Application for Approval of an Open-Enrollment Charter

Instructions: The open-enrollment charter proposal must be submitted in contractual form including, in the order of the items below, these same components. Attach the following after the answers to the questions below: (1) signed facilities agreement, (2) evidence of parental/community support for the proposed charter, and (3) documentation of non-profit status.

Submit two copies of the completed application with attachments to the Texas Education Agency, Document Control Center, 1701 North Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701. For assistance, contact the Division of Charter Schools at (512) 463-9675.

Chief Operating Officer: Karen Belknap
Title: President/Administrator

Name of Sponsoring Entity: Faith Family Fellowship

The applicant is an "eligible entity" under the following category (check one):
- an institution of higher education (TEC 61.003);
- a tax-exempt organization [501(c)(3)];
- a private/independent institution of higher education (TEC 61.003);
- a governmental entity.

Sponsor Address: 3415 S. R.L. Thornton Fwy., City: Dallas
Zip: 75224 Phone Number: 214-375-7575 FAX: 214-375-7580

Type of charter sought: X an open-enrollment charter under
TEC 12.1011(a)(1)

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Date of proposed opening: January 1999
Charter Site Address: 701 Ovilla Road  City: Waxahachie
Zip: 75165  Phone Number: 972-938-3808  FAX: 214-375-7580
Correspondence Address: 3415 S.R.L. Thornton Freeway
City: Dallas  ZIP: 75224

Grade Levels: Pre K - 12  Enrollment: 150  Maximum Enrollment: 300

The charter will primarily serve an area that is geographically: ___ urban  
___ suburban  ___ rural

The proposed charter will be located in State Board District ___ (number).

In succinct terms describe the proposed school including grade levels offered, student populations served, educational focus and any other essential characteristics. For example, "The Seventh Avenue Charter School is designed to recover students who have dropped out of high school and prepare them through vocational training to be productive contributors to society."

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is designed to individualize the education of the student to assure his/her maximum progress.

We are serving grade levels pre-K through 12th grade.

Indicate the approximate percentage of each student population in as many categories as are applicable:

15% pre-kindergarten;  3% special education;  10% migrant;
75% economically disadvantaged;  10% limited English proficiency;
15% gifted  15% recovered dropouts;  75% at risk of dropping out;
1% pregnant or parent students  ___ other:
WAXAHACHIE FAITH
FAMILY ACADEMY

701 Ovilla Rd.
Waxahachie, Texas 75165

Karen Belknap voice 972-557-5578
Fax 972-557-5807
Academy voice 972-938-3808
Fax 214-375-7580
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FAITH FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION

Submitted

by

KAREN BELKNAP
Chairman of the Board
Faith Family Academies
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for

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Office of Charter Schools
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Sirs:

This is a letter of request from Karen Belknap and the board of Faith Family Fellowship, a 501(c)3 non-profit entity in the state of Texas, to consider our application to Texas Education Agency and the State Board of Education. This application is for an Open-Enrollment Charter school for the Waxahachie area, to begin in the fall of 1998.

Our original Faith Family Academy is a school that is seven years old. We would appreciate your consideration for awarding us an Open-Enrollment Charter

Yours, For The Sake of Kids,

Karen Belknap,
Chairman of Board
701 Ovila Rd
14,000 Sq. Ft.
I. Waxahachie Faith Family Academy Purpose, Vision, and Goals

A. Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is to provide a positive growth and learning experience for the children of this community in a safe, caring, and consistently structured atmosphere. Due consideration will be made in both the construction of the curriculum and our teaching practices, to offer a high level of education to the gifted student, while at the same time offering a remedial education for the "At Risk" student.

The Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is dedicated to restore vision, purpose and self worth to each child. The Academy is dedicated to prepare each student for a meaningful, fulfilled life by stressing physical, emotional, academic, and social development. We will instill in our students a desire for knowledge.

We will offer education for students from Pre K 3 and 4 years olds, and grades 1-12.

B. Our Vision at Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

WE BELIEVE that the future of our society — and the welfare of the world at large — is dependent upon our collective efforts as teachers and staff to share values, wisdom, knowledge, skills, and insights into the life of our children;

WE BELIEVE our modern society demands the highest levels of literacy, knowledge, and judgment from the staff. Our purpose is to provide all students with an academic base sufficiently broad in scope to enable one to cope in our society, or, if desired, to pursue higher learning at a college or university;

WE BELIEVE that our mission encompasses the needs of all the people, regardless of their social or economic status, mental capacity, race, color, creed or nationality;

WE BELIEVE that our students deserve the most skilled and highly-motivated teaching staff that we can afford;

WE BELIEVE that the atmosphere of the school should be joyful and exhilarating, thereby enhancing the academic opportunities for each student to learn and grow to his or her highest potential;

Learning should be a pleasure. When it is not;

WE BELIEVE that it is because he/she has gaps in his/her education. These are caused by absences, bad days, or just not understanding a concept when it was taught. The class moves on, and the student moves on, but the student struggles from then on. Learning becomes unpleasant when a student feels he is drowning. This is like building a house, and leaving out a piece of the foundation. Eventually the whole house will collapse. Many student's education collapses by junior high or high school, because concepts were missed in the earlier grades;

WE BELIEVE that there is a way to remedy this problem. First, we give a diagnostic test, to locate the gaps. Then we go back to rebuild a solid foundation, before moving ahead. We have saved many students from dropping out with this method;

WE BELIEVE that we can change an under-achiever into an achiever. We have proved this in the past and will continue to do so;

WE BELIEVE that our school's student body should be trained to display the politeness, tact, honesty, hard work, diligence, forthrightness, valor, patriotism, dedication, and sensitivity that bespeaks life in the most civilized country in the world;
WE BELIEVE that a successful curriculum addresses the whole child and that our students should be encouraged to form a realistic and well-defined sense of self, that they might become successful in life.

WE BELIEVE that the Administrator and the Staff should be in a learning mode throughout their tenure.

WE BELIEVE that the buildings and grounds should reflect our care and interest in the students by their physical appearance.

ABOVE ALL, WE BELIEVE that graduates of Waxahachie Faith Family Academy should display through their behavior and choice of activities, a love for learning, a hunger for discovery, and a thirst to conquer new skills, that will enhance lives and be an inspiration to others.

C. Academic Goals

1998-1999

1. All students from K-12 that have not learned to read, will learn to read.
2. All students will achieve at least one and a half years of work in a nine month school term.
4. Offer Spanish classes in High School.
5. Teach every child, grade level computer skills, including preschool.
7. Organize pep squad, and train cheerleaders.
8. Find mentors in community for students.
9. Find volunteers to tutor students in need of help academically and socially.
10. Offer piano, choir, and voice lessons, as a part of the curriculum.
11. Form parent-teacher organization.
12. Parents must attend at least three, two hour, parent classes during the school year. These classes will cover parenting skills, school information, nutrition, etc. there will be a total of six parent classes. Parents must do a total of eight hour of volunteer work for the school each semester.
13. Offer drama classes.
15. Have each student, from second grade and up, do 10 hours of community work each semester.
16. Start a shop class for mechanics.
17. Offer before and after school tutoring.

1999-2000

1. Start peer mediations and counseling, so that fellow students can mediate problems. A class will be offered to train these students.
2. Upgrade mentoring program. Find more mentors for new students.
3. Add clubs -
   Future Farmers Club
   Future Teachers Club
Spanish Club  
Yearbook Club  
Boy Scouts  
Girl Scouts  
Journalism Club

4. Start a recording studio, for the music students. This will be to train students in electronics, at the same time giving music students an opportunity to learn how to record music.

5. Start a wood working class, to train students in carpentry. As a part of this course, students will volunteer their help to "Habitat for Humanities."

