

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY Curriculum & Instruction/Human Resource Services/Risk Management		SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
TITLE GUIDING YOUTH TO SUCCESS SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS CHARTER APPLICATION REVIEW RECOMMENDATION TO THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA		SUBMITTED BY: VICKIE MATHIS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION	
PERIOD OF GRANT/CONTRACT/REQUEST July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2013	FUNDING SOURCE Basic FEFP	PROJECT COORDINATOR AND DEPARTMENT PAUL FETSKO ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION	
AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUEST - 0 -		TOTAL PROJECT - 0 -	
PURPOSE The district's Charter School Review Panel is recommending to the Superintendent that the charter application submitted by the Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts be denied by the School Board of Escambia County, Florida. The Charter School Review Panel comprised of members of district staff from Curriculum and Instruction, Finance, Operations, and Human Resources reviewed the application. An interview with the Charter applicant was held on October 30, 2009. The review team determined that the application should be denied based on the Application Review Summary provided.			
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN Following is the revised Mission Statement of the applicant: To creatively promote an appreciation of performing arts and provide a high quality academic education for boys and girls that encompasses knowledge, integrity and respect. Thereby, fostering and empowering the community with contributing and productive citizens. The district's review panel consisting of members from Curriculum and Instruction, Finance, Operations, and Human Resources reviewed the application and provided feedback through an interview with the applicant. The review panel determined that overall, the application does not exhibit a complete understanding of the responsibilities entailed in the operation of a charter school.			
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS/AGENCIES Escambia County School District Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts			
ACTION REQUIRED Board Denial of Charter Application and signature of Chair			
STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT: PILLAR Quality Goal Q.1: To increase rigor at all levels Q.1.2. Increase the number of students scoring Achievement Level 4 and 5 as measured by the FCAT. Goal Q.2: To improve attendance and discipline of students Q.2.1. Create a culture of instruction that will result in increased attendance and fewer discipline problems as measured by average daily attendance and a reduction in the percentage of referrals in schools. Q.2.2 Decrease the number of schools graded below a "C" as measured through Florida's school grading rubric.			
DIRECTOR <i>Vickie Mathis</i>		DATE 11/25/09	DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT <i>Paul Fetsko</i>		DATE 11/25/09	

Application Review Summary

Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts

APPLICATION SECTION	Application Review Summary
Mission, Guiding Principles and Purpose Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(2)(a), 1002.33(2)(b), 1002.33(2)(c), 1002.33(6)(a)1., 1002.33(7)(a)1., F.S.	Strength: - The school's mission and core philosophy are described in the application. Weaknesses: - A set of priorities that are meaningful, manageable, measurable, and focused on improving student outcomes was difficult to determine due to the number of different educational models presented in the mission. - The applicant was unable to articulate to the Review Team how the program would be implemented during the interview. The use of performing arts in the school day did not allow adequate time for core academic courses, credit recovery, and/or required remediation of Level 1 and 2 students. - The Pretty in Pink and Men in the Marketplace programs were not aligned with the Sunshine State Standards. - The performing arts program is not linked to the Sunshine State standards.
Target Population and Student Body Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(10)(e), 1002.33(6)(b)2., 1002.33(7)(a)1., 1003.03, F.S.	Strengths: - Students will be selected from local middle schools and high schools. - The Guiding Youth to Success' targeted population is projected to serve the following students: African American 70%, Caucasian 15%, Hispanic 10%, Other 5%.
Educational Program Design Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)2., F.S.	Weaknesses: - The educational philosophies mentioned in the application do not align with the Sunshine State Standards. - Several instructional methods are mentioned in this section but it is not evident how these methods will be used in the curriculum plan. - A daily schedule was not evident in the application. - Offering performing arts classes during 3rd – 8th period does not allow time for reading and/or math remediation for Level 1 and

Application Review Summary **Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts**

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Educational Program Design, continued		2 students, core academic courses, or credit recovery. No curriculum named for use in performing arts classes.
Curriculum Plan		Weaknesses: - Application states that the school will use the district's curriculum but does not provide an implementation plan. - Next Generation Sunshine State Standards are not addressed. - Neither character education plan to be used is aligned with Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. - Application does not address how performing arts progress will be measured.
Student Performance, Assessment and Evaluation		Weaknesses: - Science course requirements are outdated. - Next Generation Sunshine State Standards are not addressed. - No plan for pre/post assessments to measure student progress other than FCAT. - Application does not address how performing arts progress will be measured.
Exceptional Students		Weakness: Response to Intervention (RtI) is not mentioned in the application and is required in law.
English Language Learners		Strength: The application addresses the requirements of the law.
School Climate and Discipline		Weaknesses: - School policies in the application are copied from the Escambia County School District Rights & Responsibilities Handbook. - The applicant stated that the school would develop its own

