

2012-2013 Application Cycle

ADE

Evaluation and

Applicant

Responses

Premier High School of Little Rock
Little Rock, Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Education

Charter School Application Evaluation Instrument

The following instrument will be used to evaluate applications submitted to the Arkansas Department of Education (“ADE”) for the establishment of new open-enrollment public charter schools. This instrument is only intended to provide clarity, transparency and consistency in the charter school application review process.

The ADE will use the following instrument only to evaluate the quality of an open-enrollment public charter school application against the criteria stated herein. For each of the application requirements, the criteria define the characteristics and elements of a response that meet the standard for charter approval. The following definitions will guide the rating of each information requirement:

- Meets the Standard:** The response reflects a thorough understanding of key issues and demonstrates capacity to open and operate a quality charter school. It addresses the topic with specific and accurate information that shows thorough preparation and presents a clear, realistic picture of how the school expects to operate.
- Partially Meets the Standard:** The response addresses most of the criteria, but response lacks meaningful detail and requires important additional information.
- Does Not Meet the Standard:** The response lacks meaningful detail, demonstrates lack of preparation, or otherwise raises substantial concerns about the applicant’s understanding of the issue in concept and/or ability to meet the requirement in practice.

Arkansas Department of Education

Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application Evaluation

EVALUATION RUBRIC WITH RESPONSES

Name of Proposed School: **PREMIER HIGH SCHOOL OF LITTLE ROCK**

Eligible entity status:

- Public institution of higher education
- Private nonsectarian institution of higher education
- Governmental entity
- Nonsectarian organization exempt from taxes under Section 501(c) (3)

Status of 501(c) (3) Application: **Pending**

Part 1: PRE-APPLICATION MATERIALS

The Arkansas Department of Education requires that all applicants submit a Letter of Intent, outlining a general description of the proposed charter school.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will guarantee that:

- A Letter of Intent was filed with ADE on time and included all necessary information.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

Part 2: REQUIRED INFORMATION

STANDARDS 1 and 2 OF APPLICATION: PUBLIC HEARING RESULTS

All proposed school design teams must conduct a public hearing before applying for an open-enrollment charter school, to assess support for the school's establishment. Applicants are asked both to document the logistics of the hearing and to include a narrative of the hearing results.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A thorough description of the results of the public hearing;
- A thorough description and evidence of public support exhibited at the hearing;
- Documentation of required notices published to garner public attention to the hearing;
- Documentation of required notices of the public hearing to superintendents and school board members in contiguous school districts; and
- Copies of any documents or presentations distributed at the public meeting.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X
Strengths		Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions		Reference

STANDARD 3 OF APPLICATION: GOVERNING STRUCTURE

The Governing Structure section should explain how the school will be governed. It should present a clear picture of the school's governance processes and composition, what responsibilities various groups and people will have and how those groups will relate to one another.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- Documentation of proper legal structure of the governing board and sponsoring entity;
- A comprehensive description of the planned relationship between the governing board of the school and governing board of the sponsoring entity;
- A clear description of the governing board's roles and responsibilities;
- Adequate policies and procedures for board operation, including board composition, member term length, and member selection;
- A clear, sensible delineation of roles and responsibilities in relation to governance and school management; and
- A reasonable plan for involving parents, staff, students and community in the decision-making of the school.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>Explain which governing board is referenced in C as B states that there will be a governing board of the school and a governing board of the sponsoring entity.</p>	<p>Pages 6-7</p>
<p>Provide the roles and responsibilities for the board that is not discussed in C.</p>	
<p>D states that the board will function according to existing ResponsiveEd bylaws. Since ResponsiveEd will be managing the operations, and bylaws were not included, describe each of the following for both the sponsoring entity board and the school board: Board composition; and Board selection process.</p>	<p>Page 7</p>
<p>State which board members are being discussed in the section titled Board Members.</p>	<p>Page 8</p>
<p>Explain if the Community Advisory Committee is the same as the school board.</p>	<p>Page 9</p>
<p>Confirm that the board referenced under the section titled Transition to Arkansas Board is the governing board of the sponsoring entity.</p>	<p>Page 10</p>

Concerns and Additional Questions

Explain which governing board is referenced in C as B states that there will be a governing board of the school and a governing board of the sponsoring entity.

Response

For the sake of clarity, in this document all references to the sponsoring entity, Responsive Education Solutions of Arkansas, will be referred to as ResponsiveEd. All references to the non-profit education management organization located in Lewisville, Texas, Responsive Education Solutions, will be referred to as -ResponsiveEd of Texas.

To clarify, the governing board of the sponsoring entity, ResponsiveEd, will also serve as the governing board for the school. As such, the governing board of the sponsoring entity and the governing board for the school will be one and the same. Therefore, the roles and responsibilities as outlined in section C on page 6, and the -Board Member section of page 8, will be that of the sole governing board.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide the roles and responsibilities for the board that is not discussed in C (pgs. 6- 7).

Response

The governing board of the sponsoring entity and the governing board for the school will be one and the same. Therefore, the roles and responsibilities as outlined in section C as powers and duties on page 6 - 7, will be that of the sole governing board.

Concerns and Additional Questions

D states that the board will function according to existing ResponsiveEd bylaws. Since ResponsiveEd will be managing the operations, and bylaws were not included, describe each of the following for both the sponsoring entity board and the school board: Board composition; and Board selection process (pg. 7).

Response

A copy of the entity bylaws has been included for your review. A minimum of five members will serve on the board which will be comprised of Arkansas residents and local school community representatives. The current Board of Directors will solicit applications from qualified candidates who are interested in promoting the interests of the organization through service on the board before the State Board of Education in November or December of 2012. Subject to Article 3.03 of the Bylaws, new board members will be selected from a pool of qualified candidates by the remaining Directors.

Concerns and Additional Questions

State which board members are being discussed in the section titled Board Members (pg. 8).

Response

The board referenced on page 8 is the governing board of the sponsoring entity and the local school board as they are one and the same.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Explain if the Community Advisory Committee is the same as the school board (pg.9).

Response

The Community Advisory Committee, referenced on page 9, is not the same as the school board. The Community Advisory Committee is similar to a Parent Teacher Association or Parent Teacher Organization as it will provide a medium through which parents can become more involved in the education of their children. Although the Community Advisory Committee will hold no official governing authority, it will be a source of information for school based decision making initiatives.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Confirm that the board referenced under the section titled Transition to Arkansas Board is the governing board of the sponsoring entity (pg. 10).

Response

To clarify, the governing board of the sponsoring entity will also serve as the governing board for the school. As such, the governing board of the sponsoring entity and the governing board for the school will be one and the same.

STANDARD 4 OF APPLICATION: MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement should be meaningful and indicate what the school intends to do, for whom and to what degree.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A mission statement that is manageable and measurable.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 5 OF APPLICATION: EDUCATIONAL NEED

The Educational Need section should indicate how the school intends to offer a viable educational option for students in Arkansas. Along with the mission statement, this section outlines the basic rationale for the new school.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A description of educational need that presents a clear option for students, and
- Valid and reliable data that substantiates the educational need for the school.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 6 OF APPLICATION: EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Educational Program section should describe the educational foundation of the school and the teaching and learning strategies that will be employed.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A clear description of the proposed educational program, including but not limited to the foundational educational philosophy and curricular and instructional strategies to be employed;
- A specific rationale for how the charter school will enhance or expand the educational options currently available to the school's target student population; and
- A clear organization of the school in terms of both length of school day and year that meets minimum state requirements.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>Explain parent monitoring.</p> <p>For clarification, a waiver of the 38 units of study has not been requested; therefore compliance with Standard 14.03, which requires each course to meet a minimum of 120 clock hours must be followed.</p> <p>Clarify how credit determination will be made.</p>	<p>Page 17</p>

Explain parent monitoring. Pg. 17

Response

Parent Monitoring, as referenced on page 17 in the Interventions section, refers to actions taken by parents to monitor the academic progress of their children by activities such as reviewing report cards, progress reports and ensuring completion of homework.

It's important for parents to keep up with how their children are doing in school. Talking with children about what they learned in school, their favorite subjects, and upcoming tests or projects are simple ways of monitoring. Monitoring sleep habits, organizational skills, vision and hearing to make sure students are prepared for school are beneficial for optimal student performance.

Concerns and Additional Questions

For clarification, a waiver of the 38 units of study has not been requested; therefore compliance with Standard 14.03, which requires each course to meet a minimum of 120 clock hours must be followed.

Response

ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application under this Standard to reflect that it does wish to request a waiver of Section 14.01 (Standard IX: Graduation Requirements) of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts (Standards Rules).

While ResponsiveEd does not wish to seek (and knows that it cannot seek) a waiver of the high school graduation requirements, it does wish to seek a waiver of the provisions of Section 14.0 of the Standards Rules which would require it to offer the full thirty-eight (38) units of course offerings to each student. Given Premier High School's focus on dropout recovery students, we would ask for the flexibility to tailor our curriculum to each student's needs, and that may entail course offerings of less than the full 38 units for each student and less than 120 hours of -seat time|| for each credit unit awarded.

It is the intent of Premier High School to assess every student who enters the school to determine how many credits they will need to earn the 22 credit units required for graduation, and then compose an individualized education plan for each student to acquire those credits. Premier High School would offer any of the remaining 16 credit units within the 38 upon request to its students, either through its own staff, distance learning or through agreements with other public schools as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-801 et seq.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Clarify how credit determination will be made.

Response

To clarify Premier High School credit determination method, credits for all courses offered at the Premier high schools are earned on an independent semester basis with a minimum grade of 70 as the passing score. Students must pass semester A and semester B independently with a minimum passing score of 70. (Premier does not average semesters for courses where a grade may have been less than the passing grade of 70 in an effort to earn a full credit.) All courses are listed in the district's AAR (Academic Achievement Record) or transcript with two semester grades that are passing and one credit earned is noted.

