

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item

March 27, 2018

5

SUBJECT: Consideration of Applications for Hope Operator Designation

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1002.333, Florida Statutes, authorizes high-impact charter school organizations to apply to the State Board of Education to be recognized and designated as a Hope Operator. To be eligible for the Hope Operator designation, a charter school organization must meet both of the following criteria:

- Be a non-profit organization with tax exempt status under s. 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code; and
- Operate three or more public charter schools that serve student grades K-12 in Florida or other states with a record of serving students from low-income families.

Additionally, the charter school organization must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Awarded a United States Department of Education Charter School Program Grant for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools within the most recent three years;
- Receives funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth fund; or
- Selected by a district school board as a school turnaround operator, pursuant to Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes.

IDEA Public Schools is a nonprofit organization with tax exempt status that operates 61 public charter schools serving over 36,000 students in grades Pre-K to 12. Across their 61 public charter schools, 96% of students are minority and 89% qualify for free or reduced price lunch. IDEA Public Schools was awarded a United States Department of Education Charter School Program Grant for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools in 2017, and receives funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund.

Somerset Academy, Inc. is a nonprofit organization with tax exempt status that operates 61 public charter schools in four states, serving over 26,000 students in grades Pre-K to 12. Across their 61 public charter schools, approximately 60% of their students qualify for free or reduced price lunch. Somerset Academy was selected by the Jefferson County School Board as a school turnaround operator, pursuant to Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes.

Once designated by the State Board of Education, a Hope Operator is authorized to enter into a performance-based agreement with a school district to establish, open and operate one or more public charter schools to serve students from persistently low-performing public schools.

Supporting Documentation Included: Application packets for IDEA Public Schools and Somerset Academy

Facilitator/Presenter: Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

State Board of Education

Marva Johnson, *Chair*
Andy Tuck, *Vice Chair*
Members
Gary Chartrand
Ben Gibson
Tom Grady
Michael Olenick
Joe York

Pam Stewart
Commissioner of Education

5

February 26, 2018

Dear Mr. Fishman:

Thank you for submitting an application for designation as a Hope Operator for the purpose of operating one or more schools of hope pursuant to section 1002.333, Florida Statutes. The Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice conducted a full and complete review of your application and determined that it met the requirements set forth in section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-1.0998271(2), Florida Administrative Code. Your application will be considered by the State Board of Education at the March 27, 2018 meeting.

Thank you for your participation in Florida's educational choice programs. If you have any additional questions, please contact Adam Miller at 850-245-0502.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Stewart".

Pam Stewart

PS/cr

cc: Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



HOPE OPERATOR DESIGNATION INITIAL CRITERIA



5

Application Review Checklist

Entity Name: IDEA Public Schools

Date of Review: February 19, 2018

- IRS Determination Letter as a 501(c)3
- Operates 3 or more K12 public charter schools
- Record of serving students from low-income families
- Evidence applicant meets one of the following criteria:
 - Awarded a US ED Charter School Replication/Expansion grant within the preceding 3 years
 - Current and active grantee of National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund
 - Charter school selected by a district school board to turnaround the performance of a low performing public school (Sec 1008.33, F.S.)

Comments: _____

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Approved by: [Signature]

Application for Hope Operator Designation

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that operates three or more charter schools that serve students in grades K-12 in Florida or other states with a record of serving students from low-income families may apply to the Florida State Board of Education for designation as a Hope Operator.

Section A: Organizational Information

Name of Non-Profit Organization	IDEA Public Schools		
IRS Federal Employer Identification Number	74-2948339		
Street Address	2115 W. Pike Blvd		
City	Weslaco		
State	Texas	Zip Code	78596
Website	www.ideapublicschools.org	Phone Number	1 (956) 377-8000

- *Attach a copy of 501(c)(3) determination letter*

Leadership

Executive Director/CEO	Tom Torkelson, CEO and founder		
Email	tom.torkelson@ideapublicschools.org	Phone	1 (956) 377-8000
Primary Contact (if different)	Daniel Fishman, vice president for growth		
Email	daniel.fishman@ideapublicschools.org	Phone	1 (512) 810-4389

Board Members of Non-Profit Organization

Name	Position (President, VP, etc)	Email Address
See attached sheet	See attached sheet	See attached sheet

Section B: Criteria

Please indicate which of the following Hope Operator criteria your organization meets:

1. The operator was awarded a United States Department of Education Charter School Program grant for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools within the preceding three years.

MEETS - Provide a copy of the award letter from the US Department of Education

2. The operator receives funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund to accelerate the growth of the nation's best charter schools.

MEETS - Provide evidence that the operator is currently receiving funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund. This may include a signed letter from the CEO of the Charter School Growth Fund, or a current and active grant award agreement.

3. The operator is selected by a district school board in accordance with s. 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a persistently low-performing public school.

DOES NOT MEET - Provide a signed letter from the District Superintendent, or other evidence, indicating the District selected the school pursuant to Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a low-performing public school.

Section C: Additional Information

In order to demonstrate that the applicant meets the definition of Hope Operator, pursuant to Section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes, provide the following information, for the most recent completed school year, for each public charter school that is currently operated by the applicant.

School Name

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Identification Number

Address, City, State, Zip Code

Grades Served

Total Enrollment

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch

Authorizer Name

Rule 6A-1.0998271
Form SOH1
Effective February 2018

School Name	NCES Identification Number	Address, City, State, Zip Code	Grades Served	Total Enrollment	% of F & R Students	Authorizer Name
IDEA ACADEMY	108807101	401 S 1st St, Donna, 78537	PK- 5	903	96.68%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY ALAMO	108807107	325 E FM 495, Alamo, 78516	PK-5	874	94.16%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY MISSION	108807104	1600 S Schuerbach Rd, Mission, 78572	PK- 5	903	94.24%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY PHARR	108807108	600 E Las Milpas Rd, Pharr, 78577	PK-5	876	92.58%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY SAN BENITO	108807105	2151 Russell Lane, San Benito, 78586	PK- 5	888	83.67%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY SAN JUAN	108807106	200 N Nebraska Ave, San Juan, 78589	PK-5	853	92.26%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ACADEMY WESLACO	108807110	2931 E. Sugar Cane Dr, Weslaco, 78596	PK- 5	695	95.40%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ALLAN ACADEMY	108807135	1701 Vargas Rd., Austin, 78741	PK-5	704	89.20%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA ALLAN COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807035	1701 Vargas Rd., Austin, 78741	6 - 11	656	93.14%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BLUFF SPRINGS ACADEMY	108807137	1700 E. Slaughter Lane, Austin, 78744	K- 3	464	79.96%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BLUFF SPRINGS COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807037	1700 E. Slaughter Lane, Austin, 78744	6 - 7	234	80.34%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BRACKENRIDGE ACADEMY	108807128	5555 Old Pearsall Rd, San Antonio, 78242	PK - 1	400	89.00%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BRACKENRIDGE COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807028	5555 Old Pearsall Rd, San Antonio, 78242	6	118	85.59%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BROWNSVILLE ACADEMY	108807112	4395 Paredes Line Rd, Brownsville, 78526	K - 5	698	86.25%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA BROWNSVILLE COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807112	4395 Paredes Line Rd, Brownsville, 78526	6 - 11	694	85.01%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA CARVER ACADEMY	108807120	217 Robinson Pl, San Antonio, 78202	K - 5	609	77.18%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA CARVER COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807020	217 Robinson Pl, San Antonio, 78202	6 - 11	505	77.62%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREP	108807001	401 S 1st St, Donna, 78537	6 - 12	757	93.00%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREP WESLACO	108807010	2931 E. Sugar Cane Dr, Weslaco, 78596	6 - 12	783	92.98%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREPARATORY ALAMO	108807004	325 E FM 495, Alamo, 78516	6 - 12	760	94.61%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREPARATORY MISSION	108807004	1600 S Schuerbach Rd, Mission, 78572	6 - 12	801	95.76%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREPARATORY PHARR	108807008	600 E Las Milpas Rd, Pharr, 78577	6 - 12	764	93.19%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREPARATORY SAN BENITO	108807005	2151 Russell Lane, San Benito, 78586	6 - 12	787	81.32%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA COLLEGE PREPARATORY SAN JUAN	108807006	600 E Sioux Rd, San Juan, 78589	6 - 12	739	94.72%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EASTSIDE ACADEMY	108807124	2519 Martin Luther King DR, San Antonio, 78599	K - 5	608	93.09%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EASTSIDE COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807024	2519 Martin Luther King Dr, San Antonio, 78220	6 - 8	336	92.86%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EDINBURG ACADEMY	108807109	2553 Rogiers Rd, Edinburg, 78541	PK-5	915	83.39%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EDINBURG COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807009	2553 Rogiers Rd, Edinburg, 78541	6 - 12	374	81.73%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EWING HALSELL ACADEMY	108807129	2523 W Anselby Blvd, San Antonio, 78224	PK - 1	750	87.70%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA EWING HALSELL COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807029	2523 W Anselby Blvd, San Antonio, 78224	6	119	78.99%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA FRONTIER ACADEMY	108807103	2800 S. Dakota, Brownsville, 78520	K - 5	838	91.77%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA FRONTIER COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807003	13427 Judson Rd., San Antonio, 78233	6 - 12	777	87.39%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA JUDSON ACADEMY	108807125	13427 Judson Rd., San Antonio, 78233	K - 3	512	60.74%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA JUDSON COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807025	13427 Judson Rd., San Antonio, 78233	6 - 7	233	67.38%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MAYS ACADEMY	108807126	1210 Horal Rd., San Antonio, 78245	K - 3	483	89.86%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MAYS COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807026	1210 Horal Rd., San Antonio, 78245	6 - 7	238	91.18%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MCALLEN ACADEMY	108807111	201 N. Bentsen Rd., McAllen, 78501	PK-5	895	80.34%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MCALLEN COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807011	201 N. Bentsen Rd., McAllen, 78501	6 - 12	693	81.53%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MONTERREY PARK ACADEMY	108807122	222 SW 39th St., San Antonio, 78237	K - 5	731	88.65%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA MONTERREY PARK COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807022	222 SW 39th St., San Antonio, 78237	6 - 9	476	86.76%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA NAJIM ACADEMY	108807127	926 S WWW WHITE RD, San Antonio, 78220	PK-2	376	94.15%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA NAJIM COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807027	926 S WWW WHITE RD, San Antonio, 78220	6 - 7	101	88.12%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA NORTH MISSION ACADEMY	108807115	2706 N. Holland Ave., Mission, 78574	PK-3	698	84.81%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA NORTH MISSION COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807015	2706 N. Holland Ave., Mission, 78574	6 - 8	376	88.83%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA QUEST ACADEMY	108807102	14001 N Rooth Rd, Edinburg, 78541	PK-5	818	95.11%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA QUEST COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807002	14001 N Rooth Rd, Edinburg, 78541	6 - 12	741	92.85%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA RIO GRANDE CITY ACADEMY	108807116	2803 W MONARCH LN, Rio Grande City, 78582	PK - 1	376	92.82%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA RIO GRANDE CITY COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807016	2803 W MONARCH LN, Rio Grande City, 78582	6	103	91.26%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA RIVERVIEW ACADEMY	108807114	30 PALM BLVD, Brownsville, 78520	PK - 3	624	92.31%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency

IDEA RIVERVIEW COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807014	30 PALM BLVD, Brownsville ,78520	6 - 8	360	91.94%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA RUNDBERG ACADEMY	108807136	9504 N IH 35, Austin ,78753	PK - 4	601	92.68%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA RUNDBERG COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807036	9504 N IH 35, Austin ,78753	6 - 8	370	93.78%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA SOUTH FLORES ACADEMY	108807121	6919 S Flores ST, San Antonio ,78221	PK - 5	873	78.92%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA SOUTH FLORES COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807021	6919 S Flores ST, San Antonio ,78221	6 - 10	596	79.70%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA TOROS COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807018	315 East Palm Drive, Edinburg ,78539	6 - 12	102	91.18%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA TRES LAGOS ACADEMY	108807117	5200 Tres Lagos Boulevard, Edinburg ,78504	PK - 1	360	86.39%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA TRES LAGOS COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807017	5200 Tres Lagos Boulevard, Edinburg ,78504	6	123	82.11%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA WALZEM ACADEMY	108807123	6445 Walzem Rd., San Antonio ,78239	K - 5	712	75.28%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA WALZEM COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807023	6445 Walzem Rd., San Antonio ,78239	6 - 9	488	75.80%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA WESLACO PIKE ACADEMY	108807113	1000 E Pike Blvd., Weslaco ,78596	PK - 5	917	84.41%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
IDEA WESLACO PIKE COLLEGE PREPARATORY	108807013	1000 E Pike Blvd., Weslaco ,78596	6 - 9	487	85.63%	Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
Grand Total				35595	87.75%	



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202
GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION**

5

<p>1 RECIPIENT NAME</p> <p>IDEA Public Schools 2115 West Pike Boulevard Weslaco, TX 78596 - 0054</p>	<p>2 AWARD INFORMATION</p> <p>PR/AWARD NUMBER U282M170025 ACTION NUMBER 1 ACTION TYPE New AWARD TYPE Discretionary (Research and Development)</p>																
<p>3 PROJECT STAFF</p> <p>RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR Leanne Hernandez (956) 975-0352 leanne.hernandez@ideapublicschools.org EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT Eddie Moat (202) 401-2266 eddie.moat@ed.gov EDUCATION PAYMENT HOTLINE G5 PAYEE 888-336-8930 HELPDESK edcaps.user@ed.gov</p>	<p>4 PROJECT TITLE</p> <p>84.282M IDEA Amplify Texas</p>																
<p>5 KEY PERSONNEL</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>NAME</u></th> <th><u>TITLE</u></th> <th><u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Leanne Hernandez</td> <td>Project Director</td> <td>5 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u>	Leanne Hernandez	Project Director	5 %										
<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u>															
Leanne Hernandez	Project Director	5 %															
<p>6 AWARD PERIODS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>BUDGET PERIOD</td> <td>10/01/2017 - 09/30/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PERFORMANCE PERIOD</td> <td>10/01/2017 - 09/30/2022</td> </tr> </table> <p>FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>BUDGET PERIOD</u></th> <th><u>DATE</u></th> <th><u>AMOUNT</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020</td> <td>\$19,025,182.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>10/01/2020 - 09/30/2021</td> <td>\$14,436,853.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022</td> <td>\$7,465,783.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		BUDGET PERIOD	10/01/2017 - 09/30/2019	PERFORMANCE PERIOD	10/01/2017 - 09/30/2022	<u>BUDGET PERIOD</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	2	10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020	\$19,025,182.00	3	10/01/2020 - 09/30/2021	\$14,436,853.00	4	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022	\$7,465,783.00
BUDGET PERIOD	10/01/2017 - 09/30/2019																
PERFORMANCE PERIOD	10/01/2017 - 09/30/2022																
<u>BUDGET PERIOD</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>															
2	10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020	\$19,025,182.00															
3	10/01/2020 - 09/30/2021	\$14,436,853.00															
4	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022	\$7,465,783.00															
<p>7 AUTHORIZED FUNDING</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>THIS ACTION</td> <td>\$26,316,168.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUDGET PERIOD</td> <td>\$26,316,168.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PERFORMANCE PERIOD</td> <td>\$26,316,168.00</td> </tr> </table>		THIS ACTION	\$26,316,168.00	BUDGET PERIOD	\$26,316,168.00	PERFORMANCE PERIOD	\$26,316,168.00										
THIS ACTION	\$26,316,168.00																
BUDGET PERIOD	\$26,316,168.00																
PERFORMANCE PERIOD	\$26,316,168.00																
<p>8 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION</p> <p>DUNS/SSN 003041915 REGULATIONS CFR PART X EDGAR AS APPLICABLE 2 CFR AS APPLICABLE ATTACHMENTS 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, E-3, E1, E2, E4, E5</p>																	
<p>9 LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA</p> <p>AUTHORITY: PL 107-110 IV ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965 (ESEA), AS AMENDED BY THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT OF 2015 (ESSA) (20 U.S.C. 7221-7221J) PROGRAM TITLE: CHARTER SCHOOLS</p>																	



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202
GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION**

CFDA/SUBPROGRAM NO: 84.282M

5

FUND CODE	FUNDING YEAR	AWARD YEAR	ORG. CODE	CATEGORY	LIMITATION	ACTIVITY	CFDA	OBJECT CLASS	AMOUNT
0204A	2017	2017	EU000000	B	U30	000	282	4101C	\$26,316,168.00

10 PR/AWARD NUMBER: U282M170025
 RECIPIENT NAME: IDEA Public Schools
 GRANTEE NAME: IDEA ACADEMY, INC.
 505 ANGELITA DR STE 9,
 WESLACO, TX 78596 - 4694
 PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE: Unrestricted
 PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE:
 TERMS AND CONDITIONS
 (1) THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE INCORPORATED IN THE GRANT AGREEMENT:
 1) THE RECIPIENT'S APPLICATION (BLOCK 2);
 2) THE APPLICABLE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS: 2 CFR PART 180, NONPROCUREMENT DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION AS ADOPTED AT 2 CFR PART 3485; 2 CFR PART 200 AS ADOPTED AT 2 CFR 3474 (BLOCK 8), AND 34 CFR PARTS 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, 99; AND THE PROGRAM REGULATIONS SPECIFIED IN BLOCK 8; AND
 3) THE SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS SHOWN AS ATTACHMENTS IN BLOCK 8 ON THE INITIAL AWARD APPLY UNTIL CHANGED.
 THIS AWARD SUPPORTS ONLY THE BUDGET PERIOD SHOWN IN BLOCK 6. IN ACCORDANCE WITH 34 CFR 75.253, THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CONTINUED FUNDING IF:
 1) CONGRESS HAS APPROPRIATED SUFFICIENT FUNDS UNDER THE PROGRAM,
 2) THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT CONTINUING THE PROJECT WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT,
 3) THE GRANTEE HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT,
 4) THE SECRETARY ESTABLISHED PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT IN THE APPLICATION NOTICE, THE PERFORMANCE TARGETS IN THE GRANTEE'S APPROVED APPLICATION,
 5) THE RECIPIENT HAS SUBMITTED REPORTS OF PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND BUDGET EXPENDITURES THAT MEET THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOUND AT 34 CFR 75.118, 2 CFR 200.327 AND 200.328, AND ANY OTHER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY,
 6) THE GRANTEE HAS MAINTAINED FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS IN 2 CFR 200.302, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, AND 2 CFR 200.303, INTERNAL CONTROLS.
 IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2 CFR 200.308(c)(2) CHANGES TO KEY PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED IN BLOCK 5 MUST RECEIVE PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT.
 THE SECRETARY ANTICIPATES FUTURE FUNDING FOR THIS AWARD ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE IDENTIFIED IN BLOCK 6. THESE FIGURES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY AND DO NOT BIND THE SECRETARY TO FUNDING THE AWARD FOR THESE PERIODS OR FOR THE SPECIFIC AMOUNTS SHOWN. THE RECIPIENT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF SPECIFIC FUTURE FUNDING ACTIONS THAT THE SECRETARY TAKES FOR THIS AWARD.



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

5

- (2) The Office of Management and Budget requires all Federal agencies to assign a Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN) to each of their financial assistance awards. The PR/AWARD NUMBER identified in Block 2 is your FAIN.

If subawards are permitted under this grant, and you choose to make subawards, you must document the assigned PR/AWARD NUMBER (FAIN) identified in Block 2 of this Grant Award Notification on each subaward made under this grant. The term subaward means:

1. A legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.
 2. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (The payments received for goods or services provided as a contractor are not Federal awards, see 2 CFR 200.501(f) of the OMB Uniform Guidance: "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards").
 3. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.
- (3) Unless this grant solely funds research, you must comply with new regulations regarding awards to faith-based organizations (FBOs) that provide beneficiary services under this grant or under a contract you award to provide beneficiary services under this grant. These new regulations clarify the rights of FBOs and impose certain duties on FBOs regarding the referral of beneficiaries they serve. See 34 CFR 75.52, 75.712-75.714, appendix A to part 75, and 2 CFR 3474.15. The Department has established a web page that provides guidance on the new regulations, including FAQs and other implementation tools, which is available at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/fbci-reg.html>. If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact the Education Program Contact identified in Block 3 of this GAN.
- (4) Reimbursement of indirect costs is subject to the availability of funds and statutory and regulatory restrictions. The negotiated indirect cost rate agreement authorizes a non-Federal entity to draw down indirect costs from the grant awards. The following conditions apply to the below entities.

A. All entities (other than institutions of higher education (IHE))

The GAN for this grant award shows the indirect cost rate that applies on the date of the initial grant for this project. However, after the initial grant date, when a new indirect cost rate agreement is negotiated, the newly approved indirect cost rate supersedes the indirect cost rate shown on the GAN for the initial grant. This new indirect cost rate should be applied according to the period specified in the indirect cost rate agreement, unless expressly limited under EDGAR or program regulations. Any grant award with an approved budget can amend the budget to account for a change in the indirect cost rate. However, for a discretionary grant award any material changes to the budget which may impact the scope or objectives of the grant must be discussed with the program officer at the Department. See 34 CFR 75.560 (d)(3) (ii) (part 75 of EDGAR).

B. Institutions of higher education (IHE)

Under 2 CFR part 200, Appendix III, Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), the Department must apply the negotiated indirect cost rate in effect on the date of the initial grant award to every budget period of the project, including all continuation grants made for this project. See 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix III, paragraph C.7. Therefore, the GAN for each continuation grant will show the original indirect cost rate and it applies to the entire period of performance of this project. If the indirect cost rate agreement that is applicable to this grant does not extend to the end of the grant's project period, the indirect cost rate set at the start of the project period must still be applied to the end of project period regardless of the fact that the rate has otherwise expired.

- (5) Condition 1:



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202
GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION**

5

Continuation funding is contingent upon the grantee providing updated documentation in its Annual Performance Report demonstrating that 1) the grantee meets the definition of a charter management organization (as defined in the NIA); and 2) at least 60 percent of all students in the charter schools the grantee currently operates or manages are individuals from low-income families. Failure to demonstrate compliance with either requirement in accordance with the absolute priority and eligibility requirement may result in the Department taking appropriate administrative action.

Condition 2:

The grantee may not conduct activities nor draw down funds under this grant until after 1) the grantee has participated in a post-award conference call with its CSP program officer assigned to the grant; and 2) the program officer has provided written approval of the grantee s budget.

Condition 3:

As outlined in the Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards, each grantee must submit an annual performance report (APR) by the due date established by CSP staff for each project year. In the absence of prior written approval from the Department, the grantee may not draw down funds for project year 2, as outlined in the final Budget Summary form approved by the Department, until after the grantee has (1) completed all project year 1 activities; (2) submitted its APR demonstrating that all project year 1 activities have been completed; and (3) obtained written approval by the Department to begin project year 2 activities.

Validity unknown

Digitally signed by Liza Araujo

Date: Wed Sep 27 13:49:01 EDT 2017



AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

Governing Board Member	Position	Email Address
Tom Torkelson		tom.torkelson@ideapublicschools.org
Eric Ziehe		ericz@nairgv.com
Sergio Sanchez		ssanchez@rcommunications.com
Reba Cardenas McNair	Chair	cardevelop@aol.com
David Guerra	Chair-Elect	DavidGuerra@ibc.com
Gabe Puente		gabe@rgvisionmagazine.com
Bill Martin		b.martin@raymondjames.com
Bert Garcia		bgarcia@rgvipers.com
David Earl		dearl@earl-law.com
Victoria Rico		victoriabrico@brackenridgefoundation.org
Henry Gonzalez		hbg@gcaklaw.com
Nick La Mantia		Nick.lamantia@Infdist.com
David Handley		davidhandley@hotmail.com
Al Lopez- Treasurer	Treasurer	al.lopez@egbi.org
Ryan Vaughan		ryan@riosofmercedesboots.com
Xenia Garza-Secretary	Secretary	xeniagarza@me.com



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati OH 45201

In reply refer to: 0248225078
Dec. 16, 2014 LTR 4168C 0
74-2948339 000000 00
00016775
BODC: TE

IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
% THOMAS E TORKELOSON
505 ANGELITA DR STE 9
WESLACO TX 78599-8694



5

024957

Employer Identification Number: 74-2948339
Person to Contact: SHEILA SCHROM
Toll Free Telephone Number: 1-877-829-5500

Dear Taxpayer:

This is in response to your Dec. 05, 2014, request for information regarding your tax-exempt status.

Our records indicate that you were recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(03) of the Internal Revenue Code in a determination letter issued in JUNE 2000.

Our records also indicate that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are described in section(s) 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Please refer to our website www.irs.gov/eo for information regarding filing requirements. Specifically, section 6033(j) of the Code provides that failure to file an annual information return for three consecutive years results in revocation of tax-exempt status as of the filing due date of the third return for organizations required to file. We will publish a list of organizations whose tax-exempt status was revoked under section 6033(j) of the Code on our website beginning in early 2011.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

State Board of Education

Marva Johnson, *Chair*
Andy Tuck, *Vice Chair*
Members
Gary Chartrand
Ben Gibson
Tom Grady
Michael Olenick
Joe York

Pam Stewart
Commissioner of Education

5

February 28, 2018

Somerset Academy, Inc.
Attn: Douglas Rodriguez
c/o 6340 Sunset Drive
South Miami, Florida 33156

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

Thank you for submitting an application for designation as a Hope Operator for the purpose of operating one or more schools of hope pursuant to section 1002.333, Florida Statutes. The Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice conducted a full and complete review of your application and determined that it met the requirements set forth in section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-1.0998271(2), Florida Administrative Code. Your application will be considered by the State Board of Education at the March 27, 2018, meeting.

Thank you for your participation in Florida's educational choice programs. If you have any additional questions, please contact Adam Miller at 850-245-0502.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Stewart".
Pam Stewart

PS/cr

cc: Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



HOPE OPERATOR DESIGNATION INITIAL CRITERIA



5

Application Review Checklist

Entity Name: Somerset Academy, Inc.

Date of Review: February 26, 2018

- IRS Determination Letter as a 501(c)3
- Operates 3 or more K12 public charter schools
- Record of serving students from low-income families
- Meets one of the following criteria:
 - Awarded a USED Charter School Replication/Expansion grant within the preceding 3 years
 - Current and active grantee of National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund
 - Charter school selected by a district school board to turnaround the performance of a low performing public school (Sec 1008.33, F.S.)

Comments: _____

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Approved by: [Signature]

Application for Hope Operator Designation

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that operates three or more charter schools that serve students in grades K-12 in Florida or other states with a record of serving students from low-income families may apply to the Florida State Board of Education for designation as a Hope Operator.

Section A: Organizational Information

Name of Non-Profit Organization	Somerset Academy, Inc.		
IRS Federal Employer Identification Number	31-1569428		
Street Address	c/o 6340 Sunset Drive		
City	South Miami		
State	FL	Zip Code	33156
Website	www.somersetacademyschools.com	Phone Number	(305) 669-2906

*Attach a copy of 501(c)(3)
determination letter Leadership*

Executive Director/CEO	Lourdes Isla, Board Chair		
Email	lisla@somersetacademyschools.com	Phone	(305) 298-0594
Primary Contact (if different)	Douglas Rodriguez		
Email	Drodriguez4145@gmail.com	Phone	(786) 351-4270

Board Members of Non-Profit Organization

Name	Position (President, VP, etc)	Email Address
Bernardo Montero	President (Non-Voting)	berntero@somersetacademy.com
Suzette Ruiz	Vice-President (Non-Voting)	sruiz@somersetdade.com
Lourdes Isla	Board Chair	lisla@somersetacademyschools.com
Todd German	Vice-Chair / Treasurer	tdgerman@aol.com
Ana Diaz	Director / Secretary	adiaz@somersetacademyschools.com

David Concepcion	Director	dconcepcion@somersetacademyschools.com
Jennifer Esquijarosa	Director	jesquijarosa@somersetacademyschools.com
Dr. Bernard Kimmel	Director	drbkim@msn.com
Louis Marin	Director	lmartin@somersetacademyschools.com
George Ozuna	Director	gozuna@somersetacademyschools.com

Rule 6A-1.0998271
 Form SOH1
 Effective February 2018

Section B: Criteria

Please indicate which of the following Hope Operator criteria your organization meets:

1. The operator was awarded a United States Department of Education Charter School Program grant for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools within the preceding three years.
 - Provide a copy of the award letter from the US Department of Education
2. The operator receives funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund to accelerate the growth of the nation’s best charter schools.
 - Provide evidence that the operator is currently receiving funding through the National Fund of the Charter School Growth Fund. This may include a signed letter from the CEO of the Charter School Growth Fund, or a current and active grant award agreement.
3. The operator is selected by a district school board in accordance with s. 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a persistently low-performing public school.
 - Provide a signed letter from the District Superintendent, or other evidence, indicating the District selected the school pursuant to Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes, to turn around the performance of a low-performing public school.

Section C: Additional Information

In order to demonstrate that the applicant meets the definition of Hope Operator, pursuant to Section 1002.333(2), Florida Statutes, provide the following information, for the most recent completed school year, for each public charter school that is currently operated by the applicant.

School Name

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Identification Number

Address, City, State, Zip Code

Grades Served

Total Enrollment

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch

Authorizer Name

Rule 6A-1.0998271

Form SOH1

Effective February 2018

School Name	WL#	Enrollment	NCESID	%Free/Reduced	Authorizer	Grades Offered	Address
Somerset Academy	0520	582	120039003971	63	Miami-Dade	K-5	Site 1: 18491 SW 134th Avenue, Miami, 33177
Somerset Academy Charter Middle School							Site 2 (Kramer Oaks): 19701 S.W. 127 Avenue
Somerset Academy (Silver Palms)	6004	220	120039003974	60	Miami-Dade	6-8	18491 SW 134th Avenue, Miami, 33177
Somerset Academy Charter High School	0332	709	120039007428	73	Miami-Dade	K-8	
Somerset Academy Charter High School (South Campus)	7042	350	120039003975	81	Miami-Dade	9-12	23255 SW 115th Avenue, Miami, 33032
Somerset Academy High School (South Campus)	7038	30	120039007431	77	Miami-Dade	9-10	
Somerset Preparatory Academy at Silver Palms	4012	783	120039007884	79	Miami-Dade	K-5	23255 SW 115th Avenue, Miami, 33032 (Annex)
Somerset Arts Academy	2012	389	120039007487	57	Miami-Dade	K-5	
Somerset Academy Middle School (Country Palms)	6043	23	120039007258	70	Miami-Dade	6	47 NW 16th Street, Homestead, 33030
Somerset Oaks Academy	3033	571	120039007851	85	Miami-Dade	K-8	1000 Old Dixie Highway, Homestead, 33030
Somerset Academy Elementary School (South Miami Campus)	2007	427	120039007511	18	Miami-Dade	K-5	
Somerset Academy Middle School (South Miami Campus)	6053	187	120039007554	25	Miami-Dade	6-8	5876 SW 68th Street, Miami, 33143
Somerset Academy Charter Elementary School (South Homestead)	0339	490	120039007466	77	Miami-Dade	K-5	300 SE 1st Avenue, Homestead, 33030
Somerset Academy Charter Middle School (South Homestead)	6013	374	120039007387	26	Miami-Dade	6-8	
Somerset Academy Charter High School (South Homestead)	7034	181	120039007971	23	Miami-Dade	9-12	305 NE 2nd Road, Homestead, 33030
Somerset Cables Academy	5008	441	120039007525	15	Miami-Dade	K-5	624 Anastasia Avenue, Coral Gables, 33134
Somerset Academy Bay	5002	231	120039008160	14	Miami-Dade	K-5	5859 SW 16th Street, West Miami, 33155
Somerset Academy Bay Middle School	6128	59	120039008153	22	Miami-Dade	6-8	
Somerset Preparatory Academy Sunset	5002	127	120039008502	10	Miami-Dade	K-5	9500 SW 97th Avenue, Miami, 33176
Somerset Academy	5141	944	120018004320	34	Broward	K-5	11155 SW 112th Avenue Miami, 33176
Somerset Academy Middle School	5151	829	120018003686	36	Broward	K-5	20801 Johnson Street, Pembroke Pines, 33029
Somerset Academy High School	5221	1034	120018003823	43	Broward	6-8	20803 Johnson Street, Pembroke Pines, 33029
Somerset Arts Conservatory	5396	125	120018004463	34	Broward	9-12	20805 Johnson Street, Pembroke Pines, 33029
Somerset Academy (Miramar Campus)	5405	609	120018004471	64	Broward	K-5	20805 Johnson Street, Pembroke Pines, 33029
Somerset Academy Middle School (Miramar Campus)	5406	426	120018004472	65	Broward	K-5	12601 Somerset Boulevard, Miramar, 33027 (and 12425 SW 53rd Street, Miramar, 33027)
Somerset Academy Miramar South	5054	128	120018008102	48	Broward	6-8	
Somerset Academy (Davie)	5211	145	120018004054	63	Broward	K-3	12425 SW 53rd Street, Miramar, 33027
Somerset Academy East Preparatory	5391	280	120018007569	85	Broward	K-5	3788 Davie Road, Davie, 33314
Somerset Academy Hollywood (Isla Pompano North)	5387	15	120018008190	80	Broward	K-5	2000 South State Road 7, Miramar, 33023

School Name	WL#	Enrollment	NCESID	%Free/Reduced	Authorizer	Grades Offered	Address
Somerset Academy Village	5004	246	120018007837	95	Broward	K-5	225 NW 29th Street, Wilton Manors, 33311
Somerset Academy Village Charter Middle School	5002	96	120018007806	95	Broward	6-8	
Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter School at North Lauderdale	5003	731	120018007780	96	Broward	K-8	7101 Kimberly Boulevard, North Lauderdale
Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter High School at North Lauderdale	5006	214	120018007912	93	Broward	9-12	
Somerset Academy Neighborhood School	5021	551	120018003155	76	Broward	K-5	9300 Pembroke Road, Miramar, 33025
Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter Middle School	5441	335	120018007832	69	Broward	6-8	
Somerset Academy Hollywood Middle School	5419	12	120018008195	58	Broward	6-8	
Somerset Academy Charter High School (Miramar Campus)	5007	307	120018007921	64	Broward	9-12	
Somerset Pines Academy	5030	514	120018007893	74	Broward	K-5	901 NE 33rd Street, Pompano Beach, 33064
Somerset Academy Pompano	5388	163	120018008157	83	Broward	K-5	3311 NW 9th Avenue, Pompano Beach, 33064
Somerset Academy Key Charter Middle School (f.k.a. Somerset Academy Pompano Middle School)	5413	18	120018008232	88	Broward	6-8	959 SE 6th Ave., Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
Somerset Academy Boca	3413	341	12015008220	29	Palm Beach	K-5	333 SW 4th Avenue, Boca Raton, 33432
Somerset Academy Boca Middle	4041	64	12015008275	27	Palm Beach	6-8	
Somerset Academy Canyons Middle School	4012	880	12015008251	25	Palm Beach	6-8	
Somerset Academy Canyons High School	4013	427	12015008231	27	Palm Beach	9-12	9385 Boynton Beach Boulevard, Boynton Beach, 33432
Somerset Academy Lakes Charter School	4091	188	12015008535	91	Palm Beach	K-5	2845 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33416
Somerset Academy JFK	3395	528	120150003907	9	Palm Beach		4696 Davis Rd, Lake Worth, FL 33461
Somerset College Preparatory Academy	0712	664	12017708089	49	Palm Beach	6-12	725 NW California Blvd, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986
Somerset Academy St. Lucie	0703	383	12017708089	76		K-5	4402 SW Yamada Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
Somerset Academy (Flagle Campus)	1251	160	120048007908	100	Duval	K-5	8711 Lone Star Road, Jacksonville, 32211
Somerset Preparatory Academy	5501	478	120048008249	10	Duval	K-8	
Somerset Academy Charter Middle School (Flagle Campus)	1261	48	120048007902	10	Duval	6-8	1429 Broward Blvd, Jacksonville, 32218
Jefferson County Elementary A Somerset Charter School	0111	371	120099001082	100	Jefferson	PreK3 - 5	
Jefferson County Middle A Somerset Academy Charter School	0021	165	12009001082	100	Jefferson	6-8	50 David Road, Monticello, FL 32344
Jefferson County High A Somerset Academy Charter School	0024	180	12009001082	100	Jefferson	9-12	
Key West Collegiate School (Monroe County)	0382	76	120132007960	13	Monroe	9-12	5901 College Road, Key West, 33040
Brooks Academy of Science and Engineering		1358	48002681128	65	State of Texas	K-12	3803 Jyster Road, San Antonio TX 78235
Somerset Academy Stephanie Campus		5778	32000100820	63	State of Nevada	K-8	50 N. Stephanie Street, Henderson NV, 89074

School Name	WL#	Enrollment	NCESID	%Free/Reduced	Authorizer	Grades Offered	Address
Somerset Academy North Las Vegas		8				K-8	385 W Centennial Parkway, North Las Vegas, NV 89084
Somerset Academy Loosee Campus		8				K-5	4650 Loosee Road, North Las Vegas, NV 89081
Somerset Academy Sky Pointe		8				6-12	
		8				K-5	7038 Sky Pointe Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89131
Somerset Long Mountain Campus		8				6-12	7058 Sky Pointe Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89131
		8				K-5	4491 North Rambow, Las Vegas, NV 89108
Somerset Preparatory Academy DC		279	110008900462	100	DC: Charter Schools	6-8	3301 Wheeler Road, SE: Washington, DC: 20032

State of Nevada issues one Charter under which all schools operate



CINCINNATI OH 45999-0038

In reply refer to: 0248367576
Mar. 04, 2015 LTR 4168C 0
31-1569428 000000 00

00021392
BODC: TE

SOMERSET ACADEMY INC
6340 SUNSET DR
MIAMI FL 33143



011762

Employer Identification Number: 31-1569428
Person to Contact: Ms. Yates
Toll Free Telephone Number: 1-877-829-5500

Dear Taxpayer:

This is in response to your Feb. 24, 2015, request for information regarding your tax-exempt status.

Our records indicate that you were recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code in a determination letter issued in January 1998.

Our records also indicate that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are described in section(s) 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Please refer to our website www.irs.gov/eo for information regarding filing requirements. Specifically, section 6033(j) of the Code provides that failure to file an annual information return for three consecutive years results in revocation of tax-exempt status as of the filing due date of the third return for organizations required to file. We will publish a list of organizations whose tax-exempt status was revoked under section 6033(j) of the Code on our website beginning in early 2011.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
P. O. BOX 2008
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JAN 14 1958

THE SOMERSET NEIGHBORHOOD
SCHOOL INC
C/O STEPHEN M MUSCO
MUSCO & COMPANY PA
1549 RINGLING BLVD STE 602
SARASOTA, FL 34236

Employer Identification Number:
31-1569428

DLN:
17053281201007

Contact Person:
D. A. DOWNING

Contact Telephone Number:
(513) 241-5199

Accounting Period Ending:
December 31

Form 990 Required:
Yes

Addendum Applies:
Yes

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, if you are involved in an excess benefit transaction, that transaction might be subject to the excise taxes of section 4958. Additionally, you are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other federal taxes, please contact your key district office.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that

Letter 947 (00-00)

5

-2-

THE SOMERSET NEIGHBORHOOD

you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of \$20 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed \$10,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. For organizations with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 in any year, the penalty is \$100 per day per return, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. The maximum penalty for an organization with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 shall not exceed \$50,000. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so be sure your return is complete before you file it.

You are required to make your annual return available for public inspection for three years after the return is due. You are also required to make available a copy of your exemption applications, any supporting documents, and this exemption letter. Failure to make these documents available for public inspection may subject you to a penalty of \$20 per day for each day there is a failure to comply (up to a maximum of \$10,000 in the case of an annual return).

You are not required to file federal income tax returns unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If you are subject to this tax, you must file an income tax return on Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter we are not determining whether any of your present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

Letter 947 (00-08)

-3-

THE SOMERSET NEIGHBORHOOD

You need an employer identification number even if you have no employees. If an employer identification number was not entered on your application, a number will be assigned to you and you will be advised of it. Please use that number on all returns you file and in all correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in your power of attorney.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,


Paul A. Huigster
District Director

Addendum

Letter 947 (00/00)

THE SOMERSET NEIGHBORHOOD

Since you receive more than 50% of your support from government sources, you are a "public school" as defined in the Civil Rights Act. Accordingly, you are not subject to the specific publishing, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements of Rev. Proc. 75-50, 1975-2 C.B., page 587. If your income sources change, to the extent you are no longer primarily supported by the government, you will be subject to these requirements. Failure to comply with these requirements at that time can have an adverse effect on your exempt status.

5

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
March 22, 2017

SUBJECT: Implementation of Turnaround Plan for School District of Jefferson County

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

TBD

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes
Rule 6A-1.099811, Florida Administrative Code

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The turnaround plan submitted by Jefferson County School District selected the charter option for its low performing schools. This option requires that the district consolidate its schools and reopen in the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, as a charter school, with the charter operator having a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics. Jefferson's plan was approved with contingencies, by the State Board of Education at its February 16, 2017 meeting.

Three charter operators presented to the Jefferson County School Board in February 2017; two had a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics. Of the two charter entities with a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics, one charter operator elected not to present a proposal to operate in Jefferson County and the other, Somerset Academy, submitted a proposal to operate Jefferson's schools. The Somerset Academy charter proposal proposes to open an elementary, middle and high school on one site.

At the date when the agenda was published for this meeting of the State Board of Education, the Jefferson County School Board was scheduled to vote on acceptance of Somerset's proposal on March 21, 2017.

The State Board of Education will be advised of the outcome of the vote of the Jefferson County School Board. Depending on the outcome of that vote, the State Board may consider recommending steps the Commissioner can undertake to ensure that the School Board implement its proposed plan or, alternatively, of steps to hold the Board accountable, should they fail to implement the District's approved plan.

Supporting Documentation Included: TBD

Facilitator/Presenter: Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools and Melissa Ramsey, Regional Executive Director, Bureau of School Improvement

03/21/17 Special Board Meeting (AMENDED 03/21/17)

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
ANNOUNCES A MEETING
TO WHICH THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

3/21/2017 06:00 PM

JCMHS
50 David Road
Monticello, FL 32344

5

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. CALL TO ORDER
4. CALL TO SIGN UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS
5. NOMINATION AND VOTE FOR BOARD CHAIRPERSON (s.1001.371, F.S.)
6. APPROVE AGENDA
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS
8. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Administrative, Instructional & Support Personnel
 - (3.1) March Personnel Recommendations
 - b. Presentation - Somerset Charter School
 - Jefferson County Board Presentation
 - c. Somerset Charter School Applications for Approval
 - Evaluation 1 - Elementary
 - Evaluation 2 - Middle
 - Evaluation 3 - High
9. FINAL COMMENTS
10. ADJOURN

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
Special Board Meeting – March 21, 2017**

The Jefferson County School Board met in Special Session on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 6:00 PM. Board members present were: Chair Bill Brumfield, Charles Boland, Gladys Roann-Watson, Sandra Saunders and Shirley Washington. Superintendent Arbulu was present. Board Attorney Tom Reeves was present.

Bill Brumfield opened with the invocation. Boland led in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order. Attorney Reeves addressed the Board and explained to them that Chair Bill Brumfield had made the decision to step down as the Chair. Reeves then explained that this leaves the Vice Chair Charles Boland as carrying out the duties of the Chair until the Board elects a new Chairman. Reeves explained that the Board is required to elect a new Chairman at their next meeting which is the meeting that is being held at this time. Reeves then explained that the School Board has a policy which states that their Chairmanship and Vice Chairmanship are to be rotated amongst the Districts by district number. Reeves expressed that the next number after Mr. Brumfield would be Mr. Boland, so the Board would be required to elect Mr. Boland as Chair unless he declines. Mr. Boland declined the election of Chairmanship for the Jefferson County School Board. Reeves then told the Board that the next one in line for Chair would be Gladys Roann-Watson and Sandra Saunders for Vice Chair. Brumfield made a motion to approve the Nomination and Vote for Board Chairperson to be Gladys Roann-Watson and Vice Chair to be Sandra Saunders, Washington seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Both Roann-Watson and Saunders both agreed to take on their roles as Chair and Vice Chair of the Jefferson County School Board.

The gavel was then turned over to the new Chair Roann-Watson. Roann-Watson called for public to sign-up for public comments.

Saunders motioned to approve the agenda, Washington seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Action Items: Boland motioned to approve (3.1) Administrative, Instructional and Support Personnel (March), Brumfield seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roann-Watson then turned the floor over to Somerset Academy to address the Board and Community Members with a presentation on what their Charter School has to offer Jefferson County. After the presentation there were many questions and concerns from the Board and Community Members. The team from Somerset answered and commented on all questions asked as did the School Board Members.

Brumfield motioned to approve the Somerset Charter School Application – Evaluation 1 Elementary School, Boland seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Brumfield motioned to approve the Somerset Charter School Application – Evaluation 2 Middle School, Saunders seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Brumfield motioned to approve the Somerset Charter School Application – Evaluation 3 High School, Saunders seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

There was no further business, therefore Boland moved to adjourn and Brumfield seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 and the time was 9:15 PM.

Superintendent

Chairperson