for\\_Excellence\\_Stamford.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Board/BoardMaterials020620/Renewal_of_State_Charter_Stamford_Charter_School_for_Excellence_Stamford.pdf).

While the School already made its request for Middle School Expansion as a material modification to its Charter along with its Renewal Application, pursuant to C.G.S.A. §10-66ss(b), this letter shall again serve as the School's request for a material modification to its Charter for an approval of the Middle School Expansion beginning with the addition of Grade 6 in the 2020-21 school year, Grade 7 in the 2021-22 school year and Grade 8 in the 2022-23 school year.

Kindly confirm that the School's request for Middle School Expansion will be processed by your team and presented to the SDE Board for a vote as required by statute.

Ms. Lisa Lamenzo


July 1, 2020

Page 3 of 3

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation and we look forward to working with you to continue to serve students in Stamford.

Very truly yours,

**COHEN SCHNEIDER LAW, P.C.**

By:   
Cliff S. Schneider

cc: Matt Venhorst, Esq. (via e-mail)  
Robert Kelly (via e-mail)  
Louis Todisco (via e-mail)  
Kevin Fischer (via e-mail)

**From:** Cliff Schneider <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 4:00 PM

**To:** Venhorst, Matthew <[Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov)>; Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>

**Cc:** Lamenzo, Lisa <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>; Kelly, Robert <[Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Matt,

Your understanding of the School's proposal is correct, with some clarification: the chart you inserted in your original email below represents what enrollment would look like *if and only if* appropriations remained frozen at the current level which is only sufficient to serve 392 students. To be clear, the School's request for revision should not be construed as a desire limit enrollment indefinitely to 392. The request for revision is for the School be authorized to serve Grades Pre-K through 8 for a total of 560 students, subject, as always, to appropriation of funds, and should funds not be appropriated to serve the fully-authorized enrollment, then adjustments would indeed be made to ensure that the School continues to serve the students that are already enrolled, consistent with the chart you inserted. With respect to the request for revision to the Charter, the revised chart with insertions in green depicts what the grade level configuration and student count for which the School is requesting approval:

GRADE	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Pre-Kindergarten		56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Kindergarten	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 1	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 2	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 3	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 4	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 5	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 6	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 7		56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Grade 8			56	56	56	56	56	56	56
	392	392(504)	392(560)	392(560)	392(560)	392(560)	392(560)	392(560)	392(560)

With respect to your question regarding an additional facility, the School indeed wants to add that request, consistent with what was requested in the renewal application.

Finally, aside from pushing forward with the request, the School would like a response to my letter sent on 7.1.

Have a Happy 4<sup>th</sup>.

Best,  
Cliff



**From:** CSS <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>

**Date:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 10:09 AM

**To:** "Venhorst, Matthew" <[Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov)>, Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>

**Cc:** "Lamenzo, Lisa" <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>, "Kelly, Robert" <[Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Matt,

I am tied up with an urgent matter but will respond this afternoon after confirming some information.

Thanks,  
Cliff

**From:** Venhorst, Matthew <[Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 10:08 AM

**To:** Cliff Schneider <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>; Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>

**Cc:** Lamenzo, Lisa <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>; Kelly, Robert <[Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Cliff,

Please respond to my request below regarding whether the table in my email below accurately represents the enrollment being sought in subsequent years.

Also, on a separate matter, does SCSE wish to request a charter amendment to add a school building? As you know, under C.G.S. Sec. 10-66ss the addition of a school building would require a charter amendment. Thank you.