The ResponsiveEd of Texas curriculum department has developed all of our courses for the common core subject areas and electives. Each course is composed of ten units comparable to the traditional chapters in a book with the successful completion of 5 units awarding 1/2 credit (semester A) and the completion of another 5 units (semester B) with the successful completion of all 10 units awarding 1 credit.

Each unit has an individualized mode of operation where the student goes through the curriculum reading the text, completing quizzes, practice or formative tests and unit or summative tests. For mastery, student must score at least a 70. If student does not score a score of 70, the students goes through the unit again emphasizing the parts or concepts not understood. Lead teachers and pullout teachers are available to help the student before the student takes the unit test again until the outcome standard is met.

STANDARD 7 OF APPLICATION: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT GOALS

The Academic Achievement Goals section should define the performance expectations for students and the school as whole.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- Specific goals in:
 - Reading;
 - Reading Comprehension;
 - Mathematics; and
 - Mathematic Reasoning;
- Goals that are clear, measurable and data-driven;
- Goals on improving student achievement; and
- Valid and reliable assessment tools for measuring each of the defined goals.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
Explain “effective growth.”	Page 21
Explain how the achievement of Goals 6 and 7 will be documented to the State Board of Education.	

Response

Premier High School defines effective growth, as referenced on page 21, as evidence of increasing growth of skills as documented by the completion of skill proficiencies in the units of study by meeting the benchmarking standards established for each unit area.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Explain how the achievement of Goals 6 and 7 will be documented to the State Board of Education.

Response

Achievement of Goals 6, as referenced on page 21, will be documented with the establishment of a summary chart of pre and post test data that indicates the percentage of students who successfully completed skill proficiencies.

Documentation of the administration of Learning Inventories and outcomes of the percentage of completed skill proficiencies from the units of study will be disaggregated across the identified learning styles to inform the state board of

the importance of this innovative strategy that supports personalized learning environments to document the achievement of Goal 7, page 21, to the State Board of Education.

STANDARD 8 OF APPLICATION: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND ALIGNMENT

The Curriculum Development and Alignment section should define the process by which the design team developed (or chose) the curricular program of the school, and illustrate alignment with Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks and Common Core Standards.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard of a curricular development and alignment program will present:

- Evidence that the curriculum aligns with, or a sound and rationale plan and timeline for aligning the curriculum with, the Arkansas Department of Education’s content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.
- Evidence that the Applicant is prepared to implement the requirements and timeframe of the Common Core Standards.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
Arkansas requires that the 38 units not only be offered but taught every year with students enrolled in each course annually. Explain the charter’s plan for providing the required 38 units mandated by law to be taught in grades 9-12.	

Concerns and Additional Questions

Arkansas requires that the 38 units not only be offered but taught every year with students enrolled in each course annually. Explain the charter’s plan for providing the required 38 units mandated by law to be taught in grades 9-12.

Response

The scope of all required courses will be taught in a self-determined environment where students will work in collaboration with teachers to design the sequence of courses.

Page 23, Standard 8, proposed new, concluding paragraphs:

As stated in our response to Standard 6, ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application under this Standard to reflect that it does wish to request a waiver of Section 14.01 (Standard IX: Graduation Requirements) of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts (Standards Rules).

While ResponsiveEd does not wish to seek (and knows that it cannot seek) a waiver of the high school graduation requirements, it does wish to seek a waiver of the provisions of Section 14.0 of the Standards Rules which would require it to offer the full thirty-eight (38) units of course offerings to each student. Given Premier High School’s focus on dropout recovery students, we would ask for the flexibility to tailor our curriculum

to each student's needs, and that may entail course offerings of less than the full 38 units for each student and less than 120 hours of -seat time|| for each credit unit awarded.

It is the intent of Premier High School to assess every student who enters the school to determine how many credits they will need to earn the 22 credit units required for graduation, and then compose an individualized education plan for each student to acquire those credits. Premier High School would offer any of the remaining 16 credit units within the 38 upon request to its students, either through its own staff, distance learning or through agreements with other public schools as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-801 *et seq.*

STANDARD 9 OF APPLICATION: GEOGRAPHICAL SERVICE AREA

The Geographical Service Area section must outline the impact of a new school opening within the current public education system.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- The specific geographical area served by the charter school; and
- Information on the school districts within the geographical area that may be affected (including data on the expected number of students to transfer to the charter school).

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
Provide information regarding districts within the geographical area.	

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide information regarding districts within the geographical area.

Response

Premier High School of Little Rock will be located within the city limits of Little Rock, Arkansas, in Pulaski County. The focus of the campus will be to reach students in the community who have made the decision to drop out of high school. Additionally, the program is offered as an option for those considered at risk of dropping out. The effect on enrollment for surrounding school districts will be minimal as Premier High School of Little Rock will primarily be composed of those who have decided to leave the traditional public school system. However, as an open-enrollment public charter school, any eligible student from the community who decides to enroll at Premier High School of Little Rock may do so. It is expected that up to 240 students will come from Little Rock School District, North Little Rock School District, or Pulaski County Special School District. According to the 2011-2012 enrollment information housed on the Department of Education Data Center's website, the Little Rock School District contained 24,049 students; the North Little Rock School District contained 8,545 students, and the Pulaski County Special School District contained 16,959 students. The school may also draw students residing within the boundaries of the following contiguous school districts: Benton School District, Bryant School District, England School District and Lonoke School District. According to the 2011-2012 enrollment information housed on the Department of Education Data Center's website, the Benton School District contained 4,618 students; the Bryant School District contained 8,291 students; the England School District contained 762 students, and the Lonoke School District contained 1,821 students. Approximately 150 students are anticipated to come from the Little Rock School District, approximately 50 from the North Little Rock School District, approximately 20 from the Pulaski County Special School District, and approximately 20 students from the other contiguous school districts.

STANDARD 10 OF APPLICATION: ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS

The Annual Progress Reports section should define how the academic progress of individual students and the school as a whole will be measured, analyzed and reported.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A clear and conceptually sound plan for documenting and reporting student performance data;
- A timeline for data compilation and completion of an annual report to parents, the community and the State Board of Education that outlines the school's progress; and
- A plan for dissemination of the annual report to appropriate stakeholders.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 11 OF APPLICATION: ENROLLMENT CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

The Enrollment Criteria and Procedures section should describe how the school will attract and enroll its student body, including any criteria for admission and enrollment. Applicants must also provide assurances for a random lottery selection process.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A student recruitment plan that will provide equal opportunity for all parents and students to learn about and apply to the school;
- An enrollment and admissions process that is open, fair and in accordance with applicable law; and
- A process for, and a guarantee of, a random, anonymous lottery process should there be more student applications than can be accommodated under the terms of the charter.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
Elaborate on the student recruitment plan that will provide equal opportunity for all parents and students to learn about and apply to the school.	

Concerns and Additional Questions

Elaborate on the student recruitment plan that will provide equal opportunity for all parents and students to learn about and apply to the school.

Response

Premier High School's recruiting and marketing strategies are targeted to ethnically diverse populations and are designed to generate a student enrollment that is reflective of the community surrounding the school. There are 3 groups of students that we target:

- 1. Students who have already dropped out of high school,**
- 2. Students who are currently enrolled, but at-risk of dropping out, and**
- 3. Students who want a smaller school environment and more one-to-one attention.**

When Premier is introduced into a new community, ResponsiveEd launches a professional, systematic, research-based, and dynamic public awareness campaign. The campaign utilizes a blend of marketing, advertising, public relations, and community engagement to generate awareness of, and interest in, the school. The responsibilities for this process are split between

ResponsiveEd's central administrative marketing staff and regional and campus leadership on the ground in the community.

The public awareness campaign involves the use of a variety of high quality, well-designed, publicity materials. These resources include, but are not limited to:

- **Brochures**
- **Website**
- **Newspaper advertisements**
- **Press releases**
- **Radio advertisements**
- **Flyers**
- **Postcards**
- **Direct Mail**

In the months leading up to the first year of operation, ResponsiveEd conducts the public awareness campaign, garnering public interest and support of the school utilizing: (1) a combination of the aforementioned publicity materials, and (2) hosting multiple public -Open House meetings. The intended—and historically realized—goals of such campaigns have been two-fold: (1) support for the school by community leaders, and (2) student enrollment.

The Regional Director is responsible for developing and managing relationships within the community. To that end, each school seeks to establish partnerships with local youth-serving organizations (i.e., Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCAs, etc.) to make them aware of Premier and how the school can benefit students that they may serve who may be interested or benefit from attending Premier.

In addition to general public awareness campaign efforts, prior to opening and each summer, the Campus Director will send out Premier informational kits to all the area school counselors.

It is also important to work with the District Court and juvenile and truancy courts to get referrals of students who are not attending school and need a new school environment.

STANDARD 12 OF APPLICATION: STAFFING PLAN

The Staffing Plan section should describe the job duties of the school director and other key personnel. This section should also describe the professional standards that all employees will be held to.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A job description for the school director and other key personnel, including but not limited to an operations director, board members, teachers, etc.;
- An outline of the professional qualifications required for administrators, teachers, counselors, etc; and
- A staffing plan that clearly outlines both the types and numbers of positions to be filled at the school and salary scales for such positions.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>Because the applicant has not requested waiver of the statutes and rules requiring licensure of superintendents, the superintendent must be properly licensed. The statute and rule requiring licensure are Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-109 (“School superintendent”) and Standard 15.01 of the Standards for Accreditation. The superintendent will also be subject to the mentoring program required by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-427 and ADE Rules Governing the Superintendent Mentoring Program.</p> <p>Provide the qualifications of the Superintendent</p> <p>Provide the job descriptions and qualifications for Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer</p> <p>What is your intention regarding class size ratios?</p>	<p>Page 25 & 36</p>

Concerns and Additional Questions

Because the applicant has not requested waiver of the statutes and rules requiring licensure of superintendents, the superintendent must be properly licensed. The statute and rule requiring licensure are Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-109 (-School superintendent) and Standard 15.01 of the Standards for Accreditation. The superintendent will also be subject to the mentoring program required by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-427 and ADE Rules Governing the Superintendent Mentoring Program.

