

1.2 Founding Group and School Leadership

Founding Group Membership [14 Del. C. § 512(1)]

a. Identify the key members of the Founding Group for the proposed school...

See ATTACHMENT 1 for Founding Group resumes and biographies of those who will work in the school daily or as a Governing Board Members.

Summary information of the Founding Board of LTA may be found below. These members have had and will continue to have an ongoing role in the development/ administration/governance/fiscal oversight/and strategic planning of LTA.

The key members of the Founding Board for the proposed school are as follows:

Name	Certifications	Role at LTA	Community Status
Pipkin-Perry	Certified Secondary School Admin., School Counselor, Voc. Ed. Teacher	School President/CEO	CSD, NCCVTSD and BSD educator, Thomas Edison Charter School Board Member
Robert Anderson, Sr.	Certified School Admin., Social Studies Teacher	Contractual School Project Leader	Christina School District (CSD)
Danika Perry	Certification Clinical Psychology Spring 2015, Praxis I Biology Teacher	School Governing Board Secretary	BSD, CHS, Colonial and Red Clay School Districts with Delaware Guidance Services and Kelly Educational Services
Dakota Williams	Certified Lab Technician, Certified Realtor	School Governing Board Facilities	Siemens of DE Long and Foster Real Estate
Elijah Wilson	Certified Public Accountant	Contractual School Financial Specialist	State of Delaware Social Services Division

Other Governing Board Members of LTA, Advisory Board Members and essential consultants and partners are listed below. See ATTACHMENT 3 for Governing Board Members and many Advisory Board member resumes and biographies.

Name	Role at LTA
E. Wayne Harris, Ed.D.	School Start Up and Strategic Planning Coordinator and Consultant Advisory Board Member
Monique Hite-Head, Ph.D.	Engineering Classroom Projects and Research Advisory board Member
Sharon Hardnett, Ed.D.	Math Mentor and Data Coach Advisor for Summative Assessment Advisory Board Member
Carol L. Kuprevich, Ed.D.	Mental and Public Health Resources Advisory Board Member
Michael Czarkowski, Ed.D.	Wilmington University Early College Advisor Advisory Board Member
Audrey Scott-Hinson, M.Ed.	Entrepreneurship Training and Special Education Mentor Advisory Board Member
Peggy Enslin, Ed.D.	DDOE Education Associate, Health Sciences Advisor -- DDOE
Michael Fitzgerald	DDOE Education Associate, Technology Advisor -- DDOE
Garth Warner, MBA	Marketing and School Developer Governing Board President
Michelle Eklund, MBA, PHR	Human Resources Chairman Governing Board Member
Erica Carter, MD	Public Health, Childhood Diseases Advisor Advisory Board Member
Mary Beth French, M.S.	PE Teacher/Nemours and DOE Affiliate Liaison Advisory Board Member
Robert Young, B.S.	Internship Opportunities at Delaware River and Bay Authority Advisory Board Member
Kelli Garrity, RN, MPH	Public Health and Wellness
Mary Hite, M.A.	Staff Development, Teacher and Student Mentoring Advisory Board Member
Wayne Ravenell, M.Ed.	STEM Advisor

	Advisory Board Member
Nicole Hyland, M.Ed.	Special Education Advisor Advisory Board Member
Michael Ramone	Community Leadership Advisory Board Member
Lydia Anderson, J.D., ESQ.	Legal Counselor Governing Board Vice President
Tracy O. Hudson	ELA Curriculum Planning and Support Southern Delaware Professional Development Center University of Delaware
Diana Roscoe	Math Curriculum Planning and Support Southern Delaware Professional Development Center University of Delaware
Everett Dickerson, M.A.	Children’s Mental Health Advisor Advisory Board Member
Alton A. Williams, OD	Affinity Health Care and Vison Plus of Delaware – School Campus Wellness Center Provider

b. Explain the Founding Group’s collective qualifications for establishing a high-quality charter school in Delaware and in assuming stewardship of public funds. Address the following in your response.

- Experience and/or involvement in K -12 public education system;
- Experience in the design and operation of a charter school;
- School leadership, administration, and governance;
- Research based curriculum and instructional strategies that will ensure that all students meet or exceed the expectations of the Delaware Content Standards (Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics-and Next Generation Science Standards);
- Business management, including but not limited to Delaware financial and accounting systems and the funding procedures for Delaware charter schools;
- Personnel management;
- Diversity issues, including but not limited to outreach, student enrollment, and instruction;
- At-risk populations and children with disabilities, including but not limited to students eligible for special education and related services; English language learners; migrant/homeless students; and other at-risk populations that the school intends to serve;
- School operations, including but not limited to charter school funding/finance, school bus transportation, facilities management, and school lunch/breakfast programs, and health and safety; and

- Parent and community engagement.

