



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
300 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us

CHRISTOPHER N. RUSZKOWSKI
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

**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

Esperanza Charter School

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
K-12	400

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Juanita Cata		
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 1		
City	Okay Owingeh Pueblo	State	NM
Zip	87566		
Phone	505-753-3830		
Email	frterrybrennan@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

Names	Role on Team	Qualifications: Education, Employment, and Experience
Dr Juanita Cata	Organizer	PhD in Education; Administrator for over 30 years
Carla Martinez	Board member	Former Espanola City Councilor; financial expert at Los Alamos Labs
Isaac Medina	Board member	Former Board member of Espanola Public Schools and Carinos Charter School
Fr. Terry Brennan	Board member	Attorney, former Board member of Carinos Charter School

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

Targeting at-risk students with an agricultural and animal husbandry curriculum

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.

No

5. Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools? Yes No
No

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

We seek to address the specific and individual needs of students who would have less likelihood of succeeding academically and socially in a standard public or private school setting. We wish to use a curriculum that will stimulate their interest in education while addressing any developmental or social impediments to optimize their educational potential.

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.

Espanola Valley and all schools within that district; we will encourage students from the Los Alamos and Pojoaque school districts who would benefit from our approach to also apply to our school.

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

Our targeted population are at-risk students; those who because of various impediments would be less likely to achieve their academic and social goals in standard educational settings. These students would include those with learning disabilities, autism, ADD, and other conditions. It also includes those with behavioral problems caused by a variety of reasons. We recognize that some of these students will be coming from families that experience issues with drug and alcohol abuse, trauma, and violence.

- 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.

Our targeted populations are presently in our public school systems and would choose our school because of the individual attention they would receive and because of the opportunity to have teachers trained in special education techniques who can best address their needs.

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).

We previously operated Carinos Charter School in Espanola and were addressing this student population with these special needs. Our student enrollment was robust until a problem with a disgruntled employee sabotaged our operation. The local demand for our school was evidently proved during our years of operation.

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.).

We plan to explore additional state-of-the-art models to augment the successful program we were previously providing at Carinos Charter School. It will include a program where the total staff addresses the individual student needs.

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.

By the very nature of the challenge of at-risk students, we will address, at-risk students who are traditionally a challenge for any teacher. By bringing this student population together and focusing on their special needs, our school can target the needs of those students as our primary goal and achieve better results than would be likely be found at standard public schools. The local public schools can also make recommendations or suggestions to the students and their families that they opt for our school, for the best interests of their child. For those students who can function and achieve better in the standard public school setting, we encourage those students to continue their education in that setting and to grow and develop accordingly.

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):

Dr. Juanita Cata

[PRINT NAME(s)]

Date: January 8, 2019