

Axiom Montessori Charter School Abstract

By Anndra R. Jackson 1/2016

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Mission

Axiom Montessori Charter School is committed to the development of the *whole* child by implementing the curriculum and methodology based on the Montessori philosophy of education. The mission of AMCS is to provide a safe, secure environment for active learning that allows self-expression, self-identification and helps *all* children reach their full potential. We are team of individuals who believe in the holistic approach to education. An excellent education not only encompasses academics but also addresses the social, emotional and the self-esteem needs of children to become motivated learners and responsible citizens.

Vision

Our vision is to consistently challenge, nurture, inspire and support each child's individual growth and development within an effective, safe, enriched and welcoming learning community that exemplifies the Montessori principles of respect for self, respect for others and respect for the environment. Our endeavor make a quality education available to *all* children that will address their individual learning challenges, needs and develop their unique abilities.

*RESPECT FOR ONESELF IS...*having a sense of self-esteem, personal responsibility and autonomy developed from being a part of a consistent, loving, and empowering community.

*RESPECT FOR OTHERS IS...*balancing personal goals with an awareness of the welfare of others and is developed through being a member of a community which emphasizes friendship and equality encompassing a celebration of differences and a responsibility for the common good.

*RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IS...*caring for our belongings and for the plants and the animals out of a love for them and a respect for ourselves as stewards of the Earth.

Academic Focus & Plan

The AMCS philosophy is that one size does not fit every child. We aim to create a specialized student plan that provides maximum benefit and exposure to encourage the growth of the students' gifts, talents, and proficiencies. AMCS students will be required to meet standardized test requirements which include a proficient Reading and Math score and exit writing exams. Students will be able to make "real world" application of such knowledge by self-study, peer interaction, adult facilitation and out of the classroom opportunities for additional practice. The goal for all students is to satisfy and demonstrate college preparatory or career readiness requirements depending on selected academic track. The students will also be responsible for maintaining an organic garden and selling the produce at the Nashville Famers Market, an activity that will be used to solidify the financial and economic concepts that will be presented in class. Summer Camps will be offered.

Academic Plan

- Mon-Thurs 8-4:30 Academic seminars, cooperative learning & independent learning
- Friday 8-4:30PM Off-site educational trips, real-world(life skills) application of abstract concepts and community involvement
- Saturday 9-11AM will be set aside for reading and math intervention for those student who require additional assistance in meeting the required reading & math standards

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Need for Montessori School in Antioch

There are several of Montessori schools in Davidson County. However, most are located in affluent communities and tuitions range from right below \$5,000(pre-k) to over \$8,000(middle). Furthermore these schools will not accept students beyond the 3rd grade that have not attended a Montessori school in the past due to the concern of being behind their peers. However, all children can benefit from the Montessori approach of teaching at any age as the focus is learning to apply abstract concepts in a concrete manner. The Montessori approach engages the child by allowing them to actively interact with materials, their peers and their environment. The structure of the classrooms also allow for peer teaching opportunities, promotes respect for themselves and others and allows the freedom of choice which is cited in many Individual Education Plans to help children feel more in control of their environment. Montessori methodology further encourages freedom of choice because it builds self-esteem, moral and cognitive development, minimizes conflicts and teaches responsibility all of which are critical for the success of all children.

Targeted population

AMCS is focused on low-income, minority children whose needs are not being in traditional classroom environments or whose parents desire a more holistic approach to their education. This may include children with Individual Education Plans, children with mild behavioral issues and/or those with learning disabilities. Some indications of unmet needs could be excessive disciplinary issues, failing grades or lack of motivation to learn. Initially, we are desiring to reach eighth graders who meet this criteria in the Antioch area.

Community Outreach Plan

We will focus on reaching out to the community using various methods including:

- Mail educational pamphlets to families in the targeted area
- Hosting a Montessori Education Community event
- Submitting an ad in Nashville Parent magazine and on the website
- Reaching out to the local media to report on the school

Accomplishments in Education

The AMCS team has made the following accomplishments in education over the past 10 years:

- Demonstrated that hands-on learning improved intrinsic motivation to learn both concrete and abstract concepts in classroom & off-campus practice
- Proved that parent/teacher collaboration promotes a higher success for student achievement regardless of age, academic ability, or presence of a learning disability
- Helped educators to classify behavior indicators that determine when alternative teaching methods and tools are required
- Advocated that community involvement in school activities & curriculum helps with the development of family unity and promotes social skills

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Tennessee law limits who may sponsor a charter school and prescribes what type of entity may operate a charter school. T.C.A. § 49-13-104(7), 106(c). Please read the following statements and confirm eligibility to submit an application and verify the status of or plans for the governing body.

