



PHASE I: Letter of Intent

Created: 06/23/2016

Last updated: 06/27/2016

Basic Contact and Application Information

Page 1

Applicant groups and Existing Education Corporations interested in submitting an application to establish Regents-authorized charter schools are asked to complete this brief information sheet. The Department will use this information to plan and coordinate peer review panels with appropriate expertise to evaluate all application materials.

Please indicate whether an Applicant Group (operates no charter schools to date) or an Existing Education Corporation (operates a least one charter school) is submitting this Round 1 Letter of Intent.

Applicant Group LOI to establish a single, new charter school

Proposed Charter School Name

(Please write out the full name for the proposed charter school, and include the words "charter" and "school" in the proposed name(s)).

School Name	The Legacy Charter of Innovative Thinkers
Grades Served (K-5, .6-8, 9-12, etc.) During Initial Term	K-5
Max Number of Students During Initial Term	320

Proposed or Current Board Chair and Public Contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address.

(The entire chart may not be visible on your screen. Use the "tab" key to move from column to column. The first column will remain static as you do so).

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number	Email Address
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		(###-###-####)	
Proposed/Current Board Chair	JoAnne C. Thompson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Public/Media Contact Person	Sandra Oates	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

List of Key Design Elements

(Integral to the school model, these elements should be reflected throughout the application)

1	Community Partnerships
2	Whole Child Approach
3	Mixed Inspiration Pedagogy
4	(No response)
5	(No response)
6	(No response)
7	(No response)
8	(No response)
9	(No response)
10	(No response)

If available, please provide the URL to the website established for the proposed school or existing education corporation.

www.thelegacycharter.com

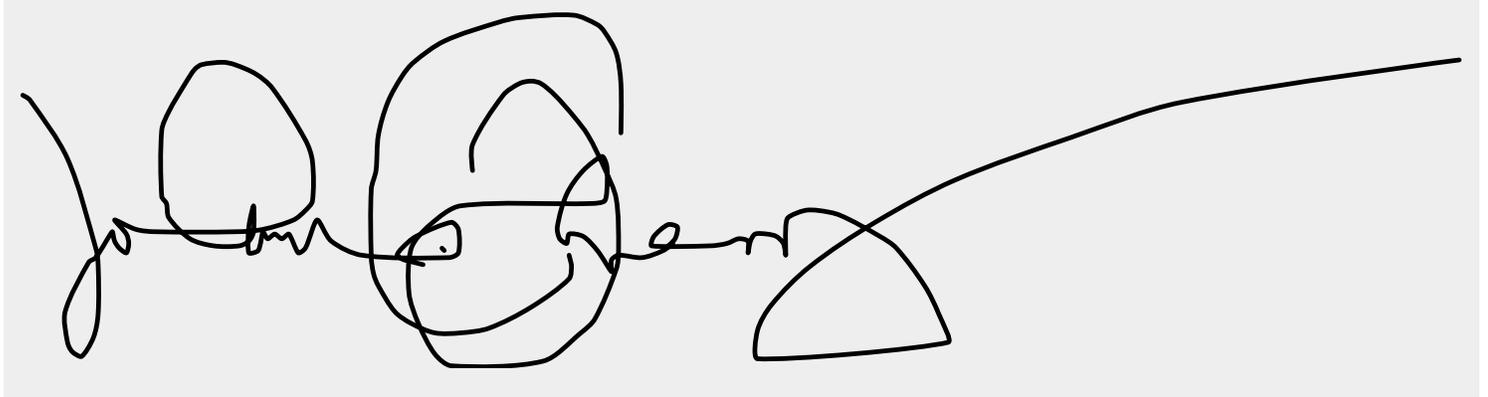
Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s), such as a charter or educational management company or a university, academic program partner, or whole school change partner.

(Refer to the application kit for definitions and guidance as only "substantial" partnerships should be listed here).

Proposed Management Company	n/a
Partner Organization 1	n/a
Partner Organization 2	n/a

Proposed Board Chair Signature

(Internet Explorer may not support this feature. Open the portal using Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari).



Date

2016/06/23

Thank you for completing this form.

2016 LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

1

I. Applicant Group Information: (a&b)

NAME	CURRENT EMPLOYMENT	ROLE ON FOUNDING GROUP	PROPOSED ROLE(S) ON SCHOOL BOARD, IF ANY
JOANNE C THOMPSON	Rockland BOCES- Chief Dispatcher	Lead Applicant- Founding Member (Operational/ Educational)	Board Trustee- President
SANDRA OATES	East Ramapo Central School District- Guidance Counselor, Pomona MS	Media Contact- Founding Member (Educational)	Board Trustee- Vice President
AMEENAH CAPERS, ESQ.	Rockland County Office of the District Attorney- Asst. District Atty.	Secretary- Founding Member (Legal)	Board Trustee- Secretary
SHIRI REUNUVICH	Green Meadow Waldorf- Speech Pathologist	Founding Member (Special Education/ Speech/ Waldorf Education)	Board Trustee
GEORGE HEYLIGER	NYC DOE (Retired)- School Psychologist	Founding Member (Educational)	Board Trustee

c. Public Contact: Sandra Oates: [REDACTED] Website: www.thelegacycharter.com

d. Applicant history:

New York: 2015 – LOI for The Legacy of Innovative Thinkers Charter School submitted (denied).
 2014 – LOI for The Legacy of Innovative Thinkers Charter School submitted (approved); 2013 – LOI for The Legacy of Innovative Thinkers Charter School submitted (denied);

Other States: 2009 – LOI for the Rochester STEM Academy, Rochester Minnesota submitted to Authorizer: Novations Education Opportunities (NEO) of which Louise Covert, Ph.D. was a Founding Board Member (approved).

II. Proposed Charter School Information

a. Proposed school name: THE LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL OF INNOVATIVE (LCSIT)

b. Proposed school location: EAST RAMAPO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (ERCSD) – LCSIT Applicant group has applied for use of public space.

c. Planned grades and enrollment in each of the years of the proposed charter term.

Grades	Ages	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
K	3-5	60	60	60	60	60
1	5-6	60	60	60	60	60
2	6-7		60	60	60	60
3	7-8			60	60	60
4	8-9				60	60
5	9-10					60
	TOTALS	120	180	240	300	360

d. Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s): N/A

e. Proposed school mission: LCSIT will guide students to develop strong character, critical thinking skills, and to respect equity in education as they also recognize and realize their intellectual, social, and personal potential. Our ability to give every child a chance to succeed in school depends upon a full understanding of culture and learning styles. Our commitment to equity in education dictates that our educational decisions and practices reflect an understanding of the ways that our students live as well as learn. Hence, we will encourage and integrate cultural traditions of all of our families throughout our school community personifying the idea of equity because we believe that by knowing each student we can facilitate, structure, and validate successful learning for all students.

f. School overview: LCSIT uses theme-based units in an interdisciplinary approach that integrates the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) into learning that examines topics such as Environmental Ecology, blending Science, Math, Art, Music, English language arts, Speech, Citizenship, Social Responsibility, and Personal Leadership into lesson constructs that reflect and critically examine real-world application of important topics. These themes will be used to enhance the school climate/ community and engage parents/ families in the learning process. Both formative and summative assessments, aligned to the CCLS, are used to determine student progress. Traditional, project-based, and performance-based assessments are used to demonstrate mastery of learning objectives, benchmarks, and standards.

LCSIT seeks to provide an alternate option for parents of ERCSD, where their feedback/ input is welcomed and valued. Various opportunities will be made available for parents to have access to classroom and extra-curricular activities, making them feel a closer connection to their child's academic career, which in turn yield higher performance amongst the students and closer connections to the school community.

g. Target Population/ Community served: East Ramapo Central School District (ERCSD) serves approximately 113,000 residents. As the 7th largest School District in New York State, approximately 27,000 residents are school-aged children; 8,500 of East Ramapo's school-aged residents attend public school. The state education department states: In 2009-2010, 54% of the district's 8,000+ public school students were African American; 30% were Hispanic. East Ramapo has the second-largest ELL population in the region, behind Yonkers. East Ramapo's residents speak one or more of the 88 home languages heard in its community. Enrollment data collected as part of 2015's NYSED's Student Information Repository System (SIRS) reports that East Ramapo has an enrollment of about 50% Spanish speaking students in the Public Schools. LCSIT's applicant group is committed to providing its students with English language support, academic and common core aligned curricular needs, social and life-skill learning targets, socio-cultural demographics, and, for special education students, meet FAPE requirements in its administrative, staff, curricular, instructional, and community-to-school structures. Most of the students attending public school live below the poverty line: 84% deemed economically disadvantaged. In East Ramapo, 29% of school-aged children/youth exhibit limited English proficiency (LEP) and 21% of school-aged children/youth qualify for special education services. LCSIT is committed to being a safe, welcoming, public charter school community.

h. Replication of high quality school models: N/A

III. Enrollment and retention of students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced price lunch program.**a. Those identified in the school's mission:**

LCSIT will conduct a comprehensive campaign to enroll students eligible for free/reduced lunch (FRLP), with special needs, and who are English Language Learners (ELL). Advertising in community newspapers, the local radio, and television broadcasting events to promote the school have begun and will advertise the enrollment process immediately upon approval. Legacy will attract and enroll students through our emphasis on a commitment to meeting the educational needs of a heterogeneous population. As a public,

tuition-free school, LCSIT offers academic, social, health education, the arts, and a strong focus on supporting academic achievement for students enrolled in regular education, special education, and English language learning programs/supplemental or mandated programs. The curriculum is vertically aligned with the CCLS. Classroom units are theme-based, interdisciplinary, and incorporate a variety of learning modalities and modifications. LCSIT is committed to being responsive to the socio-economic, linguistic, cultural, ethnic, and special education needs of the greater community's families and students. Brochures will be widely distributed anywhere parents might gather or do business. Several Open Houses will be hosted in the months prior to opening. We will host presentations in preschools, daycares, community center organizations that serve non-English speaking populations and/or offer support to low-income families, and in clinics and childhood development centers that cater to children with special needs. We will also inform the Committee on Special Education of our program and services so they can share them with interested families. Through our website/social media, we will reach a wider audience that might have been less reachable via the previously mentioned channels. Our advertising will emphasize the creation of a supportive community environment that will promote diversity by making sure that the individual learning needs and styles of our students are met, and that all students have equal access to our curriculum, in order to retain diverse learners. We will strive to create a diverse student population reflective of the residents of East Ramapo Central School District. With the history, rapport, and trust built with our parents and community partners, we will use word of mouth and direct referrals to help spread the word about our school.

b. Students with disabilities: LCSIT will attract and enroll students with disabilities because LCSIT is fully committed to providing special needs children with an excellent education. LCSIT will recruit students with special needs by working closely with agencies that provide Preschool Programs, such as Spring Valley Headstart for students with disabilities. We will continue to reach-out to all families to serve and retain students of all abilities. LCSIT will develop a procedure and plan to ensure that students referred for special education services are supported by Response to Intervention (RTI) protocols, parent/guardian involvement, and receive tests or in-school or department of education approved service providers as needed. This includes transitional services if applicable. Students with individualized Education Plans ("IEPs"), 504 plans, and students whose special education status is in process will receive support services. Students with established IEPs and 504 plans will experience a free, adequate, public education at LCSIT. The student's teachers and appropriate personnel will collectively support the student's IEP or 504 goals through differentiated instruction and the student plan goals as written. Through the school's pupil personnel services or through contracting with state approved agencies, student with an IEP/504 plan will experience learning in an inclusive, affirming, least restrictive environment ("LRE"). Informational Sessions will be set up to specifically address how our program will meet the needs of students with special needs and for parents to experience tour and learn more about the services offered. Program Administrators, Social Workers, District CPSE Coordinators, Sp. Ed. Teachers, Parents and Students will all be invited to learn more about our school. Additionally, our recruitment brochures will specifically mention the special services offered and our unique pedagogy and philosophy on special education will be shared during Open Houses/Parent Info. Nights.