Opening a successful, high-performing charter school depends on having a complete, coherent plan. LTA’s Founding Board understands that the application must meet or exceed the standard for approval in all main sections of the application: Education Plan, Organizational Plan, Financial Plan, as well as any optional sections, and must demonstrate evidence of the applicant team’s capacity to execute the plan as presented. Individual and collective qualifications are demonstrated in the Founding Board resumes and biographies. LTA Founding Board of Directors is a highly qualified and committed cohort of professionals. LTA Founding Board members have spent the past three years framing its mission, development, and implementing a strategic plan for the school start-up and ongoing successful achievement rate of student and financial solvency.

Skill	Patsy Pipkin-Perry	Robert Anderson, Sr.	Danika Perry	Dakota Williams	Elijah Wilson
K – 12 Public School	X	X	X		
Design & Operation of a Charter School	X	X			X
School Leadership, Admin., Governance	X	X			X
Curriculum and Instructional Strategies	X	X			
Business Management	X	X		X	X
Personnel Management	X	X	X	X	X
Diversity Issues	X	X	X	X	X
At-risk Populations and Children with Disabilities	X	X	X		
School Operations	X	X			X
Parent and Community Engagement	X	X	X	X	X

c. Describe the Founding Group’s ties to and knowledge of the proposed school community.

- **Summarize each person’s experience, qualifications, and affiliations that will be directly relevant to developing a high-quality charter school that reflects the school’s mission and vision. Explain why each individual was chosen to participate in this Founding Group.**
- **Explain how and why the Founding Group decided to form a school in Delaware.**

Each member of the Founding Group is a resident or is employed in the greater Wilmington or New Castle County areas. At least 75% of the Board is experienced state certified school administrators, teachers (STEM) or other state personnel. One of the Founding Board members is a member of a thriving state charter school Governing Board of Directors (Thomas Edison Charter School). Another Founding Board member is a past member of Family Foundations Academy. LTA’s Board Members are pedagogy staff developers, grant writers, curriculum specialists, strategic planners, program evaluators, nonprofit managers, business owners, human resource developers, data coaches, and financial and accounting analysts. LTA Founding Board members are Leaders Encouraging Academic Achievement, Health, Nutrition, Physical Fitness and STEM.

Mrs. Patsy Pipkin-Perry, M.S., M.Ed. – *Founding Board Chief Executive Officer. (School CEO).* Mrs. Pipkin-Perry is a proponent of wellness and academic achievement. She affords the Board her 29 years of demonstrated and superb experience as a secondary school administrator, teacher, school counselor and college assistant professor. Mrs. Pipkin-Perry is a proven activist who has spent a lifetime supporting underrepresented youth and educating parents about opportunities for their student. Mrs. Pipkin-Perry has successfully written educational grants totally over \$185,000.00 in support of alternative education, business and technology education, mentoring, entrepreneurial, character and leadership programs for youth in Pennsylvania and Delaware. She currently serves as curriculum committee chair on the Thomas Edison Charter School Board of Directors. Mrs. Pipkin-Perry was named the state’s Secondary School Counselor in 2010. She received the State Capitol’s Education Award in Dover from her sorority (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.) in 2012, and the Markevic Johnson Education Foundation Award for Excellence in Education the same year. She founded the Achievers’ Academy at Concord High School in the BSD in 2008. Due to its success and promise for underachieving youth, this Character Development and Leadership Program has been expanded to all high schools and middle schools in the district. Mrs. Pipkin-Perry is upheld as a Forum to Advance Minorities in Engineering (FAME) Science Project Paper Instructor, Counselor and Acting Director of the FAME Program for over 13 years. In addition to grant writing experience, Mrs. Pipkin-Perry has experience in writing the 501c3 application, charter school By-laws, student activities manual, student handbook, graduation project manual, curriculum development, and charter school organization and structure. She co-owns Perry’s Custom Catering Company with her husband Parrish. She is a highly recognized and respected professional in the community.

