

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

Provide an abstract (summary) in narrative form that succinctly describes the proposed charter school. Include in the narrative, the school's proposed location, grade levels, enrollment, mission, and educational philosophy and approach. This abstract is to be limited to one page.

It is the mission of Sandia Academy to use interactive technology to provide an innovative public charter school education option which meets the individual needs of approximately 500 kindergarten through twelfth grade students in New Mexico beginning in the fall of 2010. The Academy will be a hybrid model: traditional face-to-face classroom instruction combined with distance learning. It will be a powerful model promoting meaningful parent, student and teacher involvement. The School will be governed by a board whose members will have track records which demonstrate successful performance in education, business, and commitment to the State of New Mexico and its communities.

As a public charter school, the Sandia Academy will be open to any New Mexico student, although the Academy expects to primarily attract students within commuting distance of the school's Learning Center (in the greater Albuquerque metropolitan area) including special student populations such as gifted and talented students, students attending schools designated as "needs improvement", those who are struggling academically, those having special needs, and those students in need of a quality educational option. Students will receive daily coursework from New Mexico licensed, highly qualified teachers—both in the Learning Center and when they are studying at a distance from the Learning Center. Academy teachers will work in conjunction with mentors (parents/guardians or any caring adult that the parent or guardian selects) to ensure student success.

Academy students in grades K-8 will complete coursework that will include math, social studies/New Mexico history, physical education, Language Arts/English, science, art and world languages or music. The Academy's curriculum will provide students in grades K-12 multiple levels of World Languages in Spanish, French, Latin, German, and Chinese. The Academy will offer K-8 students sessions at the Academy's facility a minimum of one day per week. High school students in grades nine through twelve will be enrolled in at least six courses—those required for graduation and electives. Math, English, Science, and History courses will be offered in multiple levels to meet the needs of diverse learners. The Academy will offer high school students sessions at the Academy's facility a minimum of two days per week. The hybrid distance learning program will combine lessons accessed on the Internet with hands-on materials kits. Students will be able to check out a computer and printer for the duration of their enrollment in the school.

Assessment and accountability will be an integral part of the learning program including benchmark assessments at the beginning of the year; individual learning plans for each student; regular diagnostic performance assessments throughout the school year to measure growth; ongoing lesson, unit, and semester assessments to demonstrate mastery of the learning objectives in the curriculum; and New Mexico Statewide Assessment Program (NMSAP) tests to demonstrate that Academy students are meeting and exceeding the state learning standards.