

DETROIT EDUCATION COMMISSION

QUALITY CHOICES FOR ALL STUDENTS

IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD

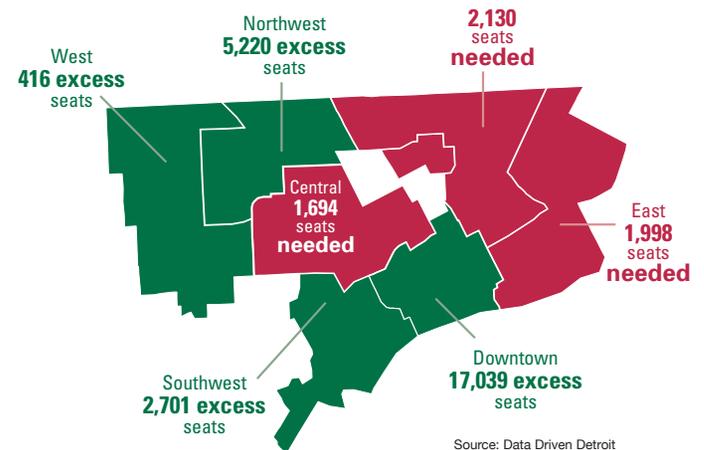
The Michigan State Senate advanced a bipartisan package that, while not perfect, is a great step forward in ensuring that all Detroit students in every neighborhood have quality school choices.

The Detroit Education Commission is the centerpiece of the reform. The seven-member nonpartisan board will be appointed by the mayor according to specific criteria — including representation from parents, traditional and charter school staff, and issue experts.

THE DEC WILL...

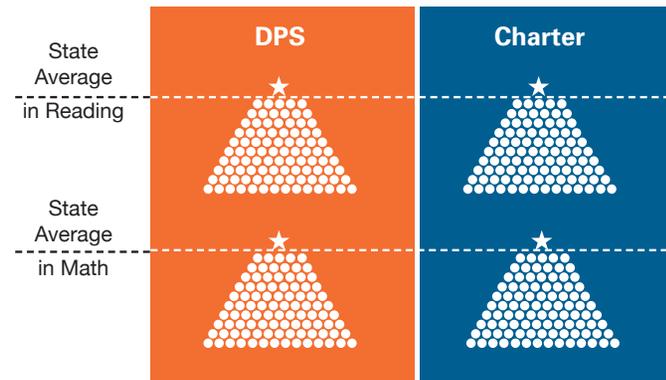
1 Identify needs.

Because... some neighborhoods have **too many schools**, others **too few**. Many Detroit families are living in **school deserts**. This isn't working for kids.



2 Set the same high standard for all schools.

Because... most public schools in Detroit are not educating kids. The vast majority of DPS and public charter schools are performing below the state average in reading and math. DPS and charters alike each had only one school perform above the state average for each subject. We need the DEC to ensure that all kids in Detroit schools are prepared for success.



Source: Michigan Department of Education Center for Educational Performance and Information, 2014-2015. K-8 M-STEP Reading and Math test scores

THE DEC WILL...

3

Approve new schools and their proposed location.

Because... Detroiters should decide where new schools are needed. And we must ensure that only high-performing schools are replicated. Twenty years of voluntary efforts to coordinate have failed. If we want a real choice system, we need the DEC to create a stable marketplace to attract only the best.



4

Recommend school closures to the State based on poor performance.

Because... Detroit kids attend schools run by 14 different entities (school districts and charter authorizers), some of them 400 miles away from the city. The DEC can NOT close schools, but it serves as an essential community watchdog to raise the alarm when a school consistently fails to educate our kids.



THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF CHOICE IN DETROIT

FAMILIES WANT – AND DESERVE – *QUALITY* CHOICE

**THE DEC
*DELIVERS***