

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item

September 16, 2026

SUBJECT: Request for Waiver of Termination – Virtual Preparatory Academy of Florida (Osceola County)

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

The State Board may either approve or deny the request for waiver of termination.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.33(9)(n)3.c., F.S.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A charter school's contract with a sponsor is automatically terminated if the school earns two consecutive grades of "F" after all school grade appeals are final, unless the State Board of Education grants the charter school a waiver of termination.

The State Board may waive termination if the charter school demonstrates that the learning gains of its students on statewide assessments are comparable to or better than the learning gains of similarly situated students enrolled in nearby public schools. The waiver is valid for one year and may only be granted once. Charter schools that have been in operation for more than five years are not eligible for a waiver.

Virtual Preparatory Academy of Florida is a virtual charter school that opened in 2022 and is sponsored by the Osceola County School Board. It served 1,412 students in the 2025-26 school year, according to Final Survey 3 data (February count). The school received its first "F" upon the release of the 2024-25 school grades. It received its second consecutive "F" upon the release of the 2025-26 school grades.

The Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice worked with the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement to compare the learning gains from Virtual Preparatory Academy with the learning gains of all public virtual schools in Florida, including virtual charter schools. Virtual Preparatory Academy also has developed a School Improvement Plan for consideration.

If the State Board denies the waiver request, the charter school contract is automatically terminated once all school grade appeals are final.

Supporting Documentation Included: School Improvement Plan

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