



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: Jump-Start Charter School dba Jump-Start Reading and Math Academic

CHARTERING AUTHORITY FOR PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL:

Metro Nashville Board of Education

SPONSOR/SPONSORING AGENCY: Bare Yogol

MODEL OR FOCUS OF PROPOSED SCHOOL: The focus of the school is on Reading, Math and other skills necessary to be successful in school and later in life.

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: Mr. Bare Yogol or Mrs. Melanie Collins

MAILING ADDRESS: P O BOX. 17625, Nashville, TN. 37217

PRIMARY TELEPHONE: (615) 512-7593 ALTERNATE TELEPHONE: (615) 425-1467

E-MAIL ADDRESS: byogol@yahoo.com or melaniecollins@tds.net

NAME OF PROPOSED SCHOOL LEADER (if any): Melanie Collins, Executive Administrator

REPLICATION APPLICATION: NO

Projected Year of School Opening: 2017-2018

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Grade Level	2017-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27
K	80	80	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
1st	80	80	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
2nd	0	80	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
3rd	0	0	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
4th	0	0	0	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
Total # Students	160	240	400	500	600	600	600	600	600	600

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	Board Responsibility	FOCUS/EXPERTISE*
Dr. Lewis Bridges	Admissions Specialist/Adjunct Professor at Trevecca Nazarene University	President	Public Relations
Dr. Mohamed Ali	Assistant Professor of Education at Grand Canyon University	Vice president	Fundraising/Grant Writing
Salaad Nur	Senior Intact Consultant at LBMC Technologies	Treasurer	Technology /Finance
Naomi Jensen	Contractor for Collabora with American General Life Insurance	Secretary	Marketing, Personnel/Human Capital
Shannon Crutcher	Attorney at Crutcher Law Office PLLC	Board Member	Legal Expertise/Attorney
Dr. Natalie Cureton	English Language Development specialist at Antioch High School MNPS	Board Member	Education
Faisal Mohamed	Interpreter at Open Communication International	Board Member	Parent/Community Involvement
Beth Buchanan	Director and Founder at Cedar creek Schoolhouse Academy	Board Member	Management/Organizational Experience
Mohamoud Elmi	Tutor at Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee	Board Member	Community Service/Outreach and Enrollment

*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

Mission:

Jump-Start Charter School will address the needs of a diverse group of students, their families and their communities by building on the strengths of the students' cultural heritage and life experiences. Jump-Start Charter School students will be educated and enlightened to become successful, lifelong learners and valuable members of the global community. Our ELL Program provides instruction for academic and linguistic competence. Such competence will enable students to achieve on the same basis as native speakers of English and to participate successfully in the mainstream of American society.

Vision:

The vision of Jump-Start Charter School is to create a K-4 school that is highly regarded for its academic excellence, providing a challenging learning environment for students, particularly in reading and in math. In order to provide a successful student experience, we will build a supportive, collaborative community between students, parents, and staff, embracing diversity, and honoring the unique contributions of each individual.

Academic Focus and Plan; Need for the Proposed School; Targeted Population of Students:

Jump-Start Charter School is a new start-up elementary designed to serve students during their most critical educational years in Kindergarten through Fourth Grades. The school will place an educational emphasis on math and literacy, with additional instruction during the school day and after school, particularly in these subject areas. We know that literacy is the foundation for all learning, and every young person needs to be literate and proficient in math. We use the basic skills of literacy and numeracy in almost every part of our lives when we communicate with each

other, whether in traditional forms or through use of internet and digital media. Without proficiency in these two content areas, a young person or adult cannot participate fully in many aspects of life, such as reading mail or e-mail, or understanding a utility bill.

“In fact, research shows that doing more mathematics increases oral language abilities, even when measured during the following school year. These include vocabulary, inference, independence, and grammatical complexity.” **G.J. Duncan, C.J. Dowsett, A. Claessens, K. Magnuson, A.C. Huston, P. Klebanov, and C. Japel, “School Readiness and Later Achievement,” *Developmental Psychology*, 43(6), 1428–1446, 2007.**

Students at Jump-Start Charter School will receive a minimum of two hours of dedicated literacy instruction in addition to the content-driven literacy in other subject areas. All teachers will be involved in the teaching of literacy, and staff will receive necessary and ongoing staff development to infuse literacy into content areas. Teachers will constantly assess their students, both formally and informally, to drive classroom instruction. Frequent data analysis and action plans will be developed for improving whole class and individualized instruction. Teachers will conduct weekly team meetings designed for planning and discussing student strengths and weaknesses.