Matt

Matthew E. Venhorst  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Ph: (860) 713-6514  
Fx: (860) 713-7004

**From:** Venhorst, Matthew  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 3:39 PM  
**To:** 'Cliff Schneider' <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>; Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>  
**Cc:** Lamenzo, Lisa <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>; Kelly, Robert <[Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Thank you, Cliff. We understand that this proposal requests the grade configuration/enrollment as set forth in the table below:

GRADE	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Pre-Kindergarten				56	56	56	56	56	56
Kindergarten	56				56	56	56	56	56
Grade 1	56	56				56	56	56	56
Grade 2	56	56	56				56	56	56
Grade 3	56	56	56	56				56	56
Grade 4	56	56	56	56	56				56
Grade 5	56	56	56	56	56	56			
Grade 6	56	56	56	56	56	56	56		
Grade 7		56	56	56	56	56	56	56	
Grade 8			56	56	56	56	56	56	56
	392	392	392	392	392	392	392	392	392

Please respond to this email to confirm whether we do or do not understand the substance of SCSE's proposal. Kindly respond to this email by 9 a.m. tomorrow, 7/2. Thank you.

Matt

Matthew E. Venhorst  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Ph: (860) 713-6514  
Fx: (860) 713-7004

**From:** Cliff Schneider <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020 9:03 AM  
**To:** Venhorst, Matthew <[Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov)>; Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>  
**Cc:** Lamenzo, Lisa <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>; Todisco, Louis <[Louis.Todisco@ct.gov](mailto:Louis.Todisco@ct.gov)>; Kelly, Robert <[Robert.Kelly@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Kelly@ct.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Hi Matt and Lisa,

Attached please find the School's request for revision to its Charter.

Best,

Cliff

**From:** Venhorst, Matthew <[Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Venhorst@ct.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 2:28 PM

**To:** Kevin Fischer <[kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org](mailto:kfischer@stamfordexcellence.org)>; Cliff Schneider <[cschneider@cohenschneider.com](mailto:cschneider@cohenschneider.com)>

**Cc:** Lamenzo, Lisa <[Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov](mailto:Lisa.Lamenzo@ct.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Stamford Charter School For Excellence

Kevin,

I am writing on behalf of the CSDE to follow-up on your 6/26 meeting with various officials from the CSDE and OPM. I understand that it was made clear at that meeting that any proposal to amend SCSE's charter for the upcoming school year would need to stay within the enrollment cap of 392 students, which is non-negotiable.

If SCSE intends to submit any such proposal to the SBE for the upcoming school year, please submit the proposal to Division Director Lisa Lamenzo and to me by this Wednesday, July 1, at 9 a.m. Thank you.

Matt

Matthew E. Venhorst  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Ph: (860) 713-6514  
Fx: (860) 713-7004

	CONTINGENCY SCENARIO			CONTINGENCY SCENARIO	
	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
STAMFORD CHARTER SCHOOL FOR EXCELLENCE	6/30/2021	6/30/2022	6/30/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2023
Enrollment	392	504	392	560	392
<b>Revenues</b>					
State Funding					
Per Pupil Funding - General Education	4,353,750	5,557,500	4,353,750	6,187,500	4,353,750
Special Education Funding	132,186	134,830	134,169	138,875	136,182
Federal Funding	-	-	-	-	-
Title I	50,310	51,819	51,819	53,374	53,374
Title II	10,852	11,177	11,177	11,513	11,513
Title IV	10,300	10,609	10,609	10,927	10,927
Other Revenue					
Grants	96,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Foundations and Contributions	220,000	125,000	275,000	25,000	300,000
Other	49,089	49,671	49,671	50,264	50,264
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>4,922,487</b>	<b>6,015,606</b>	<b>4,961,195</b>	<b>6,552,453</b>	<b>4,991,009</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Personnel					
Total Salaries	2,459,827	3,154,023	2,496,724	3,378,644	2,534,175
Personnel Benefits	-	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel Benefits	289,318	397,922	307,256	440,708	326,396
Payroll Taxes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payroll Taxes	131,431	169,136	133,552	181,165	135,710
<b>Total Employee Benefits and Taxes</b>	<b>420,749</b>	<b>567,058</b>	<b>440,808</b>	<b>621,873</b>	<b>462,106</b>
<b>Total Personnel Costs</b>	<b>2,880,576</b>	<b>3,721,082</b>	<b>2,937,532</b>	<b>4,000,517</b>	<b>2,996,280</b>
Instructional Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Total Instructional Expense	337,250	443,962	269,800	506,578	215,840
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Total Professional Fees	220,782	291,275	232,111	321,604	238,324
General and Administrative Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising and Promotion	-	-	-	-	-
Total Advertising and Promotion	4,328	5,784	4,458	6,206	4,592
Facilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total Facilities	1,260,182	1,323,524	1,316,934	1,350,589	1,342,567
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-
Total Insurance	26,724	27,525	27,525	28,351	28,351
Office Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
Total Office Supplies	41,421	42,663	42,663	43,943	43,943
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Expenses	26,440	34,785	27,233	39,786	28,050
Telecommunication	-	-	-	-	-
Total Telecommunication	18,260	18,808	18,808	19,372	19,372
Staff Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Total Staff Expenses	21,636.94	26,544.54	22,286.05	28,138.37	22,954.63
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>1,957,024</b>	<b>2,214,870</b>	<b>1,961,819</b>	<b>2,344,568</b>	<b>1,943,995</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses (Personnel and Program)</b>	<b>4,837,600</b>	<b>5,935,952</b>	<b>4,899,351</b>	<b>6,345,084</b>	<b>4,940,275</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit) available including Depreciation</b>	<b>84,887</b>	<b>79,654</b>	<b>61,844</b>	<b>207,369</b>	<b>50,734</b>



