



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
300 DON GASPAR  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786  
Telephone (505) 827-5800  
[www.ped.state.nm.us](http://www.ped.state.nm.us)

HANNA SKANDERA  
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

**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](mailto: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).

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

<i>Mesa International School</i>
----------------------------------

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
6 <sup>th</sup> grade through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	20:1 per classroom, with 3 classrooms maximum per grade level, in 6 <sup>th</sup> grade through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, for a 420 maximum student enrollment

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Sean Joyce				
Mailing Address	215 Bryn Mawr SE				
City	Albuquerque	State	NM	Zip	87106
Phone	505.263.4535				
Email	sjoyce@tism.org				

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
Dr. Sean Joyce, Ph.D.	Founder	Ph.D. in educational reform from Claremont Graduate University, MA in Curriculum Leadership Redlands University, MS in Physiology of Exercise and Psychology of Sport, California State Polytechnic University, BA and teaching license University of Redlands. 36 years of teaching and administrative leadership in public schools. Currently 6 years charter school administrator.
Ms. Barbra Langmaid	Founder	MS Counseling and Student Personnel U of Houston, Oklahoma State University and Northern Arizona University, K-8 charter school administrator, high school administrator, middle school and high school teacher (1995 to present)
Mr. David Mitchell	Founder	BS in Science and Math from California State Polytechnic University and post-grad at Kennesaw State University. Director of Operations and Maintenance for Bernalillo County with 25 years practice and license in civil engineering. Product of various progressive and alternative educational program in Chicago and Rome, Italy

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

International Baccalaureate (IB) and Outdoor Education
--

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. 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.

In part, this is a replication of several current NM charter, public and private schools. This application is not intended to be a complete replication of any charter school, but more focused on replicating effective and successful programs (International Baccalaureate curriculum and Outdoor Education principles) that are in high demand in and around the Albuquerque metropolitan area. In that, it is a replication of the very successful International Baccalaureate curriculum used in the following NM schools: Corrales International School (CIS), Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School (CCPS), The International School at Mesa del Sol (TIS), New Mexico International School (NMIS), Desert Academy (private school in Santa Fe), Mandela International Magnet School (newly opened public magnet school in Santa Fe), and Sandia High School (SHS, as a part only of the total school program, and not as an IB authorized school, in APS). In those public schools (charter or district schools), the IB curriculum element is linked to the successful level of student achievement (as measured by the NM State School Report Card): CIS B grade, CCPS A grade, NMIS C grade, SHS A grade.

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

The primary mission of Mesa International School is to accomplish the lifelong **success** of every student and for them to meet successfully any opportunity they choose to face throughout their lifetime. Our focus is to develop highly skilled learning activists who, through a broad knowledge base, can analyze, synthesize and evaluate new information and apply it to novel situations to solve problems and address unique concerns. Our vision is to support all students to become **global** thinkers; citizens who think and act with a **global** understanding, but within a **local** concern or context.

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.

The students who will attend Mesa International School (MIS) are in attendance at both charter and public school district schools (and possibly private schools who are looking for an IB program) in the greater Albuquerque area, including: Rio Rancho, Los Lunas, Cedar Crest, etc.. International Baccalaureate charter schools in the Albuquerque metro area are both growing in number and demand, with the number currently at six (in various grade configurations) in eight years. All of these schools have waiting lists of students seeking enrollment.

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

At Mesa International School (MIS) we will provide a free educational choice to students of all ability levels and backgrounds, including those with special needs, educationally disadvantaged, second language learners and home languages other than English, from grade six through twelve. As MIS embraces diversity in its student population it seeks students from the greater Albuquerque metropolitan area who are interested in a smaller learning community that offers the rigor of the International Baccalaureate curriculum and the experiential learning of outdoor education, while addressing the student as a whole: academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. As an international and IB school, it will naturally attract students, and the parents of students, who have known international experiences and education in other countries.

- 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.

Currently, the students who will attend MIS are in attendance at private, charter and public school district schools in the greater Albuquerque area, including: Rio Rancho, Los Lunas, Belen, Cedar Crest, etc.. International Baccalaureate charter schools in the Albuquerque metro area are both growing in number and demand, with the number currently at six (in various grade configurations) in seven years. All of these schools have waiting lists of students seeking enrollment. As of this writing, only four of them are authorized IB schools by the International

Baccalaureate Organization, none of these schools offer the IB middle school program (MYP), and only two of these offer the coveted IB Diploma programme (an IB high school 11-12 program). For example, The International School at Mesa del Sol (TIS) is an IB K-8 school, and Corrales International School (CIS) a K-10 school. Those students who promote from TIS after 8<sup>th</sup> grade, CIS after 10<sup>th</sup> grade who desire the opportunity to earn an IB Diploma have little or no chance to do so, as Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School is one of only two IB Diploma schools in the Albuquerque area, and its enrollment is filled by existing and returning students in their 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade program. The other IB Diploma school is Sandia High School's (an APS school) Diploma Programme and it serves only 200 students out of the over 88,000 housed in all of the APS schools district wide.