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School Climate and Discipline, continued		R & R handbook and school discipline procedures; however, this document has not been received by the district.
Governance	Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)15., 1002.33(12)(i), 1002.33(16)(b), F.S.	Weaknesses: • The application contains a description of board members, but not responsibilities. • An organizational chart in the application shows a principal, a business manager and an office manager. In the interview, the applicant said the business manager and the office manager is the same person and will also serve as CPA.
Management	Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)9., 1002.33(7)(a)14., F.S.	Weakness: • The application timetable indicates that the Guidance Counselor will also be the person responsible for school data entry. • The application does not include job descriptions for employees.
Educational Service Providers		Not applicable
Employment	Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)14., 1002.33(12), F.S.	Strength: • A vague description of the school's policies and procedures is evident in the application. Weaknesses: • The compensation plan is not explained clearly. • The budget is unclear as to which benefits will be offered to specific employees. • Workers' compensation benefits are not provided in application as required in Florida law.

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Parent and Community Support and Partnerships No specific statutory references.	Strength: - There is a plan using a Community Outreach Program. - Participation in community events is mentioned in the application. Weakness: - Specific community partnerships are not established in the application.
Student Recruitment and Enrollment Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)7., 1002.33(7)(a)8., 1002.33(10), F.S.	Strength: - The application contains a description of a marketing plan. Weakness: - There is money allocated in the budget to support the recruiting plan mentioned in the application.
Facilities Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(7)(a)13., 1002.33(18), F.S.	Strength: - The facility at 1201 North H Street owned by the Baptist Ministers Board of Directors is named as the location of the school. Weakness: - The building has not been inspected. The application states that if renovations are necessary, the applicant will seek community members and area churches to volunteer.
Transportation Service Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(20)(c), F.S.	Weakness: The application states the school will utilize transportation through the Escambia County School Board.

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Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts

Food Service Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(20)(a), F.S.	Weakness: The application has no clear food service plan.
Budget Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(6)(a)5, 1002.33(6)(b)2., F.S.	Strength: - The applicant worked with the district's Coordinator of Cost Accounting to revise the projected budget based on 100 FTE. Weaknesses: - The budget for the costs involved in operating the entire school was not revised. It is based on a total of 250 students. - The budget contains no evidence of the capacity necessary to purchase and administer the academic program mentioned in the application. - The amount budgeted for computers and software is not sufficient since it does not include the costs over a 3 year period, nor does it include the costs of a server and networking of computers in the school. - The amount budgeted for payroll is not sufficient. - There is no amount budgeted for transportation. - The amount budgeted for insurance for the school is not sufficient as it does not account for workers' compensation and health insurance for all employees. - The utilization of a competitive grant is included in the application budget. This funding can not be considered since it is competitive; thus 1st year budget will be approximately \$75,000 short. The law does not allow the district to include donations or competitive grants in the evaluation of the budget. - The budget includes \$5,000.00 in fundraising which can not be considered by the district in the evaluation of the overall budget as there is no guarantee these funds will be raised.

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Financial Management and Oversight Statutory References: ss. 1002.33(6)(a)5., 1002.33(7)(a)9., 1002.33(7)(a)11., F.S.	Strengths: • The applicant lists the following insurance requirements to be provided: General Liability, Staff and Directors Errors and Omissions, Property, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment. • The application states that accounting services will be provided through Saltmarsh, Cleaveland and Gund. • The applicant states that Landrum Professional Service will be responsible for issuing checks on a bi-weekly basis for payroll. Employee files will be filed/locked in a personal filing cabinet in the school secretary's office. Weakness: • The budget does not align with the number of staff and services listed in the application.
Timetable for Implementation Statutory Reference: s. 1002.33(7)(a)16., F.S.	Strength: • The application includes a timetable.

Application Review Summary
Guiding Youth to Success School of Performing Arts

Based on the information provided above in the application review summary, The School Board of Escambia County, Florida recommends the following:

DENY APPLICATION _____

APPROVE APPLICATION _____

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida

By: _____
Gerald W. Boone, Chair

Attest: _____
Malcolm Thomas, Superintendent

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM


NOV 23 2009

GENERAL COUNSEL
ESCAMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD