



Department of Education & Workforce

School Sponsorship

New Community School Sponsorship Application 2026-2027

This application is for any community school startup or replication model that is requesting sponsorship from the Department of Education and Workforce Ohio School Sponsorship Office

Deadline - 9/30/2025

All Applications are to be submitted to SchoolSponsorship@education.ohio.gov on or before 9/30/2024. Late or unsigned applications will not be accepted.

2025-2027 New School Application

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Introduction

The Department of Education and Workforce's (DEW) Ohio School Sponsorship Office was created to perform the sponsorship activities for the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. The Ohio School Sponsorship Office (OSS) seeks to ensure that all schools sponsored by the Department are aligned with the Department's priorities and the core principles of equity, partnerships, and quality schools.

The Ohio School Sponsorship Office, as a statutorily created office, must follow the mandates of ORC 3314.029 including to follow the requirements related to accepting applications and awarding contracts to schools. Applications that follow the Department's strategic plan, the Department's core principles, and the requirements of ORC 3314.029 are sponsoring priorities.

Any school that applies must agree to comply with the following requirements:

- Be a nonprofit corporation or a public benefit corporation;
- The school governing authority must attest that it has no unresolved findings for recovery issued by the Ohio Auditor of State;
- The school must be non-sectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations;
- The school cannot be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution;
- The school's teachers must be properly licensed;
- The school must comply with all laws and rules applicable to community schools; and
- The school's graduation and curriculum requirements must comply with Ohio law.

The school also must comply with the bond requirement set forth in ORC 3314.029(C) and post a bond or guarantee with the state superintendent of public instruction.

It is important to note that meeting eligibility requirements and submitting an application does not guarantee approval. The Ohio School Sponsorship Office follows a process and timeline provided by Section 3314.029 of the Ohio Revised Code. An application will be reviewed within 30 days of its submission. School Sponsorship will provide an initial response that either approves the application or notifies the applicant of any deficiencies. If deficiencies are noted, the applicant will have an additional 30 days to make corrections and submit additional documentation. The submission will be reviewed with a final decision being made upon completion of review.

Eligibility Terms

The Department of Education and Workforce Ohio School Sponsorship Office (OSS) encourages applicants to submit well-thought out applications with proven education models and innovative ideas that will provide a high-quality school of choice committed to serving students with diverse needs.

In order for an existing school to apply for sponsorship, the Continued Sponsorship Application or a Transfer School Sponsorship Application must be submitted. This Application is for new startup community schools only.

New school applications will be deemed submitted as of the date that the application and all supporting documentation are received by DEW OSS. An approved application is not a contract pursuant to Section 3314.029(B) of the Revised Code. After approval, a contract must be entered into between the DEW OSS and the school's governing authority to complete authorization of a new community school.

Please note that new start-up community schools do not receive advance payments on a projected enrollment number as in past years but will be paid on actual enrollments after school begins. Applicants must have the fiscal resources on-hand to cover the school's expenses during the initial start-up phase. This type of financial planning should be in place prior to submission of an application. Applications for new start-up community schools are accepted from any individual or group.



Instructions

All applicants should read the entire application before beginning to complete the required forms.

The application consists of the following sections/documents:

- Application Timeline
- Letter of Intent Template
- Application information Sheet
- Certification Statement
- Application Narrative Sections
- List of Required Attachments
- Attachment 1 - Governing Authority Member Questionnaire
- Attachment 5 - Education Plan Template
- Attachment 12 - Statement of Assurances
- Application Rubric

All sections must be completed by the applicant to be considered for sponsorship. If a field is left blank, it will NOT be reviewed or scored. If a question or section does not apply to the school, please enter N/A and provide a brief narrative explanation

Training and technical assistance will be available during the application window and reference materials will be posted to the Ohio School Sponsorship pages of the Ohio Department of Education's website at <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Quality-School-Choice/Ohio-School-Sponsorship-Program>.

For additional questions or clarifications on this application or the submission thereof, please contact Yvonne Adkins at yvonne.adkins@adkinsandcompany.com.

