



Raquel Reedy
Superintendent

Office of Innovation and School Choice

APS Authorized Charter Schools

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Senior Director

2020 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 on January 14, 2019, **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.

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

Notice to the Superintendent of Albuquerque Public Schools should be delivered electronically to the APS Office of Innovation and School Choice through the Senior Director, Dr. Joseph Escobedo at Escobedo_j@aps.edu

The NOI is intended to provide the Public Education Commission and the APS Office of Innovation and School Choice 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 7 pages).

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

Breakthrough Academy

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections
 - The school will include grade level configurations that include grades 6-8. X Yes No

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
7-12	300

- The school, if approved, anticipates opening August, 2021. Yes No
 - If yes, provide a timeline that includes benchmarks demonstrating 18-24 months of application development.

<p>January 2020- NOI submitted to PED and APS Locate and enroll in trainings for new charter applicants</p> <p>February 2020- March 2020- April 2020- May 2020- June 2020- July 2020- Submit formal application for Charter</p> <p>August 2020- September 2020- November 2020- December 2020- January 2021- Begin Marketing Campaign and communicate lottery process</p> <p>February 2021- Applications taken for lottery</p> <p>March 2021- Lottery selection and communication Enrollment Begin Master Scheduling</p> <p>April 2021- Recruit Staff</p> <p>May 2021- June 2021- July 2021- Staff training</p> <p>August 2021- Open doors</p>

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Anna Phillips
Mailing Address	10823 Mc Michael Ln SW

City	Albuquerque	State	NM	Zip	87121
Phone	505-453-8168				
Email	4annaphillips@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
Anna Phillips	Founder, School Director	Licensed NM Educational Administrator, experience as an Assistant Principal, Instructional Coach and Special Education Coordinator and Teacher
Pilar Alcazar	Adviser/Professional Support	Level III Teacher Secondary and Special Education, Highly Qualified in Modern & Classical Languages and Science with Bilingual Endorsement. Experience in Title I and McKinney-Vento programs, Secondary Bilingual Coordinator, Community Schools Coordinator, Certified Zumba, Lablast, and Ballroom Dance Instructor
Vivian A. Fernandez-Geilin, PhD	Adviser/Professional Support	Clinician, clinical researcher, and private practitioner. Completed doctorate work with dual concentrations in Educational and Clinical Psychology, dissertation was: "Factors Affecting Hispanic Dropout in Southwestern US".

3. Describe the non-traditional or innovative model of promise of the proposed school:

Breakthrough Academy will advance students' emotional intelligence through Resilience and SEL Curriculum implementation in order for them to discover their life's purpose and solidify post-secondary plans. The school will effectively help each individual create a vision for their future and break down barriers associated with meeting their life-long goals, promoting college and career readiness. The school will help advance students' ability to form healthy relationships, integrate into their community, take accountability for their own actions, work around setbacks and grow from mistakes, increase intrinsic motivation and self-efficacy, and develop or pursue interests with tenacity and resolve in a positive and safe manner. The school will employ trauma-informed practices, approaches to teaching students in poverty, restorative justice practices, ecotherapy and staff professional development according to the latest research.

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.

We would like to be Chartered through Albuquerque Public Schools. By joining a trend-setting district, our school's management team will serve students with a vast amount of resources including the latest Student Information Systems, student-centered policies, and sound special education and language and cultural development practices.

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)

Breakthrough Academy will advance students' emotional intelligence by building *resilience* and advancing social-emotional skills in order for individuals to discover their life's purpose and confidently solidify their post-secondary plans.

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 and describe why this setting is being proposed.

The Charter school will provide options to students in the SW quadrant of Albuquerque, which is an area under active housing development with a rapidly rising population. This school aims to help relieve the enrollment over-burdened secondary schools, and offer intensive academic and social-emotional support to students who have difficulty thriving in a traditional secondary setting. Breakthrough Academy will challenge students academically by developing the resiliency needed to step up to school and life challenges, teaching students to break down barriers, identify goals and take actionable steps towards meeting them. The last 4 years' data reveals that there is an increase in the amount of discipline violations involving drug use, assaults, and disorderly conduct. This means that students lack adaptability skills that enables them to function within school and in the future, societal structures and reveals the need for interventions and advancement of emotional intelligence.