c. English language learners: While 91 percent of the district's 9,000 public school students are black, Haitian or Latino, 2,400 of them are classified as "English language learners." East Ramapo has the second-largest ELL population in the region, behind Yonkers, according to the district. At LCSIT, we will recruit and retain English language learners (ELL) as students and families observe that their children's L1 and home culture is viewed as an asset. ELLs will be identified through both Home Language Surveys and follow-up pre-assessment evaluations administered for all new students. ELL/ESL teachers will work intensively with classroom teachers to ensure that ELLs' learning needs and styles are being met. Based on the effectiveness of the ELL program, modifications and adjustments will be made. There will be Spanish-speaking staff members in key positions to make sure non-English speakers are engaged and

active participants in the school community. Further ELL will receive ELP assessments to inform the families, ELL, and regular education teachers of the child's language proficiency and literacy levels in both L1 and L2 area as well as their content learning needs. Equally, they will be supported through regular classroom instruction that daily focuses on academic and content specific English language vocabulary. All teachers will teach reading in content areas and receive staff development in that area. LCSIT will visit ethnic community organizations groups like Padres Unidos and Konbit Neg Lakay to offer presentations to their membership to invite prospective students to experience our proposed school. We have established relationships and partnerships with these local organizations, as well as another large organization- Advocating for Change. Additionally, printed promotional materials will be distributed in English, Haitian Creole/ French, and Spanish.

d. Students eligible for free and reduced lunch: LCSIT will recruit and retain students eligible for free/reduced meals as the school recognizes the link between proper nutrition and a child's ability to focus on learning. We will invite families to events that discuss this topic. This is particularly the case in a community where two-thirds of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch programs. While recruiting for our school, we will emphasize the food program which will be provide Breakfast and Lunch for all students. Thus, LCSIT will support student nutrition and ensure children do not attend or leave school without nourishment. No distinction will be made between students who qualify and take part in the free and reduced food program and students who do not qualify for that service. Recruitment brochures will also be distributed to the local social service, food pantries, and public housing projects. Further, the school will carefully research providers to ensure that the school's food service provider is NYS department of education approved. A committee on the quality of the food service and nutritional value of the program will be appointed and review nutrition standards quarterly.

Describe the school's strategies to retain its students, particularly:

a. Those identified in the school's mission:

LCSIT will ensure students success and maintain a high level of parent satisfaction. We will actively seek high quality minority teachers who share similar background and cultural understanding and sensitivity as our students. Professional Development will include diversity training and acclimating teachers to what life is like for their students living in poverty. LCSIT will establish specified "check-in" points to ensure individualized attention. These sessions are designed to answer student's families' questions as students learn and develop. Teachers will assist parents in understanding homework, standardized test scores, report cards, and maintain regular communication with families. This will aid in fulfilling our mission to promote excellence and close the academic gap for all students, and will provide the necessary instruction and support for our student population to demonstrate progress on the state tests and exams.

Extra-curricular, field trips, after school programs: academic, social, and recreational will be offered during the school year. Title I funds will be used to support family-to-school initiatives and build relationships that include parent visits to classrooms during the school day to observe and/or assist/share their knowledge of a topic of study. Summer school for enrichment and year round learning will be another way to retain students and maintain/enhance retention. Service learning and an emphasis on learning the history of the local communities and pride in local heritages will be integrated into this learning/community and family outreach. These are some ways we plan to support academic progress and build lasting relationships and retain students. Clubs, social activities, drama, music, and sports will be added as ways that we seek to retain students and families in the school. Parents will be encouraged, but not required to volunteer in school and in the classroom. Anonymous Parent Surveys will assess satisfaction and gain feedback for improvement. Classes will be held in summer/over breaks for students to engage student in civic responsibility and involvement.

b. Students with disabilities: The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools offers several strategies for retaining students with disabilities. LCSIT will have a culture of high expectations for all students. This will be done through constant communication of the message that all students are welcome and expected

to succeed. Having a structured Response to Intervention (RtI) model will ensure that teams of general and special education teachers meet students' needs as they arise, rather than waiting for students to fail. LCSIT will strive to retain students with disabilities by maintaining diligent awareness and follow-through with supporting students' IEP and 504 goals. Further, involving the student in learning how to self-advocate as well as persevere through challenging learning experiences is another way LCSIT will retain special education students. Maintaining fidelity to the New York State mandates for providing a strong protocol and plan with an effective special education team and access to quality wrap around services is another way LCSIT will successfully retain special education students. Finally, we will work with families to ensure that students have access to the services they are qualified for under the state laws regarding special education and FAPE.

c. English language learners: LCSIT's efforts to retain English language learners will include strong respect for L1 retention and use as a learning scaffold as the student learns English. Moreover, ensuring that all teachers know and use mainstream classroom strategies for supporting English language learning/literacy in all content and interdisciplinary learning is another way to retain students. In order to retain our English Language Learners, the faculty and staff will integrate cultural traditions of ELL families throughout our school community. We will host an annual Cultural Nights and events where all families in our school community and local community are invited to share a special ethnic dish to be sampled by all or some other aspect of their culture. By creating a welcoming school environment that respects the cultural traditions and customs of our students and their families, we will build a strong sense of community within our building. The faculty and staff at LCSIT will encourage the native language use at home and suggest that parents read and tell stories to their children in their native language which will also help their reading skills in English. Bilingual books will be available in the school library. Because one of our greatest challenges will be communicating with ELL parents, we will offer staff training on how to communicate in simplified English on the phone when necessary. We also intend to serve a representative cross-section of the community because we believe schools should be a reflection of their communities and help bring them together. Translation services will be provided for Parent Teacher Conferences and other events as needed, in order to effectively communicate with families. Furthermore, ongoing parent workshops and referrals to other service providers in the community will be available for the parents of students. Workshop topics will include: increasing speech and language skills at home, helping children with critical thinking skills, how music impacts brain development, nutrition for healthy learners, positive discipline strategies, and parent peer support discussions, among others.

d. Students eligible for free and reduced meals: LCSIT's commitment to providing appealing, nutritious meals and involving parents in a committee that examines this topic is a key way to retain students who are eligible for free/reduced meal programs. In addition, we will encourage nutrition and fitness programs that include family and well as student participation. These are some ways we will seek to retain families and students. Finally, we will work to provide a meal program during times when school is not in session or during summer education programs for students who may benefit from such services. Understanding our population is critical to meeting their needs. The school will incorporate flexibility to help our students reach success and to lessen the stress often found in families living below the poverty level. The school will operate before and after school care programs at least 1 hour and 30 minutes earlier (longer if necessary) every day to provide free supervision for students whose parents must drop them off early in order to get to work. No student will be expected to wait outside in the cold temperatures waiting for the school to open. The after school care program will run from the end of the school day until 6:00 pm daily so students are not left home alone unsupervised. A School Uniform Policy will be instituted to reduce the burden of shopping for designer clothing and the competition among students often associated with having the most fashionable items. A Uniform Swap will be facilitated annually where parents can trade gently worn uniforms each year for the appropriate size needed. Extra uniforms, socks, belts and

underwear will be made available for students who may be in need whose families don't have the basic means to provide these essentials.

IV. Public outreach and community support.

a. LCSIT's plan for Public Outreach has employed a multi-faceted approach, beginning in January, 2012 and continuing beyond the date of this Letter of Intent. It has taken the form of Public Forums, Discussions with Prominent Individuals and Community Organizations, and both Social Media and traditional public awareness campaigns. All forums featured a multi-media presentation, printed materials, and one-on-one discussions with attendees. Those attending were also encouraged to complete a survey to assist the Applicant Group in tailoring the school's design to the needs of the community and families to be served.

*The Applicant Group has made particular efforts to use Social Media to inform the public about the application and design process for the proposed school. An e-mail address, thelegacycharter@gmail.com, was established. LCSIT website is also on-line at www.thelegacycharter.com, offering details on the school mission, proposed location, contact information, and a questionnaire to help provide input on the development of the school and solicit parent and community volunteers. A Facebook page was created and launched to provide information on the proposed school and update the community on the application process and upcoming community outreach events. The e-mail address, website and Facebook page are constantly maintained and current at all times. Because the design of LCSIT strongly aligns to the needs of the ERCSD families who have pledged support by signing circulated petitions, the applicant group is confident enrollment targets can be met to assure successful recruitment and enrollment.

b. LCSIT has developed strong connections with community organizations of ERCSD, which have helped gain interest and support for this school initiative. The results of extensive community outreach are over 200 signatures of support, which we anticipate will increase after approval of LCSIT. Moreover, the record of meetings with local officials, business owners, non-profit and community leaders, scholars, educators, politicians, and other dignitaries indicates that there is also significant parent and community interest. We continue to reach out to the Latino and Haitian community through outreach and our community partners. Assessment strongly supports the conclusion that East Ramapo parents looking for a quality school will respond enthusiastically to LCSIT's aggressive recruitment campaign, meeting and exceeding enrollment targets throughout the first five year charter term.

TABLE 1: APPLICANT GROUP INFORMATION							
*Minimum of 5 members must be designated as Trustees							
NAME OF APPLICANT GROUP MEMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	CURRENT EMPLOYMENT	RELEVANT EXPERIENCE, SKILLS, AND ROLE ON APPLICANT GROUP (Key Words)	PROPOSED ROLE (if any) (Trustee, Employee, Consultant, or No Continuing Role)	PROPOSED POSITION ON THE BOARD (e.g., officer, trustee, or constituent representative)	LENGTH OF INITIAL TERM	VOTING MEMBER (YES OR NO)
Sandra Oates	[REDACTED]	Guidance Counselor	EDUCATIONAL LEADER	TRUSTEE	VICE PRESIDENT	3	YES
Joanne C Thompson	[REDACTED]	Chief Dispatcher	SCHOOL BOARD LEADE	TRUSTEE	PRESIDENT	3	YES
Ameenah Capers	[REDACTED]	Asst. District Attorney	LEGAL	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	1	YES
Dr Louise Covert	[REDACTED]	Educational Consultant	CHARTER SCHOOL LEA	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	2	YES
George Heyliger	[REDACTED]	Retired Educator/Psycholo	EDUCATIONAL LEADER	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	2	YES
Shiri Ulrich	[REDACTED]	Speech Pathologist	SPECIAL EDUCATION/ S	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	3	YES
Susan Shurtleff	[REDACTED]	Retiree/ Business Owner	SCHOOL LEADERSHIP	CONSULTANT	---	--	NO

Table 2: Public Outreach Information

(Table 2 is not counted towards the page limits. Add more rows as necessary)

Dates of Outreach (month/date/year)	Description of Outreach	Location of Outreach	Target Stakeholder Group	Feedback Obtained	Action Taken on Feedback	Number of Attendees
3/ 2013-ongoing	1:1 meetings with proposed board members and community partners	Various locations and phone conferences	List of stakeholders included	Letters of support written and job applications received	Petitions signed	100
5/6/2014	Community Partnership Mtg.	Sunbridge Institute, Chestnut Ridge, NY	Introduction of the proposed charter team and theme; Solicitation of public support	Group was willing to support a public charter school, for East Ramapo and assist in professional development for the staff	Letters of support written	10
5/2014	Planning Meeting	CEJES Institute Pomona, NY	Discussion of feedback with community and partners to refined the proposed charter	Support for the community outreach	Continued use of Community Room for planning sessions; Letter of Reference from founder- Dr. Edmond Gordon	8
6/2014	Community Forum Invitation	Community Barbershop/ Businesses/ and Bus Stops Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Questions asked about the current state of ERCSD; discussion ensued of how the charter school might address some of the concerns	Community Forums were conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions and concerns; Petitions signed	85