2026-2027 New School Application Timeline

| Deadline | Items/Tasks to Be Completed |
|----------------------|---|
| 07/08/2025 | Application process is open and materials will be posted to the Department of Education and Workforce Ohio School Sponsorship Office (DEW OSS) website. |
| 07/08/2025 | Applicant training is made available to any potential applicant expressing interest to DEW OSS. |
| 08/15/2025 | <p>School submits the intent to apply by 5:00pm to the Department of Education and Workforce Ohio School Sponsorship Office through the email identified herein.</p> <p>An applicant's Letter of Intent format follows the required format and shall be submitted to the following email address: SchoolSponsorship@education.ohio.gov.</p> <p>This application is for NEW schools currently seeking sponsorship by the Department of Education and Workforce. Renewal, transfer or assumed school applicants will follow a different process.</p> |
| 10 days from receipt | Applicant will receive an invitation and instructions to complete the full application or a response denying the request to submit an application. |
| 9/30/2025 | Deadline to submit completed application. School submits full application and all attachments to SchoolSponsorship@education.ohio.gov . Late or unsigned applications will not be accepted. |
| 10/1-10/31/2025 | <p>DEW OSS will review the application including all attachments.</p> <p>All applicants who have submitted a final application by the deadline and have met 50% of eligible scoring may be contacted for an interview. Applicants that do not meet the criteria will be notified.</p> |
| 11/1-11/15/2025 | <p>Interviews will be scheduled and conducted. These may occur either in person or by phone. The interview will consist of questions from the review team and include areas of the application that may require clarification or additional information. There will be one interview that may consist of a group interview and a one-on-one interview with at least one of the following individuals: the school's governing authority president, school leader or others who participated in completing the application.</p> <p>If the application did not score high enough, a response denying the application will be sent by mail or email to the applicant primary contact.</p> <p>Any additional or requested materials may be submitted for consideration after the interview. The final application materials will be reviewed by the DEW OSS's review team against criteria described throughout the application.</p> |
| 11/15 – 11/29/2025 | <p>Once the final application reviews are complete and interview responses are considered, OSS will present its recommendations to the appropriate Department of Education and Workforce leadership to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approve sponsorship of the school, including terms and conditions for sponsorship; or ○ Disapprove sponsorship of the school. |
| 12/2 – 12/13/2025 | The final decision is made by the Department of Education and Workforce leadership. This decision is final. Notification of the decision will be sent by mail and email to the applicant's primary contact. |
| 12/2 – 12/31/2025 | School is notified of approval or denial, and preliminary agreement is issued to the school for signature if approved. |
| 2/14/2026 | Deadline to submit resolution and signed Preliminary Agreement to DEW OSS. |
| 3/31/2026 | Deadline for signed Contract and all required Attachments are to be submitted to OSS. |

New School Application

Letter of Intent

Must Not Exceed Ten (10) Pages

Date

Sent Via Email: Department of Education and Workforce
Ohio School Sponsorship Office
Attention: New School Sponsorship – Letter of Intent
25 South Front Street, MS 304
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Ohio School Sponsorship Office,

Please accept this Letter of Intent as expressed interest in applying for a community school contract with the Department of Education and Workforce Ohio School Sponsorship.

Proposed Name of School (if determined):

Proposed School Address (if known):

Name of Applicant Organization:

School District:

Primary Contact Information

Name of Primary Applicant Contact:

Contact mailing address:

Contact phone number:

Contact e-mail:

Names of proposed governing authority members (and expertise):

Names of development team members and partner expertise:

Name/Contact of Board Counsel:

Name/Contact of Board Treasurer:

Proposed School Information

Complete the following information if determinations have been made

Grade levels to be offered in **first year**:

Grade levels to be offered at **full build out**:

Number of projected enrollment in **first year**:

Number of projected enrollment at **full build out**:

Year intending to open: YYYY-YYYY

Model of School:
(Enter Traditional K-8, Dropout Prevention and Recovery, Virtual, Blended, etc.)

Is this application for multiple locations?
(applicable to brick/mortar or blended)

If yes, how many locations?

Are you contracting with an Education or Charter Management Organization?
(Choose from the drop-down menu below)

If yes, name and contact information for EMO/CMO:

Provide an Executive Summary of the proposed school:
(Address the following not to exceed 3 additional pages)

Mission and purpose of the school:

Describe the need in the community:

Description of the proposed education plan:

I certify that I have the authority to submit this Letter of Intent and that all information contained herein is complete and accurate. I recognize that any misrepresentation could result in disqualification from the application process or revocation after authorization. The person named as the contact person for the application is so authorized to serve as the primary contact for this application on behalf of the organization.