Response

In order to give us the opportunity to attract the best school superintendent to work in our unique school environments, we wish to request this waiver from the licensure requirement for our superintendent position.

Section 15.01 of the Standards Rules and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-109 (both concerning the licensure of school superintendents); and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-427 and ADE Rules Governing the Superintendent Mentoring Program (concerning required mentoring of first-year superintendents).

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide the qualifications of the Superintendent (pgs. 25 & 36)

Response

Please see attached job descriptions for qualifications for the Superintendent.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide the job descriptions and qualifications for Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer

Response

Please see attached job descriptions for Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer qualifications.

Concerns and Additional Questions

What is your intention regarding class size ratios?

Response

Premier High School shall adhere to applicable class size ratio requirements.

Applicant should clarify why positions were not budgeted for ALE and if a position is budgeted for providing ELL services to students according to information submitted.

It should be noted that if the Superintendent will be acting as Business Manager (p. 8), the Superintendent must meet the qualifications set forth in ADE Rules Governing Minimum Qualifications for General Business Managers unless waived.

Explain which board will approve the budget.

NSLA funding is understated.

Page 35

Concerns and Additional Questions

It should be noted that if the Superintendent will be acting as Business Manager (p. 8), the Superintendent must meet the qualifications set forth in ADE Rules Governing Minimum Qualifications for General Business Managers unless waived.

Response

For clarification, the Superintendent will oversee all school operations. However, the duties of the Business Manager will be performed by one of ResponsiveEd of Texas's Certified Public Accountants (CPA). Premier High School will contract with ResponsiveEd of Texas to provide these services. A waiver is requested for the ADE Rules Governing Minimum Qualifications for General Business Managers.

While we are seeking a waiver for flexibility, the individual assigned the duties of the Business Manager will receive all the training and support in Arkansas law and procedures necessary to perform the functions. The individual assigned will complete the minimum 5 Certified Arkansas School Business Official (CASBO) courses per year and the 10 required courses and 5 elective courses within 3 years plus any other mandated or necessary training to ensure compliance with Arkansas laws and standards.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Explain which board will approve the budget (pg. 35).

Response

The board of the sponsoring entity and the board of the school are one and the same. The ResponsiveEd board will approve the budget.

Concerns and Additional Questions

NSLA funding is understated.

Response

To clarify NSLA funding, NSLA Funding should be 240 enrollment X 71% poverty X \$1,033 per student = \$176,023. The adjustment has been made in the attached, revised budget.

Concerns and Additional Questions

The applicant provided salary schedules, but one cannot determine how a salary would be calculated because only ranges are listed. Please clarify. Pg. 67

Response

Salaries will be calculated based on experience and qualifications. Please see attached, proposed salary schedules example for clarification of how salaries will be calculated.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Applicant budgeted at capacity year 1, is this correct?

Response

Premier High School did intend to budget at capacity for year one. In order to determine the outside operating requirements the budget is at capacity. ResponsiveEd monitors financial results monthly and adjusts expenditures accordingly to ensure expenses are within receipts.

Concerns and Additional Questions

The applicant has included revenue that is not guaranteed under other sources.

Response

Please see attached revised budget to clarify the issue regarding included revenue that is not guaranteed. All federal funds have been removed.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Applicant should clarify amounts budgeted for purchased services under administration as well as which positions are included in the 3.5 that make up the salary amount. Pgs. 59 & 63

Response

Purchased services under administration includes an administrative fee of 15% of state revenues to cover the cost of central office services for finance, business manager functions, marketing, information technology, curriculum development, human resources, facilities, special education oversight, training, and any other administrative needs of the school. An additional \$5,000 is included for legal and board related costs. Positions for the 3.5 that make up the salary amounts include 1/3 of Regional Director \$30,000, Director/Principal \$50,000, Secretary \$30,000, 1/2 Curriculum Specialist \$20,617.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Applicant should clarify what makes up \$10,550 budgeted under other administrative. Pg. 59.

Response

To clarify, \$10,550 budgeted under other administrative is for Travel &

subsistence \$650, Staff Development \$2,650, Marketing \$5,000, Miscellaneous \$2,250. Most notable travel would be for the purposes of business manager training.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Applicant should clarify what positions are included under Special Education. Pg. 60

Response

As referenced on page 60, 2 positions are included under Special Education. Those positions are one Special Ed teacher, \$51,881 and one Special Ed aide, \$22,896.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Applicant should clarify why positions were not budgeted for ALE and if a position is budgeted for providing ELL services to students according to information submitted.

Response

To clarify why positions were not budgeted for ALE, ResponsiveEd's individualized approach to student education is made possible by a small-school environment; our innovative, non-typical approaches to the instruction of this population, which leads these students to become lifelong learners allows us to provide an inclusive, focused and quality education environment for all students within our usual educational program, thus obviating the need to provide a separate non-inclusive learning environment. Premier High School will seek a waiver of the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5), 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i), and 6-48-101 et seq.; Standard 19.03 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas School Districts and Public School Districts; and Section 4.00 of the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding (all concerning the provision of Alternative Learning Environments). Additionally, a position is budgeted for providing ELL services.

STANDARD 14 OF APPLICATION: FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC AUDIT PLAN

The Financial and Programmatic Audit Plan section should provide the procedure and timeline by which an annual audit should be conducted. This section should also include an outline for the information that will need to be reported to ADE and the community.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A sound plan for annually auditing school's financial and programmatic operations.

If the Application names an accountant other than the Division of Legislative Audit to perform the first-year audit, the named accountant meets the requirements of Act 993 of 2011 and is not listed on any ineligibility list maintained by ADE or the Division of Legislative Audit

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
The applicant has requested a waiver that the Annual audit be conducted by Thomas & Thomas, LLP instead of The Division of Legislative Audit.	
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 15 OF APPLICATION: ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL COMPUTER NETWORK ASSURANCES

The Arkansas Public School Computer Network (APSCN) Assurances section should provide documentation of the applicant's understanding of and participation in the required state finance and educational data reporting system.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- Assurance that the charter school will participate in APSCN and will comply with all state statutory requirements regarding the APSCN finance and educational data reporting system.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 16 OF APPLICATION: FACILITIES

The Facilities section should provide an understanding of the school’s anticipated facilities needs and how the school plans to meet those needs.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- An informed understanding of the facility needs of the school over the term of its charter.
- A realistic plan for securing a facility that is appropriate and adequate for the school’s program and targeted population.
- Evidence that the school understands the costs of securing and improving a facility and has access to the necessary resources to fund the facility plan.
- A sound plan for continued operation, maintenance and repair of the facility.

For schools that will be using district-owned facilities, a response that meets the standard will present:

- Documentation that the school district and school are in agreement over the use of the facility and its equipment.

For schools that will NOT be using district-owned facilities, a response that meets the standard will present:

- Documentation that the property owner and school are in agreement over the use of the facility and its equipment;
- A statement of the facilities’ compliance with applicable codes; and
- A detailed outline of any relationships between the property owner and:
 - members of the local board of the public school district where the charter school will be located;
 - the employees of the public school district where the charter school will be located;
 - the sponsor of the charter school; and
 - employees, directors and/or administrators of the charter school.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>Provide a signed Facilities Utilization Agreement.</p> <p>Please clarify the discrepancy between the square footage mentioned in the narrative and the agreement.</p>	Page 58
Facilities Review Report	

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide a signed Facilities Utilization Agreement. Pg. 58

Response

Please see attached, signed Facilities Utilization Agreement.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Please clarify the discrepancy between the square footage mentioned in the narrative and the agreement.

Response

The attached Facilities Utilization Agreement matches the square footage mentioned in the narrative.

STANDARD 17 OF APPLICATION: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Conflicts of Interest section should identify any potential conflicts of interest among the individuals involved with the proposed charter school and detail how conflicts will be addressed.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present full disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest and detail how conflicts will be addressed.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

STANDARD 18 OF APPLICATION: STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services section should describe how the school will address services for its student body.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present, unless a waiver is being sought:

- A guidance program that will serve all students;
- A health services program that will serve all students;
- A plan for a media center for use by all students;
- A transportation plan that will serve all eligible students;
- Sound plans for educating special education students that reflect the full range of programs and services required to provide such students with a high quality education;
- An alternative education plan for eligible students, including those determined to be at-risk, or those that are bilingual or have limited English proficiency;
- Plans for offering access to one or more approved Alternative Learning Environments; and
- Plans for a gifted and talented program for eligible students.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>The Applicant should clarify whether it intends to offer students an Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) as required by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5), 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i), and 6-48-101 et seq.; Standard 19.03 of the Standards for Accreditation; and Section 4.00 of ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding.</p> <p>Clarify that all state and federal special education requirements will be met.</p> <p>Explain the statement, “For both Economically Disadvantaged and Limited English Proficient students the learning gap is being closed.”</p>	<p>Page 42</p>

Concerns and Additional Questions

The Applicant should clarify whether it intends to offer students an Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) as required by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5), 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i), and 6-48-101 et seq.; Standard 19.03 of the Standards for Accreditation; and Section 4.00 of ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding.

Response

ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application under this Standard to request a waiver of the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5), 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i), and 6-48-101 et seq.; Standard 19.03 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas School Districts and Public School Districts; and Section 4.00 of the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding (all concerning the provision of Alternative Learning Environments).

As currently stated in our application, ResponsiveEd's individualized approach to student education is made possible by a small-school environment; our innovative, non-typical approaches to the instruction of this population, which leads these students to become lifelong learners allows us to provide an inclusive, focused and quality education environment for all students within our usual educational program, thus obviating the need to provide a separate non- inclusive learning environment.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Clarify that all state and federal special education requirements will be met. Pg. 42

Response

All Arkansas Special Education state requirements, as referenced on page 42, will be followed.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Explain the statement, -For both Economically Disadvantaged and Limited English Proficient students the learning gap is being closed.¶

Response

The unique instructional program design of the Premier High will address the learning needs of both At-Risk and Limited English Proficient students as evidenced by narrowing of the learning gap over the duration of the school year. All federal special education requirements will be met.