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers- East Ramapo School District

11/13/2014	Open Day Elementary –	Green Meadow Waldorf, Chestnut Ridge, NY	Formal introduction to the daily schedule and methods of the Waldorf educational day	Waldorf Teachers and Supporters questioned what we proposed for ER and suggested ideas	A new board member joined our efforts- Shiri Ulrich	70
1/11/2015	Community Forum	Finkelstein Library, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Questions asked about the current state of ERCSD; discussion ensued of how the charter school might address some of the concerns	PowerPoint presentation was conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Petitions signed	25
1/18/2015	Community Forum	Louis Kurtz Civic Center, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Questions asked about the current state of ERCSD; discussion ensued of how the charter school might address some of the concerns	PowerPoint presentation was conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Petitions signed	10
2/8/2015	Community Forum	Louis Kurtz Civic Center, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Questions asked about the current state of ERCSD; discussion ensued of how the charter school might address some of the concerns	PowerPoint presentation was conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Petitions signed	18

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers- East Ramapo School District

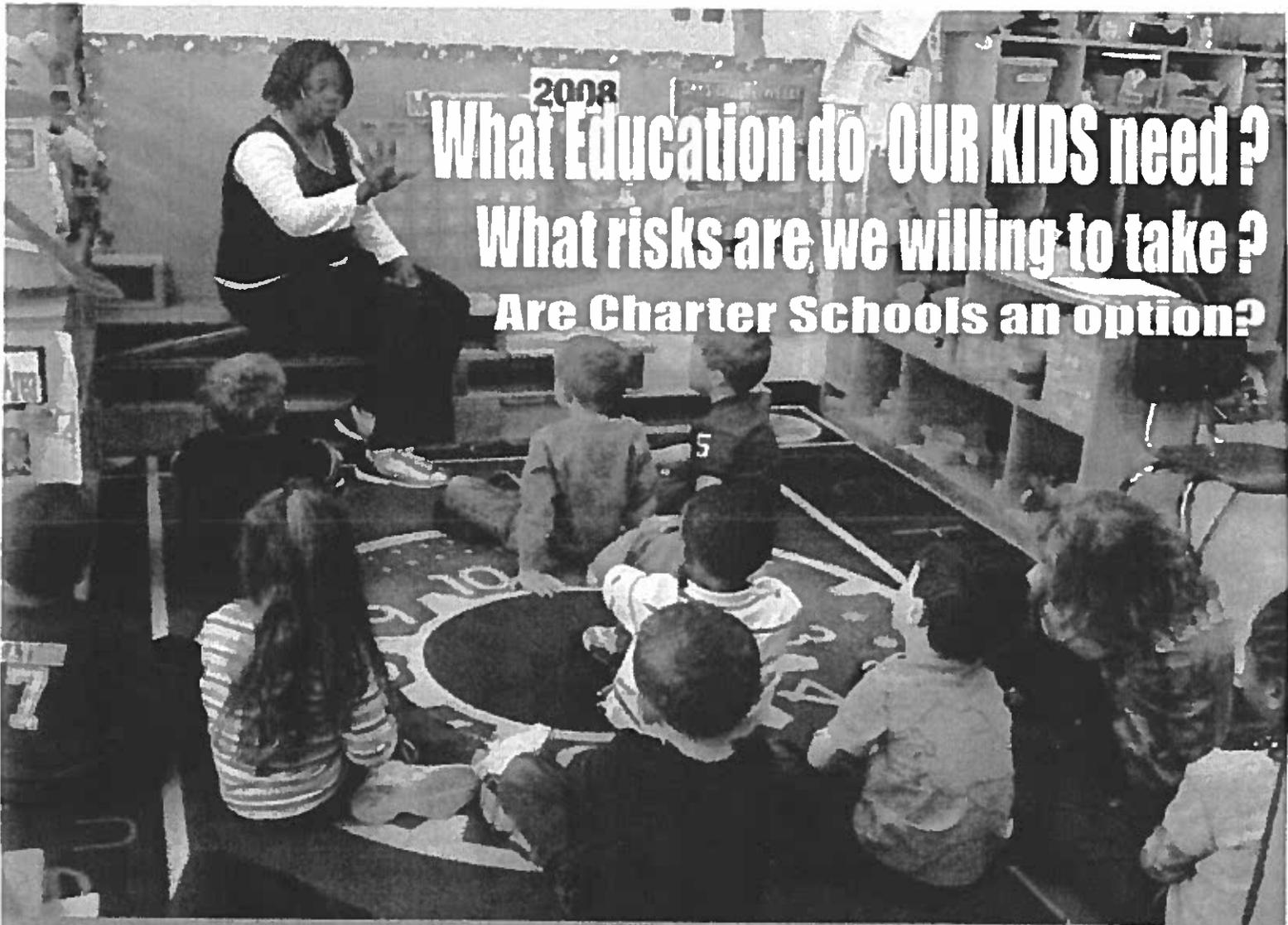
4/10/2015	Padres Unidas Meeting	Martin Luther King Center, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students- specifically of Spanish or Hispanic descent	Questions asked about the charter school and discussion ensued of how the charter school might address some of the concerns	Presentation was made with the help of a translator inform about the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Spanish Informational Flyer distributed; Facebook information and business cards also given	20
5/2015	Meet the Candidates Night- ERCSD	Louis Kurtz Civic Center Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students/ Community Stakeholders	Issues of the current situation in East Ramapo were addressed.	Charter School members were on hand to answer question and provide contact info.	55
5/2015	Ellen Jaffee Meeting	Ellen Jaffee District Office Pearl River, NY	Community Stakeholder/ Assemblywoman	Issues of the current situation in East Ramapo were addressed and the proposed Charter School effort was introduced.	Assemblywoman Jaffee asked for us to be patient as legislation was pending. Was unable to put support behind us at this time in light of that.	7
7/2015	Prospective Builder Mtg.	Community Room Berea Nyack SDA Church Nyack, NY	Community Stakeholder/	The Proposed Charter School effort was introduced and various pieces of	Effort to get the charter school approved continue in hopes of state approval.	5

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers- East Ramapo School District

				available Real Estate was discussed; A future plan was tentatively devised.		
11/4/2015	Public Hearing- ER District	East Ramapo Central School District Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Presentation was made about the charter school and how it might address some of the concerns of parents in East Ramapo as well as its most vulnerable students	PowerPoint presentation was conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Comment and Answer Period followed. District Tape provided to NYSED.	30
12/2015	Community Toy Drive	Louis Kurtz Civic Center Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students/ Community Stakeholders	Support for the community outreach	Business Cards were distributed. Individual questions addressed.	200
2/21/2016	Meeting with the District Superintendent	East Ramapo Central School District Spring Valley, NY	Community Stakeholder	Introduction was made about the charter school and its founding members and how we came to this idea as a solution for East Ramapo as well as its most vulnerable students	Charter School member(s) have pledged to support her efforts to turn East Ramapo around but remain alert to the ongoing issues of East Ramapo	2

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers- East Ramapo School District

4/21/2016	Nyack NAACP Membership Dinner	Pearl River Hilton Pearl River, NY	Community Stakeholders/Partners and Parents of East Ramapo Students	Support for the community outreach: Questions about how a charter school can help	Personal interactions with parents of East Ramapo Students and Community Stakeholders	750
5/15/2016	Haitian Flag Day Celebration	Spring Valley Memorial Park, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students and proposed community partners	Support for the community outreach: Questions about how a charter school can help	Personal interactions with parents of East Ramapo Students	1,000
7/24/2016	Pending Public Meeting	Finkelstein Library, Spring Valley, NY	All interested parents of East Ramapo students	Presentation will be made about the charter school and how it might address some of the concerns of parents in East Ramapo as well as its most vulnerable students	PowerPoint presentation will be conducted to showcase the proposed school and address questions/ concerns; Comment and Answer Period will follow.	50



**What Education do OUR KIDS need?
What risks are we willing to take?
Are Charter Schools an option?**

When parents and students make the decision to seek a better education - which comes at no cost to them--they do so because they are dissatisfied with the status quo of the traditional public school education.

Parents are seeking solutions. Charter schools may be a good solution.

JOIN OUR DISCUSSION:

- Learn what Charter Schools Are
- How the process works
- Help develop programming for OUR kids

Call for More Information:

845-200-0038/ JoAnne Thompson

Please take our "Community Survey". Your feedback is important!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ML9LMZJ>

OUR NEXT MEETING:

TUESDAY,

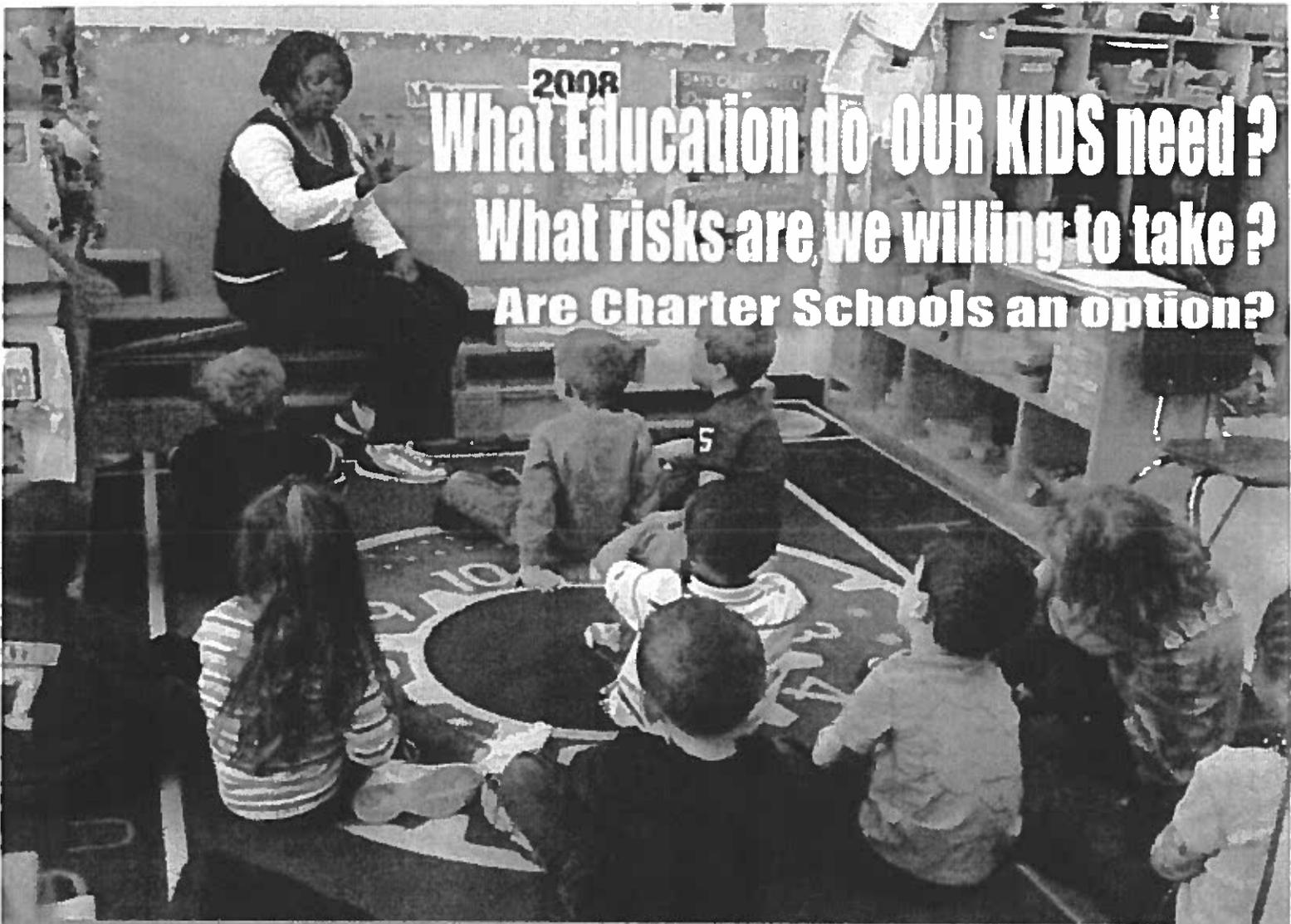
MARCH 18th, 2013

6:00pm—7:30 pm

**Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose
Center**

110 Bethune Blvd | Sp. Valley, NY 10977

| Tel: 845-425-8910



2008
What Education do OUR KIDS need?
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Parents are seeking solutions. Charter schools may be a good solution.

