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PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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OPTIONS FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES DIVISION
CHARTER SCHOOLS DIVISION
Year: 2019

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.*

The NOI must be submitted by 5:00 PM Mountain Time by **the second Tuesday of January**. 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: charter.schools@state.nm.us
- By mail or personal delivery: PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
c/o New Mexico Public Education Department
Attn: Options for Parents and Families/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, the representative student population in the intended location, enrollment projections, key innovations, etc. (not to exceed 5 pages).

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

School Name
ACES Technical High School

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Total Projected Enrollment
Grades 6 - 12	840

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Jeron T. Campbell, Ed.L.D.				
Mailing Address	300 Menaul Blvd. NW, Ste. A #444				
City	Albuquerque	State	NM	ZIP	87107
Phone	(313) 506-3677				
Email	jtc274@mail.harvard.edu				

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
Jeron T. Campbell, Ed.L.D.	Lead Founder	<p>Education: Ed.L.D., Education Leadership, Harvard University; M.Eng, Manufacturing, Michigan-Ann Arbor; B.S., Electrical Engineering, Michigan State; Fellow, Broad Residency in Urban Education (2009-2011)</p> <p>Current: CEO, JT Campbell Consulting - Education consultant.</p> <p>Experience: Chief Data, Accountability, and Technology Officer, Paterson Public Schools (NJ); Chief Data and Accountability Officer, Hartford Public Schools (CT); Director of School Redesign, Detroit Public Schools; Engineer at Ford Motor Company for 10 years; Founder and Executive Director of the Aces Program, a volunteer-driven nonprofit which has provided ACT/SAT Prep to thousands of youth in Detroit and now in Albuquerque.</p>
Finnie Coleman, Ph.D.	Founding Board Member	<p>Education: Ph.D., Literature, University of Virginia; B.A., Economics, Virginia Military Institute</p> <p>Current: Associate Professor, Department of English, UNM</p> <p>Experience: Director, Africana Studies, UNM; Interim Dean, University College, UNM; Fellow, American Council on Education (ACE), University of Miami; Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University.</p>
Stephanie McIver, Ph.D.	Founding Board Member	<p>Education: Ph.D., Adult Clinical Psychology, Ohio State; M.A. Adult Clinical Psychology, Ohio State; B.A., Psychology/Natural Science, Spelman College; Licensed Psychologist in NM and CA.</p> <p>Current: Counseling Director, Student Health and Counseling, UNM</p> <p>Experience: Clinical Psychologist at Stanford Medical Center and Healthnet, Inc. in California before returning home to Albuquerque.</p>

Name	Role on Team	Qualifications: Education, Employment, Experience
Leon Howard, Esq.	Founding Board Member	Education: J.D., University of New Mexico; B.A., Psychology, UNM Current: Legal Director, ACLU of New Mexico Experience: Associate, Dan Cron Law Firm; Partner, Lucero & Howard, LLC. Legal focus on advocating for the rights of underrepresented populations and people who are victims of governmental/institutional abuse of power.

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

ACES Technical High School (ACES Tech) will offer a comprehensive college preparatory educational experience, with particular focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) areas of study. All students will receive a wide-ranging middle and high school program, ensuring that they are exceptionally prepared for any post-secondary college or career opportunity they decide to pursue. In addition to an array of course options in core subject areas, students will continually learn through participation in STEM based projects. Best practice processes, such as innovative master scheduling and active mentoring, will be employed to allow students the time and resources needed to explore areas of interest, work in teams, grow their communication skills, and make significant progress in their work.

ACES Tech will strive to identify and grow the individual talents and skills of our students. Staff will be expected to provide instruction in support of the spectrum of multiple intelligences that our students possess. Students will be given the opportunity to take advanced courses, such as AP, and ACES Tech will pursue partnerships with local colleges to offer dual credit courses. To support career readiness, we will also partner with companies and organizations to create internship and apprenticeship pathway opportunities.

ACES Tech will produce graduates who exhibit exceptional college and career preparedness both academically and socially. The preparation they receive will ensure that they are ready to be the STEM innovators and leaders of tomorrow.

