

Letter of Intent: Contact Information Form

Created Monday, July 07, 2014

Page 1

All applicants seeking to establish a charter school authorized by the Board of Regents to open in 2014 must submit a Letter of Intent to Apply, which requires completion of this contact form, and an upload of your 5 page Letter of Intent to Apply as outlined in the 2014 RFP and Application Kit. Please submit these tasks by 3:00 PM on February 3, 2014. Applicants who do not submit a complete Letter of Intent to Apply by the 3:00 PM deadline will not be permitted to submit a Full Application.

a. Proposed Charter School Name

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

South Bronx Classical Charter School III

b. Preferred school location.

Select the preferred geographical area on the left and then select the preferred school district or community school district on the right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 12

Select a second geographical area on left and then select the school district or community school district on right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 8

If necessary, select a third geographical area on left and then select the school district or community school district on right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 7

c. Applicant(s) information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address, and information establishing that the applicant(s) is a parent, teacher, school administrator or community resident.

(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	Street Address, City, State, Zip
Lead Applicant	Lester Long	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Co-Applicant	Leena Gyftopoulos	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

As the Lead Applicant(s), I (we) can best be described as a:

(Multiple responses permitted)

- Current or former School Administrator

d. Contact Person: please provide a phone number and/or email address to which public inquires about the proposed charter school may be addressed.

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number (###-###-####)	Email Address	URL (type web address or the word "none")
Media Contact	Dahiana Sanchez	718-860-4340	dsanchez@southbronxclassical.org	www.classicalcharterschools.org

e. Planned grades and enrollment in each year of the proposed charter term.

	Ages (or age ranges)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
K	4-5	60	60	60	60	60
1st	5-6	60	60	60	60	60
2nd	6-7	0	57	57	57	57
3rd	7-8	0	0	54	54	54
4th	8-9	0	0	0	51	51
5th	9-10	0	0	0	0	48
Total		120	177	231	282	330

f. 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.

(See pages 40 of the application kit for definitions and guidance as only "substantial" partnerships should be listed here).

Proposed Management Company	
Partner Organization 1	South Bronx Classical Charter School
Partner Organization 2	South Bronx Classical Charter School II

Lead Applicant(s) Signature and Date

You have the option of adding your signature(s) as the Lead Applicant or Co-Lead Applicants directly on the bottom of your Letter of Intent before you scan and upload it into the portal.

OR you may sign below using the mouse on your PC or stylus on your mobile device to sign your name.

Lead or Co-Applicant listed in section c above.

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



Date Signed (Lead or Co-Applicant)

2014/07/07

Co-Applicant listed in section c above

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



Date Signed (Co-Applicant)

2014/07/07

Thank you for completing the Contact Form which will be duplicative of some information contained in your letter of intent. Having information in this form allows the Department to merge applicant contact information into our existing data system. Please proceed to upload your signed and dated 5 page Letter of Intent to Apply.

d. The names of proposed members the school’s initial board of trustees, which must include a minimum of five members, along with a very brief description of relevant experience and skills if not provided above.

Consistent with the Charter School Law of 1998, as amended, the proposed Board of Trustees will consist of the Board of Trustees of South Bronx Classical Charter School I and II.

NAME	TRUSTEE SINCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
C. Stephen Baldwin	2006	Board Chair. Former third grade teacher and attorney at the United Nations.
Kathryn M. Heleniak	2008	Vice Chair since 2008. Professor, Fordham University.
J. Kevin Murphy	2006	Secretary since 2006. Taught elementary school for 9 years; over 30 years of financial advisement experience.
Melissa Brown	2009	Treasurer. Vice President, Barclays Bank. Williams College and Harvard Business School.
Louisa Childs	2010	Counsel at the Dwight International School. Dartmouth College and NYU School of Law.
Ingrid Bateman	2013	Analyst in technology and venture capital. Mother of 2.
Bill Higgins	2006	Retired, United States Naval Reserve.
James Maher	2010	Vice President, BlackRock, Inc. Brown University and NYU Master’s in Real Estate Finance and Investment.
Larry Hirsch	2006	Senior Representative, Housing and Urban Development

e. Replication or Network Information: If the proposed charter school is a replication of another school model or intended to be part of a network, identify the charter school being replicated (inside or outside New York State) and provide a brief description of the network. Please also indicate if the applicant group, in part or in whole, sits on the board of trustees of an existing charter school, and if the applicant group is submitting other applications during this round.

The Proposed Charter School is a replication of SBCCS I and II and will have the same Board of Trustees. The Lead Applicant has not submitted other applications during this round.

f. Application History: If you or another member of the current or a previous founding group has ever applied to this or another charter entity to open this proposed school or another charter school, either in New York State or outside of New York State, please indicate the date the application(s) was/were submitted and to which charter entity, and briefly describe the outcome of the charter entity’s decision.

The Lead Applicant and Founding Group previously applied for the charter for South Bronx Classical Charter School, in November 2005, which was approved in December 2006; and South Bronx Classical Charter School II, in February 2012, which was approved in June 2012.

II. Proposed Charter School Information

a. Proposed school name.

South Bronx Classical Charter School III (“SBCCS III”)

b. Proposed school location (school district or community school district in NYC).

Community School Districts 12, 8, 7, 9, or 11 (in order of preference)

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

Year	Year	K	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Total
1	15-16	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
2	16-17	60	60	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	177
3	17-18	60	60	57	54	-	-	-	-	-	231
4	18-19	60	60	57	54	51	-	-	-	-	282
5	19-20	60	60	57	54	51	48	-	-	-	330

d. 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.