Learn about Charter Schools and the Law

Learn about the Dual Language Immersion Focus

Learn about how Technology plays a part in this model

Ask Questions about how you can help

Call for More Information:

845-200-0038/ JoAnne Thompson

Please take our "Community Survey". Your feedback is important!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ML9LMZJ>

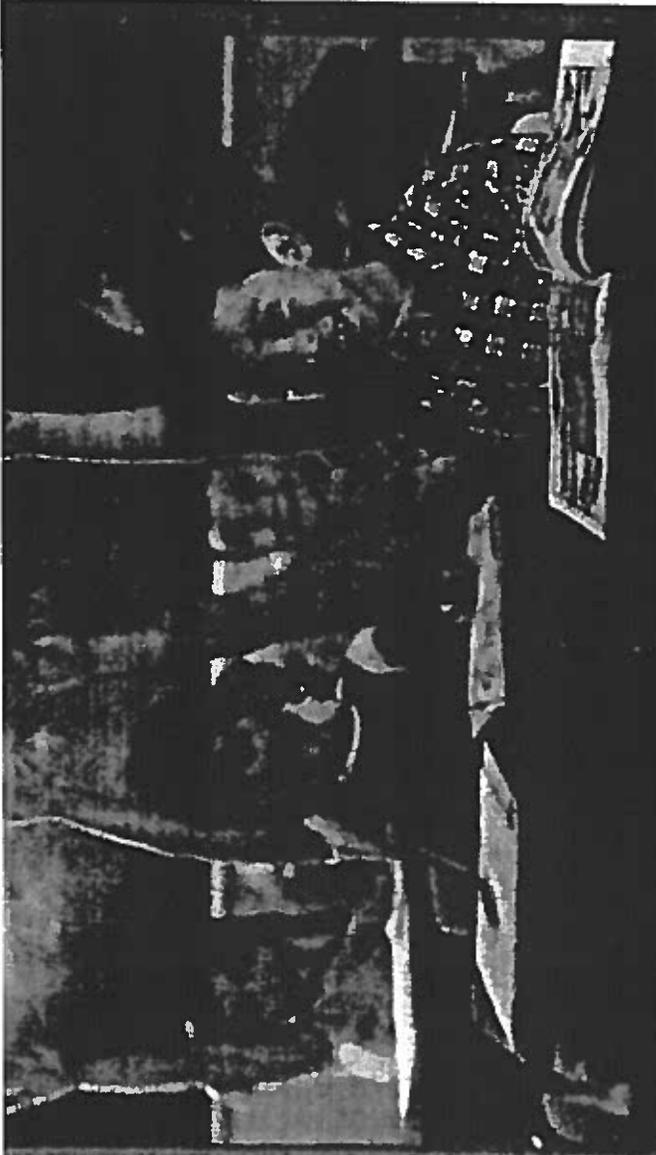
**Attend one of our
Community Presentation Sessions**

**DATE: March 19th, 2013
& April 9th, 2013**

TIME: 6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

**Location: Martin Luther King
Multipurpose Center
110 Bethune Blvd.
Spring Valley, NY 10977**

(Please call ahead to reserve a seat)



Milliones de familias de todos los rincones de los Estados Unidos envian a sus hijos a las escuelas publicas. Independientemente de donde vivan o cuanto ganen, estas familias tienen el derecho de esperar la mejor educacion que estas escuelas tienen que ofrecer. Para los estudiantes de Este Ramapo que lucha con el idioma ingles, esto no ha sido así. Aproximadamente la mitad de estos estudiantes nunca se graduan. ESTO ES INACEPTABLE! La educacion es un derecho para todos los niños sin importar el idioma que hablen! Queremos arreglar esto. Estamos aqui para responder a sus preguntas.

Venga a una reunión sobre
LA EDUCACIÓN BILINGÜE GRATIS EN ESTE RAMAPO
 incluyendo no sólo para los niños sino también para los padres como parte de nuestra comunidad!

MARTES, 19 DE MARZO 2013
6 PM DE LA NOCHE
 Martin Luther King Multipurpose Center
 110 Bethune Blvd.
 Spring Valley, NY 10977

Ph/ 845-200-0038

LEGACY
 CHARTER SCHOOL

of Generative Minds

P.O. Box 1244
 Spring Valley, NY 10977

• FRONT

Email Us at TheLegacyCharter@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.thelegacycharter.org
<http://www.facebook.com/LegacySTEMCharter>

*The Legacy of Thomas is the memory
 of a good name and the inheritance of a good example.*

Setting Charter Approval for the 14-15 School Year

• BACK

(Business Card)

2008

Ne pas nos enfants méritent une meilleure éducation?
Combien de temps pouvons-nous permettre que cela continue?
Écoles à charte sont une bonne solution à nos problèmes?



Lorsque les parents et les étudiants prennent la décision de rechercher une meilleure éducation - ce qui vous est offert sans frais pour eux - ils le font parce qu'ils sont insatisfaits du statu quo de l'enseignement public traditionnel.

Les parents cherchent des solutions. Les écoles à charte peut être une bonne solution.

REJOIGNEZ NOTRE DISCUSSION:

- Découvrez ce que les écoles à charte
- Comment fonctionne le processus
- Aide élaborer des programmes pour nos enfants

Appelez pour plus d'information:

845-200-0038 / JoAnne Thompson

Si vous plaît prendre notre «Enquête communautaire». Vos commentaires sont importants!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ML9LM7I>

NOTRE PROCHAINE

RÉUNION:

9 AVRIL 2013

6:00pm—7:30 pm

**Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose
Center**

110 Bethune Blvd | Sp. Valley, NY 10977 |

Tel: 845-425-8910



**Timoun nou merite pi byen?
Ki sa ki risk yo se nou vle pran?
Èske Lekòl Charter yon bon lide?**

Lè paran yo ak elèv yo pran desizyon an yo mete chache yon pi bon edikasyon - ki vini san sa pa koute yo - yo fè sa yo paske yo te satisfè avèk jan bagay sa yo nan edikasyon nan tradisyonel lekòl piblik.

Paran yo ap cheche solisyon yo. Charter schools yo ka gen yon

Join pou diskite NOU AN:

- Aprann ki sa Charter School se
- Ki jan pwosis la ap travay
- Ede devlope pwogram pou timoun NOU AN

Rele pou plis enfòmasyon:

845-200-0038/ JoAnne Thompson

Please take our "Community Survey". Your feedback is important!
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ML9LMZJ>

PWOCHEN REYINYON
NOU AN:

TUESDAY,
Avril 9, 2013

6:00pm—7:30 pm

**Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose
Center**

110 Bethune Blvd | Sp. Valley, NY 10977 |
Tel: 845-425-8910



ENTONCES Y AHORA

La clase de lengua en los Estados Unidos se ha transformado en los últimos 20 años para reflejar un creciente énfasis en el desarrollo de la competencia comunicativa del alumno. A diferencia de la clase de antaño que los estudiantes deben conocer una gran cantidad de información sobre la lengua, pero no tenía una expectativa de uso de la lengua, la clase de hoy es acerca de la enseñanza de lenguas para que los estudiantes las utilicen para comunicarse con hablantes nativos de la lengua. Aprender otros idiomas y la comprensión de la cultura de la gente que habla a continuación es una habilidad del Siglo 21 que es vital para el éxito en el entorno global en el que nuestros estudiantes viven y trabajan.

En el mundo globalizado de hoy, un programa eficaz de educación nacional debe responder a las necesidades y tendencias mundiales y tienen como objetivo desarrollar una ciudadanía global competente. Ya no es suficiente centrarse únicamente en asegurar que los estudiantes tengan una lectura esencial, escritura, matemáticas y ciencias.



PUNTOS DESTACADOS DEL PROGRAMA

- Grados K-12 (Año 1 - k a través de 1)
- Gratis (Public escuela de elección)
- Dos Idiomas Programa de Inmersión
- Uniformes
- académico riguroso
- Tecnología / Aulas Virtuales
- La formación del carácter integrado
- Deportes / Artes de programación
- Grupos de apoyo específicas de género
- Oportunidades de educación para adultos
- Participación de los padres
- Actividades Comunitarias
- Carrera / Counseling College Prep
- Servicios de Educación Especial
- Centrarse en la graduación para todos los niños

ÚNETE A ESTA HIERBA ROOTS MOVIMIENTO!

Es hora de que nuestra comunidad, padres de familia,

Estudiantes, negocios y contribuyentes propietarios de viviendas / a vislumbrar la mejora de las escuelas y los entornos de aprendizaje y poner en práctica esa visión.

La utilización de asociaciones con los padres, las familias y la comunidad, podemos mejorar la calidad de la Educación Pública.

Debido a que todos los estudiantes de América, independientemente del ingreso familiar o el lugar de residencia, merece una educación de calidad.

LENGUAJE DUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

DE LA EDUCACIÓN A DIFERENCIA DE CUALQUIER OTRA!



PENDIENTE DE APROBACION PARA 2014 - 2015 AÑO
ESCOLAR

845-200-0038

JOANNE THOMPSON, EL PLOMO SOLICITANTE

¿QUÉ ES UNA ESCUELA CHARTER?

Las escuelas charter son creadas y operadas por los padres, organizaciones o grupos comunitarios para llenar una necesidad educativa de otro modo no cubierta por las escuelas tradicionales. Pueden dirigir los recursos donde los estudiantes más los necesitan. Charters tienen más flexibilidad que los convencionales de las escuelas públicas a cambio de que se celebra a normas adicionales para asegurarse de que están cumpliendo con sus metas estudiantiles.

Las escuelas charter se les da la libertad para desarrollar su propio plan de estudios, elegir el personal, definir la duración de la jornada escolar y año, y establecer sus propias normas de conducta de los estudiantes. A cambio de estas libertades, una escuela debe demostrar que ha elevado rendimientos de los estudiantes dentro de su período de cinco años charter.

Los estudiantes asisten a escuelas autónomas por decisión propia o de sus padres o tutores y no por asignación de un distrito escolar. En las escuelas públicas, escuelas charter no pueden cobrar matrícula. Si las solicitudes para asistir a la escuela de la carta excede los espacios disponibles, la inscripción se decide por la lotería.



La población general de East Ramapo es 64% blanco, pero la población escolar público de cerca de 8.200 estudiantes es 70% hispana y en crecimiento. Los drásticos recortes a los recursos de la escuela pública y programas han dado lugar a un distrito escolar en su defecto, con una tasa de graduación del 72%, y sólo el 51% de los hispanos y otros estudiantes de idiomas.

Para potenciar y desarrollar estudiantes bilingües y bi-alfabetización requiere de comprensión, respeto y capacidad de respuesta a las culturas de todos los pueblos, pero especialmente a los de los niños y las familias inscritos en nuestras escuelas públicas.