6. Start a job program to help students get part-time and summer work.

7. Since we are in a low income area, we will provide a service for free coats, blankets, emergency food and etc.

8. Go from one hundred & fifty students to two hundred students. Our building will hold two hundred and fifty students.

9. Start career days.

10. Open a weight room.

11. Start music theater class.

12. Start Latin classes.

13. Open Chemistry and Biology labs.


15. Add band class.

16. Add photography classes.

17. Offer dance classes.

2000-2001

1. Start a computer hardware class. Each year we will add another vocational class.

2. A "Skills For Living" training will be incorporated in the English class. This class will include:
   - Job Finding
   - Filling out W-2 forms
   - Filling out EZ40 income tax forms
   - Resume writing
   - Filling out bank deposits
   - Writing checks

3. Upgrade science lab.

4. Start a computer lab.

5. Start an American Sign Language class.

6. Upgrade music studio.

7. Add soccer to the league.

2001-2002

1. Add an air conditioner repair class for another vocation class.
2. Add baseball to the league.
3. Upgrade band to marching band.
4. Start an orchestra class.
5. Upgrade drill team and special cheerleader training program.
6. Start a color guard.
7. Add Art II - Oil and Pastels, Sculpting.
8. Add a swimming pool. Start a swim team. We have 10 acres on our Waxahachie property. We will start life guard training and swimming lessons.
9. Add French to our language department.
10. Add a Home Economics class - cooking and sewing
11. Add CPR to our physical education program.
12. Upgrade mentoring program.

2002-2003
1. Add an Agriculture class to our vocational department.
2. Upgrade music equipment in recording studio.
3. Add guitar lessons to the music department.
4. Add a secretarial class to our high school.
5. Upgrade choirs; Classical Choir and Jazz Choir.
6. Upgrade mentoring program each year.
7. Upgrade! Upgrade! Upgrade!
8. Add a talented and gifted program.
D. GOVERNING BOARD

1. The governing board is composed of a combination of people with credentials, people from the community and parents. Additional board members, up to 11, will be appointed during the ‘98-‘99 school year, when additional members are found. Their responsibilities are:
   a. Monitor the administration of the academy, so that the Texas Education Code is adhered to.
   b. Set policies for the academy.
   c. Approve the curriculum and programs used in the academy.
   d. Mediate disputes between teacher - student or principal - student.
   e. Approve the budget.
   f. Meet with the 501C3 Board which is the sponsoring board for reporting and accountability.
   g. Call in the 501C3 Board, in case of a deadlock, for mediation.
   h. Although the Faith Family Fellowship is the sponsoring entity, the board is not limited to Faith Family members. It is a make up from community people, educators and parents.
   i. Please note, the Founding Board has:
      (3) African-American members
      (1) Hispanic member
      (6) Anglo members
   The 501C3 Board has:
      (4) Anglo members
      (3) African-American members
   j. The board will always have a racial makeup that is as diverse as the school's populations.

2. The following board members serve as the founding board.
   Karen Belknap - Chairman of the Board
   Don Belknap - Vice-chairman, former principal of private school
   Dr. Shala White - Chiropractor
   Mary Jones - Mother of student
   Carroll Lewis - Parent of student
   Monce Lewis - Parent of student
   Hazel Wilson - Teacher in DISD
   James Derrick - Businessman
   Brenton White - Private school teacher

3. A criminal background check will be made on all new members, appointed by the Founding Board, and approved by the sponsoring entity board. A criminal background check will be made on every new employee before they start work.

4. Although Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is housed in church property and Faith Family Fellowship is the sponsoring entity, the Board policy prohibits the use of class time for "religious"
teaching, sponsored by the church. All students are welcome. There will not be an exception made for or against Faith Family Fellowship's students.
E. ADMINISTRATION AND CHAIN OF COMMAND

SPONSORING ENTITY 501C3 BOARD

\[\text{Appoints} \rightarrow \text{SCHOOL BOARD} \]

\[\text{Accountability} \rightarrow \text{SCHOOL BOARD} \]

\[\text{Advises} \rightarrow \text{ADVISORY BOARD} \]

\[\text{Superintendent} \]

\[\text{Principal} \]

\[\text{Teachers} \]

\[\text{Teacher Aides} \]

\[\text{Student Council} \]

\[\text{Student Body} \]

\[\text{Office Staff Maintenance and Janitorial Staff} \]
1. Board members, including the Chairman of the Board, will have one vote equally. The members will exercise their authority through careful planning and discussion, and voting as board members. They have no individual authority outside of the board. They will speak as a body, in all their decisions. The board delegates all authority in the administration of the school to the superintendent. The superintendent acts in behalf of the board, to carry out policy passed by the board, on a day-to-day basis.

2. The superintendent will with approval of board, select administration and teachers and will be responsible to train them. The superintendent will see that board policy and state policy are kept.

3. The Parent-Teacher Meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. These meetings will be for discussion and interaction between staff and parents. Parents may individually provide input into the business of the school at a Parent-Teachers Meeting or request to the board. However, parents will have no authority in the operation or administration of the school. Parents are required to work 10 hours a semester in volunteer work at the academy. This may be in helping teachers, being a sponsor on a field trip or a ball game, being on a refreshment committee, tutoring students, or whatever capacity that is needed. In the event that a parent is unable to do this, another member of the family may take their place.

4. The teachers will be chosen by their ability to relate to children. Our head teachers will be either degreed or certified. The only exception, would be, in the event that a specialist in a field, would elect to teach at our school.

5. Student Council will be authorized to make decisions for the student body, with approval of administration, as long as it follows school policy. The students involved must be of exemplary status in academics and behavior.

6. The teacher's Aides do not have to have a college degree.

7. In the event of a student-teacher problem, the chain of command will be:
   1. Principal
   2. Superintendent
   3. School Board
   4. Sponsoring Entity - 501C3 Board
   5. TEA Charter Board

8. Teachers and teacher aides will be required to attend a teacher training program for one week in the first week of August. This program will cover our objectives, goals, vision, curriculum, and the teaching style, required for administering this program. A certified Brain Gym consultant will come in for 3 of these days to train teachers in this method.

   In January, we will have a 2-day clinic. One of those days will be a “Hands On Physics” Seminar. This seminar is to teach teachers how to teach physics to all age children in an easily understood method. The other day will be in house training.

   We encourage teachers to always get higher education.

F. THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Waxahachie Faith Family Academy serves a multi-ethnic, low income community. The Oak Cliff Faith Family Academy has served many “At Risk” students over the past seven years. Waxahachie is our new Faith Family Academy, and has the same academic program as our Oak Cliff school. We offer a remedial phonics and remedial math program. We offer tutoring for students that are below grade level. We have English As a Second Language and a gifted
program where we can expand and accelerate the range of classes offered to gifted students. We have 10 graduates, and all but one, who was a special education student, has gone on to college.

Since we have individualized education, we place the child at the level where he/she can achieve, either gifted, average or special education. We can mainstream many low academic students because we can place them in their chronological age group, working at their own pace and level.

We will hire a special education teacher for those who cannot be mainstream.

A diagnostic test is given to every student entering the school. This test identifies the problems areas or gaps. Therefore the student has a firm base for the rest of his/her education.

1. Learning Gaps

Every student has gaps in his/her education. If they have been sick or just had a bad day, in a regular school, the class goes on. However they never master that gap in their education.

Students who have missed a lot of school, have many gaps. The student cannot keep up after so many gaps, because they do not have a foundation to build on. A high school student in this position cannot do Algebra, Geometry or other high school subjects. Many of our kids are in this condition. Someone must help these kids. School becomes such a struggle, that they do not wish to continue.

When such a student comes to our school, we give him/her a test first to see where his/her gaps are. This test determines what level the student is really on. We then go back and fill the gaps. We do not make him/her repeat anything that he/she knows, only the things he/she does not know. When we fill in the gaps, and start that student at a place where he/she can achieve:

Education should be enjoyable, not a struggle. The process may take longer than normal school, but these students know what they have learned, when they graduate. There is no social promotion in this process. Of the 25 High School and Jr. High students enrolled in our school in 1997-98, only (2) were on their social grade level.