STANDARD 19 OF APPLICATION: FOOD SERVICES

This section should describe how the school will address food services for its student body.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A food service plan that will serve all eligible students.
- A management plan that reflects a clear understanding of federal law and requirements if the proposed charter school intends to participate in the National School Lunch program.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
	X	

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
<p>Clarify the method of procurement as to assure open and free competition.</p> <p>Clarify that USDA meal patterns will be followed.</p> <p>Address the concern of Child Nutrition staff regarding the ratio of potential students to staff.</p> <p>Clarify the anticipated % of Free and Reduced Meal students.</p>	

Concerns and Additional Questions

Clarify the method of procurement as to assure open and free competition.

Response

Premier High School assures that in any agreement that requires bidding, either by state or federal law, Premier High School will use open and free competition. Premier High School will contract with a food service vendor to provide child nutrition services for the charter. In selecting that vendor, there will be a request for proposal process. A vendor will be selected from the eligible proposals received by the charter.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Clarify that USDA meal patterns will be followed.

Response

Premier High School will utilize a food service contracted vendor to provide nutritious meals for all charter school students. Premier will fully comply with all state and federal regulations regarding meal patterns and meal services. With regard to the contract for vendor services for food services, Premier shall comply with all applicable state and federal regulations.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Address the concern of Child Nutrition staff regarding the ratio of potential students to staff.

Response

Premier will comply with the recommended staff to pupil ratio for child nutrition programs (1 staff member to serve 100 students).

Concerns and Additional Questions

Clarify the anticipated % of Free and Reduced Meal students.

Response

The anticipated free and reduced percentage is based on the local district poverty rate of 71%.

STANDARD 20 OF APPLICATION: PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The Parental Involvement section should describe how parents or guardians of enrolled students will make a positive impact on the school and its educational program.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A plan for involving parents and guardians in the school's education programs; and
- A proposal that involves the parents of students, employees and the broader community in carrying out the terms of the charter.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Strengths	Reference
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference
Explain the function of the Community Advisory Committee.	

Response

The Community Advisory Committee's primary function is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools, in support of students. This may include recruiting and coordinating volunteering, providing special recognition in awards ceremonies or through other activities, organizing parent education events, and other activities that help foster a positive relationship between the school and the community.

The Community Action Committee will be involved in the campus level planning and decision making process that will involve the staff, parents, and community members in reviewing plans, goals, and objectives for the school. As part of this team, the Community Action Committee will have a voice in making recommendations to the board.

STANDARD 21 OF APPLICATION: WAIVERS

The Waivers section should describe any waiver from local or state law which the charter is seeking.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- A rationale for each and every waiver request; and
- A justification of how the waiver requests relate to the school’s educational program.

Does Not Meet the Standard	Partially Meets the Standard	Meets the Standard
		X

Legal Comments

1. Requested waivers:

- a. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106 (“Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year”). This waiver is not necessary to accommodate the Applicant’s planned adherence to the Little Rock School District school calendar. The Applicant should clarify why waiver is necessary.**
- b. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-902(a) (“Grading scale – Exemptions – Special education classes”): The past practice of the State Board has been to grant this waiver only as to non-core (i.e., elective) courses when the request is made in a new charter school application. The State Board has in the past granted waiver as to core courses only after a charter school has established itself and demonstrated a substantial need for the waiver. In addition, waiver may be granted only to the extent that the proposed grading scale is more rigorous than the scale provided by statute. Finally, to effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of ADE Rules Governing Uniform Grading Scales.**
- c. Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1004 (“Qualified teachers in every public school classroom”), 6-17-309 (“Certification to teach grade or subject matter – Exceptions – Waiver”), 6-17-401 et seq. (“Teacher license requirement”), 6-17-902 (“Definitions”), & 6-17-919 (“Warrants void without valid certificate and contract”):**
 - i. To effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of Standard 15.03 of the Standards for Accreditation, ADE Rules Governing Waivers for Substitute Teachers, and ADE Rules Governing Parental Notification of an Assignment of a Non-Licensed Teacher. If no waiver is sought of these rules, the applicant’s teachers may be required to be licensed.**
 - ii. The ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing Assessment and Accountability Program,**

Sections 5.02.4 and 5.03.2, requires that standardized assessments be administered according to procedures established by the ADE. The ADE's procedures require that certified teachers administer the standardized assessments. Violations of such procedures are subject to sanctions by the State Board pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-438.

iii. All teachers and school personnel must submit to the criminal background and central registry checks required by law.

iv. Waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-401 et seq. shall not be construed as a waiver of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators.

d. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102 ("School day"), and Standards 10.01.4 and 14.03 of the Standards for Accreditation: To effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-211 and ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine Through Twelve.

2. Waivers not requested:

a. If the applicant does not both offer and teach each year the 38 units required by Section 9.03.4 of the ADE Standards for Accreditation, a waiver will be necessary.

b. The Applicant should evaluate whether the blended nature of its delivery system may require waiver of Standard 10.02 (regarding class size ratios and teaching loads). The Applicant did request waiver of Standard 14.03 (regarding seat-time hours required for a unit of credit).

Concerns and Additional Questions

Concerns and Additional Questions

1. Requested waivers:

a. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106 (-Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year)).

This waiver is not necessary to accommodate the Applicant's planned adherence to the Little Rock School District school calendar. The Applicant should clarify why waiver is necessary.

b. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-902(a) (-Grading scale – Exemptions – Special education classes)): The past practice of the State Board has been to grant this waiver only as to non-core (i.e., elective) courses when the request is made in a new charter school application. The State Board has in the past granted waiver as to core courses only after a charter school has established itself and demonstrated a substantial need for the waiver. In addition, waiver may be granted only to the extent that the proposed grading scale is more rigorous than the scale provided by statute. Finally, to effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of ADE Rules Governing Uniform Grading Scales.

c. Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1004 (-Qualified teachers in every public school classroom)), 6-17-309 (-Certification to teach grade or subject matter – Exceptions – Waiver)), 6-17-401 *et seq.* (-Teacher license requirement)), 6-17-902 (-Definitions)), & 6-17-919 (-Warrants void without valid certificate and contract)):

- i. To effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of Standard 15.03 of the Standards for Accreditation, ADE Rules Governing Waivers for Substitute Teachers, and ADE Rules Governing Parental Notification of an Assignment of a Non-Licensed Teacher. If no waiver is sought of these rules, the applicant's teachers may be required to be licensed.**
- ii. The ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing Assessment and Accountability Program, Sections 5.02.4 and 5.03.2, requires that standardized assessments be administered according to procedures established by the ADE. The ADE's procedures require that certified teachers administer the standardized assessments. Violations of such procedures are subject to sanctions by the State Board pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-438.**
- iii. All teachers and school personnel must submit to the criminal background and central registry checks required by law.**
- iv. Waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-401 *et seq.* shall not be construed as a waiver of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators.**

- d. **Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102 (-School day||), and Standards 10.01.4 and 14.03 of the Standards for Accreditation: To effectuate this waiver, the Applicant must also request waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-211 and ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine Through Twelve.**

2. Waivers not requested:

- a. **If the applicant does not both offer and teach each year the 38 units required by Section 9.03.4 of the ADE Standards for Accreditation, a waiver will be necessary.**
- b. **The Applicant should evaluate whether the blended nature of its delivery system may require waiver of Standard 10.02 (regarding class size ratios and teaching loads). The Applicant did request waiver of Standard 14.03 (regarding seat-time hours required for a unit of credit).**

Response

Premier High School would like to add the following clarifying points to the current application:

- a. **Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106 (School Year Dates) – ResponsiveEd wishes to maintain this waiver request so that it will have maximum flexibility in accommodating its educational program in future years, when it may not always choose to follow the Little Rock School District calendar.**
- b. **Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-902(a) (Grading Scale) – It is this applicant's understanding that this waiver request is routinely requested by applicants in their initial charter applications, and that it is routinely granted by the State Board of Education.**

The application would especially like to point out that its proposed grading scale is more rigorous than the scale found in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-902. Specifically, there is no -D|| grade in the proposed scale and the grade -F|| will be assigned for grades below 70 (the normal -D|| range is 60-69%). To fully effectuate this waiver, additionally, the applicant requests a waiver of the ADE Rules Governing Uniform Grading Scales.

- c. **Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1004 (Qualified Teachers in Every Public School Classroom), &-17-309 (Certification to Teach Grade or Subject Matter – Exception – Waiver), 6-17-401 *et seq.*, (Teacher Licensure Requirement), 6-17-902 (Definitions), and 6-17-919 (Warrants Void Without Valid Certificate and Contract):**

ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify and fully effectuate its waiver request in this area and waive: (1) Section 15.03 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation; (2) the ADE Rules Governing Waivers of Substitute Teachers; and (3) the ADE Rules Governing Parental Notification of an Assignment of a Non- Licensed Teacher.

- d. **Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102 (School Day Hours), and Sections 10.01.4 and 14.03 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation:**

In clarification of its original waiver request, and to fully effectuate this waiver, ResponsiveEd wishes to request a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-211 and the ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine Through Twelve. To clarify and support the comments made in this response concerning Standard 6 of its application, ResponsiveEd also wishes to request a waiver from the provisions of Sections 9.03.4 and 14.01 (Standard IX: Graduation Requirements) so as not to be required to offer the full thirty-eight (38) units of course offerings to each student.

While ResponsiveEd does not wish to seek (and knows that it cannot seek) a waiver of the high school graduation requirements, it does wish to seek a waiver of the provisions of Section 14.0 of the Standards Rules which would require it to offer the full thirty-eight (38) units of course offerings to each .

