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OPTION FOR PARENTS  
CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION

**2016 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 12, 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](mailto:Charter.Schools@state.nm.us)

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

Willow Springs Academy

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
K-12	200

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Amanda Armacost		
Mailing Address	1200 Park Hill Street		
City	Raton	State	NM
Zip	87740		
Phone	443-465-9689		
Email	mrsarmacost@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
Amanda Armacost	Founder	Degree AG Business, Teaching Certificate Secondary AG (3 Years)
Karyn Hall	Founder	Master's Degree CI/ Technology, Level III (15 years teaching)
Marcia Rubio	Founder	Master's Degree CI/ Technology, Level III (8 years teaching)
Dr. Martha M. Urioste	Consultant/Advisor	Administrator Dennison Magnet (Denver Public Schools) 45 years Admi

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

College Preparatory

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 mission of Willow Springs Academy is to promote learning anytime, anywhere, for every student. We are devoted to encourage natural curiosity and initiative by providing competency-based, integrated and individualized instruction. OUR students will acquire the self-awareness necessary to become productive, successful and motivated life-long learners.

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.

Northeastern New Mexico and surrounding areas.

- 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.

36.5% of our targeted student population is proficient in reading. 84.5% of our targeted student population is proficient in mathematics. 8.7% of our targeted student population are English Language Learners (ELL), which are predominantly Spanish speakers, and 15.3% of students are in the Special Education population.

- 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 students are currently being educated within the Raton Public School District, with approximately 40 students within the district being homeschooled. In addition, there are 50+ students who travel out of the district to attend school due to dissatisfaction with current administration, policies, procedures, and administration lack of respect and regard for community input. Many families have decided against the Raton School District and need another option. By partnering with community and organizations Willow Springs Academy has the

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 community was polled in three different platforms: one at a local craft fair, one via social media and the final at a local retail store. The surveys were managed by an independent party. The results are as follows:

Online Survey: 87% positive

Paper Surveys (both locations): 89% positive

All paper and online survey results, with comments, are in hard copy form and will be provided upon request.

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.).

Implementation of the Blended Learning Model, which provides classroom instruction, online individualized learning, and one on one support. This model will include utilizing personalized curriculum for continued learning.

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.

Our school will provide:

Relevant and engaging content

Flexible yet structured class time

Adaptability to students' learning needs

Multiple sources of lessons and assessments

Diagnostic tools to structure learning

Personalized instruction to obtain progress and mastery

Access to technological resources to enhance learning

*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)

Gayn B. Hall

Karin B. Hall

[PRINT NAME:]

Marcia Rubio 1/5/16

Marcia L. Rubio

Date: 1-5-16

Aracelia Armadost 1/5/16  
Aracelia Armadost