It is difficult for parents to understand that their 10th grade student can only do 5th grade work. Therefore, we have to meet with parents and explain their child’s skills. At that point the parent must decide if they want their child to stay at their present school, and be socially promoted to graduation, or go to our school and fill in their learning gaps. This student will probably take longer to finish at Faith Family Academy, but will have a solid education when they do.

We encourage a student to go as fast as he/she can. We have a merit system built into our program to reward student’s progress. Most students at our school do at least 1 ½ years of work in the school term. We’ve had students that do as much as 3 years of work in 1 year, however that is rare.

We will tutor, do one on one, or whatever it takes to help a student achieve.

We have been very successful for the past seven years, with “at risk” students. We’ve had 10 graduates, and all, except a special education student, have gone on to college. Most high school students, that come to us, test on the 3rd to 5th grade level. We have to take them to graduation in 4 or 5 at the most, years. We have to pack 6 or more years into a 4-year program. Since we work individually with each student, we are able to meet graduation requirements in the required time. At 19 years of age, a student will either drop out, or graduate. Therefore, we do extra tutoring or whatever is required to see that they graduate by the time they are 19. We do not want a dropout.
2. CREATING A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

At Waxahachie Faith Family Academy, our goal is to provide fertile soil for learning. We are integrating several theories to create a more effective learning environment.

a. Brain Gym

We feel that movement is very important, therefore we use Brain Gym, which is a coordinated set of integrative movements that enhance learning. Movement activates the neutral wiring throughout the body, which makes the whole body an instrument for learning. Dr. Carla Hannaford, author of *Smart Moves*, has done extensive work in this field, to prove this learning theory. Dr. Phyllis Books and Kathryn Jankiewicz will help incorporate Brain Gym activities into our school. Dr. Hannaford said, "Brain Gym, by stimulating motor activity in the frontal lobes, and bringing attention away from the survival center may actually help to activate, develop and myelinate these areas of the brain, allowing for controlled attention, self regulating behavior and ultimately formal reasoning." When children are heavily stressed out, in dysfunctional homes or a learning environment that they feel lost in, they go into a survival mode. It is very difficult to learn in that mode. Brain Gym helps to relax the survival mode, so that a child can learn. Many of our children are from very troubled back grounds. Please see Appendix III for pictures of some of our children.

We require all teachers to be able to act in a very mature way. It is extremely important that a teacher be firm, but not raise his/her voice. We will provide a quiet oasis for children.

b. Music

Another theory, which we plan to use, is a study done at the University of California, Irvine, and the Rhode Island public schools. They have proven that there is a direct link between the study of music, particularly the piano, and improved academic skills in all subjects. Preschool children at Irvine, doubled their spatial intelligence by playing the piano and singing. The first graders improved both math and reading scores dramatically. Other findings which correlate the study of music to academic excellence, was by the College Entrance Exam Board, the S.A.T. which marked six consecutive years that students studying music scored higher than their non-musical peers- as much as 61 points higher in verbal and 46 points higher in math. We are offering piano, voice, choir, band, guitar and orchestra lessons as part of our curriculum. Every child will have an equal chance to take music. We have a teacher who has a Master's degree in vocal performance, who will head our program. Most of our students are "at risk", and we want to give them every chance possible to succeed.

c. Water

At each desk, a holder for a sports bottle of water is placed. Water assists learning and thought processes. Water is essential for electrical transmissions in our bodies. Having water at the desk makes sipping easy and keeps the body, especially the brain, hydrated. The brain makes up only a fiftieth of the bodies weight, but uses one fifth of the bodies oxygen. Water helps carry oxygen to the brain. Doctor Carla Hannaford, a neurologist, encourages us to make water available to learners and offer balanced movement activities, to support whole brain integration. In a study, students who drank an 8 oz. glass of water, before an exam, scored approximately 20 points higher, than the control group, who drank nothing.

d. Stress Free Environment

We plan to offer a stress free environment, where learning is a pleasure. The brain under stress, cannot function. *We give a diagnostic test* to find out the level of a student by placing him at a level where he is comfortable (this is not necessarily the grade that they are suppose to be in) helps to relieve the stress. Then we will tutor that student, until we get him to grade level. Most of
our students are 2-5 years below level when they come to us. They would eventually be dropouts, because it’s too stressful to be a failure, continually. The stress of failing, and the fussing of teachers and parents, because a student is failing, causes the sympathetic nervous system to be activated. Adrenaline is released, preparing a student to run or fight. Blood goes away from the brain to the eyes, bronchial tubes, and heart. The brain shuts down. That is the opposite of what teachers want to happen. As the stress continues, the body introduces morphine to ease the pain. The morphine creates a “spaced out” feeling. No one can work under those circumstances. We teach our teachers not to yell, but to calmly discuss the matter. By putting a student at a level where they can achieve, a lot of stress is eliminated. We try to create a stress free environment so the students can learn.

e. Individualized Education
We believe in individualized education, because we deal with “at risk” students. The range level of grade may vary 5 grade levels. Example: A class of fifth graders can score all the way from first to sixth grade. To put these students in a regular classroom setting would be a very stressful situation. Not all 11 year olds wear the same size jeans, or shoes, but we try to make them all fit the fifth grade learning environment. We have about one teacher to every ten-fifteen students, so we can teach them on the level that they are on, not where we have forced them to be.

f. Perceptual - Motor Skills Diagnostic and Prescriptions
Kathryn Jankiewicz, an Education - K consultant, a certified teacher, and a Brain Gym consultant is our Motor Skill Diagnostician. She tests each child that enters our school. She then sets up a program for that individual student, if needed. She works with the parent and teacher, to implement a program for that child.

g. We work with “Child Find”, to identify any child that we feel may have a disability

h. Curriculum
We plan to use 2 curriculums blended to use as needed. These are Saxon and PACE Learning Systems. Both of these are skill leveled, rather than grade level. There is no one particular book for a grade level. This is very important with “at risk” students. They need feel at ease and confident in working at a level where then can achieve. It ruins a child’s self esteem to always feel that they are behind or are working below level. We try to reprogram them to think, “This is the list of the skills I need to learn, so I can graduate.” rather than, “I’ve got 5 more grades to complete”.

There are no separate books for the gifted, or the slow learner. A student either moves faster or slower, through the program, depending on their ability. No one holds a gifted child back, he proceeds at his own pace. The slower child does not have his self esteem destroyed because he can’t speed up. This program is like building blocks. When you successfully complete and master one skill, you go to the next. A student cannot go on, until he has mastered the skill he is working on. We do not want to create any more gaps.

THERE IS NO SOCIAL PROMOTION IN THIS PROGRAM.

Saxon also offers a Special Education Program, which we will use. This program is individualized for each student. A student is tested first. We start him/her at the skills that he has not mastered. He does not proceed until he, individually, masters that concept. A teacher has between 10-15 students, so he/she can give individual instruction to each student. This is very important for “at risk” students because they have missed so much, that we have to take them many years back to concepts they have missed. After the remedial work, then we can start to build academics on level.

The PACE Learning Systems offers a Life Oriented Skills Program. This program teaches about Help Wanted Ads, Social Security forms and numbers, employment application, educational
applications, financial forms, w-4, 1040EZ, leases, licenses, registration forms, product labels, signs, following directions, cause and effect, fact and opinion, etc. These skills are extremely important for “at risk” students. Karen Belknap, Chairman of the board, was a part of a research group, at the University of Kansas. After testing, it was found that 90% of adjudicated youths lacked social skills. They had no concept of cause and effect. They had very few of the above named skills. After a 10 week program of teaching these skills, we monitored these youths for 3 years. Recidivism went down about 80% in these students.

We will offer an Educational Program as required by Section 28.002.

