

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

Continental Divide Classical Academy (CDCA)

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
K-9	150

- Primary Point of Contact

Name	Laura Cash		
Mailing Address	1900 Lobo Canyon Rd		
City	Grants	State	NM
Phone	(505) 240-5194		
Email	cdca.charterschool@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
Lindsey Hansen	Co-founder	Lindsey Hansen is a former Life Science teacher at Los Alamitos Middle School. She received her Bachelor degree in Agriculture Science from NMSU. Today, Lindsey works for a financial company called Shield.
Chera Martin	Co-founder	Chera Martin wrote a grant and conducted a study on physical education at rural schools in Colorado. She is a member of the wellness taskforce at a school in Colorado to receive AIM- XL grant for local school, as well as implemented programs with the grant money received. She works as a private educator, volunteering with children in community through extracurriculars and church. Chera has her B.S. in Biological Sciences.
Francie Lee	Co-founder	Francie Lee taught Elementary school at private schools in Albuquerque, NM and Phoenix, AZ, served on several boards in Albuquerque, NM and Santa Fe, NM, and has worked in development with four school/children involved organizations.
Laura Cash	Co-founder	Laura Cash works at Cibola General Hospital as a Mammographer. She coaches little league basketball and volleyball at Grants High School. Currently, Laura presides over a young women's youth group ages 11-18 years old. She is a member of the Mt Taylor

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

Continental Divide Classical Academy would follow a classical learning model.

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

N/A

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)

The mission of CDCA is to cultivate students to find passion in learning, strength in diversity and community involvement, provide limitless opportunities for individual intellectual and personal growth within a balanced and challenging academic program.

7. Student population and geographical setting of the school

- Define the targeted geographical area from which the proposed school is expected to draw a significant number of its students

The rural town of Grants, and all surrounding communities within a 35 mile radius, located in Cibola County would be from where CDCA would potentially draw students. These communities include Milan, Bluewater, Plano Colorado, Prewitt, Thoreau, San Rafael, Acoma, Laguna, San Mateo, Seboyeta, Cubero, and San Fidel in the described geographical area.

- Describe the student population including key demographic data (academic performance, home languages, English Learners, and special education populations).

Grants Cibola County Schools (GCCS) has over 3,000 students with the following demographics: 45% American Indian, 40% Hispanic, 12% White, 2% two or more races, 1% Black. English, Spanish, Acoma, & Laguna, Keres, Navajo and Tagalog are the languages spoken by students and/or their families in Cibola County. GCCS reports English learners at 19% and students with disabilities at 15% on newmexicoschool.com. According to publicschoolreview.com, Grants Cibola County Schools underperform with below state average math (14%) and reading (22%) proficiency. The schools are also below average in graduation rates at 67%. The GCCS district ranks academically in the bottom 50% statewide.

- 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

The Grants Cibola County School District is the only public school district currently serving Cibola County. Currently, our GCCS student population does not have easy access to any charter schools. The nearest charter schools are found in Albuquerque and Gallup. Both are over 64 miles away from Grants. CDCA will appeal to students and families who are interested in a classical education, value morals and accountability, and view education as more than just book learning.

8. Provide evidence that the applicant team has assessed community need for the type of school proposed (e.g., objective surveys or other measures of local demand for the educational program)

See attached surveys

9. Identify significant innovative features that the school will implement to help realize the school's vision/mission.

CDCA intends to implement a nontraditional school year. We embrace the idea that a balanced calendar will reduce summer learning loss.

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.

CDCA will be effective in improving student achievement and academic performance through student accountability. Implementation of a strict code of conduct for students, parents, and staff will eliminate unnecessary distractions from learning.

Signature of founder(s):

Travis
Judy
Chia
Jama Cash

Date:

1-9-2023

Cibola County School District Accountability and Code of Conduct Survey Results

Number of Participants	Yes	No	Unsure	Other Answers for Essay-Style Questions
Does Cibola County School District have a code of conduct?	10	1	2	
If Cibola County School District has a code of conduct, is it enforced to your satisfaction?	1	10		N/A
Do you agree with Cibola County School District's system of discipline?	3	9	1	To the best of their ability
Do you worry about your child(ren)'s physical or mental safety at school?	8	2		Occasionally, but not enough consistently I wanted my family to move to Grants because the community was so good! Then I started working at the schools and decided I didn't want them in that kind of environment. Students are consistently bringing vape pens laced with THC to school and little to nothing is done unless they are physically caught in the act. Drugs and too much PDA I'm embarrassed for these kids and the PDA they get away with. It's uncomfortable. The verbal abuse is ridiculous. These kids know they can get away with anything. from various parents ranging from 4th grade into high school. Vaping in class, students hissing at teachers with no repercussions, making out in class while the teacher is in the room, vaping in locker rooms.
Have you witnessed or been made aware of unacceptable behavior (drugs including vape pens, physical abuse, verbal abuse, inappropriate PDA in classroom, etc.) that was not addressed by staff in Cibola County School District? If yes, please explain.	10	2		Sadly it has been addressed, but not much follow through
On a scale of 1 to 10, How strict is Cibola County School District's system of discipline? (1= not strict at all; 10= too strict)	Average Rating			
	3.62			
On a scale of 1 to 10, how safe do you feel Cibola County School District is? (1=not safe at all; 10=very safe)	4.08			