Signature of Primary Contact:

Print Name:

Date:

2025-2026 New School Application

Information Sheet

| | |
|--|--|
| Name of Proposed Community School | |
| Proposed School Address | |
| Proposed School District | |
| Primary Applicant Contact Name and Role | |
| Primary Applicant Contact Information (Address, Phone & Email) | |
| Governing Authority President Name and Contact Information (Address, Phone & Email) | |
| Will the school Contract with an EMO/CMO | |
| Development Team Partners (i.e. EMO/CMO or other partners not serving on the board) Include Name, Address, Phone & Email) | |
| Board Counsel - Contact Information (Name, Address, Phone & Email) | |
| Fiscal Officer – Contact Information (Name, Address, Phone & Email) | |
| Proposed Opening Year | |
| Affiliates (Does the School Applicant or Governing Authority Have a Relationship with Other Sponsors, Charter Schools or their Affiliates) | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Type / Focus of the School (i.e. Traditional K-8, Dropout Prevention and Recovery, Virtual, Blended, etc.) | |
| Proposed Grades to Serve | |

| Target Enrollment by Year by Grade | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Total |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-------|
| Year 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Applicants should only consider locations within a challenged school district (as determined by the Department of Education and Workforce) or an area with strong evidence of a need for a quality community school.

The information contained below may be posted to the Department’s website. Applicants are advised that the primary contact person may be contacted by the public and/or media with questions about the school and the application.

Certification Statement

I HEREBY CERTIFY that, to the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is correct.

The applicant designated below hereby applies for sponsorship by the Department of Education and Workforce, Ohio School Sponsorship Office.

The governing authority of _____ (Community School Name) has authorized me to file this application and such action is recorded in the minutes of the school's meeting held on _____ (Date).

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

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Narrative Sections

Please refer to the information below when completing the Application Narrative Sections. Each Section provides guidance and the specific information requested in each section of the application. The application narrative should be no more than twenty-five (25) 8 ½ x 11" pages with one inch (1") margins and font no smaller than size 10.

1. Addressing the Need

A. Background and Community Need

Describe in detail the reasons for wishing to start a new community school.

The narrative should address the following criteria:

- A description of the community and demographics from which the proposed school intends to locate and draw students
- The applicant's rationale for selecting the community

B. Programmatic Impact

Describe the programmatic impact the proposed community school would have on the community and geographic area proposed.

- Include a table or listing of the existing educational options available to the target population including all district, charter, and private schools in the geographic area;
- Include performance of local schools and how the proposed school would provide a needed alternative for the community;
- Briefly summarize the proposed programs or institutional approaches the school will offer compared to those currently in place in the targeted community (More information will be included in the Educational Plan section. This section is seeking information regarding how the school will be unique and different from existing education options in the community).

2. School Mission

A. Mission

Describe how the mission is visible in all aspects of the school. The mission should be succinct yet comprehensive. This section should address the following criteria:

- The mission defines the purpose and specialized focus of the school to its teachers, students, stakeholders, and the public;
- The mission speaks to the core principles of the school and communicates the beliefs and values about education;
- The mission is consistent with student success and addresses the whole child.

3. Governance and Management Structure

A. Founding Members

The governing authority holds an important role in providing oversight and guidance to the school and is making appropriate decisions to guide the continued success of the school. The school's current governing authority should be comprised of individuals who possess a variety of relevant skills and qualifications that will enable effective oversight, guidance and decision-making

necessary to ensure the school is both providing a quality educational choice to Ohio's children and is a fiscally viable entity.

This section should include the following for all members of the governing authority/founders:

| Name | Address, Email, Phone | Role | Expertise | Agree to bci/fbi check | No COI |
|------|-----------------------------|------|-----------|---------------------------|--------|
| ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

- Include an updated resume or bio identifying Individual strengths, basis of knowledge, and expected contributions (Attachment 1)
- Board Member Questionnaire should also be completed by all members and included in Attachment 1
- Note - if capacity in certain areas is lacking, the application should describe how the governing authority plans to obtain additional expertise to assist them in making informed decisions);
- Describe the governing authority's processes as follows in Attachment 2:
 - Include a copy of the organizational bylaws
 - Include a board recruitment/orientation process
 - Disclose any conflicts of interest that may exist among founding members, vendors, school leaders, governing authority members, and management operators (describe any steps that will be taken to alleviate these conflicts).
 - *Note: Include any pending lawsuits, threatening liabilities, negative media attention the sponsor should be aware of and any actions taken to address any issues.*

B. Oversight / Accountability

The strength of the governing authority should be seen through implementation of the mission of the school, well-developed school policies and the hiring of qualified personnel to manage the school's day-to-day operations who hold them accountable for meeting established goals and formulate a long-range accountability plan that will ensure the school's continued stability.

In addition to its many other responsibilities, the governing authority must ensure the school is complying with all state and federal laws and regulations that apply to the school and that the governing authority itself is operating in accordance with all laws and rules applicable to community school governing authorities.

The application should address the following areas:

- Describe the roles and responsibilities of the governing authority (the application should clearly articulate the role distinctions among the governing authority and the school administration and operator, if applicable, as they relate to curriculum, personnel decisions, budget allocation, and vendor selection);
- Describe processes related to the governing authority's oversight of the school, including setting priorities and goals; monitoring progress toward priorities and goals; supporting,

monitoring, and evaluating the school leader(s); developing the annual budget; monitoring the school's finances; resource allocation and conducting long-term financial and strategic planning. This should include how the data will be used to drive goals and monitor decisions;

- Explain the annual process the governing authority will use to evaluate its own performance and the steps they will take to guide its development as an effective governing authority.

4. Personnel

A. Staffing & Leadership

It is the responsibility of the school leadership to successfully execute the school's business plan. Describe in detail how the school's anticipated staff will have a diverse background and have the knowledge and experience to oversee and operate a school.

- Describe the organizational structure including individuals who will be responsible for operation and success of the school (including a contingency plan to address any significant changes in leadership or staffing) (Attachment 3 Organization Chart);
- If an EMO or CMO is engaged include management agreement as Attachment 4;
- Include the staffing plan that the proposed school will use to recruit, hire and retain licensed teachers, administrators and staff who are properly certified/licensed as required by the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) and ORC 3319.074;
- Disclose any considerations that may place the school at risk of closure, suspended operations, or not having the ability to open within the next two (2) years.

5. Education Plan (See Attachment)

6. Business Planning and Financial Information

1. Business Plan

Describe in detail the school's business plan with clear evidence of the ability to successfully execute building operations for the entirety of the contract term

- Provide a student recruitment and retention plan;
- The school's plan to ensure financial sustainability; and,
- Evidence of the Treasurer being bonded, experienced, insured, and licensed.

2. Financial Information

The school should engage in comprehensive financial planning to ensure it is effectively allocating resources. In this section, the school should attach an updated financial plan that fully describes the estimated budget for the first year (Attachment 8) and a 5-year forecast that specifies the total estimated per-pupil expenditure amount for each year and the school's plan to address current debt or loans. This also should include the school's policies related to how it will make decisions in allocating resources and fiscal controls.

In providing narrative with the budgets, the application should include

- Outline the school's first year budget (which details all pre-operational costs, monthly cash flow, projected first year enrollment, grants, loans, and other sources of revenue) in Attachment 8;
- The school's plan for meeting the financial needs for low initial enrollment, including receiving less than anticipated revenues, and if the revenue is lower than the estimated budget.

7. Facilities

A. Facility Needs

Describe the facility needs of the proposed school for each the first five years, including any unique features necessary to implement the school design and academic program (Attachment 10).

- provide the address and description of the desired school facility (or describe the desired facility/location if one has not yet been selected - suitability of the space, ability to meet the projected student population, explain the plans for securing a suitable facility and preparing it for use by the time the school would open (also explain any contingency plans including the associated costs); and);
- The number of general education classrooms required each year;
- Any additional classroom space required for special education or ELL services, labs, specialty classes, and intervention or enrichment programs; and,
- Learning and purchasing arrangements that are realistic and reasonable.

B. Facility Selection

Describe the efforts to date that have been made to secure a facility for the school (and provide the lease/mortgage as Attachment 10 is available).

- If another organization is assisting the applicant in obtaining the facilities, provide information about such organization;
- Describe in detail any anticipated changes to the school's facility that are expected within two (2) years of the school opening;
- State the entities or individual(s) who will own the property (and identify any conflicts such as facility owner, or lessee being a member of the development team or governing authority).

