

Name of Proposed School TAOS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
Date of Team Analysis: August 13, 2012

Team Members:

Karen Ehlert, Charter Schools Division (Team Lead)

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#### CAPACITY INTERVIEW TEAM ANALYSIS SCORE SUMMARY

CAPACITY INTERVIEW SECTION	POINTS RECEIVED	APPLICANT SCHOOL'S POSSIBLE POINTS
12 STANDARD QUESTIONS	24	24
3 INDIVIDUALIZED QUESTIONS	6	6
<b>OVERALL SCORE</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

<b>Educational Plan</b>	1. Describe a typical day for a student in your school. Please be as concise and specific as possible; consider the teachers, the materials, the class, the parents, ancillary staff, etc.
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> A thorough description of a typical day was presented by the applicant team. The description was in alignment with the philosophy and educational plan described in the application.
<b>Educational Plan</b>	2. What is your plan if the school's actual enrollment population is different from the targeted population you originally intended to serve?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated a full understanding of the possibility that the expected population may not enroll or be selected through a potential lottery. An extensive outreach/marketing plan was discussed.
<b>Governance</b>	3. Please explain the delineated roles and responsibilities of, and the relationships between, the founders, the governing body, and the school's administration during the transitional period between the planning year and the first year of operations. Describe how those relationships evolve over the full term of the charter.
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated a complete understanding of the roles, responsibilities of and relationships between the founders, the governing body and the school's administration during the transitional year and over the full term of the charter.
<b>Governance</b>	4. How does the school's governing body exercise its oversight and accountability? What does the governing body have oversight of?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated a full understanding of governing body oversight and accountability.
<b>Facility</b>	5. Describe your plan for acquiring a facility and ensuring that the facility meets educational occupancy standards required by applicable New Mexico construction codes. Whose responsibility is it to carry out this major piece of opening a charter school?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response indicated that extensive research had been done in regard to locating a facility that meets requirements. A potential site has been identified. One of the founders would take primary responsibility for acquiring the facility.
<b>Facility</b>	6. If you cannot find a building that meets PSFA approval, what is your next steps plan?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated an understanding of the consequences of not

	finding a building that meets PSFA approval, including a delayed opening of school.
<b>Finance</b>	7. How are you going to open your school without federal start-up funds?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant teams' response indicated knowledge of potential funding resources and strategies.
<b>Finance</b>	8. If something in your budget is not working as planned, for instance, you do not get the desired enrollment numbers for the first year, what will be your plan of action?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated well-versed strategies for budget oversight and options for reduction of expenses.
<b>Policies and Procedures</b>	9. If your school requires a change to the original charter contract what is the process for your governing body to address that change?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated experience in this area and emphasized the importance of careful planning at the time of negotiating the contract. A knowledgeable plan of action was presented in the event some unanticipated circumstance required an amendment to the charter contract.
<b>Policies and Procedures</b>	10. What role do policies have in the operation of a school? What triggers the need for a policy?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of the role of policies in the operation of a school as well as requirements for policy development.
<b>Policies and Procedures</b>	11. What do you anticipate your process will be for developing policies? How will you ensure that your policies and procedures are not only compliant, but current and effective?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated significant experience and knowledge in the area of policy development, including process, compliance and ongoing review for relevance and effectiveness.
<b>Planning Year</b>	12. What major challenges to you anticipate during the planning year as you work to open a new school? How do you envision organizing yourselves to carry out the tasks required to open a school?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated their experience in public education and in the opening of a charter school.

<b>Review Team's Individualized Question</b>	13. Under the philosophy section of the Educational Plan, you have presented a discussion of the Framework for the International Baccalaureate Primary and Middle Years Programs. The title page of the application states: Taos International School: An International Baccalaureate/ <u>Dual Language Program</u> for K-8 Students. Please discuss the philosophy behind the Dual Language Program.
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated significant knowledge and experience with a Dual Language Program and its philosophy.
<b>Review Team's Individualized Question</b>	14. On page 67 of the application, the Staffing Plan is presented for Taos International School. On page 98 of the Appendices (Facilities master Plan) a different Staffing Plan is presented. Please discuss the staffing plan you intend to use, the budget presented in the application and identify the positions that will be contracted positions.
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team clarified the discrepancy between the staffing plan presented on page 67 of the application and on page 98 of the appendices. The Facilities Master Plan was submitted early in the application writing process and subsequent refinements were made to the staffing plan as outlined on page 67 of the application.
<b>Review Team's Individualized Question</b>	15. In the application you indicate that the governing body will meet quarterly. How do you anticipate meeting state reporting and application requirements, many of which have 30-day deadlines for submission?
<b>Score: 2</b>	<b>Comments:</b> The applicant team's response demonstrated a clear understanding of and experience with the reporting requirements and deadlines as well as application deadlines required by the Public Education Department. Acknowledging governing body approval requirements and quarterly meetings, the applicants indicated that planning ahead and working with the Department is essential.