The sponsor of this charter school is not "a for-profit entity, a private elementary or secondary school, a post-secondary institution not accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools [now AdvancEd], a religious or church school" and does not "promote the agenda of any religious denomination or religiously affiliated entity."

Charter schools must be operated by entities that have exemption from federal taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Please check one of the following, as applicable:

The sponsor of this charter school is a not-for-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status.

The sponsor of this charter school is a not-for-profit organization and has applied for 501(c)(3) status.

I will provide evidence of non-profit incorporation and 501(c)(3) status at the time of contracting with the chartering authority.

The complete Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act is contained in T. C.A. §§ 49-13-101 through 137, and in § 8-35-242. You can access Tennessee laws [here](#).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Please identify any potential conflicts of interest that you or any board member may have in the space below. This is in alignment with best practices for both non-profit and charter school governance and is also aligned with Tennessee Charter Law §49-13-111 (g), which reads "with regard to conflicts of interest, the governing body of a charter school shall be subject to TCA §§ 12-4-101 and 12-4-102. These portions of Tennessee law govern public contracts and personal interests of officers and boards of directors. If approved, board members will be subject to filing form SS-8805 with the district in which it resides.

N/A

By my signature below, I affirm that all of the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Quindia R. Jackson
(Signature)

2/1/10
(Date)

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

	GRADE LEVELS	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT
YEAR ONE	9 th	30
YEAR TWO	9 th + 10 th	60
YEAR THREE	9 th - 11 th	90
YEAR FOUR	9 th - 12 th	120
YEAR FIVE	9 th - 12 th	120
YEAR SIX	8 th - 12 th	150
YEAR SEVEN	7 th - 12 th	180
YEAR EIGHT	6 th - 12 th	210
YEAR NINE	5 th - 12 th	240
YEAR TEN	5 th - 12 th	240

CURRENT LEADERSHIP

List all current and identified board members and their intended roles on the table below (adding rows as needed).

FULL NAME	CURRENT JOB AND EMPLOYER	FOCUS/EXPERTISE*
Sharhonda Wells	Teacher Memphis City Schools	Education/Curriculum Development
Joletta Hall	Loan Originator	Grant Writing
Katrice Foster	Project Mgr. Ingot Consulting	Management/Organization
Anndra Jackson	Project Mgr. LBMC	Public Relations/Community Outreach

*Community Service/Outreach, Legal Expertise/Attorney, Public Relations, Education, Management/Organizational Experience, Parent/Community Involvement, Finance, Marketing, Fundraising/Grant Writing, Personnel/Human Capital, Other (please elaborate)

Please provide an abstract for your proposed school (two pages maximum). Please address the following elements:

- Mission and vision for the proposed school,
- Academic focus and plan,
- The need for the proposed school,
- The targeted population of students,
- Community outreach completed or planned, and
- Individual or organizational history of success/accomplishments in education



Education

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR A TENNESSEE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL - 2016

All applicants must file a Letter of Intent at least 60 days prior to the application deadline of April 1, 2016. This letter must be delivered to the local board of education and the Tennessee Department of Education no later than February 1, 2016.

Submit the letter of intent via email to charter.schools@tn.gov.

Contact the local board of education to determine where to submit the letter of intent.

NAME OF PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL:

Axiom Montessori Charter School

CHARTERING AUTHORITY FOR PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL:

Tennessee State Board of Education

SPONSOR/SPONSORING AGENCY: _____

MODEL OR FOCUS OF PROPOSED SCHOOL:

Montessori Education Model

Provide the name of the person who will serve as the **primary contact** for the application. The **primary contact** should serve as the contact for follow-up, interviews, and notices regarding the application.

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON:

Anndra R. Jackson

MAILING ADDRESS:

3240 New Towne Rd

PRIMARY TELEPHONE:

(615) 596-3360

ALTERNATE TELEPHONE: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

anndray@gmail.com

NAME OF PROPOSED SCHOOL LEADER (if any):

Anndra Jackson

REPLICATION APPLICATION:

YES

NO

Projected Year of School Opening:

2017