

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Title: Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2009 Charter School Applications****Type of Executive Summary:**
 Action
 Action on First Reading
 Discussion
 Information
Policy Implications:

-
- Constitution _____
-
-
- General Statute #
- 115C-238.29D(b)
-
-
- SBE Policy # _____
-
-
- SBE Policy Amendment
-
-
- SBE Policy (New)
-
-
- APA # _____
-
-
- APA Amendment
-
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- APA (New)
-
-
- Other _____

Presenter(s): Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)**Description:**

As per NCGS 115C-238.29D(b), the State Board of Education may authorize no more than 100 charter schools. There will be three (3) openings for preliminary charters of new schools at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. The following seven (7) applicants were interviewed by the LFI Committee:

- Bear Grass Charter School
- Duplin Charter School
- Henderson Collegiate
- Lake Lure Classical Academy
- McKinney Academy Charter School
- Mountain Island Charter School
- New Bern International Academy

Three applications will be chosen by the State Board of Education for preliminary charter approval at the July 2009 SBE meeting.

All schools receiving preliminary approval will undergo rigorous training as per the expectations set by the state and federal government for operation of a public charter school. Each applicant will further develop the bylaws, policies, and procedures that are deemed necessary for the effective and efficient operation of a charter school. The SBE will review the progress of the school(s) no later than the March 2010 SBE meeting when final approval may be granted.

Resources:

N/A

Input Process:

Charter school applicants, local education agencies, parents, teachers, students, and the Department of Public Instruction, LFI Committee

Stakeholders:

Charter school applicants, local education agencies, parents, teachers, students, and the Department of Public Instruction

Timeline For Action:

This item is presented for Action during the July 2009 SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends the approval of three (3) applicants for preliminary charters to begin training in July, 2009.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
Specify: _____

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Vote: Yes _____ No _____

Abstain _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

Postponed _____ Revised _____

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**CHARTER SCHOOLS INTERVIEWED FOR 2009 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
July 2009**

COUNTY School Conversion	NAME OF PROPOSED SCHOOL	CONTACT	FOCUS	ENROLLMENT AND GRADE SPAN					
				2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Charlotte/ Mecklenburg Private School Conversion	McKinney Academy Charter School (K-8)	Brian Hines Cornelius	To provide students in grades K – 8 a quality education by: developing a strong academic foundation and a nurturing environment while integrating art, music, drama and nutrition. Students “think globally”; provide a balance between academics and creative arts in a positive learning environment; to improve the health of the entire school community by teaching students and families ways to establish and maintain lifelong healthy eating habits through nutrition education, physical education, garden and farm-based learning experiences, environmental restoration, lunch period education and connections to the core curriculum of science, math, language arts, history, geography, and social studies.		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	K-6	K-7	K-8	K-8	K-8
				Enrollment	160	320	500	680	720
Charlotte/ Mecklenburg	Mountain Island Charter School (K-12)	Kelly Pledger Charlotte	A traditional curriculum taught in innovative ways with focus on instilling character values and leadership development within a positive, challenging learning environment; extended school day to allow for in-depth study of foreign language, the arts, and development of character and leadership in all students; foreign language (Spanish) will begin in Kindergarten and extend through grade 12 with a minimum of one year of Latin required in Middle School, other languages may be offered as well; An emphasis on visual and performing arts beginning in Kindergarten extending through the grades with students making choices beginning in grade 6.		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	K-7	K-8	K-9	K-10	K-11
				Enrollment	400	480	560	640	720

*** - Denotes LFI Committee Recommendation

CHARTER SCHOOLS INTERVIEWED FOR 2009 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
July 2009

Craven	New Bern International Academy (6-12)	Jill King New Bern	Interdisciplinary, international curriculum; thematic, project-based instruction; students prepared for the 21 st Century -- able to see the connections among curricula and real-life relevance of learning; Learning driven students' innate curiosity and joy of academic success; global, multicultural curriculum opens students' awareness to diversity, as well as common attributes; students learn to respect others and the planet; multi-year teaching or "looping" & recycling projects contributes to the whole educational program and the holistic development of students.		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	6-8	6-9	6-10	6-11	6-12
				Enrollment	300	340	380	426	460
Duplin	Duplin Charter School (K-8)	Mark Cramer Leland	Disciplined, caring environment emphasizing traditional values and direct instructional methods; Emphasis on diligence, discipline, & devotion to seeking knowledge; Program unites and balances all subjects, teaching each as a method for expressing ideas with standard rules and classical examples for study in each area. Uses Saxon math & SRA McGraw-Hill for Science, Direct Instruction for reading.		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	K-1	K-2	K-3	K-4	K-5
				Enrollment	150	250	350	450	550
Martin Public School Conversion	***Bear Grass Charter School (6-12)	Delmas B. Cumbee, Jr. Williamston	Small size, historically high level of parental involvement, and high level of community support; Partnership with East Carolina University to offer unique learning opportunity and share latest teaching methods; Focus on science and math; Instructional methods developed with aid of Rigor/Relevance Framework; NCSOC alignment; professional learning communities.		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12	6-12
				Enrollment	350	350	350	350	350

**CHARTER SCHOOLS INTERVIEWED FOR 2009 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL
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Rutherford	***Lake Lure Classical Academy – A Challenge Foundation Academy (K-12)	Philip Byers Rutherfordton	NCSOC with the <i>Core Knowledge Sequence</i> ; Classical literature, in-depth historical studies, English grammar and writing, plus mathematics, science, music and art; experiential learning environment and Socratic-based discussion; critical thinking taught through discussion; grades 9-10 begin dialectic and logic and rhetoric added at grades 11-12; a variety methodology used including cooperative learning, investigative learning, the Socratic Method and directed independent study, among others; a variety of pedagogical styles will be used to develop unit studies to ensure each student can benefit from using preferred styles and learning to adapt and adjust to many styles of teaching/learning		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	K-9	K-10	K-11	K-12	K-12
				Enrollment	428	472	516	560	560
Vance	***Henderson Collegiate (4-8)	Eric Sanchez Henderson	Standards-based, college-prep curriculum grades 4-8; dual enrichment and intervention curriculum, combating racial and socioeconomic achievement gap; advanced 7-8 grade coursework preparing students for AP courses; and to pursue the college-level coursework and credits necessary to compete for increasingly competitive admission to the nation's best college		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
				Grade Span	4	5	6	7	8
				Enrollment	100	200	300	400	500