

1. General Information

- Name of Proposed School

Continental Divide Classical Academy (CDCA)

- School district where proposed school will be located

Grants Cibola County School (GCCS) District

- Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

| Grade Levels to be offered | Projected Total Enrollment |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| K-6                        | 115                        |

- Primary Point of Contact

|                 |                              |       |       |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Name            | Laura Cash                   |       |       |
| Mailing Address | 1900 Lobo Canyon Rd.         |       |       |
| City            | Grants                       | State | NM    |
|                 |                              | Zip   | 87020 |
| 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

| Name           | Role on Team          | Qualifications: Education, Employment, and Experience   |
|----------------|-----------------------|---|
| Kyla Runyan    | Accountant/co-founder | Kyla Runyan is a 5 <sup>th</sup> generation Cibola County rancher and tax accountant with two young children entering the school system. She attended NMSU to receive both a Bachelor and Master of Accountancy. She is involved in multiple agricultural organizations that promote educating our youth in agriculture's role in society.      |
| Lindsey Hansen | Educator/co-founder   | Lindsey Hansen is a former Life Science teacher at Los Alamos Middle school. She received her Bachelor degree in Agriculture Science from NMSU. Today, Lindsey works for a financial company called Shield.   |
| Francie Lee    | Educator/ 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 is a mammographer at Cibola General Hospital with a degree in Radiologic Science. She is heavily involved in local youth programs including coaching little league and high school sports teams, member of the PTO, and president over a local young women's youth group. Most importantly she is the mother of four young children. |



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

CDCA is proposing a classical education learning model with an emphasis in life skills/vocational learning.

4. Does the school expect to contract with another entity for either management, or substantial oversight or direction in the school's operation?  No
5. Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools?  No
6. Vision/Mission statement (2-3 sentences)

The mission of CDCA is to cultivate students to find passion in learning, provide opportunities for individual intellectual and personal growth within a balanced and challenging academic/vocational program. Offering individuals the confidence and reassurance of a bright future based off their efforts.

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 publicschoollreview.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 incorporate life skills/ vocational learning to better help students understand where and why they would use what they are learning in the classroom. We plan on implementing this through hands on learning. Also, we would utilize 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 in terms of academic achievement than the schools currently serving the targeted student population. Provide 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. Studies show banning smartphones in school improves test scores, helps with anxiety, and improves overall health in children. <https://www.the74million.org>

Signature of founder(s):

Kyla M. Runyan

Date: January 8, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

Kyla Runyan

[PRINT NAME]

Lindsey Hansen

Lindsey Hansen

[PRINT NAME]

Ma Lee

Francie Lee

[PRINT NAME]

Laura Cash

Laura Cash



# Cibola County School District Accountability and Code of Conduct Survey Results

| Number of Participants   | 13             |    |        |  |
|--|----------------|----|--------|--|
|  | Yes            | No | Unsure | Other Answers for Essay-Style Questions  |
| Does Cibola County School District have a code of conduct?   | 10             | 1  | 2      | N/A  |
| If Cibola County School District has a code of conduct, is it enforced to your satisfaction?   | 1              | 10 |        | To the best of their ability   |
| Do you agree with Cibola County School District's system of discipline?  | 3              | 9  | 1      |  |
| Do you worry about your child(ren)'s physical or mental safety at school?  | 8              | 2  |        | Occasionally, but not enough consistently<br>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.<br>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.<br>Drugs and too much PDA<br>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.<br>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   |
|  | Average Rating |    |        |  |
| 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)  | 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           |    |        |  |



# Cibola County Charter School Interest

| Participant | Kids per grade | Grade levels of child(ren) in 2024 | Kids per grade |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|
|             |                |                                    | Pre-K          | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |   |
| 1           | 4              | K, 2, 4                            | x              |   |   |   | x | x |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 2           | 6              | 9                                  |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 3           | 4              | 8, 11, 12                          |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    | x  |   |
| 4           | 4              | K, 2, 3                            | x              |   |   | x | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    | x  | x |
| 5           | 4              | 3                                  |                |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 6           | 4              | K                                  | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 7           | 4              | 5, 7, 8, 11                        |                |   |   |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |    | x  |    |   |
| 8           | 4              | K, 2, 4                            | x              |   |   | x |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |    |    | x  |   |
| 9           | 4              | N/A                                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 10          | 4              |                                    |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 11          | 4              | PreK, 8, 12                        | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    | x  |   |
| 12          | 4              | 5, 8                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 13          | 4              | Pre-K                              | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 14          | 4              | 1, 8, 10                           |                |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    | x  |   |
| 15          | 4              | 4, 6, 8, 9                         |                |   |   |   |   |   |   | x |   |   |   |    |    | x  |   |
| 16          | 4              | 2, 7                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 17          | 4              | 3                                  |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 18          | 4              | 1, 4                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 19          | 4              | 4, 6, 8                            |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 20          | 4              | K, 4                               | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 21          | 4              | 4                                  |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 22          | 4              | PreK, 3                            | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 23          | 4              | 1, 4, 6, 8, 8                      |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 24          | 4              | 2, 3                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 25          | 4              | 2, 5                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 26          | 4              | 3, 8                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 27          | 4              | 4, 10                              |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 28          | 4              | 3, 6                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 29          | 4              | 3 year old                         |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 30          | 4              | 7, 10                              |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 31          | 4              | 11                                 |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 32          | 4              | K                                  | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 33          | 4              | 1, 7, 9                            |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 34          | 4              | PreK                               | x              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 35          | 4              | 4, 6                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 36          | 4              | 4                                  |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 37          | 4              | 5, 9                               |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |
| 38          | 4              |                                    |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |

| kid per family | Schools currently attending | 1-10 scale | Ways to help  | Questions/Comments   |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|---|--|
| 3              | Mt. Taylor                  | 10         | Anything  | Halleluah  |
| 1              | LAMS                        | 10         | Anything  | This will be awesome   |
| 3              | LAMS, GHS                   |            |   |  |
| 3              | Milan Elementary            | 9          |   |  |
| 1              | Mt. Taylor                  | 10         | Anything  | Looking forward to having more options and active role in my child's education   |
| 1              | Homeschool                  | 9          | fundraising or galas  |  |
| 4              | Milan, LAMS, GHS            | 7          | will have a degree in psychology and would love to be a part of the program   |  |
| 3              | Mt. Taylor                  | 9          | Anything  |  |
| 0              | N/A                         | 10         | Desire for our children to have every opportunity to learn and grow and develop into good citizens that give back to their community. And to do this with truth and honor                 |  |
| 0              |                             |            | Willing to help any way to make our community better for our teachers and children  |  |
| 0              |                             |            | could be a founding member but need to know time commitment.  | If there is an 8th grade in 2024, would Algebra 1 be taught? And would it be an approved course in order for the student to start Algebra 2 in high school? Also would there be a pre-K class? |
| 3              | Bluewater, GHS              | 8          | currently work as physical therapist in school district, previously a science teacher.  |  |
| 2              | Mt. Taylor                  | 5          | Early Childhood National Boards Certified Teacher (NBCT) and I am always looking for bettering our community  |  |
| 1              | Joy school/home             | 8          | Any. Skills - nutrition and physical education  |  |
| 3              | Cutero, LAMS, St. Teresa    | 5          |   |  |
| 4              | Bluewater, LAMS             | 8          | Uncertain   |  |
| 2              | Mt. Taylor                  | 7          |   |  |
| 1              | Milan                       | 10         | Not sure how all this works   | I'd like to see fundamentals and tradition back in school.   |
| 2              | Milan                       | 6          |   |  |
| 3              | Homeschool                  | 10         |   |  |
| 2              | Mesa View                   | 9          | I can write grants or help as I write for a nonprofit organization here in Grants   |  |
| 1              | St. Teresa                  | 10         | Willing to help in any way I can  |  |
| 2              | Milan                       | 5          |   |  |
| 5              | Homeschool                  | 9          | Anything  |  |
| 2              | St. Teresa                  | 10         | would like to be involved, plan fundraising   |  |
| 2              | Milan                       | 10         | All of it. Grant writing and planning   |  |
| 2              | Milan                       | 4          |   |  |
| 2              | GHS, St. Teresa             | 4          |   | A Charter school in Cibola County is very interesting. What will make this school stand apart from the others and where will it be located?  |
| 2              | Bluewater                   | 5          | I can assist where needed with more information   |  |
| 0              | N/A                         | 10         | Local family run business   | What courses we offer that are not available to traditional schools?   |
| 2              | Milan, LAMS                 | 8          | Licensed 6th-12th social studies teacher  |  |
| 1              | GHS                         | 5          |   | I'm so glad this is being done. My kids are older, but I'm excited for the younger kiddos here!  |
| 1              | N/A                         | 10         | Would love to be a foundational member. Accountant by trade, would love to be a part of the petition process and beyond, and will contribute in any way I can; we NEED this for our kids. |  |
| 3              | Mesa View, LAMS             | 5          | Interested to learn more  |  |
| 1              | N/A                         | 7          |   |  |
| 3              | Mt. Taylor                  | 10         |   |  |
| 1              | St. Teresa                  | 5          |   |  |
| 2              | St. Teresa, Homeschool      | 9          | Would love to help  |  |
| 74             |                             |            |   |  |