We offer education for Pre K 3 and 4 years and 1-12 grades. Our high school will meet the state requirement for graduation.

This whole program is a very supportive program. We have used it for the past seven years and have found it very effective. We have only tested 2 high school students in 7 years that were on level (and that was a teacher’s children.) We have helped change many students.

We have a merit system that rewards them for doing good. Eventually, they start doing good, just because doing good is a reward in itself.

We will meet the requirements set down by TEKS.

G. Statement of Impact

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy sent impact statements to the following school district:

6-19-98 Waxahachie Independent School District

We expect to draw most of our students from Waxahachie with just a few from other districts.

Appendix has Impact Document.

H. Geographical Area

The Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is located in the Northwest area of Waxahachie city limits. It will attract mostly Ellis County students. It is located on Ovilla Road, on the northwest corner of the Hwy 287 and Ovilla Road. It is approximately ¼ mile west of Interstate 35E.

I. Accountability

1. Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will test each student at the beginning of each year in the first week of September to compile baseline performance data for students enrolled in our school. These tests will be repeated on May 1st. We will show that each student has progressed at least a year, and possibly a year and a half in grade level, during that time period.

We will give the California Aptitude Test. The results of these tests will be sent to Texas Board of Education within one week of their return.

2. We will also give TAAS. Please recognize that our “At Risk” students are very far behind. Most of our student progress a year and a half in one. After we have had these students for 2-3 years, we get them caught up to grade level. Therefore, our first TAAS, will probably be low. Also, please recognize that many “At Risk” students are from very unstable homes. Therefore, they move students around a lot. Example: As we get a student nearly caught up, that student may go to live with daddy or grandma, etc.

3. TEC

We will meet the TEC requirements
ASSURANCES

Signature of the Chief Operating Officer certifies that the following statements are addressed through policies adopted by the charter school and, if approved, the governing body, administration, and staff of the open-enrollment charter will abide by them:

1) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy prohibits discrimination in its admission policy on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend in accordance with state statute.

2) Any educator employed by a school district before the effective date of the charter for an open-enrollment charter school operated at a school district facility will not be transferred to or employed by the open-enrollment charter school over the educator's objection.

3) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will retain authority to operate under the charter contingent on satisfactory student performance on assessment instruments adopted under TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B and as provide by the open-enrollment charter agreement approved by the State Board of Education.

4) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will not impose taxes, use financial incentives or rebates to recruit students, or charge tuition other than tuition allowable under TEC Section 12.106.

5) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy provides transportation, it will provide transportation to each student attending the school to the same extent a school district is required by law to provide transportation to district students.

6) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will operate in accordance with federal laws and rules governing public schools; applicable provisions of the Texas Constitution; state statute pertaining to provisions establishing a criminal offense; and prohibitions, restrictions, or requirements, as applicable, under state statute or rule adopted relating to:
   - the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) to the extent necessary to monitor compliance as determined by the commissioner;
   - criminal history records under TEC Subchapter C of Chapter 22;
   - high school graduation under TEC Section 28.025;
   - special education programs under TEC Subchapter A of Chapter 29;
   - bilingual education under TEC Subchapter B of Chapter 29;
   - pre-kindergarten programs under TEC Subchapter E of Chapter 29;
   - extracurricular activities under TEC Section 33.081;
   - health and safety under TEC Chapter 38; and
   - public school accountability under TEC Subchapters B, C, D, and G of Chapter 39.

7) The governing body of the school is considered a governmental body for purposes of Chapter 551 and 552, Government Code, and will comply with those requirements of state statute.

8) The employees and volunteers of the Waxahachie Faith Family Academy immune from liability to the same extent as school district employees and volunteers under applicable state laws.

9) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will ensure that any of its employees who qualify for membership in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas will be covered under the system to the same extent a qualified employee of a school district is covered. For each employee of the school covered under the system, the charter will be responsible for making any contribution that
otherwise would be the legal responsibility of the school district, and will ensure that the state
makes contributions for which it is legally responsible to such employees.

10) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy complies with all health and safety laws, rules, and
regulations of the federal, state, county, region, or community that may apply to the facilities and
school property.

11) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy agrees to assist in the completion of an evaluation of the
charter that includes consideration of:

   - students' scores on assessment instruments administered under TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter
     B;
   - students' attendance;
   - students' grades;
   - incidents involving student discipline;
   - socioeconomic data on students' families;
   - parents' satisfaction with their children's schools;
   - students' satisfaction with their schools;
   - the costs of instruction, administration, and transportation incurred by the open-enrollment
     charter; and
   - the effect on the open-enrollment charter on surrounding school districts and on teachers,
     students, and parents in those districts.

12) An assignment of the operation of the charter to another entity is a revision to the charter, and
must be submitted to the State Board of Education for approval.

13) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will provide parents of prospective students with a one-page
prospectus of the charter which includes, but is not limited to, information about staff qualifications
and the instructional program.

14) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will not implement a policy to admit students eligible for public
education grant

   The following assurance must be included in all applications for an open-enrollment charter school
under TEC § 12.1011(a)(2), the "75% Rule."

15) Waxahachie Faith Family Academy assures that at least 75 percent of the prospective student
population, as specified in the proposed charter, will be students who have dropped out of school
or are at risk of dropping out of school as defined in TEC Section 29.081(d), and the school will
maintain, as a condition of its charter, the required percentage (75%) of students who have
dropped out of school or are at risk of dropping out of school as defined in TEC Section 29.081(d)
each year as reported in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS), or
relinquish its charter.

Karen BeIknnap 7/23/98
Signature of Chief Operating Officer of the School / date

Signature of the Chair of the State Board of Education (date)

18 022
Waxahachie Faith Family Academy actually has about 90% "at risk" students, but we would prefer just, "open enrollment charter" if possible, because we feel that it is very negative to label students.

**J. Admission Policy**

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will be an open-enrollment charter. Any student from Pre K (3 years old) - 12th grade will be admitted. This academy will be a Texas Public School.

Admission shall be open to any person in the Waxahachie area. Total enrollment will not exceed 150 in the 98-99 school year.

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will not discriminate on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability or the district that the student would otherwise be in.

New Students outside the charter shall not be admitted until all eligible applicants who reside within the boundaries have been enrolled. Students eligible for a public education grant will not be admitted.

We will comply with the Disabilities Education Act.

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy reports to Child Find any student that is even thought to have disabilities. A special program will be developed for the needs of each child.

Our building is wheelchair accessible.

We will not discriminate against adjudicated youths. However, we will expect them to abide by the same policies as the other students. If they disrupt our learning environment, they will be expelled.

Word of mouth is always our best advertisement.

An application must be submitted by July 1, so that teachers may be hired and plans be made for the following year.

**K. Professional Employee Qualifications**

All head teachers, counselors, administrators will be certified or degreed, with the exception of a specialist in a field, which may choose to teach.

Teacher aides, office staff, janitorial personnel, and maintenance need not be college graduates.

A criminal history and background check will be run on all employees.

All employees must be able to set an exemplary example to the students. They must act in an adult, mature manner at all times. Any employee who loses his/her temper and screams at a child will be put on probation. The second time that it happens, the employee will be fired. Being in control of their temper is very crucial in setting an example for "At Risk" students. If staff cannot exhibit self control, a student can't be taught to use self control. This is very crucial for the implementation of our program.

**L. Budget**

1. The annual budget will be made by the Superintendent, who is in day by day contact with the needs of the academy, and the school board, in June of each year. The budget will then be approved by the sponsoring entity - the 501C3 board.

2. The business manager or the superintendents will approve any purchases made for the school, according to the budget. A school secretary will be hired to take care of the attendance and other office tasks.

**M. Audit** An annual audit will be made in August of each year by a CPA. The report of this audit will be sent to the Texas Board of Education, by October 15 of each year.
N. Information Management System Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will participate in the Public Education Information Management System, as required by the State statute or by the State Board of Education.

