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**Charter Schools Division  
Revised Final Renewal Recommendation  
December 3, 2024**

**School Name:** Taos Integrated School of the Arts

**School Address:** 118 Toalne Lane Taos, NM 87571

**Head Administrator:** Rich Greywolf

**Governing Board Chair:** Yvonne Trujillo

**Contract Term:** 2020–2025

**Statutory Renewal Requirements**

According to New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 1979, Section 22-8B-12 K., a charter may be suspended, revoked, or not renewed by the chartering authority if the chartering authority determines that the charter school:

- (1) committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards or procedures set forth in the charter contract;
- (2) failed to meet or make substantial progress toward achievement of the department's standards of excellence or student performance standards identified in the charter contract;
- (3) failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management;
- (4) for a charter school located on tribal land, failed to comply with ongoing consultations pursuant to the Indian Education Act; or
- (5) violated any provision of law from which the charter school was not specifically exempted.

## Renewal Recommendation

The Charter Schools Division (CSD) recommends renewal for five years without conditions.

### Part B: Progress Report

The school's narratives in Part B are rated **Meets the Standards, Demonstrates Substantial Progress, or Failing to Demonstrate Progress** according to the rubric on pages 6-7 of the 2024 Charter School Renewal Application.

Part B: Progress Report	
Academic Performance	Rating
1.a. Student Outcomes	Meets the Standards*
1.b. Mission-Specific Goals	Meets the Standards
Organizational Performance	Rating
2.a. Educational Program	Meets the Standards
2.b. Financial Compliance	Meets the Standards
2.c. Governance Responsibilities	Demonstrates Substantial Progress
2.d. Equity and Identity	Meets the Standards
2.e. Tribal Consultation	Meets the Standards
2.f. Other Performance Framework Indicators	Meets the Standards

*\*Results from 2023-24 Vistas data were released on 11.12.24. Taos Integrated School of the Arts received a designation of Spotlight in school years 2022-23 and 2023-24.*

#### 1.a. Student Outcomes

TISA has sustained high academic performance throughout the charter term, earning Spotlight designations each year that ratings have been available on NM Vistas, even raising their Vistas score from 46 in 2021-22 to 67.2 in 2022-23. In 2022-23, the school earned an additional designation of "excellence" for attendance. The application points out that "teaching is both a science and an art," a philosophy that guides their culture of continuous improvement through data-informed instruction and an enriching arts-integrated curriculum. The school utilized NWEA MAPs to assess reading and math, which prompted the school to take action steps to improve math proficiencies. The school hired a new math teacher, the math-endorsed Assistant Principal provides math coaching and oversight, and the school adopted new curriculum, including Illustrative Math. The school continues to focus on achievement in reading, as well, by examining data and providing professional development for teachers. Extra support is provided for students throughout the school day as well as in TISA's after-school tutoring program.

The rating for this portion of the application is Meets the Standards.

#### 1.b. Mission-specific Goals

TISA has met or exceeded their mission-specific goals every year of the contract, earning them a rating of Meets the Standards.

### **2.a. Educational Program**

The school has implemented their educational program with fidelity throughout the charter term, as evidenced by CSD observations during the renewal site visit and annual site visits. The arts-integrated curriculum is threaded through every subject, which not only makes the learning experience fun and engaging, but also helps anchor the learning for children. Students and teachers report that using different modalities of learning accesses different parts of the brain, so students understand the material at a deeper level and retain it better through drawing, painting, song, music, dance, theater, coding, creative problem solving, and more. Students report that they feel smarter and more successful at TISA than at previous schools, and teachers report that they see substantial student growth, as this way of teaching effectively reaches learners of all levels, backgrounds, and learning styles.

The multicultural aspect of the educational program not only honors diversity in an authentic way, but also cultivates a schoolwide climate of respect, kindness, and appreciation. The school invites guest speakers, performers, and teachers from a variety of cultures and disciplines, so the students have repeated exposure to role models who represent their own cultures, as well as different backgrounds. The school has an excellent relationship with the Taos Pueblo, with frequent collaborations that have grown through the Indian Education Act's grant support.

The full implementation of TISA's educational program has enabled them to promote strong academic proficiencies, a culture of respect, and serve students with widely ranging needs. The rating for this section is Meets the Standards.

### **2.b. Financial Compliance**

TISA's financial compliance has been exceedingly strong, with very few audit findings, and no significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, repeat findings, nor any disclaimed audits. The school has only one Working to Meet performance framework rating in a sea of green over the charter term, and that was in the first year of the contract term. The rating for this section is Meets the Standards.

### **2.c. Governance Responsibilities**

The governing board has done an excellent job of meeting requirements throughout the charter term, as they have completed all training hours every year except for FY22. They had only one late notification over the course of the charter. With only two Working to Meet performance framework ratings over the past four years, the overall rating for this section is Demonstrates Substantial Progress.

### **2.d. Equity and Identity**

With the inclusion of multicultural studies in the school's educational program, TISA has been ahead of the curve in terms of cultural awareness and addressing issues of equity and identity. The school embeds cultural diversity in the curriculum, and makes sure a variety of cultures are

represented in the artwork, literature, and visiting teachers/artists/professionals. Furthermore, the school has an active Equity Council, and has complied with the requirements of the Indian Education Act, Hispanic Education Act, and Black Education Act.

The staff has completed the anti-bias/anti-racism training for the Black Education Act. The Hispanic population at the school has increased, prompting the school to further their efforts to support them and encourage Hispanic staff to apply there. The Native American population has grown in recent years, which now categorizes the school as an Indian-impacted school, per statute. Efforts to meet, even exceed, the requirements of the Indian Education Act are further illustrated in the next section, 2.e. Tribal Consultation.

Students report that they feel safe, welcome, deeply cared for, and enjoy celebrating the variety of cultures at TISA. The school's rating for equity and identity Meets the Standards.

### **2.e. Tribal Consultation**

The school falls under the Indian Education Act (NMSA 22-23A) or the 6.35.2 NMAC definition of a "historically defined Indian-impacted" school, and has completed tribal consultation each year since the school was designated an Indian-impacted school. It is evident to CSD that the school makes a great effort to serve their Native American student population and build strong relationships with local tribes, especially Taos Pueblo.

The school has gone above and beyond tribal consultation, as the governing board has representation from Taos Pueblo: Yvonne Trujillo, who serves as the governing board Chair, as well as the school's Indian Education Act liaison. The school has hired two Native American employees who serve in the Special Education program, and who do after-school tutoring. School leadership noted that Native American students at TISA score much higher than Native American students in the district and state.

Indian Education Act funding goes back to the students, as the school has purchased artwork, art supplies, and video equipment, enabling Native American students to make a documentary called *Pueblo Stories*, which was entered in a film festival in California. The school has invited a number of Native American visiting artists and professionals to the school: dancers, musicians, artists, athletes, professionals, and more. The school even hosted a Land Acknowledgement Ceremony in partnership with Taos Pueblo last spring.

TISA not only Meets the Standards in this category, but also sets an admirable example for other Indian-impacted schools/districts in New Mexico.

### **2.f. Other Performance Indicators**

The school did not have any repeat Working to Meet ratings, nor did they have any Does not Meet ratings. Therefore, this section is rated Meets the Standards.

It is worth noting that TISA has earned a distinction for Attendance, which is rare amongst New Mexico schools in recent years. TISA's caring administration and staff, their strong relationships with students and families, the engaging arts-integrated curriculum, and a school culture that

embraces and uplifts diversity may be responsible for this. Students report that they look forward to coming to school, they can't wait to see what they will do and learn the next day— isn't this what school should be like?

<b>Unrated Sections of Application</b>	
Part D: Petitions of Support	Submitted as Required
Part E: Facilities	Submitted as Required
Part F: Change in Authorizer	N/A

**Renewal Site Visit Attendees**

October 10, 2024

**CSD Team:** Cheryl Rowe (Lead) and Missy Brown

**Remote CSD Team:** Martica Davis and Kenneth Norris

**School Leadership:** Richard Greywolf and Linda Seto

**Governing Board:** Yvonne Trujillo and Alejandra Villaloboz Melendez