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OPTION FOR PARENTS CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION

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.*

This year the NOI must be submitted by 5:00 PM Mountain Time on **the second Tuesday of January of the current year**. 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: Linda.Olivas@state.nm.us
- By mail or personal delivery: PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
c/o New Mexico Public Education Department
Attn: Ms. Linda Olivas, Administrative Assistant
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, target student population to be served, enrollment projections, key innovations, etc. (not to exceed 5 pages).

**New Mexico Public Education Department
Options for Parents, Charter Schools Division
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1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

A Window of Hope School

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
K-3	200

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Rianne Herrera				
Mailing Address	26 Armin Rd				
City	Tijeras	State	NM	Zip	87059
Phone	505.480.1860				
Email	rianneventura@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
Rianne Herrera	Founder and Teacher	MA. Special Education emphasis in Gifted Education; B.A. Dual Certification General Education K-8; Special Education K-12 emphasis Social Studies; National Board Certified Teacher 2007-Current- Mild to Moderate Disabilities Birth-21; Highly Qualified in Math, Language Arts/ Literature and Social Studies K-12, Albuquerque Public Schools 2001- current
Sara Trujillo	Founder and Teacher	MA. Special Education K-12 emphasis Math and Learning Disabilities; B.A. History and Religious Studies; Highly Qualified in Math, Language Arts/Literature and Social Studies, Albuquerque Public Schools 2003-current
Janea Menicucci	Founder and Teacher	MA. Special Education K-12 Emphasis Learning Disabilities; B.S. Elementary Education K-8 endorsed History and Mathematics; Wilson Reading System National Trainer 2007-current; Apple Foundational Trainer 2014-current; Albuquerque Public Schools 2001-Current
Heather DiLuzio	Founder and Teacher	MA. Special Education K-12 emphasis English/Language Arts; B.S. Elementary Education K-8 and Special Education K-12; Albuquerque Public Schools 2005-Current
Samantha Hannah	Founder and Teacher	MA. Special Education K-12 Concentration I: Mental Retardation and Severe Disabilities: Studies in Educational Equity for Diverse Exceptional Learners; TESOL endorsement; BA of Science in Education: Dual Certification General education K-8, Special Education K-12 emphasis in social studies, BCBA (completion date May 2015), Albuquerque Public Schools 2011-current

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

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The focus of A Window of Hope School is to offer small-group, full- inclusion learning settings that provide support for transition with a level of high expectation for all learners. A Window of Hope will utilize the Principals of Universal Design for Learning as the framework to ensure optimal academic outcomes for all students. Thus, by providing early intervention services through STEM and Problem-Based Learning Curricula and utilizing research-based and best-practice strategies, our school will focus on providing small group, fully inclusive settings with high expectations for all learners. Curriculum will be designed to meet the needs of each individual student in all academic areas including social-emotional development, limited English proficiency needs, and additional services contracted out to provide ancillary support as needed.

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.

The school will utilize The New Mexico Coalition of Charter Schools in order to ensure transparency in financial management and operational oversight as well as assistance in the areas of finance, governing body training, advertising, etc.

5. Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools? Yes: No: .

6. If the charter proposal is a replication, identify the school(s) you are replicating and the data that you have that support why this model should be replicated.

N/A

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

Our mission is to create access to high-academic achievement by providing unique, autonomous learning environments within inclusive learning settings. The school community will foster social-emotional development by inspiring and empowering diverse learners through perseverance and career-readiness skills. We will emphasize and cultivate self-advocacy and self-worth among all individuals while providing a window of opportunity to enhance life experiences.

8. 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.

Albuquerque Metropolitan area

- Describe the targeted student population including key demographic data (academic performance, home languages, ELL, and special education populations).

Current demographics (APS, 2014):
68% students who qualify for free or reduced lunch
55% Hispanic
33% Caucasian
5% Native American
4% African American
3% Asian
18% English Language Learners
15% Students identified with disabilities

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Our school will reflect the demographics of Albuquerque Metropolitan area, but will emphasize a higher percentage of students identified with disabilities, ELL and low socio-economic status.

- 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.

Most students in the Albuquerque area attend the district's public schools or district- authorized charter schools, with a smaller, but increasing portion enrolled in state-authorized charter schools or local area private schools. Based on the school mission, our desire is to recruit a diverse population of learners and employ faculty members who are Highly Qualified (ie-Nationally Board Certified, PhD, Master level teachers, etc.). Families will choose our school based on the educational opportunities being provided along with the ongoing commitment to provide high quality academics and developing social-emotional well-being. By choosing our school, families will acknowledge the ongoing community building opportunities that will provide learning opportunities for all students to become contributing members of society.

9. 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 members have assessed the need for A Window of Hope School, through conversations with community members, parents/families, teachers and ancillary support personnel, regarding opportunities and needs for this type of learning establishment. The Founding members are community members within major school districts and understand this type of educational model is not currently available. Community feedback continues to be overwhelmingly supportive for this endeavor. The Founding members will continue to collect data to support the need for this educational opportunity in the Albuquerque Metropolitan area.

10. 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.).

A Window of Hope School culture will move beyond the typical boundaries of traditional education by practicing the Universal Design for Learning Framework that will support a fully collaborative learning environment among faculty, students and community members. Through the use of multiple intelligences as well as encouraging expansion of community based learning, students will develop and demonstrate a deeper level of understanding while maintaining academic rigor. These key features will be supported through a year-round school calendar, extended school day for enrichment and/or intervention purposes, Therapeutic Rec, before and afterschool therapies/programs, i.e. expand education to stakeholders and community for GED, ELL, technology classes, etc. Plans include tying a non-profit organization to the school to provide family education and supports as described above.

11. 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.

We will provide multi-modal, multisensory academic learning that is student-centered. The student to teacher ratio will be optimal for a successful inclusive learning environment. By implementing the Universal Design for Learning Framework that incorporates multiple intelligences, students will have equal access to high quality instruction with a rigorous academic curriculum. In addition, students will have access to educators who exceed the state standards for highly qualified educational professionals.

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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Rianne Herrera MA, NBCT
Rianne Herrera MA, NBCT

Date: Jan. 5, 2015

Janea Menicucci MA.
Janea Menicucci MA.

~~Samantha~~ MA.
Samantha Hannah MA

Heather DiLuzo MA
Heather DiLuzo MA

Sara E Trujillo, MA
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