Grad rate
Mission Graduate: rigor increases but support decreases in a typical school setting. Base on SEL for meeting high expectations so students meet the high demands of HS diploma requirements

- 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.

The targeted area serves a low-income area of Albuquerque; schools in this quadrant qualify for Title I assistance in providing 100% free/reduced lunch.

- 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.

Breakthrough Academy hopes to offer options to students now or in the future enrolled at Atrisco Heritage or Rio Grande High Schools. Many students will encounter difficulty in meeting academic demands within the first year or even first semester of high school due to several factors: Families impacted by poverty are unable to provide academic support to their students; students lack a vision of their future because of limited exposure to post-secondary opportunities; students are dealing with social and/or emotional difficulties because they lack the skills required for success in a traditional school environment; and/or mental health conditions of the current generation, including anxiety, depression and other forms of mental illness.

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).

According to the data displayed to the community by APS, well over half of the students enrolled in traditional middle and high schools in the SW quadrant are demonstrating proficiency in assessed subjects, and a very small percentage is acquiring language proficiency in English as a second language. Sadly, 30-40% of students attending traditional high schools in Albuquerque's far southwest quadrant do not graduate as expected. Students who are under-performing need additional supports to comprehend subjects and demonstrate proficiency according to state standards. In addition, housing projects continue to develop in the area, including the upcoming opening of a multi-family structure currently under construction, and will likely result overcrowding in area middle and high schools, causing families to seek high-quality education alternatives for their students.

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.).

Breakthrough Academy will extend the school day in order to implement an advisory in its true format. Students will be assigned an advisor to oversee their entire school experience, exploring interests and discovering strengths and areas of opportunity along the way. Students and advisors will meet daily and build a strong relationship. Breakthrough Academy will operate under collaborative leadership and practices. Teachers will receive specific professional development that will be enable and advance their ability to adequately prepare students. This will allow staff to develop individualized interventions for students with Trauma backgrounds, behavioral challenges, or motivational issues so they may learn to value education and increase their readiness for school and life. The focus on a working relationship between students in need of guidance and caring staff will result productive in the accomplishment of the school's mission. Students will learn to work with any challenges and overcome them through self-determination and goal monitoring. Students, parents staff, and community members will grow to integrate themselves as key stakeholders of the school and its governance.

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.

The school will operate under a trauma-informed lens and partner with mental health agencies to help students in need. A specialized school-wide curriculum will be carefully developed and consistently used by all staff to help students apply the following system 1) Know themselves, 2) Relate to others 3) Connect with their environment. These principles, along with individualized interventions will enable students to approach rigorous academics with confidence and determination. Students, having formed a solid foundation to keep their emotional and social well-being in balance, will participate in academics under high expectations of performance. Teachers will meet students where they are at and utilize Ecotherapy, Inclusion setting, Specialized support, Restorative justice and case management by their advisor as they rise to the challenge of grade-level proficiency.

11. Describe how the school will be in alignment with the economic needs of Albuquerque.

Breakthrough Academy will help deliver productive members of society who are motivated to make a positive contribution to their community and enter the workforce personally prepared and technically skilled. The school will focus its efforts on developing young people who are critical thinkers, with goals aligned to their interests strengths, and abilities, and have a plan for post-secondary endeavors along with a transition plan following their high school graduation. Recent graduates will enter the workforce or preparation programs, be it vocational or college. As students transition to adulthood they will be gainfully employed and able to meet their own financial needs.

12. Describe how the school will support increasing access to choice in Albuquerque.

Breakthrough Academy will help students growing and developing in "Generation Y" which exists in a world currently in transformation. The employment landscape is changing and requires youth who are determined to take charge of their future, however most young people lack passions and/or are unable to identify interests. Those who have identified interests generally lack the motivation to pursue them within a career field. Mental health issues like anxiety also plague Generation Y, creating obstacles. The school will teach students to navigate through challenges and break down barriers to their individual success, beginning with graduation requirements. Not all students thrive in the traditional school settings, and Breakthrough Academy will offer a solution for students who require instruction of social emotional skills in addition to academics.

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: 1/14/2020

Anna S Phillips
[PRINT NAME]