



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
300 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us

HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

**OPTION FOR PARENTS
CHARTER SCHOOLS
DIVISION**

2017 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 10, 2016, **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/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

Albuquerque Collegiate Charter School

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
Kindergarten – Grade 5	60 students per grade, 360 at full capacity in year 5

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Jade Rivera		
Mailing Address	1017 Forrester NW		
City	Albuquerque	State	NM
		Zip	87102
Phone	505-712-1927		
Email	jrivera@buildingexcellentschools.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

Name	Role on Team	Qualifications: Education, Employment, Experience
Jade Rivera	Lead Founder	MEd Curriculum & Instruction, BA Psychology/Sociology Current: Fellow, Building Excellent Schools – Nationally renowned training program focused on the development of leaders for high-performing charter schools Experience: Former education policy advocate with deep knowledge of classroom management and curriculum development
Cynthia Al-Aghbary	Founding Board Member	MSN Community Health Nursing, BS Nursing Current: Executive Director of Government Programs Clinical Operations, Blue Cross Blue Shield Experience: Community behavioral physical health professional with a 34-year proven track record of managing large scale program implementation and systems integration initiatives nationwide.
Chris Armistad	Founding Board Member	BA Applied Psychology Current: Associate Broker, Allen Sigmon Real Estate Group Experience: Founding Deputy Director Veritas College Preparatory Charter School - Memphis, TN who oversaw complex facilities and operations
Wendy Ederer	Founding Board Member	BA Journalism, Advertising, PR & Market Research Current: Founder/Owner, Dynamic Growth Business Resource Center-Business Consulting and Training Experience: Economic Development and Community Engagement expert with over 15 years of business development experience including knowledge of the State of NM procurement process

Joshua Gallegos	Founding Board Member	BA Sociology Current: Senior Academic Advisor, University of New Mexico, Anderson School of Management Experience: Higher education academic advisement for incoming students with focus on recruitment and retention of first generation students
Tomas Garcia	Founding Board Member	Juris Doctor of Law, MA Public Policy, BA Political Science Current: Associate Attorney, Modrall Sperlberg Experience: Law and public policy expertise, school governance and board experience
Scott Hughes	Founding Board Member	PhD History, BA History Current: Associate Research Professor, University of New Mexico, Center for Education Policy Research Experience: Education research, policy and finance expertise local to New Mexico and nationwide
Katie Rarick	Founding Board Member	MEd Secondary Education, BBA Management Information Systems Current: Senior Managing Director of Planning & Analysis, Teach For America Experience: Large scale financial non-profit management, fundraising and development supervision and training
Amber Turner	Founding Board Member	BA English, MA Secondary Education and Teaching Current: Owner/Founder, Turner Education Consulting Experience: School level and state education department consulting, Dean of Students Achievement First Charter School-Brooklyn, NY, Classroom teacher district school and high-performing charter school

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

Albuquerque Collegiate Charter School is designed as a college preparatory elementary school. Albuquerque Collegiate is founded on the belief that setting the path for college graduation starts on the first day of a child’s formal schooling and must begin with the establishment of strong, foundational instruction, with a prioritized and expanded focus on literacy and mathematics starting in kindergarten and continuing every day thereafter throughout elementary school. Albuquerque Collegiate is committed to the ambitious success of our scholars, and we hold it as our charge to set them firmly on the path to graduation from the four-year college of their choice – all of which depends upon a powerful K-5 elementary education on which that path is built.

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)

Within a structured and ambitious school community, driven by high quality instruction and intensive academic supports, Albuquerque Collegiate Charter School educates all kindergarten through grade 5 students for college graduation and life success.

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 targeted geographical area for Albuquerque Collegiate will primarily be neighborhoods within the 87102 zip code.

Albuquerque’s 87102 zip code includes the Martineztown, Wells Park, Downtown, Barelas, South Broadway, and East San Jose neighborhoods. Research from zipatlas.com indicates the median household income in the 87102 zip code is the lowest of the 17 zip codes located within Albuquerque’s city limits. Furthermore, 87102 has a higher rate of unemployment, a larger Hispanic population, lower educational attainment, and more families living below the poverty level than the city as a whole. As an open enrollment charter school, Albuquerque Collegiate will welcome all families who wish to enroll their children from across the city. However, we will target our recruitment efforts to families who reside within the 87102 zip code, as their students are in greatest need for a high performing public charter school. Figure 1 outlines demographics of our target community.

Figure 1 - Poverty, Education and Hispanic Statistics for Albuquerque and 87102

Demographics	87102 ¹	Albuquerque ²
Median Income	\$21,109	\$39,997
Unemployment level	9.47%	5.81%
% Families below the poverty level	26.02%	10.32%
% Hispanic	68.75%	42.86%
High School Diploma or higher for persons 25+	60.07%	84.24%
Bachelor’s degree or higher for persons 25+	18.99%	30.28%

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

There are six APS elementary schools in the 87102 zip code. Figure 2 outlines demographic data for the Albuquerque Public Schools district as well as for the elementary schools in the 87102 zip code.