INMERSIÓN EN DOS IDIOMAS

En un programa de inmersión dual, las materias académicas se enseñan a todos los estudiantes a través Inglés y otro idioma. A través de esta programación, los niños desarrollan un sentido de pluralismo cultural, la apertura y la apreciación de las actitudes positivas hacia otras culturas. Además, al igual que con arte y música, los niños que aprenden un segundo idioma tienen un mejor concepto de sí mismo y el sentido de logro en la escuela.

Los estudiantes que completan un programa de lenguaje dual están más preparados para afrontar los retos de una sociedad global. Ellos tienen un aumento de las oportunidades de carrera en el almacén para ellos, sobre todo en campos en los que las segundas lenguas son importantes, como el comercio internacional, la diplomacia y medios de comunicación.

PROGRAMAR UN INFORMATIVO SESIÓN DE HOY!

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE PERSONAJES & ACADÉMICA

Desarrollo del carácter moral es un proceso de por vida combinado de educación formal e informal.

Esta escuela charter proporcionará un ambiente social para adquirir valores personales y sociales y comportamientos que contribuyen a la formación del carácter y la ciudadanía responsable. Los beneficios de ser más intencional sobre Desarrollo del carácter se promueve el respeto por las diferencias y un aumento de la responsabilidad personal del estudiante.

Vamos a ver cómo ayudar a los estudiantes no sólo decisiones les afectan, sino también de su clase, la escuela y la familia. Esta educación constituye un punto de referencia para todos los problemas de disciplina, facilita el hogar y la escuela trabajando juntos, y aumenta el apoyo del maestro y admiración. Por lo tanto, la construcción de una comunidad ética listo para una sociedad global.

CHARTER SCHOOL: Is it the right solution?

FACTS ABOUT CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools have more flexibility than conventional public schools in exchange for being held to additional standards to make sure they are meeting their student goals

Charter schools—which are tuition-free public schools created and operated by parents, organizations, or community groups to fill an educational need not otherwise offered by traditional schools—can direct their resources where their students need them most.

Charters have more flexibility than conventional public schools in exchange for being held to additional standards to make sure they are meeting their student goals. It is for those reasons that public charter schools are part of the solution to a better education system; they offer an alternative to the monopoly that is leaving so many students behind.

Studies show that charter school students make greater academic progress than students in traditional public schools.

Charter schools must admit all students who apply – if there is excess demand for the number of seats available, the school must conduct a lottery to determine who will be enrolled. As schools of choice, all startup charters must admit students regardless of the location of their residence.

Charter schools are required to hire credentialed teachers, just like traditional schools, for core subjects.

Charter Schools are given the freedom to develop their own curriculum, choose staff, set the length of the school day and year, and establish their own standards for student behavior. In exchange for these freedoms, a charter school must demonstrate that it has raised student achievement within its five year charter period.

When one considers the legislatively mandated oversight of each charter school by its own board of trustees, its charter authorizer, and the New York State Board of Regents, and the critical fact that a charter is granted for a period of five years only—and that authorizers have the option to not renew, i.e., close a charter school for failing to meet rigorous academic outcomes, legal and fiscal requirements, it becomes clear that accountability is more than a goal for charter schools, it is a non-negotiable requirement.

For more information:

SUMMARY

- Charter Schools:
 - Are PUBLIC schools that serve ALL students
 - Are Tuition-free
 - Participate in state tests, and generally perform better than non-charters
 - Employ credentialed teachers
- There are 5,043 charter schools in the United States, serving more than 1.5 million students

EAST RAMAPO DEMOGRAPHICS

# OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS	8,118
◦ White	7%
◦ Black	52%
◦ Asian	7%
◦ Hispanic	33%
Student Census Poverty Rate	29%
Free & Reduced Price Lunch	64%
Limited English Proficiency Students	19%
4 th Grade Reading Proficiency	46%

There are two proposed Charter Schools for East Ramapo:

Rockland Academy of Excellence
&
V.I.S.I.O.N. Academy

Choosing the Right School for Your Family

Charter schools are a good choice as you consider your child's educational options because they offer a variety of learning environments to meet your family's needs. No two charter schools are alike; some offer thematic or specialized curriculum, other focus on the basics. Some charter schools look like traditional public schools; others offer online classes and may not even have a physical campus. What charters do have in common, though is that they are places where meaningful parental involvement is encouraged and valued.



When choosing a school for your child, consider your child's educational needs and your family's educational priorities. Identify your child's needs and learning style. Each child has their own set of needs. When choosing the right school, it is important to identify how your child learns best. Is it in small groups, or by participating in project-based learning? Does your child have interest in the arts, or would he/she benefit from an independent study school?

Research schools by reading school information and participating in a school visit. While on campus, talk to teachers, visit their classes, and make sure you feel like the school is a good fit before making a final decision. When visiting the school, be sure to visit classrooms, observe, teachers in action with students. Notice the student-to-teacher ratio, as class size may be an important factor for your child and your decision making.

All families have the right to high-quality public school choices.

The majority of charter schools ask parents to be involved in the school community. Inquire about volunteer hours and opportunities at the school.

Ask questions to understand if the school is the best fit for your child. One of the best ways to find out about a school is to ask another parent. They can give insight about how their child feels about the school, if the teachers are effective, and if they are satisfied with their school choice.

10 Quick Facts about Charter Schools in New York State

- Charter schools are public schools;
- They cannot teach religion;
- They cannot charge tuition;
- They cannot base admissions decisions on ability;
- Charter schools are non-profit organizations;
- They are governed by their own board of trustees;
- Charter schools must comply with laws regarding health, safety, civil rights and special education (the Open Meetings Law and the Freedom of Information Act specifically apply to charter schools);
- They must comply with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act;
- They must administer all the same state tests as district schools; and
- They must meet all the state's performance requirements.

Charters get results for students because they have:

- More flexibility on curriculum, budget and staffing
- Greater ability to make quick and effective changes to meet a student's need
- High level of accountability with review and renewal every 5 years
- Engaged teachers who are empowered to make decisions to benefit students
- Parents encouraged by the school to work as a team with teachers to advance their child's academic progress

Please complete our Community Survey online:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ML9LMZJ>

Benefits of Dual Language Immersion Programs:

To empower and develop bilingual, bi-literate students in Dual Language Programs, programming requires understanding, respect, and responsiveness to the cultures of all people, but particularly to those of enrolled children and families. Academic subjects are taught to all students through both English and the other language. Students and families are expected to make a minimum 5 year commitment to the Dual Language Immersion Program.

According to research, the multiple benefits of acquiring a second language during the elementary years are educational, cognitive, sociocultural, and economic

- *Participation in early foreign language shows positive results in areas of standardized testing (Armstrong & Rogers, 1997).*
- *Children who really know a second language have a head start in meeting language requirements for college. According to some studies, students of foreign languages even do better on standardized college entrance requirements (Marcos, 1998).*
- *Children have the ability to learn and speak a foreign language without an accent prior to lateralization of the brain after puberty (Brown, 1994).*
- *Studies indicate that bilingual people do better on both verbal and nonverbal intelligence tests (Marcos, 1998), that the bilingual brain develops more densely than the monolingual (Hitti, 2004); even that bilingualism offsets age-related mental losses (Vedantam, 2004).*
- *Children who have studied a second language in childhood show greater cognitive development (Hakuta, 1990) linked to increased development of classification skills, concept formation, analogical reasoning, problem-solving skills, visual-spatial skills, creativity, even storytelling skills (Chipongian, 2000). Bilingual students are able to problem solve more creatively, and their knowledge of the structural properties of the language allows them to decode academic language more efficiently (Calderon & Carreon, 2000; Cloud et al., 2000).*
- *Children who know two or more words for the same object or idea gain a deeper understanding of the concept they are expressing, as well as more cognitive flexibility (Baker, 2006). Their understanding of the world is less constricted by words, their thinking more "elastic" (Chipongian, 2000).*
- *Second language study increases listening skills, memory, and greater understanding of one's own language (Lapkin, et al., 1990). Children are more sensitive to the structure and details of language, exhibit more control over language processing, and are more able to correct ungrammatical sentences.*
- *Children learning a second language have an improved self-concept and sense of achievement in school (Caine & Caine, 1997).*
- *Children develop a sense of cultural pluralism, openness, and appreciation of and positive attitudes toward other cultures (Met, 1995; Freeman, 1998). Because dual language classrooms bring together students from different language, racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds, they allow students to learn firsthand about cultures that are different from their own.*
- *Because bilingual people are able to understand and communicate with members of other cultural groups, they are also able to respect the values and customs of the speakers of other languages (Calderon & Carreon, 2000; Cloud et al., 2000).*
- *Bilingual, biliterate people can communicate with more people in more places, read more of the world's literature, and understand other cultures more deeply. They can also travel more easily, get to know new places more thoroughly, and form relationships with people they would otherwise not have been able to know.*
- *Students who complete a dual language program and emerge both bilingual and biliterate are more prepared to meet the challenges of a global society, and therefore have increased career opportunities in store for them, especially in fields in which second languages are important, such as international trade, diplomacy, and the media (Marcos, 1998).*

Well-implemented two-way immersion programs are among the most impressive forms of education available in the United States. Students who participate in these programs gain grade level academic ability, well-developed language and literacy skills in two languages, and cross-cultural competence. Students will also develop understanding and appreciation of both cultures. Students will achieve high levels of literacy in both languages and be fluent in both languages by the end of 5th grade.

THE TIME IS NOW!

You are invited to become a part of an historic discussion taking place right now in East Ramapo – where parents like you and me get together to make a difference in PUBLIC EDUCATION for our children.

Introducing LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL OF INNOVATIVE THINKERS. This free K- 5 public school will be a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) based school that will have an emphasis on Diversity, Language and Community. Our mission is to provide a community oriented lifelong learning environment that reflects our social, cultural, and educational heritage and develops critical thinkers of good character, responsible citizenship, and high academic achievements.

LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL OF INNOVATIVE THINKERS will need the help of the parents and the community to make this opportunity a reality. If we want the best for our children, if we want them to achieve the things they dream, and if we want our parents to have the opportunity to choose the best education environment for their children, then the time to act is now.

"The Legacy of Heroes is the inheritance of a good name and the gift of a good example"

LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL OF INNOVATIVE THINKERS

PO BOX 1244

SPRING VALLEY, NY 10977

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.thelegacycharter.org

EMAIL US at

thelegacycharter@gmail.com

or CALL 845-200-0038

COMMUNITY PLANNING MEETING

[Date]

[Time]

[Location]

[Address]



LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL

of Innovative Thinkers



P.O. Box 1244/ Spring Valley, NY 10977

Dear East Ramapo Parents/ Residents;

I am excited to inform you about an opportunity to allow for our children to be prepared both academically and socially to meet the challenges of college/career and compete on a global stage while also making East Ramapo a more attractive place to live.

For too long, we have allowed our children to be shuffled through a broken educational system. The monies that we have paid for OUR schools have not been used in the way it should be and the budget for necessary programs are being cut every year.

I'd like to take this time to introduce you to Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers. This free public school will be a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) based school that will have an emphasis on Diversity, Language and Community. Our mission is to provide a community oriented lifelong learning environment that reflects our social, cultural, and educational heritage and develops critical thinkers of good character, responsible citizenship, and high academic achievements. In September 2013, we will submit the application for approval for this Charter School and will start with Kindergarten and First Grade then growing to Third Grade over the next three years.