The proposed school will be a related entity to SBCCS and SBCCS II.

e. Proposed school mission.

South Bronx Classical Charter School III prepares K-8th grade students in the South Bronx to excel in college-preparatory high schools. Through a classical curriculum and highly structured setting, students become liberated scholars and citizens of impeccable character who achieve proficiency in and advanced mastery of New York State Performance Standards.

f. School overview: A brief description of the school model, especially any innovative design elements that might require specific expertise to evaluate during the review process.

SBCCS III will closely resemble the school model of SBCCS and SBCCS II. In addition to the focus on the fundamentals of reading, writing, and math, the school offers character education to all its scholars, Latin starting in third grade, and Debate starting in fourth grade. Finally, consistent with a liberal arts education, the school seeks to ensure that scholars graduate with a diverse array of skills and appreciation in Art and Music.

Similar to its sister schools, the school's instructional leadership will include the Executive Director, School Director, Instructional Coaches, and Grade Team Leaders, who will be in charge of curricular refinement, observing and improving teachers in his or her grade, holding grade team meetings, and reporting to the Executive Director. This system provides organizational stability and a leadership pipeline for teachers to become Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, Principals, Literacy and Math coaches, or Deans of Students.

g. Briefly describe the school's target population and the community that the school intends to serve.

The school's target population is the families of the South Bronx, particularly in the Longwood, Hunts Point, Morrisania, and surrounding neighborhoods. These areas are highly diverse, and thus demographic statistics vary greatly. Generally, however, the target population resides in areas in profound need of improved educational outcomes.

Bronx County: The proposed school is planned to be located in Bronx County, the 3rd most densely populated county in the United States (out of 3,300). Of all counties east of Texas, Bronx County has the 2nd highest proportion of Hispanics, 2nd lowest proportion of non-Hispanic whites, and the highest rate of persons who self-identified as “some other race” or “multiracial”. Bronx County is one of five counties nationwide with over 30% of households headed by single women (three of the five are Indian reservations). Bronx County has the highest poverty, child poverty, murder, rape, and robbery rates in New York State,¹² as well as the highest pediatric asthma rate in New York.

Congressional District 16: The school is proposed to be located in Congressional District 16, which covers most of the South Bronx, and has the highest poverty rate in the United States as well as the lowest rate of “well off” households (defined as having incomes 500% of the poverty rate).

Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA): Used by the US Census Bureau as geographic regions, there are 2,071 PUMAs throughout the United States. The school is proposed to be located in PUMA 3710, which houses much of the South Bronx. PUMA 3710 has a higher proportion of Spanish speakers than the US as a whole, New York State, New York City, or the other 9 PUMAs within the Bronx. PUMA 3710 has the highest poverty, and child poverty, rates in the United States, with 34.2% of its residents in extreme poverty (annual income less than half the poverty line). Of the 153 PUMAs in the New York City Metropolitan Area, the three poorest PUMAs are in the South Bronx.

Community School Districts (CSDs): The school is proposed to be housed in Districts 12, 9, 7, or 8, ranking 30th, 31st, 32nd, and 28th, respectively, out of New York City’s 32 districts in ELA test scores.

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. Describe the school’s strategies to attract, recruit, and retain its students, particularly those identified in the school’s mission and students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced price lunch program.

The proposed school will comply with all aspects of the Charter School Law of 1998, as amended and specifically including the amendments of 2010, which includes the development of specific strategies to attract students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and students eligible for the free and reduce lunch program (“At-Risk Students”)

All marketing materials and student applications will include language (in both English and Spanish) encouraging At-Risk Students to apply to the school’s lottery. The school will hold several parent orientations, at the school, preschools, Headstart programs, and day-care centers, to provide assistance to families of At-Risk Students. Our Director of Special Services will attend all such parent orientations and answer any questions parents of At-Risk Students may have, at the

¹ <http://128.59.96.140/bronxbeat09/www/story.asp?id=342>

² These statistics were generously provided by Lehman College at <http://www.lehman.edu/deannss/bronxdatactr/discover/bxtext.htm>

orientations or at any other time. In all our schools, a Spanish speaker will answer our phones and emails to ensure that interested parents are encouraged to apply.

IV. Public Outreach and Community Support

Describe public outreach conducted to date to solicit community input regarding the proposed school, which may include public meetings held, discussions with community parents, stakeholders or organizations, public awareness campaigns, media coverage or results from surveys conducted. In addition, provide an initial assessment of sufficient interest in the proposed charter school to allow the school to reach its anticipated enrollment.

Throughout the process of deciding to replicate, we have had numerous discussions with parents at SBCCS who have evidenced (including through the Learning Environment Survey) their satisfaction with SBCCS. In addition, we have consistently communicated with elected officials and community leaders about the school, and our desire to expand. Based on these conversations as well as our current successes, we expect SBCCS III to be very similar in its design.

The most important display of need for the proposed school is student application volume at the original school. As demonstrated below, SBCCS III will be able to easily fill its seats from the excess demand at SBCCS, with no additional marketing. Nevertheless, we intend to distribute flyers around the community to ensure equitable access and information.

KINDERGARTEN APPLICANTS ONLY				
School Year	Applicants	Accepted	Waitlisted	Seats
2006 - 2007	112	65	42	60
2007 - 2008	128	66	62	60
2008 - 2009	157	61	96	60
2009 - 2010	258	59	199	60
2010 - 2011	270	60	210	60
2011 - 2012	284	63	209	60
2012 - 2013	386	60	210	60
2013 - 2014	566	65	488	120
2014 - 2015	1,112	132	957	120

Sincerely,

Lester Long
Lead Applicant