



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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OPTION FOR PARENTS CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT CHARTER APPLICATION, 2013

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 Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Notices of Intent that are not received by the Public Education Commission and the superintendent of the local school district by the January 8, 2013 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).

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1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

New Mexico International Exchange and Study Abroad School (NMIE)

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
10 th & 11 th grades	200

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	NMIE				
Mailing Address	1776 Montano Rd NW				
City	Los Ranchos de Albuquerque	State	NM	Zip	87107
Phone	505-379-7054				
Email	nmieprogram@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
Frank Volpe	Co-Founder	Assistant Director Corrales International BA, MA, current PHD UNM student English, Spanish and Mandarin fluency President-elect and co-founder of the New Mexico International Baccalaureate Association International Experience: Participated in an academic year abroad as a high school student (Spain), twice as a college student (Mexico and Cuba) and as a teacher (China). Volunteer with the U.S. State Department International Visitor's Counsel and coordinated school based student exchange in collaboration with AFS. Traveled extensively through Europe, Asia, Africa, Central and South America.
Lynn Barr	Co-Founder	Founder Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School BA, MA International Baccalaureate Coordinator President and co-founder of the New Mexico International Baccalaureate Association
Susan Unser	Business and Community liaison	Managing Board member of Non-profit Business Owner and Operator Chief of Staff Speaker of the House Santa Fe Founder of New Mexico Challenger Learning Center
Michael Vigil	Business Manager	Chief Operations Officer for New Mexico Coalition of Charter Schools, Certified Public Accountant

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

The focus of the proposed school is to provide a year of academic study abroad for high school students in New Mexico. The school seeks to enhance cross-cultural communication, linguistic skills and individual academic achievement through an international exchange experience. The school will provide elective and core high school

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credits to ensure students are able to participate in the exchange experience while continuing to meet NM graduation requirements and prepare for post secondary education or training.

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.

N/A

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)

NMIE seeks to promote cross cultural understanding, language acquisition and academic excellence through year long academic study abroad experiences. NMIE seeks to reach students all across New Mexico and make study abroad experiences accessible to students regardless of their geographic location or socio-economic status. These experience will lay the foundation for individual student success, increased career opportunities and true lifelong learning.

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.

NMIE seeks to recruit students from all counties across New Mexico. Special efforts will be made to recruit students from rural areas of New Mexico, Native American Pueblos, the Navajo Nation and other communities throughout New Mexico who lack public education options outside of their local public schools.

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

All students in a public school in the state of New Mexico that have successfully completed school requirements and met state standards to enter the 10th or 11th grade.

- 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.

Future NMIE students are currently being educated across environments. NMIE believes that students from traditional public schools, charter schools, private schools and those being home schooled will all be interested in the opportunity to study abroad through NMIE. The experience will allow students to develop the perspective of global citizenship, language proficiency, develop themselves as an independent learner and increase their competitiveness in college admissions. They will return to the same educational environment after the completion of their international year of study. Students will enter that school at the next grade level. (i.e. enter NMIE as a sophomore and return to enter their 11th grade year at previous school)

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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).

There are currently no charter schools within New Mexico that focus on providing international exchange.

Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange says "Less than 1% of high school students in the USA study abroad! 82% of study abroad participants are White/Caucasian. Low-income and youth of color are especially underrepresented in international exchange programs.

In a recent survey conducted at an Albuquerque charter school, over 30% of the students in grades 9 and 10 expressed interest in a study abroad program.

The former coordinator for Study Abroad Rio Rancho schools program said that as an educator the exchange program is what made the most significant differences in her students lives. All of these Rio Rancho programs are fee based.

Following are some of the approved student exchange programs in New Mexico that are primarily fee-based but are being used to determine assessment of programs and underrepresented students :

CCI Center for Cultural Interchange, PAX Academic Exchange, ERDT/Share High School Exchange Program
Rio Rancho Rotary Club

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.).

NMIE will provide academic and experiential learning opportunities for New Mexico students that are not available anywhere else. NMIE will form partnerships with foreign schools and international exchange organizations in order to provide the only publicly funded study abroad experience available to NM students. Local organizations and organization representatives from World Experience, AFS and Rotary have already pledged their support.

Students at NMIE will have a longer school year to incorporate class time before and after their experience. Before traveling to the host country, students will participate in a pre-travel or host family experience and Students will attend Abroad 101 classes on:

- Academic Success and Next Step Plan preparation
- Experiential Language Acquisition
- Global Awareness
- Successful Cultural Immersion
- Service In Action Projects
- Safety and Best Practices

Students will be in continuous contact and monitored by a teacher or administrator while abroad to make sure the student stays on track and work toward their goals in an appropriate timeline. Educational goals while abroad will be:

- Academic Success
- Service Project
- Research and Essays
- Cultural Education

Upon returning to New Mexico, students will come back to the classroom setting to share their experience with other international traveling students through discussion, research, projects and seminars. They will work with administrators to coordinate their transition back to their district or charter school.

