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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, 2017, **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

Gallup College Prep

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
8-12	125

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Frank Chiapetti		
Mailing Address	311 Valentina Drive		
City	Gallup	State	NM
Zip	87301		
Phone	505-870-2073		
Email	fjchiapetti@gmail.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

Name	Role on Team	Qualifications: Education, Employment, Experience
Mike Butkovich	Academic Advisor	Retired Educator >35 years experience in teaching/admin
Teri Frazier	Nat. Am. Advisor	Current Educator, PED N.A. advisory member
Dr. Janet Tempest	Community Advisor	Medical doctor and involved in the education community.
Brian Bernard	Staff Advisor	Current Educator and president of McFuse (AFT)

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

School based on accelerating students through college prep classes including pre AP, AP, dual credit, and concurrent enrollment. The intent is to be early college high school with academic/career pathways beginning in the 8th grade (in conjunction with the next step plans)

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: X.

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

To provide advanced classes to prepare students to earn credits in a specific area of focus established in their 8th grade year to advance the students in high school credits with college credits that do not harm their scholarship or grant funding.

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 primary students will be from throughout McKinley County including current students from Gallup McKinley County Schools. Depending on future negotiations, transportation needs have not been established.

- 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.

GMCS currently qualifies for 100% of their students to receive free lunch. The District has a PED grade of a "C". The special education population is just under 12%. The ELL population is higher in the elementary setting being just greater than >30%. At the two large high school in Gallup, the ELL population is 24.1 at GHS and 25.8 at MHS>

The graduation rates of the area high schools are below the state average and this school looks to address this important issue.

Currently <2% of the students at GHS and MHS take AP exams whereas many more take the course. This ~~creates programs that are not as rigorous as true AP programs where the intent is to prepare the students for the~~ exam. Only 18.6% of the students took the ACT at GHS and 11% at MHS.

- 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 students currently are educated in the GMCS high schools. The schools offer a limited number of Advanced placement and dual credit programs. The dual credit classes are not aligned to an aligned program of study and then limit their future potential for scholarship and grant funding.

Some students elect to attend Middle College High School that is focused 10-12. The students then take courses towards an associates degree but are not always prepared for the college classes. By starting in the eighth grade the student's academic and elective classes will be focused towards the graduation outcome selected by the student.

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).

Currently some students elect to attend Middle College High School starting in 10th grade. The school has a waiting list of students to be accepted. Based on talking with community members at GMCS forums last year, parents stated they are looking at private school options in the 8th and 9th grade level due to the current high school's PED grades including Middle College High whose PED grade has also dropped and because of limited AP courses.

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 day will not be a traditional schedule beginning in the 10th grade year having to match up with area college's schedules. The school year will have to be tied to the traditional school years of the area colleges as many of the Sophomore/Junior/Senior classes will be built around a dual credit or concurrent enrollment programs. We are working with area colleges including San Juan Community College, WNMU, NTU, and NMSU to develop academic pathways courses to focus students earned college credits. These will be on-line and direct teaching formats. The school is interested in partnering with area businesses to begin job shadowing and GUILD programs for our Seniors along with community service projects to help students with their future college admissions and program applications such as UNM's BA MD program.

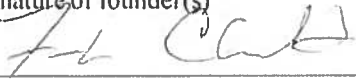
10. Describe how the school will be more effective than the schools currently serving the targeted student population, and/or plans to improve student achievement and exceed the academic performance of existing public schools in the targeted service area and any data you have to support this assumption.

Currently GMCS offers a limited number of dual-credit courses that are not aligned to a specific college program. Students who elect to attend Middle College starting their 10th grade year do not have a program of study that has been focused from the conception of their next step plans. The students 8-9th grade programs have no alignment to the 10-12 grade programs.

Students taking the ACT and SAT in GMCS is a low portion of the population with 18.6% at GHS and 11% at MHS taking the ACT and <2% at both schools taking the SAT. <2% of the students at each school take AP exams. Taking the exams will be mandatory to ensure the focus of the class is on passing the exams and also to build accountability into the programs.

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: January 11, 2017

Frank Chiapetti

[PRINT NAME]