C. Food Services

Describe the plans for food services the community school will provide.

D. Transportation

Describe the transportation arrangements for students and describe any supplemental transportation agreements planned with surrounding school districts.

8. Conclusion

A. Supplemental Narrative

If there is additional information that would help evaluate your application, please describe it, and provide a rationale for its inclusion in Attachment 11. If no supplementary information is necessary, please indicate that Attachment 11 is Not Applicable.

B. Letters of Commitment or Additional Support

Include letters of support or narrative description of any commitment for any funding from private contributions, grants, or other philanthropic sources included in the school budget in Attachment 11.

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Required Attachments

The following Attachments are **required** to be submitted in addition to the completed Application Information Sheet, Certification and the Application Narrative Sections:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Attachment 1 | Questionnaire and Resumes for each Governing Authority Member |
| Attachment 2 | School's bylaws, articles of incorporation and statutory agent, calendar for meetings, recruitment and orientation processes, policies related to how the school makes decisions in allocating resources and fiscal controls. |
| Attachment 3 | Organizational Chart |
| Attachment 4 | CMO/EMO Agreement |
| Attachment 5 | Education Plan |
| Attachment 6 | Proposed Calendar and Bell Schedule (including sample student schedule) |
| Attachment 7 | School Model Replication Data (Record of Success, if applicable) |
| Attachment 8 | Proposed Year 1 Detailed Budget |
| Attachment 9 | Five Year Forecast (to include): The total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for the next five years. The school's plan for spending any federal funds and grants over the next five years. The school's plan to address loans over the next five years. |
| Attachment 10 | Facility Lease/Mortgage and/or Expected Facility Information |
| Attachment 11 | Supplemental Support |
| Attachment 12 | Completed Statement of Assurances |

2025-2026 New School Application

Attachment 1

Governing Authority Member Questionnaire

Governing Authority Member Name: _____

Each board member should complete this Questionnaire and provide a copy of their resume or bio to provide information on their present employer and/or position, education and professional training, and their interest, skills and experience serving on a nonprofit educational organization board of directors.

Questions: Please answer each question fully.

1. How did you become aware of the school?
2. Why are you interested in serving as a governing authority member for the school?
3. Please describe your unique qualifications and expertise that will benefit the board and support the school.
4. How often do you expect to be at the school? This response includes board meetings and school activities and should include a description of whether the time is while school is in session or not.
5. Have you reviewed the complete application prior to submission?

I certify the above information and attached resume are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

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Attachment 5

Education Plan Template

Please refer to the information below when completing the Education Plan sections. Each section provides guidance and identifies requested information relative to each application/question content area. The Education Plan should be no more than **thirty-five (35)** 8 ½ x 11" pages with one inch (1") margins and font no smaller than size 10.

| MISSION, VISION, AND KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS | |
|---|--|
| <i>All sponsored schools are expected to deliver academic programs that provide improved academic outcomes and education success for all students, as well as consistently meet state student performance standards as outlined by the statewide accountability system. The applicant's educational model should be grounded in the school's mission, vision, and philosophy and serve as the catalyst for success.</i> | |
| Mission Statement (what we do and why we do it) <i>Provide the mission statement of the proposed school.</i> | |
| | |
| Vision Statement (what we aspire to accomplish in the future) <i>Provide the vision statement of the proposed school.</i> | |
| | |
| Philosophy <i>Provide the beliefs and core values of the school.</i> | |
| | |
| How will the mission, vision, and philosophy be communicated to stakeholders and what are measures of success? | |
| Describe the Key Design Elements (replication or new model, grade level configuration, length of school day, instructional methods) that support the mission and vision and set the school apart from other programs. | |
| Describe the communities to be served, needs, and why this approach was chosen. | |

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

The proposed education program should address the diverse needs of the student population and should be founded on an understanding of effective, evidence-based educational practices and high standards for student learning. The applicant should clearly identify the specific core and non-core standards to be taught, the curriculum model to be used within each identified grade band, and the level of evidence-based support for the curriculum model and instructional strategies as outlined in EdReports.org and/or What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), particularly for English Language Arts (ELA) and math.

Standards: It is expected that proposed schools align their curriculum, instruction, and materials with Ohio's Learning Standards (OLS) with a focus on college and career readiness - [Ohio's Learning Standards](#).