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

Vision/Mission statement:

Vision:

Every student a responsible, contributing citizen in a diverse and increasingly advanced world.

Mission:

All ACES Tech students will experience a challenging and exciting education and will graduate exceptionally prepared for any college and career of their choice.

7. 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 primary targeted area of Albuquerque will be the Southeast region of the city, particularly the 87106, 87108, and 87123 ZIP codes. These three ZIP codes are populated by a diverse mix of racial groups, including the highest percentages in the city of African Americans, Native Americans, and Asians (Fig. 1). All students will be encouraged to apply to ACES Tech through our random lottery process, and we hope to increase our chances of enrolling a diverse group of students by placing particular recruiting focus on Southeast Albuquerque.

Figure 1 - 2018 Demographic Data for Southeast Albuquerque

Demographic Data¹	87106	87108	87123	Albuquerque
Median Income	\$27,036	\$26,248	\$36,150	\$39,997
% Families Below the Poverty Level	16.72%	21.06%	12.18%	10.32%
% Population Below the Poverty Level	25.89%	32.78%	17.97%	17.54%
% White	71.04%	65.90%	71.00%	70.48%
% Black	4.44%	4.39%	4.31%	2.84%
% Native American	4.57%	7.10%	4.68%	3.88%
% Asian	4.51%	2.73%	3.45%	1.98%
% Other Race	10.93%	14.37%	11.76%	16.44%
% Hispanic (of any race)	27.82%	45.50%	32.92%	42.86%

- Describe the student population including key demographic data (academic performance, home languages, ELL, and special education populations) in the location in which the school intends to locate.

In the combined area codes of 87106, 87108, and 87123, the middle and high schools' enrollment demographics mirror that of the total district. The students are 22% White, 4% Black, 67% Hispanic, 2% Asian, and 5% Native American. A large percentage, 74%, qualify for free and reduced lunch. In addition, students with disabilities make up 18% of the total area enrollment and 18% are English language learners.

The target ZIP codes contain middle and high schools operated by both APS and charters. The 2018 academic performance of the students attending these schools is currently quite low: only three schools produced a total PARCC English Language Arts (ELA) proficiency rate of over 40% and only one school had a total PARCC mathematics proficiency rate above 40%. All of the other schools' results ranged from 10% to 39% total students proficient in ELA and 4% to 39% total students proficient in mathematics on the PARCC assessment.

The schools in the area collectively received the following earned letter grades in 2018: 19% of the schools received an A, 19% of the schools received a B, another 19% of the schools received a C, 10% of the schools received a D, and 33% of the schools received an F.

- 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.

We expect that the majority of our future students are currently attending one of the thirteen K-5 elementary schools in ZIP codes 87106, 87108, and 87123. These schools collectively received the following earned letter grades in 2018: No schools received an A grade, 4 schools received a B (30%), 1 school received a C (8%), 2 schools received a D (16%), and 5 schools received an F (38%). Of these elementary schools, only one produced a total student proficiency rate of over 40% on the PARCC ELA tests and only two had a total student proficiency rate above 40% on the PARCC mathematics tests. We anticipate that the parents of students attending these schools will be looking for an outstanding middle and secondary school option for the next step in their children's education. ACES Tech will offer a program that provides students with rigorous STEM focused instruction and hands on projects, while providing student centered supports and resources to ensure success. Also, many parents desire the stability of a grade 6-12 school versus a traditional grade 9-12 school. This broader grade configuration will offer students a seamless transition into high school and help maintain well-established relationships with staff and peers.

¹ Zip Atlas. (2018). Zip Code Atlas, Area Code, City & State Profiles. Retrieved from various pages within zipatlas.com: <http://zipatlas.com/>.

8. 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).

ACES Tech will provide a STEM pathway program for our students, with particular emphasis on the engineering and health fields. Technology and health are two career sectors with strong growth potential in New Mexico. New Mexico is the 8th largest energy producer in the US, and ranks 3rd in oil production and 9th in natural gas production.² New Mexico also has thriving solar and wind power industries. These abundant energy resources will provide high paying careers well into the future for individuals with the required technical skills. Additionally, the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions employment projections report for 2014-2024 states that health care related fields will drive 40% of job growth in the state.³ Thus New Mexico will continue to need doctors, nurses, and other allied health professionals to meet that demand.