We will need the help of the parents and the community to make this opportunity a reality. If we want the best for our children, if we want them to achieve the things they dream, and if we want our parents to have the opportunity to choose the best education environment for their children, then the time to act is now. Here are ways you can help make this a reality:

- ✓ Sign our petition supporting OUR school, Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers.
- ✓ Write a letter in support of Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers and mail it to P.O. Box 1244, Spring Valley, NY 10977 or email us at THELEGACYCHARTER@GMAIL.COM
- ✓ Help with fundraising efforts or DONATE to or Charter School Foundation Building Fund
- ✓ Spread the word to other East Ramapo Residents about this Free Public School of Choice
- ✓ Help find a centralized location for OUR children

It will take all of us to achieve this but it is the parents who will have the strongest voices. Please take the time to support Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers. Let your voice be heard!



Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JoAnne Thompson'.

Sincerely,
JoAnne Thompson, Lead Applicant
Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

East Ramapo
“Save Our Schools”
Community
FORUM

Saturday, April 13
5:00 – 8:00 PM

Gracepoint Church
384 New Hempstead Rd
New City

Featuring
OPEN LINE - WBLS 107.5

Radio show hosts:

Bob Slade
James Mtume
and Bob Pickett



ORGANIZED BY

Save Our Schools Coalition - East Ramapo

www.saveeastramaposchools.com

www.poweroften.us



Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL ORGANIZED UNDER IRS CODE 501(c)3

FEDERAL TAX ID# 45-3277603

★ **CHOOSE your Child's Public School**
 Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers will be non-sectarian in its programs, its admission policies, its employment practices, and all other operations. LCS will not charge tuition and will not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of their ethnicity, national origin, religious beliefs, gender, or disability

★ **CHANGING the Face of Learning**
 Legacy Charter School will provide a well-balanced Arts infused educational environment that fosters critical thinking, strong character, and promotes equity through hands-on learning experiences while embracing and adjusting to all learners regardless of language.

★ **CONSIDERING the Whole Child**
 The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers will be an inclusive school, meeting the educational needs of a diverse heterogeneous population. Community participation is vital in the support and encouragement of high multi-level achievement and responsible citizenship.

- **Character Education & Leadership Development**
- **Opportunities to share culture and learn from one another**
- **Encouraging Family Involvement**

**Open to ALL EAST RAMAPO STUDENTS
 in the 2016-2017
 School Year upon approval from
 NY State Board of Education**

10 Quick Facts about Charter Schools in NY

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4. They cannot base admissions decisions on ability;
5. Charter schools are non-profit organizations;
6. They are governed by their own board of trustees;
7. Charter schools must comply with laws regarding health, safety, civil rights and Special education (the Open Meetings Law and the Freedom of Information Act specifically apply to charter schools);
8. They must comply with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act;
9. They must administer all the same state tests as district schools; and
10. They must meet all NY State performance requirements.



LEGACY CHARTER SCHOOL
 is
NOW Actively seeking
Interested Individuals to
serve as School Board
Members

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LCS VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.THELEGACYCHARTER.ORG
 or email us at
TheLegacyCharter@gmail.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1244, Spring Valley, NY 10977

Like us on Facebook

Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

La fundación de la Escuela Legacy Charter acepta donaciones de parte de la Escuela Legacy Charter- IRS Code 501(c)(3)

FEDERAL TAX ID# 46-3277608

Abierto a todos los estudiantes de East Ramapo en el año escolar 2016-2017 tras la aprobación del Departamento de educación estatal de Nueva York

★ **ELIJA LA ESCUELA PÚBLICA DE SU HIJO.** Escuela Legacy Charter de pensadores innovadores será no sectaria y sus programas, sus políticas de admisión, sus prácticas de empleo y todas las demás operaciones. LCS no cobrará matrícula y no discriminará contra ningún pueblo en base a su nacionalidad de origen étnico, creencias religiosas, género o discapacidad.

★ **CAMBIANDO LA CARA DEL APRENDIZAJE.** Escuela Legacy Charter ofrecerá un bien equilibrado se infunden ambiente educativo que favorece pensamiento crítico, fuerte carácter y promover la equidad a través de experiencias de aprendizaje mientras abraza y ajusta a todos los estudiantes sin importar el idioma.

★ **LA CONSIDERACIÓN DEL NIÑO ENTERO.** Escuela Legacy Charter del pensador innovador será una escuela inclusiva, satisfacer las necesidades educativas de una población heterogénea de diversa. La participación comunitaria es fundamental en el apoyo y estímulo de alta multi nivel logro y ciudadanía responsable.

- **Desarrollo de liderazgo y educación del carácter**
- **Fomentar la participación de la familia**
- **Celebrando la diversidad cultural**

Escuela Legacy Charter busca activamente ahora a individuos interesados para servir de miembros del consejo escolar

10 Quick Facts about Charter Schools in NY

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9. *They must administer all the same state tests as district schools; and*
10. *They must meet all NY State performance requirements.*

Serving Grades K-5

La fundación de la Escuela Legacy Charter acepta donaciones de parte de la Escuela Legacy Charter y es registrada como un estado de Nueva York 501(c)(3) no para la ganancia.

Todas las donaciones son el **100 % desgravables.**



Para aprender más sobre LCS, visite nuestro sitio web: www.thelegacycharter.com o envíenos un correo electrónico a thelegacycharter@gmail.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1244, Spring Valley, NY 10977

Like us on Facebook



The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers presents

A Charter School Community Forum

For Friends, Parents, and Guardians of School-aged children of all abilities in Grades K- 5th who reside within East Ramapo Central School District and are looking for alternate FREE Public Education in the 2016-2017 School Year. Come and get answers to questions on what Charter Schools are, How they operate, and How WE can make this option work for US and your child here in East Ramapo.

JANUARY 18, 2015

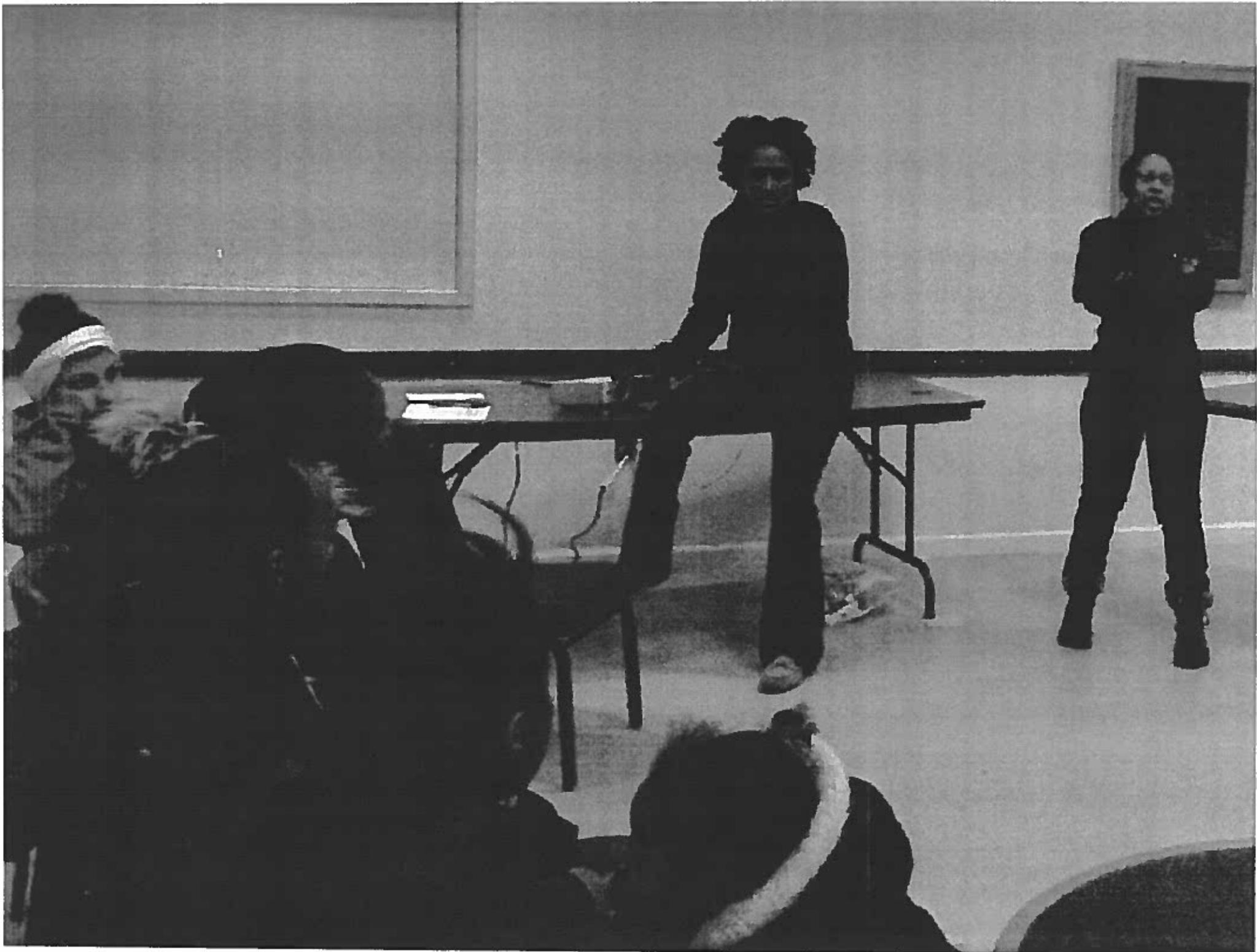
Louis Kurtz Civic Center

9 North Main Street, Spring Valley NY 10977

2:00 pm- 4:00 pm

For More Information:
845-200-0038/ JoAnne T.
or email at
thelegacycharter@gmail.com

visit our Website at
WWW.THELEGACYCHARTER.COM
and join our Mailing List for continued updates





The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers *presents*

A CHARTER SCHOOL COMMUNITY FORUM

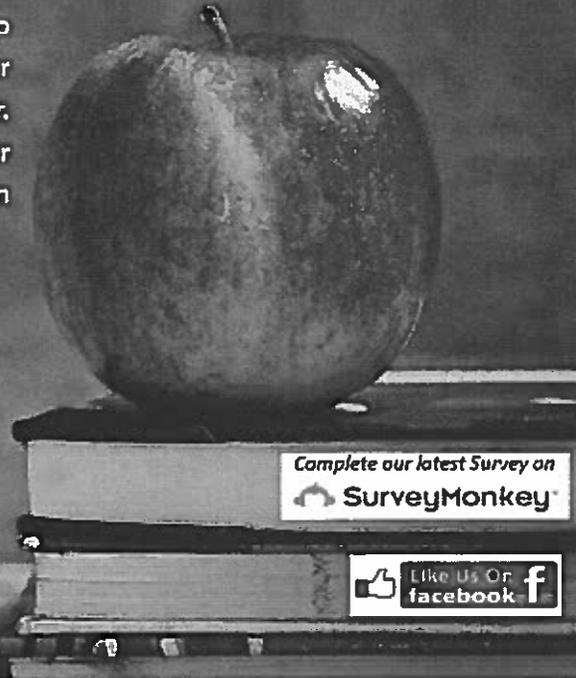
For Families, Friends, and Neighbors of students grades K-5 who reside within the East Ramapo School District and are looking for alternative FREE Public Education in the 2016– 2017 School Year. Come and get answers to questions about what Public Charter Schools are, how they work, and how WE can make this option work for US and your child here in East Ramapo.

Finkelstein Memorial Library

Fielding Room

Sunday, April 26, 2015

2:00 pm– 5:00 pm



For more information or to reserve a seat, call 845-200-0038/ JoAnne Thompson
Visit our website at **WWW.THELEGACYCHARTER.COM** or email us at **THELEGACYCHARTER@GMAIL.COM**

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

P.O. Box 1244
Spring Valley, NY 10977

March, 2015

Dear Sir/ Madam;

I am contacting you on behalf of The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers and its supporters, to ask for your support either in goods or financially. We are a group of parents and residents that are formulating and proposing a Free Public Charter School for the students of East Ramapo.

