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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 Vocational & Military Prep

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
9-12	125

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Frank Chiapetti		
Mailing Address	311 Valentina Drive		
City	Gallup	State	NM
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
Gary Schuster	Voc. Advisor	Current Educator and experience with Perkins Grants
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 around vocational and military preparation. Incorporating technical reading and writing into the general curriculum. Looking to build industry certificates into the graduation requirements along with strong ASVAB scores.

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)

Prepare vocational graduates to be able to gain their industry certificate in their chosen vocational fields to directly enter the workforce or attend continuing education. Preparing the military candidates with a strong ASVAB score and needed skills to obtain the career of their choosing and succeed in boot camp.

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

- 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 vocational programs and the vocational ties to the academic classes are limited. The schools have a partnership with UNM-Gallup for CCTE courses but students are not accepted until their senior year and only if they have the three hours available in their schedule.

This school will integrate technical reading and writing into the academic areas and provide a hands-on focus built around academic/vocational projects. Students will get an earlier experience in working towards their industry certificates making a more relevant education.

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).

The team has worked with the Gallup Executive Directors Association which is a committee comprised of: UNM-Gallup, RMCH Hospital, Gallup Chamber of Commerce, NW NM Council of Governments, City of Gallup, McKinley County Government, Downtown Business Improvement District, and the Economic Development Group. One issue the group is addressing is that the County has a difficult time attracting industry because of not having a qualified workforce. With Gallup Land Partners now starting projects around an Industrial Park and potential Inland Ports both with Gallup Land Partners and the Navajo Nation, a larger qualified workforce will be necessary.

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. With academic lessons being built around projects, many of the academic lessons will be in conjunction with the trades class. Thus much of the reading and writing lessons will be jointly taught between the academic teachers and the vocational teachers. The school year will have to be tied to the traditional school years of the area colleges as many of the Junior/Senior classes will be built around a dual credit or concurrent enrollment programs. The school is interested in partnering with area businesses to begin job shadowing and GUILD programs for our Seniors.

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.

Public schools have reduced the number of vocational offerings in the last several years. County High Schools have extremely limited class offerings in the vocational area. With the vocational classes, there is no current ties to the academics. In most cases the vocational programs are general electives. This school will tie academics to the vocational core programs to increase the effectiveness of the vocational programs while still preparing students for graduation test requirements.

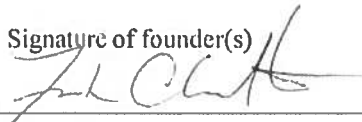
Many students currently in GMCS require alternative demonstration of competencies for graduation assessment requirements. We would like to build these alternative demonstration requirements into the daily curriculum rather than just an exit criteria that is used now.

By building the academic content around the vocational hands-on projects we are also looking to increase the relevancy of the curriculum and provide a set pathway towards graduation and life that the student is involved in creating from day one. Thus increasing the graduation rate from the current rates. The largest two schools in GMCS (Gallup High and Miyamura High) have a 69% and 65% graduation rate for the 2015-16 grading period.

The school will also build on the career/college readiness scores. Again looking at the two largest schools in the district, Gallup High only has 13.7% of the students taking career technical education courses and Miyamura only has 12.8%. In the career/college points on the PED report card, 75.8% of GHS students participated and only 56.3% successfully earned points. While at MHS, 72.4% participated with a 61.8% success rate. This school build around trades/military prep will have 100% participation rate and being small in relative student numbers the students will receive direct mentoring to push for a 100% success rate.

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]