Given Premier High school's focus on dropout recovery students, this may entail the flexibility to tailor our curriculum to each student's needs, and course offerings of less than the full 38 units for each student and less than 120 clock hours of -seat time|| for each credit unit awarded. It is the intent of Premier High school to assess every student who enters the school to determine how many credits they will need to earn the 22 credit units required for graduation, and then compose an individualized education plan for each student to acquire those credits. Premier High school would offer any of the remaining 16 credit units within the 38 upon request to its students, either through its own staff, distance learning or through agreements with other public school as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-801 *et seq.*

- e. ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application in response to the ADE's evaluation comments by requesting waivers of the following portions of the Standards Rules and Arkansas statutes:**

In order to give us the opportunity to attract the best school superintendent to work in our unique school environments, we wish to request this waiver from the licensure requirement for our superintendent position.

**Section 15.01 of the Standards Rules and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-109 (both concerning the licensure of school superintendents);
and**

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-427 and ADE Rules Governing the Superintendent Mentoring Program (concerning required mentoring of first-year superintendents).

- f. As Premier will contract with ResponsiveEd of Texas to provide the services of Business Manager, ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application under this Standard by requesting a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2302 and the ADE Rules Governing Minimum Qualifications for General Business Managers.**

- g. ResponsiveEd wishes to clarify its application under this Standard to request a waiver of the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5), 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i), and 6-48-101 *et seq.*; Standard 19.03 of the ADE Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas School Districts and Public School Districts; and Section 4.00 of the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding (all concerning the provision of Alternative Learning Environments).**

STANDARD 22 OF APPLICATION: DESEGREGATION ASSURANCES

The Desegregation Assurances section should describe the applicant's understanding of applicable statutory and regulatory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.

Evaluation Criteria:

A response that meets the standard will present:

- Assurance that the charter school will comply with all applicable federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements regarding the creation and maintenance of desegregated public schools; and
- An outline of the potential impact of the proposed charter school on those desegregation efforts already in place in affected public school districts.

Legal Comments	Reference
Applicant responded within the context of this standard. A complete desegregation analysis will be presented to the State Board of Education.	
Concerns and Additional Questions	Reference

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Attachments:

Additional and/or clarifying information is needed as follows:

Include the superintendent, the chief financial officer, the chief operating officer, and the regional director on the proposed salary schedule.

Provide a signed Statement of Assurances Form.

Concerns and Additional Questions

Include the superintendent, the chief financial officer, the chief operating officer, and the regional director on the proposed salary schedule.

Response

Please see revised, proposed salary schedule (ranges).

Concerns and Additional Questions

Provide a signed Statement of Assurances Form.

Response

Please see attached, signed Statement of Assurances form.

BY-LAWS OF
RESPONSIVE EDUCATION SOLUTIONS OF ARKANSAS

THE FOLLOWING BY-LAWS WERE ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RESPONSIVE EDUCATION SOLUTIONS OF ARKANSAS AT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 30, 2011.

ARTICLE I
OFFICE(S) OF THE CORPORATION

1.01. NAME. The name of the Corporation is: Responsive Education Solutions of Arkansas.

1.02. PRINCIPAL OFFICE. The principal office shall be _____.

1.03. OTHER OFFICES. The Corporation may have offices at such other places as the Board of Directors may determine or as the needs of the Corporation may require from time to time.

1.04. OBJECTIVES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY. The objective of the Corporation is educational, namely to operate a charter school or charter schools in the State of Arkansas. The charter school(s) operated by the Corporation will admit students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school(s). The school(s) do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin in administration of its (their) educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERS

2.01. CLASS OF MEMBERS. The Corporation shall have no members. The Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors as provided in Article III.

ARTICLE III
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3.01. GENERAL POWERS; DUTIES. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the duty to see that the purposes of the Corporation, as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Mission Statement of the Corporation, as amended from time to time, are furthered and accomplished, to the best of its ability.

3.02. QUALIFICATIONS, NUMBER AND ELECTION. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of individuals with an interest in promoting the Corporation's objectives. The number of

Directors shall not be less than five (5) and shall otherwise be the number determined by the Board from time to time. Subject to Article 3.08 hereof, Directors shall be elected at an annual meeting of the directors to be held in _____ of each year to fill those vacancies on the Board of Directors created by the expiration of terms of former Directors. Only Directors may vote.

3.03. VACANCIES. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors for a reason other than expiration of term may be filled by the remaining Directors. A Director selected to fill a vacancy shall be selected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office. Any position to be filled by reason of an increase in the number of Directors shall be filled by selection at an annual meeting or at a special meeting of the Board of Directors.

3.04. PLACE OF MEETING. Meeting of the Board of Directors, regular or special, may be held either within or without the State of Arkansas.

3.05. MEETINGS. The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors shall be held as soon as practical after the Articles of Incorporation are filed. If the first Annual Meeting of the Directors is not held at that time, then the first meeting of the newly elected Directors shall be held at such time and place as shall be specified in a notice given as herein provided for special meetings of the Board of Directors. The Board may schedule regular meetings as determined by the Board of Directors. Notices shall be sent electronically or by U.S. mail at least ten (10) days prior to each such regular meeting.

3.06. NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by any member of the Board of Directors. Written, facsimile, e-mail, personal or telephone notice of special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given to each Director at least one day before the meeting. Attendance of a Director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting. Neither the business to be transacted at nor the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

3.07. QUORUM AND MAJORITY. A majority of the number of Directors in place shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The act of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless otherwise provided by law. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, the Directors may adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice except by an announcement at the meeting, until a quorum shall be present. If unable to attend, a Board member may vote electronically or via telephone or video conferencing if approved by a majority of members present at a meeting at which a quorum exists.

3.08. TERM OF DIRECTORS. Directors' terms shall be for three (3) years, with said terms staggered so that each year one-third (1/3) of the Director positions are up for election. All Directors elected to the initial Board of Directors shall serve until the annual meeting to be held in _____, 2012. At the annual meeting in _____, 2012, the Directors, to be selected first by volunteer, then by random drawing (if necessary), shall be assigned terms of one (1), two (2) and three (3) years. At the annual meeting to be held in _____, 2013, and at every annual meeting thereafter, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancies on the Board of

Directors, whether caused by expiration, vacancy, resignation, or otherwise, with members of the Board of Directors being elected to three (3) year terms.

3.09 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, a Chairman of the Board may be elected, who, upon election, will have the duty to chair and preside over all meetings of the Board of Directors, in addition to any other duties voted upon by the Board of Directors from time to time, or as otherwise provided within the By-laws of the Corporation, as may be modified from time to time, by resolution or restatement.

3.10 REMOVAL. Any Officer or Director may be removed of his/her responsibilities and/or excluded from participation in activities of the Corporation for any of the following reasons:

- a. A Director missing three consecutive Board meetings or the majority of Board meetings held within any twelve-month period;
- b. An Officer failing to carry out the duties specified for the Office within the bylaws;
- c. The commission of a felony or misdemeanor; or
- d. Any other action not otherwise specifically defined within these bylaws but which the Board determines is detrimental and/or harmful to the well being of and/or reputation of the Corporation.

The power to remove or exclude any person from the Corporation and/or its activities for any reason set forth in these bylaws shall lie exclusively with the Board. Decisions for removal or exclusion shall be made upon a majority vote of the Board members other than the person in issue.

3.11 COMPENSATION. Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services; but by resolution of the Board, any director may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in attending any regular or special meeting of the Board, and may be indemnified for expenses incurred by a director in connection with any claim asserted against a director, by action in court or otherwise, by reason of the director having been a director, except in relation to matters as to which he shall have been guilty of negligence or misconduct in respect of the matter of which indemnity is sought.

3.12 OTHER. The Board may form Committees as needed utilizing the expertise of other Board Members or officers and, if necessary and approved by a majority of the Board, outside volunteer or contracted personnel provided that at least one Board member is the Chairperson of any such committee.

ARTICLE IV WAIVER OF NOTICE

4.01. WAIVER. Whenever any notice is required to be given to any Director of the Corporation as provided by law or by these By-Laws, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person

or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

5.01. ENUMERATION. The officers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as the Board of Directors shall, in its discretion, deem necessary. Each of the officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting, following the nomination of candidates by an Officer Nominating Committee to be selected by the Chairman of the Board. Two or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of President and Secretary may not be held by the same person. If the appointment of officers is not made at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, appointment shall be made as soon after the next regularly-scheduled Annual Meeting as is conveniently possible. New offices may be created and filled at any meeting, annual or special, of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may elect or appoint a Superintendent and such other administrators as it shall deem desirable, such administrators to have the authority and perform the duties prescribed, from time to time, by the Board of Directors.

5.02. TERM. Officers shall hold offices for the times and periods and solely at the desire of the Board of Directors. Such officers shall have the authority and exercise the powers and perform the duties as prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors and prescribed by the By-laws.

5.03. REMOVAL. The officers shall hold office until the Board of Directors advises the officers that they have been removed by the Board of Directors, which can occur at any time, with or without cause. Any vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

5.04. PRESIDENT- DUTIES. The President shall:

(a) Be the chief executive officer of the Corporation, have general and active management of the business of the Corporation and see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect.

(b) Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, unless the Board of Directors shall have elected a Chairman of the Board.

(c) Have the authority to sign, with the Secretary of the Corporation and when so authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which he has been authorized by the Board of Directors to execute on behalf of the Corporation except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of the Corporation.

5.05. VICE PRESIDENT DUTIES. At the request of the President or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President.

5.06. TREASURER - DUTIES. If expressly required by resolution of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors may require. He shall:

(a) Have custody and be responsible for all funds of the Corporation; receive and give receipts for moneys due and payable to the Corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such monies in the name of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected by the Board of Directors;

(b) In general, perform all of the duties incident to the office of treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, or the President; and

(c) Comply with all requirements for recordkeeping and accounting which are set forth by the auditors of the Corporation. A copy of these requirements, as amended from time to time, will be attached to these By-laws.