O. Property Waxahachie Faith Family Academy has a lease agreement for the property at 7010 Villa Road. It has 9 classrooms, 2 administration offices, auditorium, lunch room and kitchen, a basketball court, volleyball court, a football field, fenced playground full of play equipment. It is on a 10-acre piece of property. The property is owned by Faith Family Fellowship. Attached is an agreement with Faith Family Fellowship.

P. Transportation will be provided as needed or that is required by the state.

Q. Meals A lunch room and kitchen will provide hot meals, according to the state regulations.

R. Public Education Grant Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will not provide for admission of students with a public education grant.

S. 75% Rule

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy specializes in individualized education. After diagnostic testing, we place a student at a level where he can achieve. (Not necessarily grade level) We then offer remedial phonics, math and reading to bring student to grade level. Each student receives an individual diagnoses and lesson plan. We will use Brain Gym, which helps stimulate the vestibular/cerebral system. Motor skills testing and recommended activities will be provided for each student. We will be working with Dr. Phyllis Book, of ASSISI, who has started a world outreach for treatment of learning differences. We use a behavior modification program of rewards for achievement. Merits and demerits are given for behavior. Merits can be used at a Merit Store opened each Friday. Whatever the challenge in learning, correction is our first goal. We will hire teachers as needed (standard classroom and specialized.) This program has been very successful for the past 7 years that Faith Family has been in operation. Approximately 90% of our students, for the past 7 years have been "At Risk".

However, if possible, we would prefer an open-enrollment charter, without a "75% Rule" attached, due to the negative connotation. However we will leave this to the discretion of the board.

T. Discipline

Discipline will range from demerits, detentions, conference with parents, alternative room, and finally expulsion, according to the degree of severity of the offense.

We use positive reinforcements of merits and rewards which takes care of most of our discipline problems.

U. Attendance

Faith Family Academy will abide by Texas State Requirements for attendance. We have scheduled 175 class days. Students may not be absent more than 6 days a semester, or they will lose credit for that semester. The exception will be for absence with a physician’s permit, and all time made up either in home school or after hours. Three tardies are considered an absence.
II. FACILITY AGREEMENT

Here is the facility use agreement from Faith Family Fellowship.
OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOL
FACILITIES LETTER OF INTENT

Lessor (Owner): Association of Faith Family Ministries & Churches
Lessee (Tenant): Waxahachie Faith Family Academy
Use: School
Premises: 701 Ovilla Road, Waxahachie TX
12,000 sq. ft.
Terms of Lease: 5 years
Rental Amount: $2,500.00 monthly
Contingency: The terms of this letter of intent are contingent upon Faith Family Fellowship (sponsoring entity) receiving a charter school from the State Board of Education by December 31, 1998.

Lessee: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy
By ____________________________ Date 7-23-97

Lessor: Association of Faith Family Ministries & Churches
By ____________________________ Date 7-23-97
III. PARENT/COMMUNITY SUPPORT

See Appendix for Parental/Community Support letters and petitions.
### IV. BUDGET TEMPLATE

**Waxahachie Faith Family Charter School “One Time” Startup Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Salaries</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hire Director early</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>3 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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**Facilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lease Deposit</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation, Decoration &amp; Fix-up</td>
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**Initial Staff Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Orientation &amp; Curriculum Development</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>40 teacher days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Consultant</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td></td>
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**Furnishings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desks/Tables &amp; Student Offices</td>
<td>20,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairs</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>150 chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Desks/Chairs</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookshelves</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File Cabinets</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulletin/Dry Erase Boards</td>
<td>250</td>
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**Instructional Materials & Equipment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>Comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texts and Curriculum</td>
<td>4,600</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printers</td>
<td>750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax/Modems</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>750</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overhead Projectors</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCRs</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA System</td>
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**Office Equipment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Kits</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copier</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>start with new leases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Office Supplies</td>
<td>350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Extinguisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleaning Equipment</td>
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<td>Telephone System</td>
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**Professional Services**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Consultant</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Operations</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>Set up system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Needs Students</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>develop special needs plan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Totals**

$76,050.00
## Budget for Waxahachie Faith Family Academy Charter School

### OVERVIEW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>TOTAL Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$ 60,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Estimated Revenues:

- Local Sources: $645,000
- State Sources: $645,000
- Start-up Loan: $50,000
- From Grants, Etc.: $52,000
  
### Estimated Expenses:

- Payroll Costs: $440,500
- Professional & Contracted Services: $41,600
- Supplies & Materials: $127,800
- Other Operating Costs: $57,150
- Debt Expense: $4,500
- Start-up cost: $76,050
  
### Change in Net Assets

- Gains: $22,500
- Losses: $2,820
- $22,500

### Net Assets at End of Year

- $87,500

### Instruction:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>TOTAL Dollars</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td>$269,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
<td>$67,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>$67,500</td>
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</table>

### Total Instructions

- $359,000
Charter School Budget Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Resources &amp; Media Services:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
<td>6200</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
<td>6400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>6500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Instructional Resources &amp; Media</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$_____</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development &amp; Instructional Stall Development:</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td>6100</td>
<td>13,000</td>
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<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>6500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Curriculum Development &amp; Instructional Stall Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$ 13,400</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional Leadership:</td>
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<td>Payroll Costs</td>
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<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
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<td>1,100</td>
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<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Instructional Leadership</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 6,400</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Leadership:</td>
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<td>Payroll Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
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<td>1,250</td>
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<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total School Leadership</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 42,750</strong></td>
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## Charter School Budget Categories (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guidance, Counseling &amp; Evaluation Services:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td>6100</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
<td>6400</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>6500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Guidance, Counseling &amp; Evaluation Services:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,800</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| **Social Work Services:** (optional)         |               |             |        |
| Payroll Costs                               | 6100          |             |        |
| Professional & Contracted Services          | 6200          |             |        |
| Supplies & Materials                        | 6300          |             |        |
| Other Operating Costs                       | 6400          |             |        |
| Debt Expense                                | 6500          |             |        |
| **Total Social Work Services:**              |               |             |        |

| **Health Services:**                        |               |             |        |
| Payroll Costs                               | 6100          |             |        |
| Professional & Contracted Services          | 6200          | 6,000       |        |
| Supplies & Materials                        | 6300          | 750         |        |
| Other Operating Costs                       | 6400          |             |        |
| Debt Expense                                | 6500          |             |        |
| **Total Health Services:**                  |               |             | $6,750 |

| **Student Transportation:** (optional)       |               |             |        |
| Payroll Costs                               | 6100          | 3,000       |        |
| Professional & Contracted Services          | 6200          |             |        |
| Supplies & Materials                        | 6300          |             |        |
| Other Operating Costs                       | 6400          | 7,000       |        |
| Debt Expense                                | 6500          |             |        |
| **Total Student Transportation:**            |               |             | $10,000|
**Charter School Budget Categories (Continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food Services: (Optional)</strong></td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td>6100</td>
<td>16,000</td>
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<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
<td>6300</td>
<td>52,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>6500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Food Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$69,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Co-curricular/Extracurricular Activities: (optional) | 36 |
| Payroll Costs                     | 6100 | 21,000 |
| Professional & Contracted Services | 6200 |       |
| Supplies & Materials              | 6300 | 600    |
| Other Operating Costs             | 6400 | 750    |
| Debt Expense                      | 6500 |       |
| **Total Co-curricular/Extracurricular Activities** |     |        |
|                                     |       | $22,350|

