



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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OPTION FOR PARENTS CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT CHARTER APPLICATION, 2014

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 **Wednesday, January 8, 2014**. Notices of Intent that are not received by the Public Education Commission and the superintendent of the local school district by the January 8, 2014 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

Thunderbird Charter School

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be Offered	Projected Total Enrollment
6-12	125

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Mr Stephen Howden			
Mailing Address	2532 Lema Rd SE			
City	Rio Rancho	State	NM	Zip 87124
Phone	505-506-3818			
Email	Showden@q.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
Stephen Howden	Principal	Doctrinal Studies, Level - 3 School Counselor/working on Admin certification
Phil Bundy	Lead Teacher	BA History; BA Secondary Education; Graduate Studies - MA American History (June 2014), Level 2 Teacher/working on Level 3 certification

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

Life skills and College Prep

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)

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Thunderbird Charter School will facilitate a student centered individualized education developing responsible, independent, adaptable life long learners who have acquired effective thinking and communication skills. Thunderbird will facilitate the proficient use of technology as an educational vehicle in a 21st century centered learning environment promoting integrity and mutual respect while recognizing the importance of student, family, community and school cooperation and collaboration for success.

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.

Greater Albuquerque Area

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

Thunderbird's targeted student population will be those students who do not "fit in" the traditional school environments, whether due to language, culture, previous academic performance, gender identification, or any other perceived identifiers. Thunderbird's goal is to provide a smaller classroom (teacher to pupil) ratio, as well as providing a campus atmosphere where differences will be celebrated as strengths - an educational mirror of the American motto of "E Pluribus Unum", "out of many, one". Our targeted audience will be the student's who have struggled; the plan will be to provide an educational setting where studnets can be given an opportunity to rise up and succeed. All students can be not only successful, but very successful, if provided with the right educational environment. Student enrollment will be strictly lottery based.

- 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 targeted student population will be drawn from local districts, and charter schools; it is believed our prospective students - given an opportunity to find smaller classroom size, and less stress of the traditional student populations - will choose Thunderbird because it will be the type of school they have always wanted to attend, or wished existed. They will seek us out because - released from the daily trauma of "fitting in" students will be able to focus on academics and be prepared for a post secondary school existence.

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).

As educators (teaching, counselling and administrative) with more than 30 years combined experience we have observed the need for an alternative school for the types of students described above. We have not conducted a study, or survey, but we have noted through our combined careers that many of the students described above failed to succeed because they were dealing with the social stresses of "fitting in" and many spent too much time dealing with bullying from their peers and even from educators. It is our hope to establish a school where bullying can be held to an absolute minimum if not entirely eliminated altogether.

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.).

Our student's need to be able to function and perform above minimally mandated standards in order to truly succeed in a technologically exceledated work environment; in order to facilitate that goal of life skills success, Thunderbird will facilitate success though the use of virtual learning space; specifically created and available Internet resources; provision of individual technology equipment (i.e. notebook computers); individualized learning plans; simultaneous learning opportunities with local colleges and universities and through online

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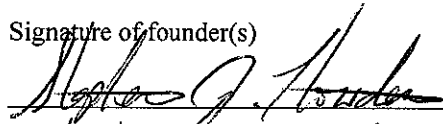
classes.

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.

By providing our targeted student population with a healthy and safe learning environment, not generally found in main stream middle and high schools, we will be providing for them the opportunity to be solely concerned with education, thus enabling them with the power to succeed; with this educational model we will be better able to prepare our students for the post seconday school world of college, employment and success in life.

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: Jan. 08, 2014

Stephen J. Howden

[PRINT NAME]



Philip E. Bonds