Will the school utilize Ohio's Learning Standards in all core and non-core content areas?

Yes ___ No ___

If the school does not plan to use OLS or plans to add additional standards to address their mission, please describe.

Curriculum: Detail the high-quality curriculum(s) to be used in all core and non-core content areas, including electives, Industry Credentialing, College Credit Plus, SEL (and outline if the school will use the Ohio Model Curriculum).

If not using the Ohio Model Curriculum but purchasing a developed curriculum (APEX™, textbook series, Write Brite©), describe the identification process and evidence-base for the selected curriculum(s), including the rating used by WWC or EdReports.org and **REQUIRED [DEW HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR ELA](#)**

| | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>If</u> using a developed curriculum, explain how the chosen curriculum(s) aligns with Ohio's Learning Standards and how alignment was determined and identified gaps filled.</p> | |
| <p><u>If</u> not using the Ohio Model Curriculum but developing your own, particularly for ELA and math, explain the development process, who will participate, and timelines.</p> | |
| <p><u>If</u> intending to develop your own curriculum in any core and non-core areas, explain the process to ensure alignment to OLS and how alignment gaps will be filled.</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Career and College Success: Explain how the proposed curriculum aligns with DEW's guidance on preparing K-12 students for success after high school Career Connections Framework and, if a high school grade span, identify the proposed pathways to be offered to meet DEW Graduation Requirements.</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Pacing Guides and Mapping: Explain the purpose, process, data used, timelines, and who will be involved in the development of pacing guides and a curriculum mapping process to ensure students have adequate scope, sequence, and time to master the standards.</p> | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Lesson Plan Template: Discuss the components of the school's lesson plan template, rationale, oversight.</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Instruction: Describe the <u>primary</u> evidence-based instructional methods/pedagogy employed to ensure effective implementation of the curriculum and a culturally responsive teaching and learning environment that is well-suited for your targeted student population (include rating used by WWC or EdReports.org).</p> | |
| <p>Explain how the school will implement explicit and systematic teaching of all components of structured literacy in all grades and content areas as supported by the science of reading research, Ohio laws, <i>Ohio's Dyslexia Guidebook</i> and resource guidance from SCIENCE OF READING DEW</p> | |
| <p>Describe how the school will promote student engagement utilizing evidence-based strategies (include rating used by WWC or EdReports.org), including work-based learning, career/college connections, etc.</p> | |
| <p>Outline how the school will develop sound student character, citizenship and civic understanding, social and emotional wellbeing and physical health (include rating used by WWC or EdReports.org).</p> | |
| <p>Explain how the school will ensure that the proposed</p> | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>curriculum and instructional methods support high standards of achievement for students with a wide range of needs and be accessible and appropriate for all students at all levels.</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Materials: Describe the instructional materials/technology that will be used to implement the curriculum in core and non-core areas (include rating used by WWC or EdReports.org and address all requirements related to DEW's <u>High-Quality Instructional Materials in English Language Arts</u>)</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Learning Environment: Detail the learning environment (s) that will be used to deliver the proposed curriculum model (physical space, virtual, teacher facilitated, independent study, work-based, learner-centered).</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Evaluation of Curriculum/Instruction Design: Explain the processes in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the curriculum model (impact) and successful implementation (fidelity), who will be involved, timelines, communication with stakeholders.</p> | |

STUDENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

All sponsored schools are expected to meet the performance and assessment standards set by Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Schools must consistently make progress in student achievement and other measures of success as outlined by the statewide accountability system and identified in the school's mission and vision. An integrated assessment system serves as the school's structure for measuring what students know and are able to do as a result of the delivery of curriculum and instruction. Most importantly, information from assessments serve to help determine what areas of instruction need additional time, the needs of individual students, the quality of instruction, decisions on improvement strategies, and the school's overall progress in meeting accountability goals defining whether the school is an academic success. Assessments are not "in addition to" but are an integral part of an effective teaching and learning model.

Standardized State Assessments: The school will administer all required Ohio State Assessments per [Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.0712](#) within identified timelines and reporting windows and report results to key stakeholders. **REQUIRED**

All required state assessments will be included in the school's assessment calendar, administered within required windows, and results shared with key stakeholders.