| General Administration:           | 41 |
| Payroll Costs                    | 6100 | 21,000 |
| Professional & Contracted Services | 6200 |       |
| Supplies & Materials             | 6300 | 1,100  |
| Other Operating Costs            | 6400 | 1,250  |
| Debt Expense                     | 6500 |       |
| **Total General Administration**  |     | $23,350|
Charter School Budget Categories (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Plant Maintenance &amp; Operations:</strong></td>
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<td>Payroll Costs</td>
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<td>6100</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
<td>6200</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
<td>6300</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs (lease &amp; Utilities)</td>
<td>6400</td>
<td></td>
<td>42,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td>6500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total Plant Maintenance & Operations**       |               |             | $55,000|

| **Security & Monitoring Services:**            | 52            |             | $12,800|
| (optional)                                    |               |             |        |
| Payroll Costs                                 | 6100          |             | 12,500 |
| Professional & Contracted Services            | 6200          |             | 12,500 |
| Supplies & Materials                          | 6300          |             | 300    |
| Other Operating Costs                         | 6400          |             | 300    |
| Debt Expense                                  | 6500          |             |        |

| **Total Security & Monitoring Services**       |               |             | $12,800|

| **Data Processing Services:**                  | 53            |             | $14,400|
| Payroll Costs                                 | 6100          |             | 12,500 |
| Professional & Contracted Services            | 6200          |             | 12,500 |
| Supplies & Materials                          | 6300          |             | 400    |
| Other Operating Costs                         | 6400          |             | 1,500  |
| Debt Expense                                  | 6500          |             |        |

| **Total Data Processing Services**             |               |             | $14,400|

| **Community Services:** (optional)            | 61            |             | $      |
| Payroll Costs                                 | 6100          |             |        |
| Professional & Contracted Services            | 6200          |             |        |
| Supplies & Materials                          | 6300          |             |        |
| Other Operating Costs                         | 6400          |             |        |
| Debt Expense                                  | 6500          |             |        |

<p>| <strong>Total Community Services</strong>                   |               |             | $      |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Function Code</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fund Raising: (Optional)</strong></td>
<td>81</td>
<td>6100</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>6200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Contracted Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>6300</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Materials</td>
<td></td>
<td>6400</td>
<td>1,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Operating Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>6500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Expense</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Fund Raising</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES (All Functions)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>$667,050.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
V. NON-PROFIT STATUS of ELIGIBLE ENTITY

Faith Family Fellowship is the sponsoring entity for Waxahachie Family Academy. Since it is a 501C3 entity, there are no tax returns.

Here are non-profit status forms.
Pastor Gene Lewis  
Association of Faith Family Ministries and Churches, Inc.  
3415 South R.L. Thornton Fwy.  
Dallas, TX 75224-4016

Dear Pastor Lewis:

I am happy to report that Association of Faith Family Ministries and Churches, Inc., Taxpayer No. 3-01175-7051-2, qualifies for exemption from state franchise tax as a religious organization effective December 19, 1994. Since the account is in the process of being updated, you should disregard any franchise tax notices for periods covered by the exemption. In the event we have reason to believe the organization no longer qualifies for exemption, we will notify the registered agent that the exempt status is under review.

The organization also meets the requirements for an exemption from the Texas limited sales, excise and use tax and the hotel occupancy tax as a religious organization effective the date of this letter.

It may issue a sales tax exemption certificate instead of paying the state and local tax on taxable items that relate to the purpose of the exempted organization and are not used for the personal benefit of an officer or member.

A representative, traveling on official business for the organization, may issue a hotel occupancy exemption certificate instead of paying the state portion of the hotel occupancy tax.

Copies of acceptable exemption certificates are attached. You may reproduce the certificates in any quantity.

If your organization makes any sales of taxable items or services, please contact our Tax Assistance Section at 1-800-252-5555 to determine if a sales tax permit is needed. The regular number is 512/463-4600.

If the corporation changes its name, registered agent or registered office address, it is required to notify the Secretary of State.

If you have any questions, please call me toll free at 1-800-531-5441, ext. 3-4142. The regular number is 512/463-4142.

Sincerely,

Wanda K. Carter  
Exempt Organizations Section
To All Who Read These Letter: 

Greetings. By order of the Executive Committee does recognize and welcome the

FAITH FAMILY MINISTRY

as an integral ministry of the American Evangelistic Association, with all rights appertaining this charter. This ministry is accepted into full membership within the AEA Fellowship of Ministries world-wide. Membership shall be sustained in accordance with the by-laws of the Association and by the Word of God.

The Seal of the American Evangelistic Association, and the signatures of the Executive Committee is affixed this May 24, 1992

John E. Douglas, Jr., D.D.
President

Marcus E. Douglas, D.D.
Member, Executive Board
Ordained Minister

This certificate is the property of the American Evangelistic Association and if revoked is to be returned upon request.
Gentlemen:

This refers to the conferences held with your representatives on June 4 and June 15, 1956 and to the additional information submitted in your behalf for the purpose of further considering the conclusion reached in our ruling of June 14, 1957 to the effect that you are not entitled to exemption from Federal income tax.

Upon a reconsideration of all the information submitted in your case, including your constitution and bylaws as amended, we now are of the opinion that you are exempt from Federal income tax as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as it is shown that you are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes.

Accordingly, you are not required to file income tax returns unless you change the character of your organization, the purposes for which you were organized, or your method of operation. Any such changes should be reported immediately to the District Director of Internal Revenue for your district in order that their effect upon your exempt status may be determined.

It will not be necessary for you to file the annual return of information, Form 990A, generally required of organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as you come within the specific exceptions contained in section 6033(a) of the Code.

Contributions made to you are deductible by the donors in computing their taxable income in the manner and to the extent provided by section 170 of the 1954 Code.

Bequests, legacies, devises or transfers to or for your use are deductible in computing the value of the taxable estate of a decedent for Federal estate tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by sections 2055 and 2106 of the 1954 Code. Gifts of property...
to or for your use are deductible in computing taxable gifts for Federal gift tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by section 2522 of the 1954 Code.

No liability is incurred by you for the taxes imposed under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) unless you have filed a waiver of exemption certificate in accordance with the applicable provisions of such Act. In the event you desire social security coverage for your employees or have any questions relating to the filing of a waiver of exemption certificate you should take the matter up with your District Director of Internal Revenue.

Your attention is called to the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 under which your exemption will be revoked if any substantial part of your activities consists of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, or if you participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

For the purpose of applying this ruling to any period with respect to which the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 is not applicable, any reference herein to a provision of the 1954 Code shall be deemed a reference to the corresponding provision of the 1939 Code.

Our ruling of June 14, 1957 is accordingly revoked.

The District Director of Internal Revenue, Baltimore, Maryland, is being advised of this action.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Chief, Exempt Organizations Branch
The State of Texas
Secretary of State
DEC. 21, 1994

GENE LEWIS
3415 S.R.L. THURTON HWY
DALLAS, TX 75224

RE:
ASSOCIATION OF FAITH FAMILY MINISTRIES AND CHURCHES, INC.

CHARTER NUMBER 01337693-01

IT HAS BEEN OUR PLEASURE TO APPROVE AND PLACE ON RECORD THE ARTICLES
OF INCORPORATION THAT CREATED YOUR CORPORATION. WE EXTEND OUR BEST
WISHES FOR SUCCESS IN YOUR NEW VENTURE.

AS A CORPORATION, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO STATE TAX LAWS. SOME NON-PROFIT
CORPORATIONS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF FRANCHISE TAXES AND MAY
ALSO BE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF SALES AND USE TAX ON THE PURCHASE
OF TAXABLE ITEMS. IF YOU FEEL THAT UNDER THE LAW YOUR CORPORATION IS
ENTITLED TO BE EXEMPT YOU MUST APPLY TO THE COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC AC-
COUNTS FOR THE EXEMPTION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE CANNOT MAKE SUCH
DETERMINATION FOR YOUR CORPORATION.