Mr. Robert Anderson, Sr., M.Ed. – *Founding Board Project Leader. (School Project Leader).* Mr. Anderson has been an active community leader in Newark, Wilmington, and New Castle County for over 40 years. He served on the Newark Planning Commission for many years and was one of the founding members of Newark Community Days. A proven Principal of Glasgow High School, Student Advisor, Personnel Administrator, Teacher (high school social studies) and a dedicated resourceful education professional with a proven ability. At Glasgow, Mr. Anderson and his staff

were awarded a National Science Foundation Grant of \$787,000.00; which at the time and still is one of the largest grants ever awarded to a high school. This grant involved a great deal of work in the instructional strategies used in Project Based Learning and Small Learning Communities. In 2006 he joined the Administrative Team of Sarah Pyle Academy to assist with its opening. He had major administrative responsibilities in working with the business and government communities in placing students in jobs, job shadowing and internships throughout New Castle County. He has varied experiences at every level of public and private education with a vision to provide educational support services and share effective education practices that are based on first-hand knowledge as well as educational research. Mr. Anderson's extensive background in education has given him the ability to meet challenges head on. He currently owns his own educational consulting firm, (BRIDGE to Achievement Effectiveness and Service Consulting). Mr. Anderson has experience in writing grant applications; including the 501c3 application, charter school By-laws, and charter school organization and structure. He is a highly recognized and respected professional in the community.

Dr. Danika Perry, Psy.D., LLP – Founding Board Secretary. (School Governing Board Secretary). Dr. Perry is an educator and has always enjoyed teaching young people, although her true calling and focus of her clinical experience involves the behavioral and mental wellness of children and adolescents. Dr. Perry is currently a post-doctoral fellow at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc, MI. This 2-year fellowship is providing her the opportunity to provide psychological consultation and liaison services to patients in the hospital, as well therapeutic, lifestyle change intervention, and psychological evaluation of patients in a family health clinic. During this time of training, development, and enhancement, Dr. Perry is afforded the opportunity to not only work alongside the medical residents, but to provide education to the residents based upon behaviorally based and mental health associated topics. Dr. Perry plans to return to the Delaware area after the conclusion of her post-doctoral fellowship in order to apply her knowledge and skills gained to the student services component of LTA. In doing so, Dr. Perry will play an integral role in designing and implementing an interdisciplinary-based healthy lifestyle curriculum specifically geared towards the needs of adolescents. This curriculum will be developed based upon evidenced based approaches, including the transtheoretical model of change (Prochaska & DiClemente, 1983), which addresses the known risk factors of unhealthy weight and other lifestyle based-risk factors among adolescents. Inasmuch, Dr. Perry will help to coordinate the services of LTA teachers and staff, to provide a comprehensive healthy lifestyle management curriculum. Dr. Perry will also will serve as one of the directors of the Wellness Center (*in-kind service prior to renewal*) where students can receive or be referred to an appropriate level of mental health care.

Mr. Elijah Wilson, B.S. – Founding Board Financial Officer. (School Contractual Financial Specialist). Mr. Wilson will assume the responsibility for budget development and long-range financial planning, including budgetary control. He has earned over ten years of experience in establishing and supervising a program of accounting and reporting financial affairs of Delaware State Charter Schools to the Delaware Department of Education. Mr. Elijah Wilson will ensure that LTA adheres to regulatory guidelines, internal control, cash receipts, capitalization and other internal policies, procedures, and processes that address many aspects of the School's operations. Mr. Wilson has served on the Marion T. Academy Board as its business manager and Kuumba

Academy Charter School as its Director of Operations/Finance as well as Family Foundations Academy.

Ms. Dakota Williams, CRES-- *Founding Board Treasurer. (School Governing Board Member—Facilities).* Ms. Williams is a Certified Chemical Manufacturing Technologist and Real Estate Agent Ms. Williams has been a residential Realtor with 13 years real estate experience. Her sales awards include the Re/Max Presidents Club, Prudential Fox and Roach Sales Performance Award and most recently the Delaware Today Magazine 5 Star Realtor Award. She is also currently employed as a Manufacturing Lab Technician with Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics and has over twenty years of industrial chemistry experience working with a wide range of chemistry products. Ms. Williams enjoys volunteer work; effectively working many years with Junior Achievement of Delaware, Inc., and parent & community outreach activities.

d. Provide as Attachment 1 (Founding Group Resumes and Biographies....

See ATTACHMENT 1.