YES ____ NO ____

Nationally-Normed, Standardized and/or Criterion-Referenced Growth Measures: As required by Sponsor, describe the assessment tool(s) used to measure growth and achievement in ELA and math at least twice yearly, rationale for selection, and use of data to drive instructional planning (DPRs must follow [Ohio Revised Code 3314.017](#) and include growth measures in reading and mathematics from nationally norm-referenced assessments. The Star Reading and Star Math assessments from Renaissance are used for this purpose). **REQUIRED**

Universal Screeners: Based on Ohio's dyslexia support laws (ORC 3323.251), describe the specific and DEW approved universal screener [DEW Approved Dyslexia Screeners](#) administered to ALL students to determine which students may be struggling with reading skills, and include timelines and how data will be used and shared. **REQUIRED**

Diagnostics: Used with selected students identified by the Universal Screener as low, what tool(s) will be used to determine specific skills within a content area that are deficient that can guide decisions on how to support each student?

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Informal Assessments: What assessment tools will be used to quickly gauge students' understanding of the material covered in a lesson, identify any areas of confusion, and provide valuable feedback about the effectiveness of instruction?</p> | |
| <p>Performance-Based Assessments: Describe how the school will incorporate real-world problems, tasks, giving students opportunities to develop and apply knowledge and skills in settings that resemble authentic situations, i.e. capstone projects, group projects, portfolios, performances, internships, industry credentialing</p> | |
| <p>Inventories and Surveys: Describe assessment tools such as SEL inventories, career and college interest surveys, well-being surveys, and other forms of assessment used to address the needs of the whole child.</p> | |
| <p>Information System: Describe the information system the school will use to manage student performance data and identify staff member(s) responsible for warehousing the data, interpreting the data for classroom teachers, and leading or coordinating the PD to improve student achievement.</p> | |
| <p>ONE Plan is required by DEW and the Sponsor to be developed, monitored and evaluated as the primary accountability planning tool for the school. Describe the process that the school will use to collect and analyze student and adult performance data, set goals and action steps, monitoring progress, and quarterly report to key stakeholders. Please include identified planning structures (BLT, TBT) and how those groups will use data to drive decision-making, per DEW <u>ONE PLAN STEPS</u></p> | |
| <p>Reading Improvement or Reading Achievement Plans are to be guided by student performance data and aligned to the school's One Plan, per <u>Reading Improvement/Reading Achievement Plan</u></p> | <p>A DEW required reading plan will be developed and monitored, as appropriate, utilizing student performance data and aligned to ONE Plan goals, strategies and action steps.</p> <p>YES _____ NO _____ N/A _____</p> |

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| Requirements for any schools with a K-3 grade band. | |
|---|--|

AT-RISK STUDENTS AND SPECIAL POPULATIONS

The general education classroom needs to be responsive to the educational needs of all children and accommodate their needs. A multi-tiered system of supports is an educational framework, required in the state of Ohio by 3301-35-01 of the Administrative Code, to address progressively more intense, evidence-based supports for at-risk learners in both academics and behaviors. All sponsored school are expected to create a similar framework to ensure all students have the necessary supports to access grade level standards and expectations successfully.

| | |
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| Outline the school's multi-tiered intervention model for <u>academics and behavior to address the needs of at-risk learners</u> , including evidence-based strategies for each tier, timelines, and specific methods for both tracking and monitoring progress, as well as who will be involved, training, and communication to key stakeholders. | |
| Explain systems and structures the school will implement for students at risk of dropping out of high school and/or not meeting the proposed graduation requirements, i.e. Early Warning System | |
| Detail how the school will identify and meet the needs of special populations such as English Learners, homeless, and gifted per DEW requirements. | |
| Describe how the school will identify and meet the learning needs of students with mild, moderate, and severe disabilities in the least restrictive environment aligned to Special Education Laws and Requirements DEW . Specify the continuum of services you will provide aligned to IDEA (2004). | |
| Describe any supplemental programs the school will provide that will support prevention/intervention and engagement beyond the typical school day (extended day, summer school, extra-curricular, clubs). | |

BUILDING EDUCATOR CAPACITY

Sponsored schools are expected to recruit, retain, and support educators to successfully deliver the educational plan with fidelity and with attention to the mission and vision of the school. Research suggests that "sophisticated forms of teaching are needed to develop student competencies such as deep mastery of challenging content, critical thinking, complex problem solving, effective communication and collaboration and self-direction" (Darling-Hammond, 2017, p. 1). Leaders are accountable for not only the recruitment strategies to staff their schools with highly qualified educators but also have a central role in supporting evidence-based structures that nurture collective teacher efficacy. To this end, leaders need to adhere to effective professional development strategies outlined in [Ohio Standards for Quality Professional Development](#) and have access to networks to help them hone their own leadership skill sets.

