



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
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NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT CHARTER APPLICATION

According to NMSA § 22-8B-6(B) a 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 *and* to the superintendent of the school district in which the charter school is proposed to be located no later than the second Tuesday in January of the year in which the application will be filed.

The NOI must be submitted electronically to charter.schools@ped.nm.gov with a cc to the district superintendent by 5:00 PM Mountain Time on the due date.

NOIs that are not received by the Public Education Commission *and* the district by the deadline may result in the application being rejected.

The NOI is intended to provide the primary point of contact information of charter developers and preliminary information about the charter proposal. Use the form below to submit the NOI, which should not exceed five pages.

Name of proposed school

Llano Estacado Charter School

School district where proposed school will be located

Clovis, New Mexico

Grade levels to be offered and enrollment projections

Grade Levels to be offered	Projected Total Enrollment
K-6	400

Primary point of contact

Name	Shannon Aguilar				
Mailing Address	PO Box 434				
City	Cimarron	State	NM	Zip code	87714
Phone	575-219-2020				
Email	Dec7bbrook@gmail.com				

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
Shannon Aguilar	Founding Member	BS in Education, M.Ed in School Counseling, Ed Admin licensure, 25 years teaching in 5 th -8 th and college level with endorsements in math and ELA, school counseling, Charter School principal (2 yrs), Special Education Director (2 yrs), current superintendent.
Gregory Aguilar	Founding Member	M.Ed in School Counseling, 10 years in public education school counselor, 2 years federal grant coordinator.
Cindy Gazdik	Founding Member	M.Ed Reading Intervention, Special Education teacher (25 years)

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

With a STEAM focused school we will encourage students to think creatively, solve problems innovatively, and make connections between subjects through a holistic approach that addresses the unique needs of all learners.

Does the school expect to contract with another entity for either management or substantial oversight in the school's operation? Yes No

If YES, describe the entity and the role it will have in the school's operational plan.

Does the applicant team or any members of the team currently operate any other schools? Yes No

Vision/Mission statement (2-3 sentences)

Our vision: To create a dynamic and inclusive learning environment where every child is empowered to discover their unique potential through the lens of STEAM education. Guided by the belief that all children

have value, can learn, and deserve equal opportunities, we strive to ignite curiosity, foster creativity, and cultivate critical thinking to prepare students to become compassionate leaders and problem-solvers who will shape a brighter, more equitable future. Through meaningful collaboration, real-world problem-solving, and a focus on creativity and critical thinking, we aim to equip students with the skills, knowledge, and compassion necessary to lead with purpose and make a positive impact in the Clovis community and an ever-evolving world.

Our mission: At Llano Estacado Charter School will work to unite academic rigor with real-world learning experiences and community collaboration, we will prepare every student to lead with purpose and make a positive difference in the Clovis region and beyond.

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

Clovis, New Mexico is located in Curry County which is 1405.9 square miles, making it one of the smallest counties in New Mexico. Clovis is the County Seat of Curry County. Cities located in Curry County include Clovis, Melrose, Texico, Grady, and Cannon Air Force Base. The approximate population of the county is 48,376. Clovis lies on the far eastern side of the state, adjacent to the state of Texas.

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

According to nces.ed.gov, the Clovis Municipal School District is located in Clovis, NM. Clovis, NM has a population of 45,349. The school district serves approximately 7,532 students in grades Pre-K through 12 in a total of 16 schools. According to NM Vistas, of the 7,532 students 21% are identified as ELL and 8.8% are Students with Disabilities. 25% were proficient in math, 37% proficient in English, and 36% proficient in Science. Additionally, 45% of the student population is identified as Military.

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 students mentioned above and future students of The Llano Estacado Academy are currently being educated amongst the eleven K-6 schools in Clovis, NM. There is currently no other public education choice in the Clovis area for parents who want a more adequate and unique experience for their child. The closest public charter school is Sidney Gutierrez in Roswell, NM, which is 110 miles away. More so than ever before parents are choosing, and desire, a variety of schooling options for their children. We believe this notion holds true for the families in the Clovis community as well. With the addition of our charter, parents will have the option to choose between schools that best meet their children's unique educational needs. The allowance for the administration and staff to specialize in a particular area, in our case STEAM, will create space for students to take classes that interest them thus becoming more intrinsically motivated and invested in their education.

According to NMVistas and NMPED accountability data, students in the Clovis Municipal School District have a 25% proficiency rate in Math, 37% proficiency in Reading, and 36% proficiency in Science. The introduction of a school with a unique STEAM focus, and culturally and linguistically responsive approach will help better prepare students to enter the local workforce as confident and capable contributing members.

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).

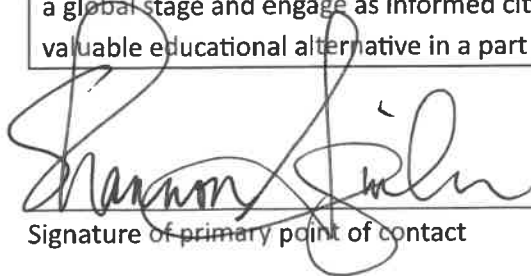
In the summer of 2021, a survey was put out in the Clovis area soliciting thoughts from the community regarding charter schools. With over 200 respondents 93.5% of them were in favor of a charter opening in the area. We plan to conduct a follow-up survey.

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

To realize our vision, we will implement the following hands-on, innovative features: 1. STEAM Maker Labs that are equipped with tools such as 3D printers, robotics kits, and art supplies to enable students to engage in design thinking, problem-solving, and project-based learning. 2. Interdisciplinary Project-Based Learning to enable students to work on real-world challenges that integrate science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics, fostering collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. 3. Experiential Learning Opportunities like fieldwork, and community partnerships with local organizations and businesses to connect classroom learning to real-world applications. 4. Equity-focused curriculum and materials will celebrate diversity, challenge stereotypes, and provide opportunities for all students to see themselves as innovators and leaders. 5. Collaborative learning studios with flexible classroom designs with movable furniture and collaborative technology to promote teamwork, communication, and adaptability. 6. Art Integration in STEAM will allow students to explore the creative side of STEAM by incorporating artistic design, storytelling, and cultural perspectives into engineering and scientific processes. 7. Tech-Enhanced learning through the utilization of virtual reality and artificial intelligence tools to immerse students in interactive, simulated learning experiences. 8. Green initiatives and sustainability projects will actively involve students in participating in environmental sustainability efforts, such as designing renewable energy systems, creating eco-friendly art installations, and maintaining school gardens. 9. Mentorship and peer collaboration will be pivotal in establishing partnerships with industry professionals, college mentors, and peer-led initiatives that spark inspiration, offer guidance in STEAM career pathways, and ultimately prepare students for successful transitions into future CTE opportunities. By integrating these features, the school will nurture a vibrant and inclusive learning environment where all students can thrive and contribute meaningfully to their communities and the global stage.

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.

Our profound focus on STEAM education will be the driving force behind the success of the students attending our charter. Research suggests that a well-rounded education is the key to reading and thinking critically. A content-rich curriculum is not only a necessary building block for educational achievement, but also for comprehension beyond the classroom. Through STEAM education, we will help create an environment where intrinsic motivation drives the desire to succeed, ensuring that Special Education, Native American students, English Language Learners, and economically disadvantaged students receive targeted supports, such as individualized instruction, culturally responsive curricula, and language scaffolds, so they can fully access and excel in hands-on, innovative learning experiences. By weaving inclusive practices throughout our program, we nurture each student's sense of autonomy, competence, and relatedness, ultimately cultivating a school community where all backgrounds and abilities are valued. This approach procures students who attend school because it is internally rewarding, satisfying their basic need for meaningful engagement. By providing a well-rounded education with a STEAM focus, we will, in turn, prepare our students to successfully compete on a global stage and engage as informed citizens within the local workforce. Furthermore, we aspire to provide a valuable educational alternative in a part of New Mexico where families traditionally have limited options.



Signature of primary point of contact

01/14/2025

Date