Jump-Start Charter School expects to serve students who are performing below grade level in a community with an average population of 1.9% Asians, 22.6% Whites, 16.1% Blacks, and 59.4% Hispanic/Latino, and 0.1% Native Americans. In addition, 56.9% of students in the community are English Language Learners, and currently, averages of 93.3% of the students are on a Free/Reduced Lunch status. Since it is anticipated that the majority of students to be served will be considered “at-risk,” our educational program will be designed with positive learning outcomes in mind and with a solid learning foundation in order that students will be well-prepared for middle school, high school, college, and life-long learning.

Over the past three years, two of the current zoned elementary schools in the community where the charter school will be located have had an overall performance status of Review or On Target, with 2014 TVAAS gains of -1.9% and -0.6% in 2014. Data thereby indicates a need for a school that will offer such opportunities as a structured learning environment through hands on activities, technology instruction and usage, small group instruction, and a comprehensive character development program.

Jump-Start Charter School embraces high expectations for teamwork between school leadership, staff, students, and parents. We propose a student-teacher ratio of 16:1, based on research from the Tennessee STAR project that small class size matters most in grades K-3. Our school will be designed to integrate core classes, peer learning, and family workshops. Monthly parent workshops will be provided to incorporate such topic areas as how to help your child with homework, meeting/discussing needs and ideas with other parents, and adult literacy programs.

The proposed school will begin classroom instruction at 8:00 a.m., Monday through Friday, and conclude at 3:30 p.m. Jump-Start Charter School plans to partner with such organizations as THE PENCIL FOUNDATION to provide enhanced tutoring and mentoring programs throughout the school day. The school will also offer a daily tutoring block during the school day and additional tutoring programs after school, Monday-Thursday, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The school will provide ESL and Special Education services for those students as needed and in accordance with IDEA Federal, State and Local regulations.

Community Outreach Completed or Planned:

In order to inform parents of this educational option, Jump-Start Charter School will widely publicize the nature and mission of the school to the surrounding community. We will also arrange informational meetings at community centers, churches, pre-school programs, and libraries as well as having a website with enrollment information. When necessary, personnel will be available who can translate into other languages for parents served or anticipated to be served. A Parent Advisory Council will be formed to bring parent needs and concerns to the Board of Directors and school Administrators. A parent will also serve as a representative on the Board of Directors. Jump-Start Charter School plans to do extensive community outreach in order to build awareness about the new Jump-Start Charter School. We will plan to have five large community events to discuss the school model with parents in February, March, and April.

Monthly parent workshops will be held to provide parents with training and guidance on how to support their students' efforts at home. Parent classes such as English Language and Literacy will be offered for parents throughout the school year.

Community partnerships will include THE PENCIL FOUNDATION to place mentors and tutors throughout the school. The YMCA will be enlisted to provide an after school program for working families. We will continue to expand our community outreach by meeting with and developing relationships with business owners and community leaders to help spread our mission and assist with family recruitment and school events.

Individual or Organizational History of Success/Accomplishments in Education:

Mrs. Melanie Collins, Executive Administrator, has over 22 years experience in education. Mrs. Collins has served as a classroom teacher, reading coach/reading specialist and principal/principal designee in both private and public school settings. She holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Tennessee, and a M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Supervision from Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, Georgia. Mrs. Collins has had experience serving a diverse population of students in inner-city schools and private schools. She has conducted parent workshops in inner-city schools to train parents in methods to better serve their own students. Melanie served as Conference Chair for the 2013 Tennessee Reading Association conference, and 2014-2015 President of the Tennessee Reading

Association. She has a passion for educating and working with students in order to prepare them to become life-long learners.

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.

X 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 or any religious denomination or religiously affiliated entity.”

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

X 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.

There are NO potential conflicts of interest

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

Signature of Primary contact Person:  Date: 01/27/2016

Printed Name: Bare Yogol