The experiential learning opportunity provided through outdoor education enhances and supports, and is fully supported by, the International Baccalaureate curriculum. Combining the best pedagogical approaches of two exceptional learning environments (IB and outdoor education) MIS students access superior research-based curriculum and instructional delivery systems that are currently in short supply in the greater Albuquerque metro area.

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).

IB schools are growing in size, number and enrollment (demand) in the Albuquerque area and in the number of additional charter school authorizations over the past eight years. One single detriment to families in this community is the serious lack of IB schools that offer the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) and the pinnacle of the IB academic program, the IB Diploma Programme (a single charter in ABQ area, Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School, and the single APS high school, Sandia High, for its entire school district). This is a serious concern for families that have committed their children to an IB school for their education, but are prevented from earning an IB Diploma upon graduation from high school as these two schools do not meet the demand, as represented in the number of students in the ABQ area that currently attend an IB school in grades K-10. Currently, this number of students is over 800, who are enrolled in international schools but that do not have access to a 9-12 IB educational program or an IB Diploma.

Our membership with The New Mexico Association of IB World Schools (which includes The International School at Mesa del Sol, New Mexico International School, Corrales International School, Sandia High School, and Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School) has provided us with evidence through the schools' enrollment and waiting lists, and their NM State School Report Card system, which strongly supports this community's desire for an IB education for their children and the desire for their children to access an IB Diploma Programme.

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.).

At a minimum, the Mesa International School will deploy the International Baccalaureate curriculum of their Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme. Outdoor Education, non-traditional school year (200 day school calendar), longer school day (8:30 – 4:00), and a highly trained instructional staff (15-20 paid professional learning days per contract year) are all part of the innovative features focused in our school's mission. Our Outdoor Education program operates in part with its partnership with several local experiential science programs: Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP), The Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program is a joint effort coordinated by the University of New Mexico's Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) network and local schools along the middle Rio Grande corridor, and the La Luz Academy (La Luz Academy is an Air Force Research Laboratory education outreach program at Kirtland Air Force Base, in collaboration with New Mexico Tech). The La Luz academy targets fifth through twelfth grade students from throughout New Mexico.

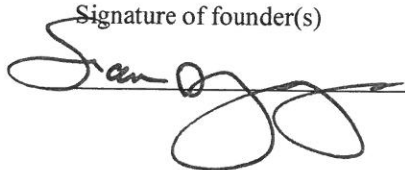
11. Describe how the school will be more effective than the schools currently serving the targeted student population, and/or plans to improve student achievement and exceed the academic performance of existing public schools in the targeted service area and any data you have to support this assumption.

The Mesa International School will offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Year and Diploma Programmes (MYP and DP). These programs are based on the most current educational research, promote the most appropriate pedagogical strategies, draw together the best classroom practices from around the world, and offer internationally recognized standards, benchmarks, and criterion-referenced assessments. A value-added benefit of participating in the IB program is the immediate connection our children and teachers will have with over 2,500 other classrooms from around the world that will share similar experiences, issues and themes of global significance. The IB Programmes (PYP, MYP and DP) offer curricular features and structures that engage, motivate, challenge, and support student learning. Paired with external scaffolds, the International Baccalaureate curricular systems will allow students to attain achievement and develop the skills, values, and qualities that we expect to achieve at MIS.

As this charter application is a partial replication of an existing school, and this MIS application is developed by founders who are directly involved with, in leadership roles, we use the evidence of CCPS, CIS, NMIS, SHS and TIS's success as support for the development of the MIS. The continued creation of IB schools in New Mexico (Mandela International, a 6-12 IB school, opened its doors in August 2014) and the established waiting lists of students wanting to enroll at these IB schools is testimony to the community support, demand, and success of the IB curriculum and schools.

*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 9, 2015

Sean D. Joyce, Ph.D.

[PRINT NAME]



Date: January 9, 2015

Ms. Barbra Langmaid

[PRINT NAME]



Date: January 9, 2015

Mr. David Mitchell

[PRINT NAME]