P.O. Box 9310, Stamford, CT 06904

Offices at 888 Washington Blvd. Phone (203) 977-4105

[www.stamfordpublicschools.org](http://www.stamfordpublicschools.org)

Dr. Tamu Lucero, Superintendent of Schools

July 8, 2020

Lisa Lamenzo  
Division Director  
Turnaround Office  
State Of Connecticut  
Department Of Education  
P.O. Box 2219  
Hartford, CT 06145

Dear Lisa Lamenzo,

Thank you for taking the time to contact us about the planning for the Stamford Charter School for Excellence.

The following are some of the thoughts we have related to the plans.

Table 1:

- a. This would provide continuity for the students enrolled in SCSE and would be least disruptive for the students and to our LEA.
- b. This makes the assumption that we can predict that SCSE would pull no more than 56 incoming kindergarten students each year from Stamford.
- c. This will help us with our enrollment projections and budget planning because there is a set number of seats each year.
- d. We can also make the assumption that we will increase by 56 students for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students once this cohort matriculates from SCSE.

Unfortunately, funding is an issue across the state and this option would require financial support.

Table 2:

- a. This is not favorable for our LEA because we now would have to absorb the students in the grades that SCSE would not be servicing for each academic school year. It creates a moving target for us making an already complicated school system even more complicated by a system that CSDE would allow if approved. Where is the burden on the charter school yet they create one for the public school?

21-22	56 KDG
22-23	56 KDG; 56 1 <sup>st</sup>

23-24	56 KDG; 56 1 <sup>st</sup> ; 56 2 <sup>nd</sup>
25-26	56 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; 56 3 <sup>rd</sup> ; 56 4 <sup>th</sup>
26-27	56 3 <sup>rd</sup> ; 56 4 <sup>th</sup> ; 56 5 <sup>th</sup>
27-28	56 4 <sup>th</sup> ; 56 5 <sup>th</sup> ; 56 6 <sup>th</sup>
28-29	56 5 <sup>th</sup> ; 56 6 <sup>th</sup> ; 56 7 <sup>th</sup>

- b. What if students enrolled in SCSE have siblings in a grade that is not serviced at the school?

Moving forward with the proposed model for next year of moving seats from pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade seems most advantageous and fiscally appropriate during this health and financial pandemic. Furthermore, it is the model that was proposed to Stamford and ultimately agreed upon as the public LEA.

Thank you again for contacting Stamford and providing us with an opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tamu Lucero