5.07. SECRETARY-DUTIES. The Secretary shall:

(a) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors;

(b) Record the minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings in one or more books provided for that purpose;

(c) See that all notices are given in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws or as required by law;

(d) Be custodian of the Corporation records; and

(e) In general, perform all duties incidental to the office of secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Chairman or by the Board of Directors.

5.08. ASSISTANT SECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT TREASURERS • DUTIES. Assistant Treasurers shall, if required by the Board of Directors, give bond for the faithful discharge of their duties in such sums and with such sureties as the Board of Directors shall require. The Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers, in general, shall perform duties as shall be assigned to them by the Secretary or the Treasurer, respectively, or by the President, the Board of Directors, or the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI
CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS

6.01. CONTRACTS. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officer, agent or agents of the Corporation, in addition to officers so authorized by these By-laws to enter into any contract or to execute and to deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation and such authority may be general or be confined to specific business.

6.02. CHECKS AND DRAFTS. All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Corporation may be signed by such officer, employee or employer, or agent or agents of the Corporation, as specified by the Board of Directors, and except further that in all events any such instrument or obligation of the Corporation in excess of \$1000.00 shall be signed by two officers of the Corporation.

6.03. DEPOSITS. All funds of the Corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select

6.04. GIFTS. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift or bequest or devise for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VII
MISCELLANEOUS

7.01. BOOKS AND RECORDS. The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors, annual and special.

7.02. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors. If no resolution is entered, then the fiscal year of the Corporation shall be on a calendar year basis.

ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS

8.01. BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The power to alter, amend or repeal these By-laws or to adopt new By-laws is invested in the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX
SECTION HEADINGS; MISCELLANEOUS

9.01. The section headings are for convenience and are not a part of these By-laws. Any conflict between these section headings and any part of these By-laws shall be resolved in favor of the By-laws.

9.02. The use of "his" or "bet, shall have no specific meaning, and is included herein merely for convenience. "His" can also apply to a female, and vice-versa, in that is the intention and purpose of the Corporation to be gender neutral.

ARTICLE X
LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION

10.01 LIABILITY. No Director, Officer, Employee, or Agent of the Corporation shall be liable to any third party for any loss or damage suffered by any third party on account of any action taken or omitted to be taken by him as a Director, Officer, Employee, and/or Agent, if such person (a) exercised and used the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would have exercised and used under the circumstances and in the conduct of his own affairs, or (b) took or omitted to take such action in reliance upon advice of counsel for the Corporation or upon statements made or confirmation furnished by officers or employees of the Corporation which the person(s) had reasonable grounds to believe. The foregoing shall not be exclusive of other rights and defenses to which any Director, Officer, Employee, or Agent of the Corporation may be entitled by law. The Corporation intends to and pursuant to these By-laws does provide indemnification to the officers and directors of the Corporation to the maximum extent possible under the Arkansas Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1993 (Ark. Code Ann. §§ 4-33-100 et .)

10.02 INDEMNIFICATION. Each officer and director, whether or not then in office, shall be held harmless and indemnified by the Corporation against all claims and liabilities and all expenses reasonably incurred or imposed upon him in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding, civil or criminal, or the settlement or compromise thereof, to which he may be made party by reason of any action taken or omitted to be taken by him as a director of the Corporation, in good faith, if such person, in the opinion of a court or the Board of Directors a) exercised and used the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would have exercised and used under the circumstances and in the conduct of his own affairs, or (b) took or omitted to take such action in reliance upon advice of counsel for the Corporation or upon statements made or confirmation furnished by officers or employees of the Corporation which he had reasonable grounds to believe.

CERTIFICATION

I, _____ Secretary of Responsive Education Solutions of Arkansas, hereby certify that the foregoing instrument is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the Corporation adopted August 30, 2011.

Secretary

ATTACHMENT – JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Job Title: Chief Operations Officer (COO)
Wage/Hour Status: Exempt
Reports to: Superintendent/CEO
Dept. /School: Corporate Office

Position Summary:

Responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the district according to established plans, standard operating procedures, and legal and regulatory requirements. Member of the Superintendent's/CEO Management Team with a central role in developing, implementing, and monitoring of operating plans, budgets, goals, objectives and strategic initiatives.

Preferred Qualifications:

Four year degree.

Major or minor in Business Administration or related field

A minimum of three years experience working in a business related field

Required Knowledge, skills, and abilities:

Excellent leadership skills

Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Ability to manage multiple priorities effectively

Knowledge of school facility construction programs, codes, rules and regulations, requirements, and restrictions

Ability to organize maintenance program

Duties and Responsibilities:

Oversees and evaluates administration of assigned departments for the purpose of ensuring effective delivery of services to the schools

Administers and interprets statutes, regulations and policies concerned with the responsibilities of facilities, operations and maintenance

Responsible for cost effectiveness of the district's Facilities and Maintenance Department

Assists the Superintendent/CEO in long-range facilities, operations planning, and policy development on district matters related to projected needs

Prepares accurate and timely financial reports of facilities projects

Coordinates the analysis of sites, the lease of properties, the acquisition of property and the development of designs and plans for the purpose of carrying out the district's facilities plan.

Plans, organizes, and directs district maintenance services

Develops and organizes long-range, on-going, and preventive maintenance plans

Develops and prepares applicable budgets; analyzes and reviews budgetary and financial data with Superintendent/CEO; monitors and authorizes expenditures in accordance with established guidelines
Prepares reports for the Board of Trustees

Working Conditions:

Maintains emotional control under stress
Prolonged and irregular hours
Frequent travel

Salary: Based upon qualifications and experience.

The job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the position and is not an exhaustive list of skills, efforts, duties, responsibilities or working conditions associated with it.

Job Title:	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
Wage/Hour Status:	Exempt
Reports to:	Superintendent/CEO
Dept./School:	Finance Department

Position Summary:

Responsible for the administration of the overall financial and fiscal management of the district. Member of the Superintendent's Management Team with a central role in the coordination of administrative, business planning, accounting and budgeting efforts of the District.

Preferred Qualifications:

Four-year degree, Masters in Business Administration preferred
A minimum of three years experience working in a business related field

Required Knowledge, skills, and abilities:

Excellent leadership skills
Excellent written and verbal communication skills
Ability to manage multiple priorities effectively
Possess ability to implement business systems
Knowledge in the Texas Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS)

Duties and Responsibilities:

Responsible for budget development, administration and long range financial planning for the District
Assists the Superintendent/CEO to analyze financial and educational issues and develop solutions to improve daily operations
Advises the Superintendent/CEO on all fiscal matters
Identifies all revenue sources (Federal and State) to ensure the district will receive all available revenues
Supervises and monitors the accounting, payroll, expenditure, and internal audits systems for all funds
Oversees the PEIMS reporting process
Prepares financial reports as required by State and Federal guidelines
Prepares reports for Board of Trustees
Provides leadership and support to all business support activities including the Business Office, Maintenance, Operations and Facilities

Working Conditions:

Maintains emotional control under stress
Prolonged and irregular hours
Occasional travel

Salary: Based upon qualifications and experience.

The job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the position and is not an exhaustive list of skills, efforts, duties, responsibilities or working conditions associated with it.

Job Title:	District Superintendent/CEO
Wage/Hour Status:	Exempt
Reports to:	Board of Trustees
Dept. /School:	Human Resources

Position Summary:

The Superintendent/CEO shall be the chief administrative officer for Responsive Education Solutions. He is responsible for the effective operation of the District; for the general administration of all instructional, business or other operations of the District; and for advising and making recommendations to the Board of Education with respect to such activities. He will ensure compliance of all regulations established by the State Board of Education. He will promote the District in a positive manner throughout the community.

Preferred Qualifications:

Four-year degree, Masters preferred

A minimum of five years experience working in an education field

Required Knowledge, skills, and abilities:

- Excellent leadership skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to manage multiple priorities effectively
- Possess knowledge of curriculum development and instructional techniques, and have the ability to implement program accountability
- Is knowledgeable of special programs and their compliance issues
- Is knowledgeable of school finance at all levels
- Has experience in short and long range planning
- Is sensitive and responsive to the educational needs and concerns of diverse ethnic and socioeconomic groups

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Acts as the agent of the Board of Trustees
- Establishes and prepares meeting agendas, presents items for consideration to the Board, responds to inquiry from the Board
- Manages a staff of administrators including Chief Officers, Regional Directors, Directors, and Campus Directors
- Provides goal setting to staff
- Recommends hiring to Board and evaluates performance
- Responds to staff and community regarding questions or problems about school operations
- Recommends policy and program decisions to the Board
- Attends all board meetings
- Oversees the preparation of the annual budget
- Ensures compliance with appropriate State and Federal Statutory Rules and Regulations
- Complete special assignments as specified by the Board of Trustees

Working Conditions:

- Maintains emotional control under stress
- Prolonged and irregular hours
- Extensive travel

Salary: Based upon qualifications and experience.

The job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the position and is not an exhaustive list of skills, efforts, duties, responsibilities or working conditions associated with it.

