

### **Abstract of Proposed Charter School:**

Luna Charter Academy in collaboration with Luna Community College, is proposing to open with an educational framework known as an Early College High School. We will actively recruit 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from throughout the community college service area who can document their grade level status, through transcripts, as having completed eleven credits. The college will additionally offer, to its large pool of GED and remedial class students, to enroll in the charter school and acquire a dual credit, high school diploma, when their skill level and credit status makes it feasible to graduate in a timely manner. The community college and high school administration will work together to identify and create career pathways that reflect the 21<sup>st</sup> century job markets. Students will be supported and encouraged to acquire their college courses that advance them in their careers and/or their status in four-year colleges and universities. Luna Community College has had a long-standing partnership with New Mexico Highlands University, having developed considerable support in the way of articulation agreements and bridge programs to support transferring students. LCA students will be fully supported with this established partnership if they desire to pursue a four year, advanced degree education. The high school and college will jointly develop a full high school curriculum, with a scope and sequence that identify a balanced set of formative and summative assessments, carefully structured to meld college and high school classes through synchronous and asynchronous delivery of instruction. The courses will be aligned to NMPED standards, augmented by NETS and KSUS standards. Students will be provided with an individualized approach to support services and progress monitoring to fully achieve their career goals. LCA will additionally be entitled to a personalized learning environment, including creating smaller learning communities, student advisories, and highly qualified teachers to assist them in developing individualized learning plans that are updated each grading period. LCA will offer multiple pathways to a high-quality career and technical education and will support struggling students by offering enhanced supports to get them back on track. Improved instruction will be achieved by using multiple strategies that include using digital technologies (a format proven to engage youth), and to connect emotionally and intellectually with students by delivering instruction in content that is meaningful and relevant. Teachers and technical support staff will be provided with essential training and professional development to serve as knowledgeable users and teachers of digital technologies. LCA will structure into its schedule frequent opportunities for peer collaboration in analyzing assessment data to make informed decisions around classroom practice that demonstrates continuous improvement and a culture of data use. Teachers will be provided support to use digital technology systemically and thoughtfully in the classroom. LCA staff will work to support classroom instruction, sharing best practices, and making the most of personalized instruction, using technology as a lever for reform.

The charter high school intends to locate on or within near proximity to the community college in order to maximize close collaboration of faculty and permit students full utilization of community college libraries, laboratories and services. The college currently has established distance education hubs for its extended service areas in Mora, Springer and Santa Rosa that can also be used to serve LCA students so that a portion of their education can be in their own communities, thereby minimizing the need and expense to travel to the main high school and college campuses. Luna Charter Academy believes it can be a revitalizing economic force for its underserved student populations. It is prepared to work with its community college partner to create the most successful structure as an early college high school and to continue working with local districts in a mutually beneficial relationship.