

Implementation Review Report to PEC

Peer Reviewers Names: Elizabeth LeBlanc and Matthew Pahl

Purpose of Report: To inform the PEC of our analysis of the implementation year checklist such that they can make informed and timely decisions on the commencement of operations for Solare Collegiate Charter School in in the southwest mesa area of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Implementation Process Overview: In mid-May 2019, the Charter School Division issued a call for independent peer reviewers to examine and verify the readiness of two new state-chartered schools to commence operations in August of this year, one of these being Solare Collegiate Charter School. We were selected and served in this capacity. Our work included a review of implementation documentation submitted to the CSD by both schools at the November, March and May submission windows, verification of said documents, examination of CSD feedback and guidance for these schools, response from the schools and determination if the schools had met the set conditions of their implementation checklist at each step. A consultation call was held after the May submission window to update the peer reviewers and to provide information on questions they had indicated in the course of their review. Our findings are summarized below for the PEC's further consideration and convenience in their decision-making process.

Peer Review Findings for Solare Collegiate: Overall, Solare Collegiate Charter School's team and representatives have been highly attentive and responsive to the Implementation Checklist process. They completed all submissions in a timely manner, worked to implement guidance and to improve their submissions through coordination with the CSD and have worked hard to not only comply with all components of the checklist, but to do so at a high level. Areas of strength for the school include:

- A dedicated Head of School and strong, committed School Board who have been a part of the school's process since their initial charter application
- The completed hiring of the majority of teaching staff who are set to begin professional development in July
- Excellent outlines and procedures for serving special populations of students
- Mission-driven articulation of the message, experience, and values behind Solare Collegiate Charter School
- Continued plans for community engagement, recruitment, and outreach to potential students and families

Overall Summary: In terms of readiness, Solare Collegiate School has currently enrolled 67% of their target enrollment numbers as of their March submission and have secured a location for both a temporary and a permanent school facility. The school has met all conditions set out to date for their Implementation Year checklist.