ATTACHMENT – REVISED BUDGETS

Public Charter School Application Estimated Budget Worksheet, Year One (2013-2014)

<u>Line#</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	State Public Charter School Aid:		
2	No. of Students (240) x \$6,267.00 State Foundation Funding		
3			<u>\$1,504,080</u>
4	No. of Students (240) x \$42.38 Professional Development		<u>10,171</u>
5	No. of Students (171) x \$1,033 eligible rate NSLA Funding		<u>176,023</u>
6	Total State Charter School Aid		<u>\$1,690,274</u>
7			
8	Other Sources of Revenues:		
9	Private Donations or Gifts	<u> </u>	
10	Federal Grants (List the amount)	<u> </u>	
11	Special Grants (List the amount)	<u> </u>	
12	Other (<i>Specifically Describe</i>)	<u> </u>	
13			
14	Total Other Sources of Revenues		
15			
16	TOTAL REVENUES		\$1,690,274
17			
18	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
19	Administration:		
20	Salaries: (<i>No. of Positions 3.5</i>)	<u>130,617</u>	
21	Fringe Benefits	<u>34,695</u>	
22	Purchased Services	<u>230,612</u>	
23	Supplies and Materials	<u>5,800</u>	
24	Equipment	<u>6,210</u>	
25	Other (<i>Describe</i>)	<u>10,550</u>	<u>\$418,484</u>
26			
27	Regular Classroom Instruction:		
28	Salaries: (<i>No. of Positions 11</i>)	<u>418,646</u>	
29	Fringe Benefits	<u>111,281</u>	
30	Purchased Services	<u>2,000</u>	
31	Supplies and Materials	<u>40,900</u>	
32	Equipment		
33	Other (<i>Describe</i>)	<u>4,840</u>	<u>\$577,667</u>

*NSLA Funding eligibility rate: the amount of funding is based on the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals. Below seventy percent (70%): \$517.00 per student; between seventy and ninety percent (70-90%): \$1,033.00 per student; and ninety percent and above (90%): \$1,549.00 per student. Please note that a charter school that does not participate in the National School Lunch program is **not** eligible to receive NSLA funding.

(Budget Continued)

34			
35	Special Education:		
36	Salaries: (No. of Positions 2)	<u>74,777</u>	
37	Fringe Benefits	<u>19,877</u>	
38	Purchased Services		
39	Supplies and Materials		
40	Equipment		
41	Other (Describe)		<u>\$94,654</u>
42			
43	Gifted and Talented Program:		
44	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
45	Fringe Benefits		
46	Purchased Services		
47	Supplies and Materials		
48	Equipment		
49	Other (Describe)		<u>\$0.00</u>
50			
	Alternative Education Program/ Alternative Learning Environments:		
51	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
52	Fringe Benefits		
53	Purchased Services		
54	Supplies and Materials		
55	Equipment		
56	Other (Describe)		<u>\$0.00</u>
57			
58			
59	Guidance Services:		
60	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
61	Fringe Benefits		
62	Purchased Services	<u>1,000</u>	
63	Supplies and Materials		
64	Equipment		
65	Other (Describe)		<u>\$1,000</u>
66			
67	Health Services:		
68	Salaries: (No. of Positions 0.5)	<u>20,617</u>	
69	Fringe Benefits	<u>5,480</u>	
70	Purchased Services	<u>4,800</u>	
71	Supplies and Materials		
72	Equipment		
73	Other (Describe)		<u>\$30,897</u>

(Budget Continued)

74			
75	Media Services:		
76	Salaries: (No. of Positions 0.5)	<u>20,617</u>	
77	Fringe Benefits	<u>5,480</u>	
78	Purchased Services		
79	Supplies and Materials		
80	Equipment		
81	Other (Describe)		<u>\$26,097</u>
82			
83	Fiscal Services:		
84	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
85	Fringe Benefits		
86	Purchased Services	<u>5,000</u>	
87	Supplies and Materials	<u>5,000</u>	
88	Equipment	<u>5,000</u>	
89	Other (Describe)		<u>\$15,000</u>
90			
91	Maintenance and Operation:		
92	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
93	Fringe Benefits		
94	Purchased Services		
95	(include utilities)	<u>40,800</u>	
96	Supplies and Materials	<u>6,500</u>	
97	Equipment		
98	Other (Describe)		<u>\$47,300</u>
99			
100	Pupil Transportation:		
101	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
102	Fringe Benefits		
103	Purchased Services	<u>6,000</u>	
104	Supplies and Materials		
105	Equipment		
106	Other (Describe)		<u>\$6,000</u>
107			
108	Food Services:		
109	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
110	Fringe Benefits		
111	Purchased Services	<u>25,200</u>	
112	Supplies and Materials		
113	Equipment		
114	Other (Describe)		<u>\$25,200</u>

115					
					(Budget Continued)
116	Data Processing:				
117	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)				
118	Fringe Benefits				
119	Purchased Services		<u>4,800</u>		
120	Supplies and Materials				
121	Equipment		<u>10,000</u>		
122	Other (Describe)				<u>\$14,800</u>
123					
124	Substitute Personnel:				
125	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)				
126	Fringe Benefits				<u>\$0.00</u>
127					
128	Facilities:				
129	Lease/Purchase (contract for one total year including facility upgrades)		<u>198,000</u>		
130	Restroom renovation, lighting, walls, flooring, interior		<u>200,000</u>		
131					
132	Utilities (contract for one total year including facility upgrades)		<u>28,800</u>		
133	Insurance (contract for one total year including facility upgrades):				
134	Property Insurance		<u>4,000</u>		
135	Content Insurance				<u>\$430,800</u>
136					
137	Debt Expenditures:				<u>\$0.00</u>
138	Other Expenditures:				
139	(Security)				<u>\$2,000</u>
140					
141	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				<u><u>\$1,689,899</u></u>

Public Charter School Application
Estimated Budget Worksheet, Year Two (2014-2015)

<u>Line#</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	State Public Charter School Aid:		
2	No. of Students (240) x \$6,267.00 State Foundation Funding		
3			1,504,080
4	No. of Students (240) x \$42.38 Professional Development		10,171
			176,023
5	No. of Students (171) x \$1,033 eligible rate NSLA Funding		
6	Total State Charter School Aid		\$1,690,274
7			
8	Other Sources of Revenues:		
9	Private Donations or Gifts		
10	Federal Grants (List the amount)		
11	Special Grants (List the amount)		
12	Other (<i>Specifically Describe</i>)		
13			
14	Total Other Sources of Revenues		
15			
16	TOTAL REVENUES		\$1,690,274

<u>Line#</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
19	Administration:		
20	Salaries: (<i>No. of Positions 3.5</i>)	130,617	
21	Fringe Benefits	34,719	
22	Purchased Services	230,612	
23	Supplies and Materials	5,800	
24	Equipment	6,210	
25	Other (<i>Describe</i>)	8,050	\$416,008
26			
27	Regular Classroom Instruction:		
28	Salaries: (<i>No. of Positions 11</i>)	416,646	
29	Fringe Benefits	111,281	
30	Purchased Services	2,000	
31	Supplies and Materials	40,900	
32	Equipment		
33	Other (<i>Describe</i>)	4,840	\$575,667

NSLA Funding eligibility rate: the amount of funding is based on the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals. Below seventy percent (70%): \$517.00 per student; between seventy and ninety percent (70-90%): \$1,033.00 per student; and ninety percent and above (90%): \$1,549.00 per student. Please note that a charter school that does not participate in the National School Lunch program is **not eligible to receive NSLA funding.*

(Budget Continued)

34			
35	Special Education:		
36	Salaries: (No. of Positions 2)	<u>74,777</u>	
37	Fringe Benefits	<u>19,876</u>	
38	Purchased Services		
39	Supplies and Materials		
40	Equipment		
41	Other (Describe)		<u>\$94,653</u>
42			
43	Gifted and Talented Program:		
44	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
45	Fringe Benefits		
46	Purchased Services		
47	Supplies and Materials		
48	Equipment		
49	Other (Describe)		<u>\$0.00</u>
50			
	Alternative Education Program/ Alternative Learning Environments:		
51	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
52	Fringe Benefits		
53	Purchased Services		
54	Supplies and Materials		
55	Equipment		
56	Other (Describe)		<u>\$0.00</u>
57			
58			
59	Guidance Services:		
60	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
61	Fringe Benefits		
62	Purchased Services	<u>\$1,000</u>	
63	Supplies and Materials		
64	Equipment		
65	Other (Describe)		<u>\$1,000</u>
66			
67	Health Services:		
68	Salaries: (No. of Positions 0.5)	<u>20,617</u>	
69	Fringe Benefits	<u>5,480</u>	
70	Purchased Services	<u>4,800</u>	
71	Supplies and Materials		
72	Equipment		
73	Other (Describe)		<u>\$30,897</u>

(Budget Continued)

74			
75	Media Services:		
76	Salaries: (No. of Positions 0.5)	<u>20,617</u>	
77	Fringe Benefits	<u>5,480</u>	
78	Purchased Services		
79	Supplies and Materials		
80	Equipment		
81	Other (Describe)		<u>\$26,097</u>
82			
83	Fiscal Services:		
84	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
85	Fringe Benefits		
86	Purchased Services	<u>5,000</u>	
87	Supplies and Materials		
88	Equipment		
89	Other (Describe)		<u>\$5,000</u>
90			
91	Maintenance and Operation:		
92	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
93	Fringe Benefits		
94	Purchased Services		
95	(include utilities)	<u>40,800</u>	
96	Supplies and Materials	<u>6,500</u>	
97	Equipment		
98	Other (Describe)		<u>\$47,300</u>
99			
100	Pupil Transportation:		
101	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
102	Fringe Benefits		
103	Purchased Services	<u>6,000</u>	
104	Supplies and Materials		
105	Equipment		
106	Other (Describe)		<u>\$6,000</u>
107			
108	Food Services:		
109	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)		
110	Fringe Benefits		
111	Purchased Services	<u>25,200</u>	
112	Supplies and Materials		
113	Equipment		
114	Other (Describe)		<u>\$25,200</u>