Figure 2- Student Demographics, Albuquerque Public Schools District and 87102 Elementary Schools³

Demographics		APS District	87102 Elementary Schools
Student Ethnicity	Hispanic	67%	89%
	Caucasian/ White	21%	7%
	American Indian	4%	2%
	African American	2%	2%
	Asian	2%	0%
% Economically Disadvantaged		68%	90%
English Language Learners		17%	34%
Students with Disabilities		15%	14%

¹ Zip Atlas. (2016). *87102 Zip Code Map and Detailed Zip Code Profile*. Retrieved from zipatlas.com: <http://zipatlas.com/us/nm/albuquerque/zip-87102.htm>.

² Zip Atlas. (2016). *Albuquerque, New Mexico Zip Code Map & Detailed Profile*. Retrieved from zipatlas.com: <http://zipatlas.com/us/nm/albuquerque.htm>.

³ Albuquerque Public Schools (2016). *APS- About Us*. Retrieved from <http://www.aps.edu/about-us>.

Figure 2 demonstrates that APS elementary schools in the 87102 zip code have significantly higher percentages of students who identify as Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged, and English Language Learners than overall district rates.

Data from the 2016 Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) test indicates that only 21.7% of third grade students at APS elementary schools in the 87102 zip code met or exceeded expectations for English Language Arts. Less than one in four third grade students attending a district school in the 87102 zip code can read and write proficiently. 2016 PARCC results also indicate that 25.2% of third grade students at APS elementary schools in the 87102 zip code met or exceeded expectations for Mathematics.⁴

- 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.

Since Albuquerque Collegiate plans to open with kindergarten and first grade in fall 2018, these students are either not enrolled in an early childhood public school program, are attending a Child Development Center (Ages 3-5 years) or are attending a pre-kindergarten program (Ages 4-5 years). There are two Child Development Centers and three pre-kindergarten programs in the 87102 zip code.

Albuquerque Collegiate is modeled after and informed by the most successful, high performing urban charter schools across the country, and particularly those successfully educating and delivering strong academic results with similar demographics to the community we intend to serve. Furthermore, Albuquerque Collegiate is deeply committed to providing an intensive focus on foundational literacy and mathematics instruction. Our scholars will receive significantly more literacy instruction than they would at their neighborhood district school, and that instruction will be delivered within a two-teacher model supported by blended learning stations, thereby reducing the student to teacher ratio during all instruction to 15:1 and further reducing this ratio during all literacy rotations to 10:1, thus ensuring greater proficiency and success for every learner.

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).

Founding board members of Albuquerque Collegiate have met with hundreds of leaders and families throughout the community as well as throughout the larger City of Albuquerque who share a common concern - a lack of access to high quality public school options for children throughout the city, especially those living in low-income areas, and the profound desire to have an education that will set all children on the path to school and life success. Meetings with community members and families have included individual meetings, presentations to community and business organizations, as well as informational tabling events at Community Centers in Wells Park and Barelás neighborhoods.

Currently, every APS school in Albuquerque's most affluent zip code, 87122, is rated as an "A" school, while not a single school in the 87102 zip code, Albuquerque's poorest zip code, which has more than eight times as many schools, are "A" rated schools.⁵ As a result, parents and families living in the 87102 zip code have extremely limited options to send their students to high achieving schools, particularly neighborhood elementary schools, which set the foundation for all future K-12 learning and beyond. The desire to bring a quality school to the community is high and continues to be expressed by families, parents, and community leaders at all our community outreach events and activities.

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.).

⁴ New Mexico Public Education Department. (2016). PARCC Proficiencies 2016. Retrieved from <http://ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AcademicGrowth/2016/WebFiles/Webfiles%20PARCC%20Proficiencies%202016.xlsx>

⁵ New Mexico Public Education Department. (2016). *NM PED School Grades 2015-2016*. Retrieved from <http://aae.ped.state.nm.us/>.

In alignment with our mission, Albuquerque Collegiate will provide an excellent college preparatory public school option through a structured and ambitious school community, driven by high quality instruction and intensive academic supports for every student.

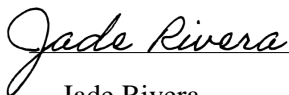
The central elements of our innovative school design include an extended school day, a prioritized and expanded focus on literacy and mathematics, a two teacher model in all kindergarten through 2nd grade classrooms, and a comprehensive coaching and development program for all teachers and school leaders. Each of the central elements of our design are directly informed by the successful practices of high-poverty, high performing charter schools across the country, in particular, those within the southwest region, with whom we plan to partner and continually learn from and look to as proof point schools.

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.

Through the highly regarded Building Excellent Schools (BES) national Fellowship, Lead Founder of Albuquerque Collegiate Jade Rivera has visited and analyzed 30+ high performing charter schools nationally and has trained in areas of organizational leadership, finance, curriculum, and school culture. At the end of January, Ms. Rivera will begin a month long leadership residency at Vista College Prep in Phoenix, AZ. At Vista College Prep, 97% scholars qualify for free or reduced price lunch, 93% of scholars are Hispanic or Black, and 50% of scholars are identified as English Language Learners. Results from the 2016 Arizona statewide assessment indicate Vista College Prep's third grade scholars outperformed all of their peers across Arizona by 56% in literacy and 24% in math. It is upon such model that Albuquerque Collegiate is being designed and will be built. Through a research-based design and close partnerships with Vista College Prep and other top performing schools with a proven track record of academic success nationwide, Albuquerque Collegiate Charter School will develop a high expectations, high support school for the students of Albuquerque, ultimately improving student achievement and academic performance for all scholars.

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)

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Jade Rivera

[PRINT NAME]

Date: 1/9/2017 _____