Please attach an organizational chart for the proposed school, as well as

Organization Chart provided, as well as a narrative that describes roles and responsibilities and reporting structure of identified personnel.

YES _____ NO _____

Identify the staffing plan and provide the rationale for the plan to support effective and timely implementation of the Education Plan during the planning year and for all subsequent years.

Describe the formal and informal educator evaluation systems and timelines (frequency) to be used by the school for both teachers and leaders and how the data will be used to support ONE Plan goals and strategies to improve teaching and learning. Identify credentials and training for evaluators.

Identify the PD model(s) used and how the plan(s) will dovetail with identified Adult Indicators in the ONE Plan and be monitored and evaluated within the ONE Plan with attention to impact to classroom instruction and student performance goals.

Identify the strategies and timeline for recruiting and hiring teachers and leaders and key selection criteria relevant to the school design.

Describe evidence-based strategies used to successfully retain teachers and leaders.

COMMUNITY-CENTERED MODEL

Sponsored schools are expected to develop meaningful and strategic networking relationships with families, educational partners, businesses, and community agencies that will address the needs of the students and enrich the learning experience. The school's model should empower students, staff, families and community to articulate a roadmap for schools and communities to co-create a shared vision of success.

Describe how the school will engage families and the community, particularly the disenfranchised, in the school and build school partnerships to strengthen support for learning.

What community resources will be available to students and families and describe any partnerships the school will have with community organizations, businesses, or other educational institutions.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DAILY SCHEDULE

Provide the proposed school calendar, including how parents and students will be notified. It must be comprehensive with professional development and assessment days, vacation days, and number of hours the school will be in session. The school calendar will need to be submitted annually by a due date established yearly for approval by the Sponsor and DEW.

Proposed calendar is attached.

YES___ NO___

Provide a copy of the daily class schedule(s) showing daily hours of operation and allocation of time for core and non-core instruction, teacher planning, supplementals, extra-curricular, and after-school activities, as applicable.

Proposed daily schedule(s) are attached.

YES___ NO___

2025-2026 New School Application

Attachment 12

Statement of Assurances

This form must be signed by a duly authorized representative of the school and submitted with the final application. An application is considered incomplete and will not be accepted if it does not include the Statement of Assurances.

As the authorized representative of the school, I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the information submitted in this application for continued sponsorship for _____
(name of school) located at _____ is true to the best of my knowledge and belief;
and further, I certify that the following:

1. The school will comply with all applicable provisions of ORC chapter 3314.
2. The school will comply with the requirement that the school is established as a nonprofit corporation or a public benefit corporation in accordance with ORC 3314.03(A)(1).
3. No unresolved findings of recovery have been issued by the auditor of state against any person associated with this application, including any member of the governing authority of the school.
4. The school is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices and all other operations and is not and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.
5. The school is a ____ new start-up school or ____ was created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building.
 - (a) If the school was created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building, please specify if any employer of the board of education or educational service center governing board that operated the school or building before conversion is delegating any duties or responsibilities to the governing authority of the community school, with respect to all or any specified group of employees, provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees: _____

_____.
6. The school's teachers will be licensed in the manner prescribed by ORC 3314.03(A)(10).
7. The school will comply with all provisions of law enumerated in ORC 3314.03(A)(11)(d) and ORC 3314.03(A)(11)(h).
8. The school's graduation and curriculum requirements will comply with ORC 3314.03(A)(11)(f).
9. The school's governing authority will be in compliance with ORC 3314.02(E).
10. The school's admission and dismissal policies will be in compliance with ORC 3314.03(A)(5) and (6).

11. The learning opportunities that will be offered to students, including both classroom-based and non-classroom-based learning opportunities, will be in compliance with the criteria for student participation established in ORC 3314.08(H)(2).
12. The school will cooperate with the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Ohio School Sponsorship as its sponsor in providing required documentation of policies, procedures and financial records to enable the sponsor to provide oversight and technical assistance to the school.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____