

# 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

CHRISTOPHER N. RUSZKOWSKI SECRETARY DESIGNATE OF EDUCATION Susana Martinez Governor

# 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 <u>AND</u> 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: <u>charter.schools@state.nm.us</u>

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

# FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO

• Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
Grades K-5 Year 1	324
Grades K-6 Year 2	378
Grades K-7 Year 3	432
Grades K-8 Year 4	486

• Primary Point of Contact

Name	Donna Wollmann			
Mailing Address	7516 Burke NE			
City	Albuquerque	State N	M Zip	87144
Phone	505-450-3163			
Email	dlwollmann@msn.com		•	

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
Donna Wollmann	Co-Founder Application Writing	Ms. Wollmann is a current Charter School Principal. In the past, she has served as a school district leader specializing in Title One. Ms. Wollman was a teacher at the Elementary grades for 22 years. She also served as a Dual Language teacher in a Bilingual Emersion program. Ms. Wollman holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Educational leadership. She is licensed in the State of New Mexico as a school Admintrator and as a K-8 Teacher.
Michele Lucci  Superintendent Co-Founder Application Writing Special Education Administrator Administrator Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator  Administrator and as a Pre K -12 Special E		Mrs. Lucci is a Current Charter School Director. She held positions as an Executive Director of Special Education, Elementary School Principal and District Special Education Administrator. Mrs. Lucci was a teacher of Students with Special Needs for twenty years before she became a school administrator. She holds a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership and a Bachelors Degree in Special Education. Mrs. Lucci is licensed as a New Mexico Level 3B Administrator and as a Pre K -12 Special Education/ K-8 General Education Teacher with TESOL Endorsement.

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Deanna Gomez	Financial Pla	nningMs. Gomes is a current Charter School Business Manager.
	Advisor	She holds a New Mexico Level Two School Business Official
		licence. In the past Ms. Gomes has worked as a Business
		Manager for the New Mexico Coaliton for Charter Schools.

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

The FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO will be a school with a focus on Meeting the special needs of students identified with Learing Disabilities.

4. Does the school expect to contract with another entity for either management, or substantial oversight or direction in the school's operation? ☐ Yes X No

If YES, describe the entity and the role it will have in the school's operational plan.

N/A

- 5. Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools? X Yes  $\square$  No
- 6. Vision/Mission statement (2-3 sentences)

The Mission of The FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO, is to provide an effective and appropriate learning environment for all students, to optimize a child's opportunity to reach their full potential, in a caring, nurturing environment. Students will be provided a learning environment where they will feel safe, respected, and successful. The FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW Mexico will focus on academics, social skills, and executive functioning.

- 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.

**FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO** will be located in Rio Rancho NM., Sandoval County.

 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.

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The following information is based on Rio Rancho Public Schools 2016-17 information as reported to New Mexico's Public Education Department.

Rio Rancho Public School's total enrollment for 2016-17 was 17,117; 2,619 15.3%, of the student population received Special Education services; 1,069 15.2%, of the elementary student population received Special Education services; 587, 3.4% of the student population was economically disadvantaged; seven of the nine Rio Rancho Elementary schools are identified as Title | Schools; and 587, 3.4% of the student population were English Language Learners.

 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.

The majority of our students are currently being educated in the Rio Rancho Public Schools. We project that due to the location, some students will come from Albuquerque Public Schools. Our students will receive specially designed instruction to meet their educational needs. We will help each student progress academically in preparation for transition to adulthood. Some of our services will include specific teaching methods and materials, technology devices and integration and related therapies.

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).

Rio Rancho Public Schools currently serves 2599 students with special needs, districtwide, with 1069 students at the elementary level. According to the 2016 report card, proficiency for the elementary grades is less than 25 percent in Reading and less than 25% in Math. This has shown to be consistent over a three year period. A minimum of 75% of students with special needs, in the Rio Rancho Public Schools, are not demonstrating academic proficiency in the areas of Reading and Math.

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 FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO will be a year round school. The school will use research based indtructional practices and materials, with structured, multisensory approaches to instruction, to meet the individual needs of learners. All instructional staff members will be trained in the Orton- Gillingham method to support reading instruction. Class sizes will be small with reading and math groups not to exceed six students per group. Students will receive daily individualized intervention, for a minimum of forty - five minutes per day, to target individual student skill needs. The FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO will be a school f focused on Individualized suppor and be adequately challenging for students.

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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.

A learning disability is a neurological condition that interferes with an individual's ability to store, process, or produce information. Types of Learning Disabilities can include Auditory Processing Disorder, Dysgraphia, Language Processing Disorder, Dyscalculia, Visual Perceptual/Visual Motor Deficit, Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities, and Dyslexia.

In local school districts, teachers of students with special needs are not required to be trained in methods to serve students with Specific Learning Disabilities. As a specialty school, all instructional staff members will be trained in specific method to address Student needs who are identified with Specific Learning Disabilities.

At **FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO** students will not need to qualify for extended school year to have cosisent year long instruction and intervention programs. The school will be year round. Students will receive instruction from Highly Qualified, Licensed teachers, who have been trained in specific methods to address the needs of students with Specific Learning Disabilities. The **FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW Mexico** will focus on academics, social skills, and executive functioning.

In the local school district, less than 25% of students with special needs demonstrate proficiency in the areas of reading and math. The current 2016-17 School District Report Card for Rio Rancho Public Schools, shows that 22% of students with special needs are proficient in Reading and 12% of students with special needs are proficient in Math. The 2015-16 report card showed 8% proficiency in Reading and 10% proficiency in Math of students with special needs. The 2014-15 report card showed 8.1% proficiency in Reading and 8.1% proficiency in Math of students with special needs. On Average over 80% of local students, with special needs, are not proficient in the areas of Reading and Math and require an alternate form of academic service in order to meet their unique needs. As a specialty school, **FOUNDATIONS LEARNING DISABILITIES CENTER OF NEW MEXICO** will be an option for these students.

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)

Donna L. Wallmann

Michele Lucci

m. 8, 2017