

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
May 14, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of Request for the Renewal of Schools of Hope Operator Status for IDEA Florida

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.333, F.S.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Section 1002.333, F.S., a School of Hope operator is a nonprofit organization that operates three or more charter schools that serve students in grades K-12 in Florida or other states with a record of serving students from low-income families and is designated by the State Board of Education as a Hope operator.

In 2018, the State Board of Education designated IDEA Public Schools as a Hope operator based on the more than 36,000 students served at 61 public charter schools in other states. Nearly 90 percent of those students were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Today, IDEA Florida serves more than 5,100 students at six Schools of Hope charter schools in Hillsborough, Duval and Polk counties, and nearly 100 percent of those are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Additionally, IDEA operates no schools in financial corrective action.

Initial status as a Hope operator is valid for five years from the opening of a School of Hope, pursuant to Section 1002.333(3), F.S. If a Hope operator seeks the renewal of its status, such renewal shall solely be based upon the academic and financial performance of all schools established by the operator in the state since its initial designation.

Supporting Documentation Included: IDEA Florida Student Performance Figures

Facilitator/Presenter: Adam Emerson, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice