

Subject: LETTER OF INTENT for An Open-enrollment Public Charter School

Submitted via certified mail to:
Arkansas Department of Education
Charter School Office
Four Capitol Mall, Room 302-B
Little Rock, AR 72201

RECEIVED
JUN 30 2011

June 23, 2011

CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Dr. Duncan,
Please accept this letter of intent for an open-enrollment public charter school.
Thank you,


Sally Wilson, OCBA, Inc.

1. Name of the eligible entity which intends to apply for a charter. If a not for profit, specify name on the 501 (c) (3) and 501 (c) (3) status: OCBA, Inc (Osceola, Communication, Business and Arts, Inc.). This 501(c)(3) was incorporated in 2007 and the IRS determination's TIN is 26-1309516.
2. Contact person: Sally Wilson, 851 W. Semmes, Osceola, AR 72370
Daytime telephone number 870-822-0574
FAX number 870-563-5582
e-mail address ocbainc@yahoo.com
3. Give a description of the eligible entity which will be proposing the charter; OCBA, Inc is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating Arkansas residents
4. Give the name of the proposed open-enrollment public charter school; Diploma School of Benton
5. Describe the location of the proposed open-enrollment public charter school; In Benton in the Benton Public School district
6. Identify the grade levels of students to be served by the open-enrollment public charter school; 11 and 12
7. Provide proposed student enrollment cap for the school; 300 students
8. Provide a one-paragraph description of the purpose or special emphasis of the proposed school. The Diploma School is designed to serve 11th and 12th grade students, who are not on track to graduate from high school within four years or who have already dropped out of high school. The Diploma School is a research-based school with a proven record of successful targeted intervention. The school model is non-traditional because most classes convene in the evenings between 3:00 and 10:00. And the school's year-round calendar would have seven "semesters" condensed into six-week long blocked sessions. This scheduling format allows students to complete as many as 3 half-unit classes in just six weeks. This approach would allow students transferring to our school the opportunity to fill the gaps in their high school transcripts and earn a full Arkansas high school diploma in a shorter time than the traditional high school schedule would allow.

A copy of the letter of intent is being sent via certified mail to the superintendent of the public school district.