In discussions with Albuquerque community members, several themes have been expressed consistently. Parents want a school with strong mathematics, English, and science instruction that will prepare students for jobs of the future. Many people mention a desire for hands on learning opportunities and team projects. They also want strong wrap-around services and teachers who will challenge every student in the school.

We have collected a sampling of community input via a one page survey and over 80% of responders feel that it is important the students are prepared for fields like engineering and medicine. Over 90% have felt that students should be able to complete work training or certification programs while in high school. These are core components of the program that we are proposing for our school.

9. 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.).

The significant features, in fact the very culture, of ACES Tech will not be constrained by traditional education methods and processes. In the essay, On Listening, Plutarch wrote “the mind is not a vessel that needs filling, but wood that needs igniting”⁴ Thus, imagination and exploration will be trademarks of the academic program and learning experiences at ACES Tech. Teachers, students, and community partners will all be encouraged to create opportunities for students to stretch their intellectual limits. The focus of school will be to provide the environment and resources needed to nurture and develop the talents and skills that students have within them.

ACES Tech will provide a challenging standards aligned curriculum and provide innovative in-school supports for students in order to maximize their success. Additionally, ACES Tech staff will work collaboratively via frequent professional learning meetings (PLCs) and will use both quantitative and qualitative data to drive process improvement. The goal for ACES Tech is to provide the most challenging AND the most exciting educational experience possible for our students. We believe that such an environment is necessary to produce the science, technology, engineering, and health innovators and leaders of tomorrow.

² US Energy Information Administration. (2016). Profile Overview. Retrieved from <https://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=NZ>

³ New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions. New Mexico Employment Projections 2014-2024. (2014). Retrieved from https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/0/DM/LMI/NM_Employment_Projections_2014-2024.pdf

⁴ Essays by Plutarch (1992). Translation by Robin Waterfield, On Listening, Quote Page 50, Penguin Classics, London and New York.

10. 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.

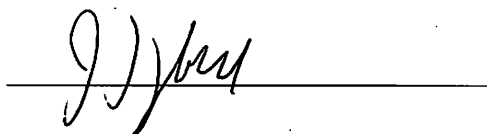
According to New Mexico Public Education Department data, the vast majority of the students attending middle and high schools in our target ZIP codes are not grade level proficient in language arts/literacy or mathematics. In 2018, PARCC results showed that only 30% of all students across our target area were proficient in English language arts/literacy and only 19% were proficient in mathematics. ACES Tech will offer research based instruction, interventions, and social emotional learning resources that are especially tailored to the needs of our students. Our academic program will meet and exceed both state and common core education standards and we will implement our instructional model with high fidelity, which will better ensure high degrees of student success. Additionally, our school's processes and resource allocation decisions will be responsive to the needs of our students, their parents, and the future workforce requirements of the community.

Based upon the research we have conducted and the expressed desire of the community, ACES Tech will provide an exciting and challenging STEM themed curriculum with opportunities for students to complete hands on projects and receive mentoring and advice from community professionals. ACES Tech will also hire, and professionally develop, teachers and staff who exhibit cultural understanding and sensitivities which support a safe and healthy school environment for our diverse student body.

ACES Tech will demonstrate its effectiveness through student outcomes such as test results, college credits, and career certificates. The lead founder, Jeron Campbell, is an electrical engineer and educator with extensive experience in the areas of corporate engineering, manufacturing, and K-12 district leadership. Dr. Campbell founded a nonprofit which has offered English, mathematics, and college entrance exam preparation to middle and high school students for 18 years. To note one recent data point, in the fall of 2018 his Albuquerque ACT Prep students averaged an increase of 3 points on their post-test during his 7 week Saturday program. Known college readiness strategies will be infused into the culture and instruction of ACES Tech, resulting in students 1) demonstrating increased learning and confidence through higher scores on state and national tests, and 2) demonstrating college and career readiness through the attainment of workforce certificates and college credits before high school graduation.

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: 1/3/19

Jeron T. Campbell, Ed.L.D.
[PRINT NAME]