Our efforts started as a response to the issues existing in the East Ramapo Central School District, where years of bitter conflict over resources shared between the public schools and the private school community has reached an impasse. The population of East Ramapo is about 113,000. The general population is 64% white, but the public school population of about 8,300 is 90% non-white. There are 9500 public school students and about 18,000 students who attend yeshivas (Jewish Religious Private Schools). Recently, State Assemblyman, Kenneth Zebrowski said "[East Ramapo] is an unconventional situation and we need an unconventional solution."

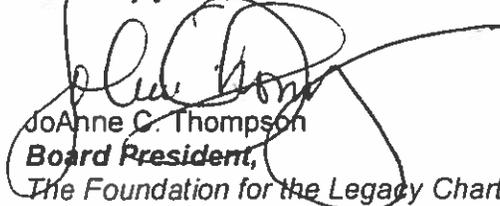
According to the Superintendent Dr. Joel Klien, the cost of services for the large non-public school pupil growth is driving the drastic cuts in the public schools. These cuts include the total elimination of Arts/ Music Programming in the Elementary Schools, Reduction in Sports Programming, and the reduction of Kindergarten from a Full Day Program to a Half Day only.

As parents and residents of East Ramapo, we feel that it is time for the **COMMUNITY** of Students, Businesses, and Taxpayers/ Homeowners to envision improved schools and learning environments and act upon that vision. For many, Public Education is the gateway to opportunity and all students have the human and civil right to a quality public education that develops their potential, independence, and character.

As we submit our Letter of Intent and Proposal to New York State Board of Education to open a Free Public Charter School for East Ramapo Students (grades K-5), we are asking for assistance. We are holding a raffle and are asking that your company assist us by providing either funds or merchandise towards this effort.

We invite you to learn about The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers at www.thelegacycharter.com If you are so moved to support our endeavor, please contact me at thelegacycharter@gmail.com or (845) 200-0038. We thank you, in advance for being a valued business in Rockland County and assisting us in bringing another option to the Public School students of East Ramapo.

Sincerely yours,



JoAnne C. Thompson
Board President,
The Foundation for the Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

A Charter School Community Forum



Finkelstein Memorial
Library
April 26, 2015

presented by **The Legacy Charter school of Innovative Thinkers**

Who are we?

Three years ago, we began the process of writing a Public Charter School Application for the East Ramapo School District.

We are Parents, Grandparents, Residents, TaxPayers, Alumni, Attorney, Former School Board Member, and friends of East Ramapo.

This endeavor is a two-part process that requires approval from the New York State Department of Education in order for the school to officially function as a New York State Public Charter School.

We are committed to making a change for East Ramapo Students because something has to happen!

What is a Charter School?



What are Charter Schools?

- A Charter School is a unique PUBLIC SCHOOL that has the freedom to be more innovative while being held accountable for improving student achievement.
- Public Charter Schools operate independent of the local school board.
- Public Charter schools are funded by local, state, and federal tax dollars dependent upon student enrollment. They do not add any new costs to the public education system. They simply move the funding associated with a student from one school to another based upon the decisions of families.
- Public Charter Schools are able to make changes more quickly than traditional schools because they do not have to get permission from the local school board.

What are the requirements of a Charter School in NYS?

- Public Charter Schools are not religious organizations and **CANNOT** discriminate against students on any basis.
- Public Charter Schools **must adhere** to the same academic standards and assessments as other public schools. They are also entitled to use alternate assessments.
- Public Charter Schools **must meet ALL State & Federal Standards/Laws.**
- Public Charter Schools are required to undergo financial audits.

How can I get my child enrolled?

- Public Charter Schools are FREE, do not have special entrance requirements, and DO NOT CHARGE TUITION.
- Public Charter Schools do not accept students based upon Test Scores, Essays, Interviews, or any other measure of ability.
- The law does require that the Charter School give preference to returning students, siblings of enrolled students, and students who reside within the school district where the school is located.
- Any student may enter a Public Charter School lottery as long as there are seats available in the grade they will be entering.

How does the lottery work?

Step 1:

A parent must fill out a simple form with student's name, grade level, and basic information.

Step 2:

The School holds a Random Drawing or Lottery, either randomly or using a computer program.

Step 3:

Students who were selected in the Lottery may choose to enroll in the school or decline the offer. Students who are not selected go on a randomly ordered waiting list.

The Lottery must be held in a accessible place and open to the public. Applicants need not be present to be selected.

How can you help?

- **Sign our petition**
- **Contact your local representatives**
- **Be Involved in your Childs' Education**
- **Be Informed**
- **VOTE in your local School Board and General Elections**
- **Follow us on Facebook and Google+**
- **Join our Mailing List**
- **Become part of our Planning or Founding Board**

What makes us different?

(What does Waldorf Inspired mean?)



Receive the children with reverence



Educate them in love



Send them forth in freedom

-Rudolf Steiner-

Waldorf Schools



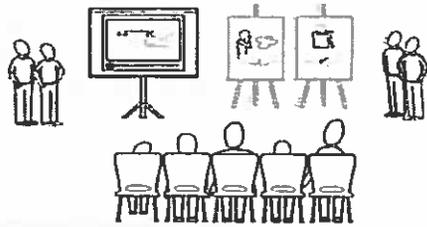
HOW WILL WE BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OUR LARGEST POPULATIONS- ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS(ELL), ESL, AND SPECIAL NEEDS?



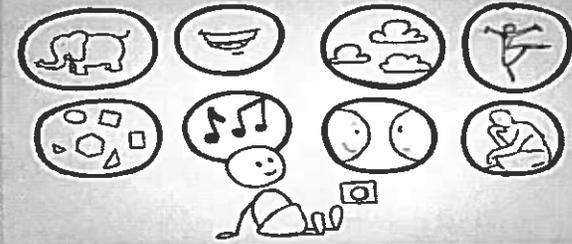
**Supporting English Language
Learners in the Preschool Classroom**



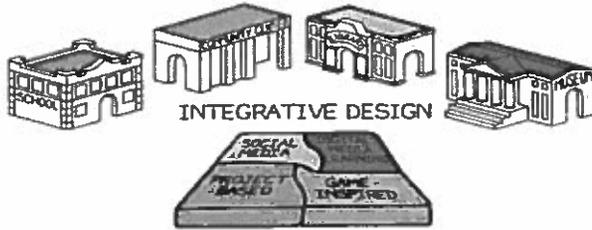
**Understanding English Language
Learners: Culture, Equity, and
Language**



Project-Based Learning (PBL). Explained



Born to Learn



The Future of Learning



Morning Circle

Common Charter School Myths and Concerns

Let's Discuss this together and address some of these concerns.



Public Hearing
Nov 4, 2015

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

Our mission is to provide a well-balanced educational environment that embraces and adjusts to all learners regardless of language and ability.

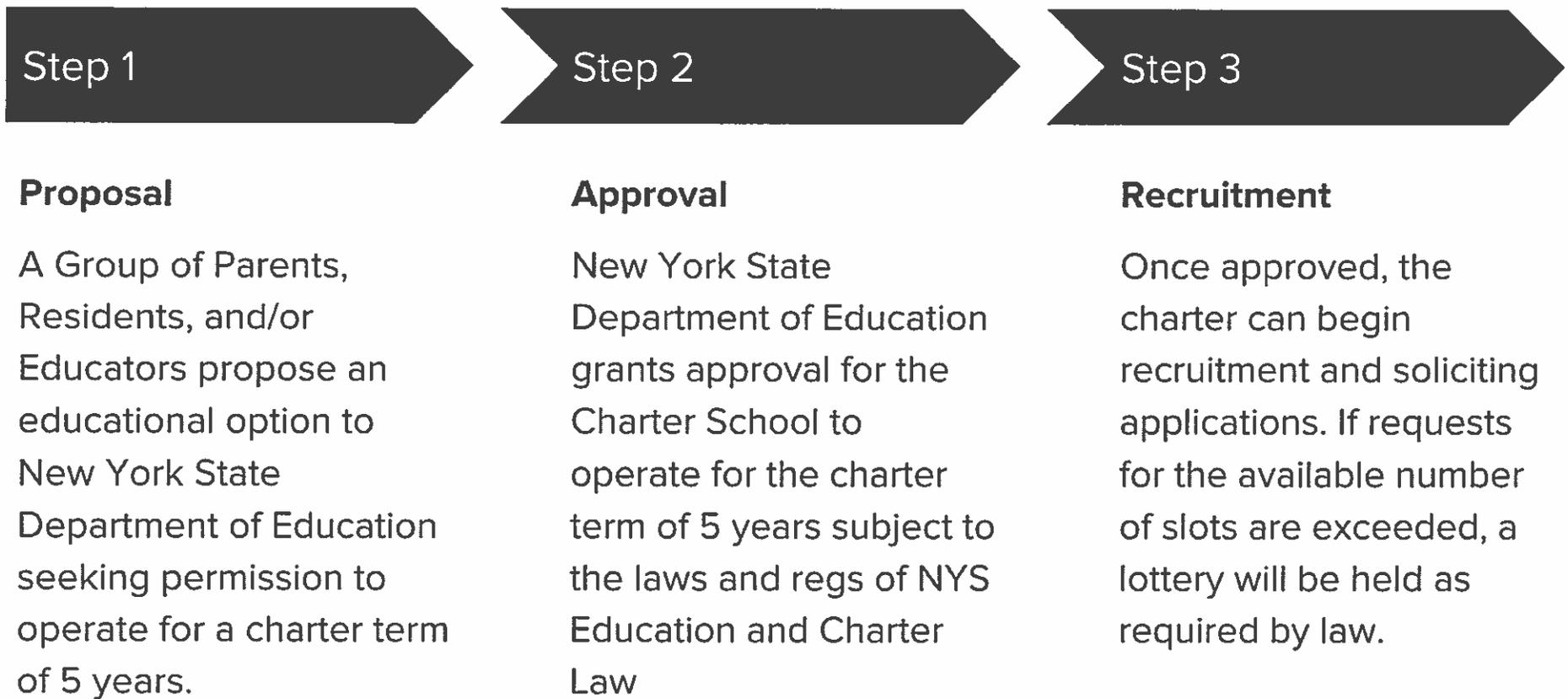
The Vision

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers will have an art- infused Waldorf inspired curriculum that fosters critical thinking, strong character, and promotes equity through hands-on learning experiences. It will engage our students' natural learning curiosities and provide a healthy relationship to their community. The central focus is the development of that essence in every person by instilling an understanding of and appreciation of their background and place in the world.