115					
					(Budget Continued)
116	Data Processing:				
117	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)				
118	Fringe Benefits				
119	Purchased Services		<u>4,800</u>		
120	Supplies and Materials				
121	Equipment		<u>10,000</u>		
122	Other (Describe)				<u>\$14,800</u>
123					
124	Substitute Personnel:				
125	Salaries: (No. of Positions___)				
126	Fringe Benefits				<u>\$0.00</u>
127					
128	Facilities:				
	Lease/Purchase (contract for one total				
129	year including facility upgrades)		<u>198,000</u>		
130	<i>Please list upgrades:</i>				
131					
	Utilities (contract for one total year				
132	including facility upgrades)		<u>28,800</u>		
	Insurance (contract for one total year				
133	including facility upgrades):				
134	Property Insurance		<u>4,000</u>		
135	Content Insurance				<u>\$230,800</u>
136					
137	Debt Expenditures:				<u>\$0.00</u>
138	Other Expenditures:				
139	(Security)				<u>\$2,000</u>
140					
141	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				<u><u>\$1,475,422</u></u>

ATTACHMENT – REVISED SALARY SCHEDULE EXAMPLE

PREMIER HIGH SCHOOL OF LITTLE ROCK

PROPOSED TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE EXAMPLE

Years Of Experience	Non-Certified		Certified				DOCTORATE
	Bachelors	Masters	Bachelors	Bachelors +15	Masters	Masters +15	
0	28,100	33,025	36,950	37,250	37,550	38,850	39,150
1	29,250	34,175	38,100	38,400	38,700	40,000	40,300
2	30,400	35,325	39,250	39,550	39,850	41,150	41,450
3	31,550	36,475	40,400	40,700	41,000	42,300	42,600
4	32,700	37,625	41,550	41,850	42,150	43,450	43,750
5	33,850	38,775	42,700	43,000	43,300	44,600	44,900
6	35,000	39,925	43,850	44,150	44,450	45,750	46,050
7	36,150	41,075	45,000	45,300	45,600	46,900	47,200
8	37,300	42,225	46,150	46,450	46,750	48,050	48,350
9	38,450	43,375	47,300	47,600	47,900	49,200	49,500
10	39,600	44,525	48,450	48,750	49,050	50,350	50,650
11	40,750	45,675	49,600	49,900	50,200	51,500	51,800
12	41,900	46,825	50,750	51,050	51,350	52,650	52,950
13	43,050	47,975	51,900	52,200	52,500	53,800	54,100
14	44,200	49,125	53,050	53,350	53,650	54,950	55,250
15	45,350	50,275	54,200	54,500	54,800	56,100	56,400
16	46,500	51,425	55,350	55,650	55,950	57,250	57,550
17	47,650	52,575	56,500	56,800	57,100	58,400	58,700
18	48,800	53,725	57,650	57,950	58,250	59,550	59,850
19	49,950	54,875	58,800	59,100	59,400	60,700	61,000
20	51,100	56,025	60,950	61,250	61,550	61,850	62,150

ATTACHMENT-SIGNED FACILITIES UTILIZATION AGREEMENT

OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES UTILIZATION AGREEMENT

Lessor (Owner): Arkansas Baptist College

Lessee (Tenant): Responsive Education Solutions of Arkansas

Any information regarding affiliation, family ties, or other relationships between the Lessor (Owner) and Lessee (Tenant) must be disclosed with the facilities lease agreement.

Describe the present use of the facility: None; is anticipated that the facility will be new construction

Premises: 1621 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Little Rock, AR (address)
Approximately 10,000 square feet with additional combined use of certain college facilities such as cafeteria, auditorium, library, etc.

Terms of Lease: Initial lease term will be for five (5) years with subsequent renewal options

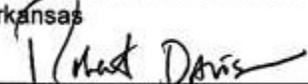
Rental Amount: \$16,500 per month

Contingency: The terms of this agreement are contingent upon Responsive Education Solutions of Arkansas (sponsoring entity) receiving a charter to operate an open-enrollment public charter school from the State Board of Education by August of 2013.

Statutory Language Concerning No Indebtedness: No indebtedness of any kind incurred or created by the open-enrollment public charter school shall constitute an indebtedness of the State of Arkansas or its political subdivisions, and no indebtedness of the open-enrollment public charter school shall involve or be secured by the faith, credit, or taxing power of the state or its political subdivisions. An open-enrollment public charter school shall not incur any debt, including any lease, without the prior review and approval of the Commissioner of Education.

Lessee:

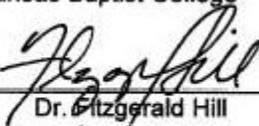
Responsive Education Solutions
Of Arkansas

By 
Robert Davison

Date 8/31/12

Lessor:

Arkansas Baptist College

By 
Dr. Fitzgerald Hill

Date 8/31/12

ATTACHMENT – REVISED SALARY SCHEDULE (Ranges)

As mentioned in Standard 21 - Waivers, Premier High School of Little Rock does not intend to compensate campus personnel based on salary schedules, but based on pre-determined salary ranges competitive with similar positions in the local district. Below is a proposed list of initial salary ranges for positions at Premier High School of Little Rock.

Position	Salary Range
Campus Director/Principal	\$62,358 – 99,416 / median 80,255
Teachers	\$28,200 – 62,384 / median 46,779
Teachers (Teaching Specialist)	Undetermined Stipend w/ salary
Special Education Teacher	\$28,200 – 62,384 / median 46,779
Administrative Assistant/Campus Secretary	\$10.60/hr. - \$17.50 hr.
School Nurse (Part-time)	\$15,000 - \$20,742
Media Specialist (Part-time)	\$15,000 - \$20,742
Instructional Aide	\$11.00/hr. - \$18.51 hr.
Curriculum Alignment Specialist (Part-time)	\$15,000 - \$25,000
Regional Director – partial salary	Included in 15% of state revenues administrative overhead
Superintendent – contracted position, partial salary	Included in 15% of state revenues administrative overhead
Chief Financial Officer – contracted position, partial salary	Included in 15% of state revenues administrative overhead
Chief Operating Officer – contracted position, partial salary	Included in 15% of state revenues administrative overhead

ATTACHMENT-SIGNED STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES FORM

OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES

The signature of the President of the Board of Directors of the proposed public charter school's sponsoring entity certifies that the following statements are and will be addressed through policies adopted by the sponsoring entity and policies to be adopted by the public charter school; and, if the application is approved, that the sponsoring entity, governing body, administration, and staff of the open-enrollment charter shall abide by them:

1. The information submitted in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and this application has been sent to the superintendent of all the districts from which we intend to draw students.
2. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall be open to all students, on a space-available basis, and shall not discriminate in its admission policy on the basis of gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, or academic or athletic eligibility, except as follows: the open-enrollment public charter school may adopt admissions policies that are consistent with federal law, regulations, or guidelines applicable to charter schools. The charter may provide for the exclusion of a student who has been expelled from another public school district.
3. In accordance with federal and state laws the proposed open-enrollment public charter school hiring and retention policies of administrators, teachers, and other employees shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, or special need.
4. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall operate in accordance with federal laws and rules governing public schools; applicable provisions of the Arkansas Constitution; and state statutes or regulations governing public schools not waived by the approved charter.
5. An open-enrollment public charter school shall not use the moneys that it receives from the state for any sectarian program or activity, or as collateral for debt.

However, open-enrollment public charter schools may enter into lease-purchase agreements for school buildings built by private entities with facilities bonds exempt from federal taxes under 26 U.S.C. 142(a) as allowed by Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-20-402. No indebtedness of an open-enrollment public charter school shall ever become a debt of the state of Arkansas.

6. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall not impose taxes or charge students tuition or fees that would not be allowable charges in the public school districts.
7. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall not be religious in its operations or programmatic offerings.

6. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall ensure that any of its employees who qualify for membership in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System or the State and Public School Employee Insurance Program shall be covered under those systems to the same extent a qualified employee of a traditional school district is covered.
9. The employees and volunteers of the open-enrollment public charter school are held immune from liability to the same extent as other public school district employees and volunteers under applicable state laws.
10. The open-enrollment public charter school shall be reviewed for its potential impact on the efforts of a public school district or public school districts to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.
11. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school shall comply with all health and safety laws, rules and regulations of the federal, state, county, region, or community that may apply to the facilities and school property.
12. The charter applicant should know that certain provisions of state law shall not be waived. The proposed open-enrollment public charter school is subject to any prohibition, restriction, or requirement imposed by Title 6 of the Arkansas Code Annotated and any rule and regulation approved by the State Board of Education under this title relating to:
 - (a) Monitoring compliance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-23-101 et seq. as determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Education;
 - (b) Conducting criminal background checks for employees;
 - (c) High school graduation requirements as established by the State Board of Education;
 - (d) Special education programs as provided by this title; (e) Public school accountability under this title;
 - (f) Ethical guidelines and prohibitions as established by Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-24-101 et seq., and any other controlling state or federal law regarding ethics or conflicts of interest; and
 - (g) Health and safety codes as established by the State Board of Education and local governmental entities.

13. The facilities of the proposed public charter school shall comply with all requirements for accessibility for individuals with disabilities in accordance with the ADA and IDEA and all other state and federal laws.
14. Should the open-enrollment public charter school voluntarily or involuntarily close, the applicant should know that any fees associated with the closing of the school including but not limited to removal of furniture, equipment, general expenses, etc; are the sole responsibility of the sponsoring entity. No indebtedness of any kind incurred or created by the open-enrollment public charter school shall constitute an indebtedness of the state or its political subdivisions, and no indebtedness of the open-enrollment public charter school shall involve or be secured by the faith, credit, or taxing power of the state or its political subdivisions. Upon dissolution of the Open Enrollment Public Charter School or upon nonrenewal or revocation of the charter, all net assets of the Open Enrollment Public Charter School, including any interest in real property, purchased with public funds shall be deemed the property of the state, unless otherwise specified in the charter of the Open Enrollment Public Charter School. If the Open Enrollment Public Charter School used state or federal funds to purchase or finance personal property, real property or fixtures for use by the Open Enrollment Public Charter School, the State Board of Education may require that the property be sold. The state has a perfected priority security interest in the net proceeds from the sale or liquidation of the property to the extent of the public funds used in the purchase.


Signature of _____
President of the Sponsoring Entity Board of Directors

Date: 08/29/2012

Marvin L. Reynolds
Print or type name