NMIE will utilize Ideal New Mexico, IDEAL-NM which will provide the on-line courses the students will need to continue with the New Mexico state standards of education while at their international school. Ideal's vision is to reduce geographic and other barriers to educational opportunity while increasing the digital

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literacy skills youth and adult learners need to participate in a global economy.

NMIE will partner with World Experience, an international exchange program founded in 1977 to develop young citizens of other countries so that they could return home and use their experiences to benefit their countries. The partnership will be used for host family preparation, international travel visa preparation, as a liaison for support and training of host families and utilizing best practices in safety while abroad.

NMIE will become a member and apply to become an accredited list member of the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) The CSIET mark certifies that the organization complies with the standards set forth in the CSIET Standards for International Educational Travel Programs. CSIET serves its members as a comprehensive and reliable source of information on international youth exchange. Members keep up to date on trends in the field, federal regulations, advocacy efforts, and networking opportunities. The mission of the CSIET is to provide leadership and support for the exchange and educational communities to ensure that youth are provided with safe and valuable international and cultural exchange experiences. CSIET's purpose is to identify those organizations that successfully demonstrate:

- Commitment to CSIET Standards;
- Compliance audits;
- Dedication to the development and sharing of Community Best Practices; and
- Support for the educational value of international youth exchange

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.

Students that participate in exchange programs are called upon to demonstrate growth and maturity. They think critically about other cultures and their own. Statistics from the University of New Mexico show that students who have participated in study abroad programs have:

- Improved communication
- Improved problem solving capability
- Greater knowledge and awareness of other cultures, traditions and customs
- Improved sense of self and purpose
- Greater capacity to engage in shared projects
- Improved critical thinking
- Higher success rate of degree attainment

Organizations that are members of CSIET believe that students who participate in youth exchange are more inclined to continue their studies in college. Their level of maturity permits them to identify career goals earlier than their peers, thus bringing about improved learning environments, lower attrition and higher graduation rates.

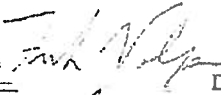
According to the GLOSSARI study (Georgia Learning Outcomes of Students Studying Abroad Research Initiative) which examined the academic impact of university study abroad, there is a statistically significant improvement in GPA and an overall 10% increase in 4-year graduation rates for all students, which is even higher for non-white students.

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)

Frank Volpe

Digitally signed by Frank Volpe
DN: cn=Frank Volpe, o=New Mexico Public Education Department, email=frank.volpe@nmped.org, c=US



Date: January 5, 2013

Lynn D Barr

Digitally signed by Lynn D Barr
DN: cn=Lynn D Barr, o=New Mexico Public Education Department, email=lynn.d.barr@nmped.org, c=US



[PRINT NAME]

Ólivas, Linda M., PED

From: Lynn Barr [lynn.barr@cottonwoodclassical.org]
Sent: Saturday, January 05, 2013 3:29 PM
To: Olivas, Linda M., PED
Cc: Richardson, Bradley, PED; Frank Volpe
Subject: Letter of Intent
Attachments: Letter of Intent NMIE.pdf

Hello Ms. Olivas:

Please find attached our Letter of Intent for New Mexico International Exchange School. We have digitally signed the PDF's and I have also mailed in a copy of the documents. Let me know if any further information is needed. Both Frank Volpe and I can be reached at nmieprogram@gmail.com

Thank you

Lynn Barr

"In matters of style, swim with the current. In matters of principle, stand like a rock." ~ Thomas Jefferson

Lynn Barr, Founder

International Baccalaureate Coordinator

Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

*1776 Montañó Road NW, Building #3
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107*

www.cottonwoodclassical.org

E-mail: Lynn Barr

Telephone: (505) 998.1021

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New Mexico International Exchange and Study Abroad School
1776 Montano Rd NW
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107
nmieprogram@gmail.com

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
c/o Public Education Department
Option for Parents-Charter Schools Division
300 Don Gaspar
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786

To: Ms. Linda Olivas, Administrative Assistant

Reference: Notice of Intent to Submit Charter Application

Please find enclosed our Notice of Intent to submit a charter application to the State of New Mexico in 2013. The proposed application is the New Mexico International Exchange and Study Abroad School that will provide students in New Mexico an option for a year of academic study abroad.

Copies of this Letter of Intent have been provided to the district in which the school will reside.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank Volpe".

Frank Volpe

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynn Barr".

Lynn Barr