IF WE CAN BE OF FURTHER SERVICE AT ANY TIME, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

[Signature]
Secretary of State

040
ASSOCIATION OF FAITH FAMILY
% C GENE LEWIS
3415 S RL THORNTON FWY
DALLAS TX 75224-3107

Taxpayer Identification Number: 75-2607930
Tax Period(s): Mar. 31, 1996
Form: 8274

Dear Taxpayer:

We've accepted your Form 8274, Certification by Churches and Qualified Church-Controlled Organizations Electing Exemption from Employer Social Security and Medicare Taxes, beginning Jan. 01, 1996.

By filing Form 8274, you've certified that you are a church or qualified church-controlled organization opposed, for religious reasons, to the payment of social security taxes. This self-certification doesn't affect your tax status under any other part of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). For example, the filing of Form 8274 doesn't mean that IRS recognizes you as a tax exempt organization under IRC Section 501(c)(3) that receives tax deductible contributions. Also, filing the Form 8274 for exemption from employer social security taxes doesn't apply to wages you pay to employees engaged in unrelated trade or business as defined in Section 513(a).

You must continue to file the following forms:
- Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, to report income tax withheld and wages, tips, and other compensation paid to each employee,
- Form 945, Annual Return of Withheld Federal Income Tax, to report nonpayroll items such as backup withholding and withholding on gambling winnings, pensions, and annuities.
- Form 941, Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, to report wages you paid to employees engaged in unrelated trade or business, and to report the income tax withheld and social security taxes due on these wages.

If you have any questions about this letter, please write to us at the address shown on this letter. If you prefer, you may call the IRS telephone number listed in your local directory. An employee there may be able to help you, but our office is most familiar with your case.
Faith Family Fellowship  
3415 So. R. L. Thornton Frwy, Dallas, Texas 75224

The sponsoring entity, Faith Family Fellowship is a non-profit - 501C3 entity.

The following persons are currently serving on the Official Board of Directors of the Faith Family Fellowship, the sponsoring entity (501C3) for the Faith Family Academy.

Pastor Gene Lewis, President
Ms. Sharon Lewis, First Vice President/Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Earnest Crowley, Second Vice President
Mrs. Shirley Crowley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Annie Blair
Karen & Don Belknap
Faith Family Fellowship
3415 So. R. L. Thornton Frwy, Dallas, Texas 75224

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Mrs. Shirley Crowley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Annie Blair
Karen & Don Belknap
VI. Educational Leadership & Instructional Personal

Karen Belknap, Chairman of the Board, has degrees in Psychology, Crime and Delinquency, and Human Development and Family Life, and is presently pursuing a Master’s degree in counseling. When our charter is approved, Mrs. Belknap plans to step down and become Superintendent. She has worked with teenagers and children for many years in counseling. She has been a truant officer. She has worked with the Juvenile Courts, teaching delinquents skills, that lowered recidivism. She was the head counselor at the Dallas Salvation Army Halfway House. She has been the Principal of Faith Family Academy, an inner-city school, for 2 years. She has set up many programs to help students excel.

Don Belknap, our business administrator, holds a degree in business, and has graduated from a seminary. He also holds a cooking certification. He has taught junior high and high school. He has owned many businesses and has held an administrative position for the same company for 32 years. He has also been a pastor for many years.

Kathryn Jankiewicz is a certified teacher. She is an Edu-K consultant, a Motor Skill Diagnostician, and Academy Tutor, and is certified with Brain Gym. She will be a resource person, to offer perceptual motor skills testing and a prescription of recommended activities for each student.

Brenton White holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Boston University, and a Master’s degree from the University of Southern California. He has taught elementary classes. He has been successful in teaching phonics to elementary students, that had previously been unable to learn to read. He excels in setting up programs that rewards and encourages students to excel. Many students in his classes have gained 2-3 years in a 9 month term.

Dr. Kathryn Books, is a resource person, who will be available to our school. An honors student throughout her undergraduate, graduate and first professional degree programs. Dr. Phyllis Books has continued to lead the way in effective treatment of learning disorders through a unique multi-disciplinary system which integrates the structural and social behavior of the individual....with far reaching affects on larger societies.

Dr. Books received her BA in English and Education at Michigan State University in 1971, and her Masters in Interpersonal Communication and Education in 1977 from the University of North Texas. In 1986, she graduated with academic excellence from Parker College of Chiropractic, in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Books is licensed in Texas and California, and has conducted private practice since 1986. She is a Certified Instructor in several procedures and was an Expert Examiner for the California Chiropractic Board. She holds the Diplomat, American Chiropractic Board of Nutrition and is a Certified Clinical Nutritionist. As a Parker College alumna, she was voted Outstanding International Alumni in 1996 for her efforts in Europe and overseas in this unique field she pioneered. She is a member of the American Chiropractic Association and both the Texas and California State Associations, as well as the International and American Associations of Clinical Nutritionists. She has taken graduate study in over 30 advanced training symposiums, Therapeutic Touch, Hands of Light, Acupuncture and Learning Enhancement of Advancement Program (LEAP). She has studied and mastered more than 10 chiropractic techniques which she incorporates into her private practice for individual patients.

Dr. Books has taught internationally in Germany, Switzerland, England, Netherlands, Australia, and Japan as well as in the United States. In addition to introducing her ASSISI concepts, she has taught at world conferences. Dr. Books has also made numerous public appearances including media interviews in the United States and abroad, discussing such topics as breakthroughs with Learning Disabilities, Secrets of Healthy Living, Enhancing Your Child’s Learning Styles and Handicaps: Visible and Invisible.

Dr. Books established the ASSISI Foundation in 1994 and has devoted herself to exploration of new discoveries in the expansion of learning capacity and in the healing process, for children (of all ages). The current direction includes research projects and expanded teaching arenas for “Foundations in Learning.”
Pastor Gene and Sharon Lewis are founding pastors at Faith Family Fellowship for 15 years. He oversees several churches in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. They have owned many businesses over the past years. Sharon is a licensed florist and Gene is a landscaper. They are the president of the sponsoring entity board. They have sponsored Faith Family Academy for the past 7 years.

Earnest and Shirley Crowley are associate pastors and on the board of the sponsoring entity. They have been the associate pastors for approximately 5 years.

Hazel Wilson is a certified teacher in DISD.

Dr. Shala White, a chiropractor has a pre-med. degree and a Doctorate in Chiropractic. She was on the Dean's List, all of her college years. Dr. White is on our school board.

Doctor Thomas J. Rector has 30 years of teaching and administrative experience. He has handled up to $25 million budgets. He has a B.A. from Baylor University, a Masters from SMU and a doctorate in Education from Texas A & M.

He has finished 55 hours of management and accounting at Dallas Baptist University. He completed 24 hours of education administration courses to obtain Superintendent Endorsement for Texas Public Schools - Doctorate Level. He was on Region VIII Advisory Board for 5 years. He was with region VIII Education Service Center Academy, Covey Leadership Center.

Dr. Rector is, at present, Superintendent at Chapel Hill Independent School District. He previously was president over the Valley Baptist Academy, Harlingen, Texas. He has conducted many educational conferences.

He has served as Acting President, Executive Vice President and Vice President and Vice President of Finance at Dallas Baptist University.

He will be working in the administration of Faith Family Academies.

Other teachers will be hired as needed.

VII. Disclosure of Litigation and Criminal History

- Faith Family Fellowship has not been in any litigation or bankruptcy.
- None of our Founding Board Members have been in litigation or have a criminal history.
- All new board members or employees will have a criminal background check before coming to work.

Our head school, Faith Family Academy of Oak Cliff has schooled approximately 100-140 students each year for the last 7 years. We are using the same program for Waxahachie Faith Family Academy.
# APPENDIX IG

## IMPACT DOCUMENTS

**Sender:**
- Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.
- Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b.
- Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return this card to you.
- Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not permit.
- Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number.
- The Return Receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Article Addressed to:</th>
<th>4a. Article Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WA THATCHER 250</td>
<td>Z137 217 481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA THATCHER 250</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>75166</td>
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</table>

**I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee):**
1. Addressed's Address
2. Restricted Delivery
3. Complete Items 3, 4a, and 4b.
4. The following services (for an extra fee):
   - Print your name and address on the reverse side.
   - Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not permit.
   - Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number.