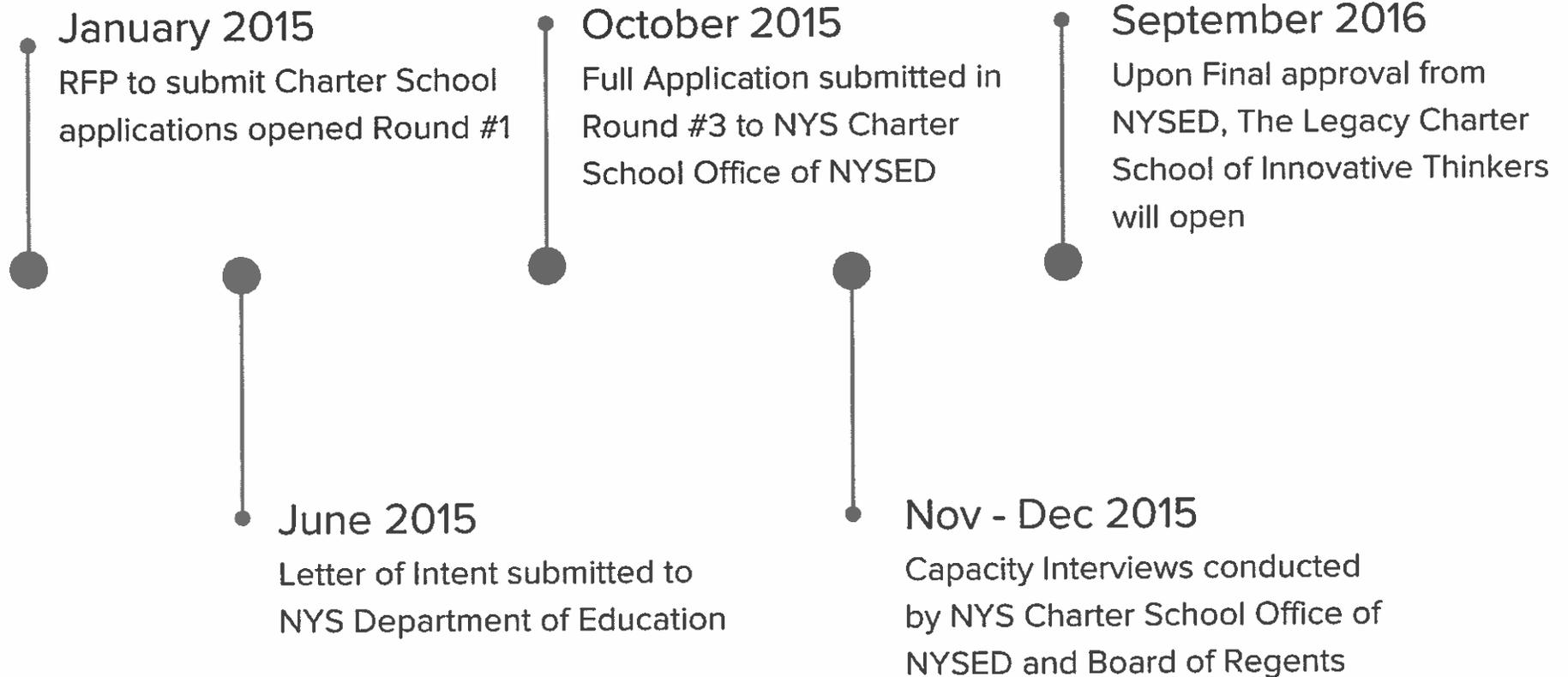
We will be an inclusive school, meeting the educational needs of a diverse heterogeneous population. Community participation is vital in the support and encouragement of high multi-level achievement and responsible citizenship.

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers will be non-sectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. It will not charge tuition and will not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, religious beliefs, gender, or disability.

How the Charter Approval process works



Important Milestones



So, What will we offer?

In a nutshell



Whole Child Approach

Aligning ourselves to the Whole Child Development, we will address the cognitive, social, emotional, physical, cultural, and creative aspects of our students and acknowledge that each student will mature at their own pace.

Likewise, we will work to develop human skills that are necessary for long term success.

Mixed Inspiration Curriculum

Designing our own curriculum, we have borrowed best practices from a variety of pedagogy that can be applied cross curricular and adhere to state standards.

Our core studies will incorporate SEAM by engaging students in Science, Engineering, Arts, and Music. In our fourth year, we will incorporate technology (STEAM) in order to prepare them for global citizenship.

A Community School

We will create a welcoming community based on honesty, character, respect, and responsibility that embraces diverse talents, languages, and backgrounds. We will know and be culturally accountable to our kids and their families by ensuring that our staff composition is as diverse as our student population in culture as well as language.

Community Partnership

We will work with community partners to find common ground that celebrates diversity and ensures that our students are mindful of their responsibilities as members of not only their school and local community but also the world.

Quality Assurance & Assessment

We will use regular observations and assessments to ensure that not only our students, but we, are also making progress.

We will also provide regular constructive feedback to our staff and follow through with access to professional development so that staff as well as students and families always feels supported.

Financial Transparency

5 yr Charter Review for Renewal as required by Education Law

Full Day Kindergarten

Before and After-school Care

Why us? Because this is OUR District, too!



JoAnne C Thompson

Parent

Educator

Homeowner

Advocate



Sandra Oates

Parent

Educator



Ameenah Capers

Parent

Legal Advisor

East Ramapo
Homeowner



George Heyliger

Grandparent

Retired
Educator

East Ramapo
Homeowner



Dr. Louise Covert

Charter
Administrator

Educator



Shiri Ulrich

Resident

Educator



Arnitress Dowdy

Parent

Business
Owner

Resident

How can you contact LCSIT?

By Mail

write us at:

*P.O. Box 1244
Spring Valley, NY
10977*

By Phone or Email

phone me at:

845-200-0038

or email us at:

thelegacycharter@gmail.com

Online

view our page at:

WWW.THELEGACYCHARTER.COM

like us on Facebook:





Public Hearing
Nov 4, 2015

The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

August 2, 2013

Letter of Support – Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers. I am a resident of 24 Bender Road in New City in the state of New York and I believe that Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers will be an asset to Rockland County, particularly of great benefit to the children currently assigned to attend the schools in the East Ramapo School District for the following reasons:

- The Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers will be the first charter school in Rockland County to fulfill a long-standing need for an alternative to traditional public school.
- Drastic cuts have been made to the East Ramapo School programs. School programs such as the Arts, Music, Sports, Foreign Language, and after school clubs, were eliminated in order to fill budget gaps. Recently, the option of eliminating Kindergarten has been a serious consideration. Consequently, many families have abandoned the East Ramapo Public Schools and sought other alternatives in order for their children to receive basic quality education.
- The Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers will provide every child in Rockland County access to a learning environment that cultivates character enrichment, community stewards, and academic success.

I endorse the mission of Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers and support the approval of the school to serve students in the Rockland County community.

Sincerely,



Andrea Straker-Smith

The Legislature of Rockland County



TONEY L. EARL
Deputy Majority Leader
Legislator – District 8

Vice-Chair, Multi Services Committee
Vice-Chair, Public Safety Committee
Budget & Finance Committee
Environmental Committee
Government Operations Committee
Rules Committee

August 6, 2014

Commissioner Dr. John King
New York State Education Department
Charter School Office
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Commissioner King:

I am writing this letter to support The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers.

Over the past number of years, education in East Ramapo has been affected negatively with cuts to programs and the elimination of positions. These cuts and board decisions have resulted in the assignment of triple lunch periods and the almost total elimination of arts and sports. These cuts have been devastating for students seeking entry into Ivy League schools.

With the creation of The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers, we anticipate that the students will be afforded an exceptional education with an innovative curriculum. This is a grassroots movement by parents and community members to improve public education in the East Ramapo Central School District.

I am enthusiastic about the creation of the Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers and give The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers my fullest support. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Toney L. Earl
County Legislator

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I endorse the mission of Legacy Charter School for Innovative Thinkers and support the approval of the school to serve students in the Rockland County community.

Sincerely,



Andrea Straker-Smith

Allan A. Thompson
13 Garden Place
Spring Valley, N.Y. 10977

Ms. JoAnne Thompson
Legacy Charter School
P.O. Box 1244
Spring Valley, NY 10977

September 12, 2013

Dear Ms. Thompson,

It was a pleasure to meet with you recently and learn of the plans for a Charter School in Spring Valley environs/area.

I have long been a supporter of excellent public school education, however, in view of the great need to reach more of the children in our community; additional approaches have become a necessity.

I support your efforts to fill an educational void that you have identified, in existing school offerings/programs. Please be assured that you may count on my assistance as you move forward. My best wishes to you in this important endeavor.

Sincerely yours,


Allan A. Thompson, Sr.

The Legislature of Rockland County



TONEY L. EARL
Deputy Majority Leader
Legislator – District 8

Vice-Chair, Multi Services Committee
Vice-Chair, Public Safety Committee
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Sincerely,

Toney L. Earl
County Legislator

Rockland County Legislature -11 New Hempstead Road - New City, New York 10956 - Tel: (845) 638-5100
Visit us: <http://rocklandgov.com/departments/county-legislature/>
Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rockleg>

September 9, 2013

Legacy Charter School
Of Innovative Thinkers
P.O. Box 1244
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Dear Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers,

Please accept this letter as my offering for support to those who have painstakingly absorbed the quest to open a Charter School within the East Ramapo School District. This is most definitely a huge undertaking that is unfortunately, sorely very necessary. The need for an innovative, quality, public institution is desperately needed within this community. Currently we have an extremely sub-standard education system within the East Ramapo School District, which have recently announced additional cutbacks and setbacks. As a parent, this is truly devastating to our children/students, as well as educators and local families. My husband and I are so disappointed in the current education system in East Ramapo that although we pay annual school taxes, we have opted to send our daughter(s) to private school in order to ensure that they receive the quality education they so deserve. This is an incurred expense we would have rather not had to embark upon. We honestly believe that this is the only way to be certain the proper education and personal growth is obtained. The manner in which East Ramapo is being orchestrated, the children within the district are not given a fighting chance. With all of the current cutbacks in place, they are being deprived and short changed from the proper education they deserve.

As a member of the community, as well as a concerned parent, my family and I support your efforts in putting your best foot forward to help make this change/difference in the community of East Ramapo. Furthermore, your gallant effort to restore faith, quality and trust back into the children's education is commendable.

Best of luck!

Respectfully Yours,
Jacqueline Harracksingh

14 Yorkshire Court
Nanuet, NY 10954



**COUNTY OF ROCKLAND
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

Allison-Parrish County Office Building
New City, New York 10956
Tel. (845) 638-5122
Fax. (845) 638-3356

Edwin J. Day
County Executive

August 6, 2014

Commissioner John King
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12234

Re: Support for Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers

Dear Commissioner King:

I am writing to express my support for The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers, which is a proposed charter school for the East Ramapo Area.

Reduced Pre-K, schools being shuttered and sold off for losses, dropping test scores, threats of half-day kindergarten, cuts to BOCES technical programs, increased class sizes, cancelled extracurricular programs, distressingly low graduation rates has become the legacy of East Ramapo under the current school board.

Back in March 2014, I wrote an opinion piece on the East Ramapo School District in which I endorsed a piece of legislation allowing the State to intervene in failing school districts, S4183-2013: "Relates to intervention in chronically under performing school districts" and asked that people sign a petition in support of this legislation and the kids, parents, and taxpayers of the East Ramapo School District. This law would set up a more flexible and functional system to allow the state to move in and appoint a caretaker school board if the NYS Schools Chancellor determines that the current one is not acting in the district's best interest, and a caretaker fiscal director to correct budgetary issues. While the governor has now appointed a Fiscal Monitor for East Ramapo, it is my opinion that parents are seeking alternatives for their children now.

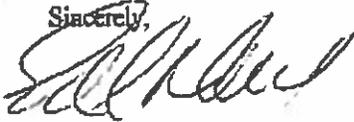
The East Ramapo school board has abandoned their duties. They have engaged in dismissive, insulting, and untoward actions towards the kids and parents they are supposed to represent. Where they have failed, where they are derelict, others must step in.

I have explored several of the options, with educational experts, legal experts, and district parents having weighed in, will push with sustained effort to make the fixes. With all of these options, the goal should be to be able to have true and effective local control in the long run. The time for action is now.

This grassroots effort to create a charter school in East Ramapo has been planned and executed by Parents, Educators, and Community Activists. It is my hope that our state representatives put their full weight behind their recent announcements of support for various efforts to rescue the kids of East Ramapo. Either way, as County Executive I will not stand idly by while any one level of government buries my fellow Rocklander's with taxes, provides them ineffective services, or mortgages their children's future. These kids, these parents, and these neighbors need a fighter, and I will fight for them no matter the effort required.

I strongly support The Legacy Charter School of Innovative Thinkers as an educational option for all of the families of East Ramapo.

Sincerely,



Edwin J. Day
COUNTY EXECUTIVE