



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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**OPTIONS FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES DIVISION
CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION**

2018 NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT CHARTER APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS

According to NMSA § 22-8B-6(B) the Notice of Intent to Submit a Charter Application ("NOI") must be filed by the organizers of a proposed charter school to the Public Education Commission at the address below **AND** to the superintendent of the school district in which the charter school is proposed to be located. *Failure to notify may result in your application being rejected.*

The NOI must be submitted by 5:00 PM Mountain Time on January 9, 2018, **the second Tuesday of January.** Notices of Intent that are not received by the Public Education Commission and the superintendent of the local school district by the deadline may result in the application being rejected. When you send the NOI to the superintendent of the school district in which your charter is to be located, you are strongly encouraged to send it by certified mail return receipt requested, or request a signed receipt when you deliver the NOI. Contact the local district regarding electronic filing.

Notice to the Public Education Commission should be delivered by one of the following methods:

- Electronically to: charter.schools@state.nm.us
- By mail or personal delivery: PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
c/o New Mexico Public Education Department
Attn: Options for Parents and Families/Charter Schools Division
300 Don Gaspar, Room 301
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

The NOI is intended to provide the Public Education Commission with the primary point of contact among the charter developers, and preliminary information about the charter proposal, such as the school's mission statement, the school's focus, the representative student population in the intended location, enrollment projections, key innovations, etc. (not to exceed 5 pages).

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

Academy of Civics and Educational Sciences (ACES)

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
7-12	90

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Jimmy Gonzalez		
Mailing Address	780 Landers Rd		
City	Anthony	State	NM Zip 88021
Phone	575-882-0600		
Email	director@acsnm.org		

2. Names, roles, and current employment of all persons on the applicant team, and qualifications of the team members to establish a high-quality charter school

Names	Role on Team	Qualifications: Education, Employment, and Experience
Charles Wendler	Founder	B.S., M. Ed., retired teacher and administrator 40 years
Jimmy Gonzalez	Founder	B.M.,M.Ed., teacher and administrator 15 years
Darroc Goolsby	Founder	Ph. D., Scientist, professor, lecturer, & educator 15 years
Kelli Aguilar	Founder	Ph. D., professor, lecturer, educator 20 years
Nathan Chavez	Founder	Pastor, First Baptist Church, Anthony NM, B.A. History
Jose Terrones	Founder	Superintendent, Anthony Sanitation Water District, B.E.

3. Model or focus of the proposed school (e.g., performing arts, dual language, college prep, STEM, Montessori, IB):

The school will focus on a classical education of the liberal arts and sciences. The curriculum will be content-rich and balanced across the core disciplines of math, science, literature and history. It emphasizes a thorough discourse into all aspects of American Civics that served as our Nation's founding cornerstone. By closely examining the teachings and ideals engrained within the compendium of collective documents, ideologies, and historical facets. Students will have the opportunity to develop as well-rounded, hardworking, self-sufficient, productive, and contributing members of our society.

The school will provide additional academically enhancing co-curricular and extracurricular activities that will build student abilities in the liberal arts and sciences. These venues will offer practical applications for the learning experiences they garner in the classroom setting. Such activities will include, but not solely limited to, debate, speech, academic decathlon, drama, music (with a drum and bugle corps focus), tentative chapters of the Future Educators of America, Future Business Leaders of America, a 4-H club, and a science club among others.

4. Does the school expect to contract with another entity for either management, or substantial oversight or direction in the school's operation? Yes ☐ No ☒
- If YES, describe the entity and the role it will have in the school's operational plan.

5. Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools? ☒ Yes ☐ No

6. Vision/Mission statement (2-3 sentences)

The vision of the Academy of Civics and Educational Sciences (ACES) is that our students will become leaders in their communities. They will truly become trailblazers that others would willingly follow and emulate.

The mission of the Academy of Civics and Educational Sciences (ACES) is to provide an enriched learning environment whereby students can become productive members of society.

7. Student population and geographical setting of the school

- Define the targeted geographical area of the proposed school from which you expect to draw a significant number of your students.

The Academy of Civics and Educational Sciences will draw a significant portion of its students from the Gadsden Independent School District located in Dona Ana County, New Mexico and the students within the surrounding nearby Mexican border regions that decide to transfer within the district boundaries.

- Describe the student population including key demographic data (academic performance, home languages, English Learners (ELs), and special education populations) in the location in which the school intends to locate.

The student population is comprised of 100% economically disadvantaged households where 13% of those students are in special education and 34% of those students are considered ELs. The student population that will likely attend the academy could be considered at-risk students for various reasons relating to their demographics and the situations they encounter in their homes; however, the school will not use this as an excuse to permit the status quo to continue and will actively seek to break the cycle of the adverse effects of economic and social disparity in order to create a paradigm shift and transformation that places these students into an "at-risk" category.

- Identify where these students are most likely being educated currently and why they are expected to choose the proposed charter school for their future educational needs.

Prospective academy students currently receive their education through GISD and would likely choose the academy to meet their future educational needs through the proposed charter school due to its smaller sized classes and overall small school setting that reduces the potential for students to feel overwhelmed in excessively large educational settings as with GISD's secondary schools. Such an approach allows students to receive increased amounts of time to interact and confer with teachers individually in helping to clarify subject matter and complete work-related tasks more consistently.

8. Provide evidence that the applicant team has assessed community need for a school of the nature that will be proposed in the application (e.g., objective surveys or other measures of local demand for the proposed educational program).

See attached notice of support for charter school

9. Identify significant innovative features that the school will implement in order to help it realize its vision/mission (e.g., non-traditional school year, longer school day, partner organizations, etc.).

The school will use an extended school day that allows instruction to begin at 8:00 AM and end at 4:30 PM Monday-Thursday and 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Fridays reserved for co-curricular organizations and targeted instructional support based on student opportunities for academic improvement.

10. Describe how the school will be more effective than the schools currently serving the targeted student population, and/or plans to improve student achievement and exceed the academic performance of existing public schools in the targeted service area and any data you have to support this assumption.

Students at ACES face many challenges because they are considered as a Title I population. As indicated in Section 7, a smaller class size will provide for more student-teacher interaction and student-student interaction. Individual students, therefore, are more closely monitored and held to higher standards of accountability. Consequently, their time on task increases and creates an environment where higher student expectations become the norm. Progress is expected and the resultant successes create a climate of competitiveness within the individual and spreads throughout group.

With an appropriate supportive teaching culture, our projected student population would be in a more engaging setting. They would be able to write more, speak more, interact more, and create more through project-based learning. Teachers can employ more open-ended assessments that support the paradigm of logic, reasoning, and higher-order thinking development. There has been much debate on the efficacy of class size. Ronald G. Ehrenbert and others from the Cornell Higher Education Research Institute states, "the Coleman Report suggests that students from lower-social economic groups, at-risk students and English Language Learners (EL) benefit the most from smaller class size".

Please Note: Should your charter be awarded, the founding governing body could undergo a background check to determine if it qualifies to be a board of public finance in the state of New Mexico.

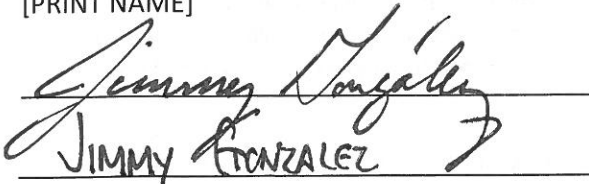
Signature of founder(s):



Date: 1/9/18

Charles Wendler

[PRINT NAME]


JIMMY GONZALEZ

Date: 1/09/2018