




Orange County Public Schools

445 West Amelia Street • Orlando, FL 32801-1129 • Phone 407.317.3200 • www.ocps.net

June 16, 2014

TO: ADAM EMERSON
Florida Department of Education
Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice Florida Department of Education

FROM: KIA SWEENEY SCOTT 
Orange County Public Schools
Office of School Choice Services

RE: Notice of Intent to Apply for Funding Under the District-Charter Collaborative Compacts Grant Program

Orange County Public Schools intends to apply for funding under the District-Charter Collaborative Compacts Grant Program. The contact persons involved in this initiative include:

Christopher Bernier, Associate Superintendent, School Choice Services

Kia Sweeney Scott, Director, School Choice Services (Lead content provider)

Frenchie Porter, Senior Manager Office of Grants and Data Projects (Lead grant specialist)

In all matters concerning this grant opportunity, please contact Kia Sweeney Scott at kia.sweeneyscott@ocps.net or by phone at 407-317-3200 ext. 2677 or Frenchie Porter at frenchie.porter@ocps.net or by phone at 407-317-3200 ext. 2326. Thank you.

DCCC Notice of Intent to Apply

"The Orange County School Board is an equal opportunity agency."



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June 16, 2014

Adam Emerson
Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice Florida Department of Education
Office of Grants Management
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street, Room 332
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Dear Mr. Emerson,

Orange County Public Schools intends to apply for funding under the District-Charter Collaborative Compacts Grant Program. Please find attached, the district's Planning Grant Proposal and line item budget totaling \$10,000. This funding will be used to assist OCPS with proposal development and initial project implementation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kia Sweeney Scott at kia.sweeneyscott@ocps.net or by phone at 407-317-3200 ext. 2677 or Frenchie Porter at frenchie.porter@ocps.net or by phone at 407-317-3200 ext. 2326. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kia Sweeney Scott
Director, School Choice Services

**District-Charter Collaborative Compacts Grant Program
Planning Grant Narrative
June 16, 2014 to August 29, 2014**

During school year 2012-2013, Orange County Public Schools served more than 7,500 students in 31 charter schools to generate FTE for schools totaling \$53,000,000. Of these schools 27 were started by an individual or group (i.e., parents, community leaders, teachers, businesses, municipalities, community colleges, or other legal entities organized under the laws of the state) and four were started by a management company. Overall performance data for our charter schools shows that 7 schools earned a grade of "A", 9 schools earned a "B", 11 schools earned a "C" and 4 schools were ungraded due to not meeting required cell size for generating a school grade.

Charter schools run by management companies represented schools earning an "A" grade as well as in one case, a school finishing school year 2012-2013 with a grade of "F". In partnership with at least one management organization with a proven track record for operating charters in high-need communities, OCPS is proposing to examine a new approach to public education for charter schools by establishing a successful charter school program to serve elementary age students in Orange County who are currently enrolled in a persistently low performing school.

Currently, OCPS has 23 persistently low performing schools:

Elementary : Catalina, Cheney, Cypress Park, Frangus, Lancaster, Mollie Ray , Palmetto, Pinar, Pineloch, Pinewood, Pine Hills, Rock Lake, Sadler, Shingle Creek, Three points, Washington Shores and Wheatley

Middle: Carver, Meadowbrook, Richmond Heights, Robinswood and Westridge

Charter: Renanissance Charter at Chickasaw Trail

In an effort to offer specialized services through a charter school program to one or more of our low performing elementary schools, OCPS will consult with Rocketship --- one of the nation's most effective charter school networks to examine a new approach to public education for charter schools. Rocketship was founded in 2007 to serve students in grades K-5. To date, over 3,800 students (comprising 90 percent free or reduced priced lunch recipients and 75 percent English language learners) are served in charter schools located in high-need areas of Milwaukee, Nashville, Washington DC and the Bay Area.

With DCCC Planning Grant funds, the district will commit to the following activities:

BUDGET NARRATIVE	
Description of Activity	Amount
Consulting Services: Consult with Rocketship --- Charter School Management Organization to provide input regarding community involvement in recognizing need for charter school; putting together founding team to train in existing Rocketship schools and help to launch new school; create an action plan or establishing a successful charter school program; and build base of financial support from local organizations to ensure financial stability of charter school	\$8,324
Out-of-County Travel: Travel for 2 School Choice Services staff members to conduct a site-visit in Nashville to see a Rocketship school. 2 persons x \$100 per night x 2 night hotel stay = \$400 2 persons x \$500 per person for round trip airfare = \$1,000 2 persons x \$46 per person for per diem x 3 days per person = \$276	\$1,676
TOTAL:	\$10,000