**5. Received By:** (Print Name)

**6. Signature (Addressee or Agent):**

**6. Address (Addressee or Agent):**

**6. Address:**

- WA THATCHER 250
- 75166

**6. Signature:**

**7. Date of Delivery:** 6-18-98

**8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid):**

**8. Address:**

**8. Signature:**

---

US Postal Service

**Receipt for Certified Mail**

No Insurance Coverage Provided.
Do not use for International Mail (See reverse)

**Send To:**

WA THATCHER 250

**Street & Number:**

**Post Office, State & ZIP Code:**

WA THATCHER 250

**Postage:**

$32

**Certified Fee:**

$35

**Special Delivery Fee:**

**Restricted Delivery Fee:**

**Return Receipt Showing to Whom:**

Drop

**Receipt Acknowledged By:**

[Signature]

**Return Receipt Accepted By:**

[Signature]

**Total Postage & Fee:**

$2.77

**Stamp Date:**

April 1995

**Postmark Date:**

April 1995

**USPS:**

048
APPENDIX III

PARENTAL/COMMUNITY LETTERS AND PETITIONS
As a tax payer of the State of Texas, I support Faith Family Academy in their pursuit of Charter School status.

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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is a tax payer of the State of Texas.

Support Faith Family Academy in their pursuit of Charter School Status.

NAME ADDRESS PHONE
As a tax payer of the State of Texas, I support Faith Family Academy in their pursuit of Charter School status.
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Jan 5, 1997
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063
In order to conceal student identifiable information, per FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), 32 pages have been withheld. A sample page of the withheld documents follows this notice.

For more information or to request a copy of these pages, please contact:

Texas Education Agency
Division of Charter Schools
1701 N Congress Ave
Austin, TX 78701
512-463-9575 phone
512-463-9732 fax
December 19, 1997

Texas Education Agency
Doc. Control Center Room 6-108
1701 North Congress Ave
Austin, TX 78701

Dear State Board of Education,

My [redacted] attends Faith Family Academy in Dallas, Texas. Please grant Charter Status to this school.

My [redacted] has received a very good education from this school. The public school in which [redacted] was attending before I enrolled [redacted] in Faith Family was highly disruptive and unorganized to the point where the teachers were unable to teach.

Faith Family Academy has given [redacted] a safe, caring environment essential to learning. Because of this, [redacted] has truly excelled in his education.

As a single parent faced with the challenge of raising my [redacted] without support, it has been a sacrifice to keep my [redacted] at FFA. However, the public school choices given to me by the school board were simply not getting the job done. Also, the teachers though qualified are terribly underpaid.

Thank you,
came to FFA in August 97', as a 10th grader, could not read even 1st grade material, and had 2nd grade math skills.

Adjudicated youth, spend 1 year in juvenile detention, was helped and tutored to finish 1st freshman year at FFA.

11 years old and a 5th grader, came to FFA Jan. 97' because I could not read. After a phonics class and remedial reading I is doing 3rd grade work.

came to FFA, because gangs at had threatened to kill .

FFA is a safe environment.
Faith Family Academy

Students

, a sixth grader has been physically abused, but now lives with Grandmother, who struggles financially to keep the child in school. Many days come to school without breakfast, because there is no food at home.

3 years old, came to FFA in Aug. 97' unable to read. Through intense phonics training, has gained 2 years in the last 3 months.

was abandoned at 17 months by a drug addict mother. A couple in their 50's took to raise. The new daddy died 3 months later. 2nd mother is very ill and crippled. The drug addict mother is trying to take her away from the 2nd Mother.

a child with spinal bifida, is an 8th grader at FFA, requires intense tutoring, which is provided at FFA.
Faith Family Academy
Students

is 11 years old, and a 5th grader at Faith Family Academy. Her mother and grandmother were murdered in the last 2-21/2 years. Much counseling and help has been given to help her achieve.

is 11 years old, came to FFA in Aug. 97, testing at kindergarten level in reading. By May 1 of 98, she is doing 3rd grade reading.

is a drug syndrome baby. With an extreme amount of tutoring, she has reached 8th grade.

is 11 years old, a 5th grader. This is her first year at FFA. Tested in 2nd grade math and in 6 months, has gained 3 grade levels.

came as a 3rd grader to FFA in Aug. 97, had 5th grade math skills. She has gained 4 years of math by May 1, 98 and will start algebra in the Fall.
a fifth grader, that was unable to read, came in 1996-1997. After we taught her to read, the mother had to take her out and put her back in the school where she was failing, due to lack of finances.

We tutored her through 4 levels in 2 years. We lost because new foster parents could not afford to keep her.

an orphan, passed through 3 foster homes.

a 5th grader doing 1st grade work was taught to read. Daddy was killed 3 years ago. When mother died in 1997, had to leave our school, due to lack of finances.

11 year old, is a 5th grader, came to FFJ April, 97'. Could not read. We started in phonics and taught to read. is now doing 2nd grade work...
Faith Family Academy

Students

5 years old, has been in our school since Preschool. Bedroom doing second grade work.

has been in drugs and gangs and is very scarred from that life. came to FFA to get a new start. has third grade math and reading skills.
Statement of Impact

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Check the appropriate response below:

☑️ The proposed open-enrollment charter school is not expected to adversely impact the school district to a significant degree.

☐ The proposed open-enrollment charter school (amendment) is expected to impact the school district in the following manner:
(Describe the impact in the space below and/or attach any supporting documentation.)

Waxahachie I.S.D. 070-912
(District Name) (County-District Identification Number)

411 Gibson Street, Waxahachie, TX 75165
(District Address)

Alfred L. Mims, Jr.
(Signature of Board President)

Bobby E. Parker, Jr.
(Signature of Superintendent)

7/13/28
(Date)

817-923-4631
(Phone Number)
Application for Approval of an Open-Enrollment Charter

Instructions: The open-enrollment charter proposal must be submitted in contractual form including, in the order of the items below, these same components. Attach the following after the answers to the questions below: (1) signed facilities agreement, (2) evidence of parental/community support for the proposed charter, and (3) documentation of non-profit status.

Submit two copies of the completed application with attachments to the Texas Education Agency, Document Control Center, 1701 North Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701. For assistance, contact the Division of Charter Schools at (512) 463-9575.

Chief Operating Officer of Proposed Charter: Karen Belknap Title: Superintendent

Name of Sponsoring Entity: Waxahachie Faith Family Fellowship

The applicant is an “eligible entity” under the following category (check one):

- X a tax-exempt organization [501(c)(3)];
- ______ a governmental entity.

Sponsor Address: 701 Ovilla Rd, City: Waxahachie
Zip: 75165 Phone Number: 972-937-3704 FAX: 972-557-5807

Type of charter sought: _____ an open-enrollment charter under
(check only one)

____ X an open-enrollment charter under
TEC 12.1011(a)(1)

____ X an open-enrollment charter under
TEC 12.1011(a)(2) (75% rule) (applicants for this charter must complete additional question #10 and sign the additional assurance found on page 30.)

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Date of proposed opening:

123
Charter Site Address: 701 Ovilla Rd.  
City: Waxahachie  
Zip: 75165  
Phone Number: 214-557-5578  
FAX: 972-557-5807  
Correspondence Address: 701 Ovilla Rd.  
City: Waxahachie  
ZIP: 75165  

Grade Levels: K-12  
Initial Est. Enrollment: 200  
Maximum Enrollment: 300  
The charter will primarily serve an area that is geographically:  
urban  
suburban  
X rural  
The proposed charter will be located in State Board District ____ (number).  

In succinct terms describe the proposed school including grade levels offered, student populations served, educational focus and any other essential characteristics. For example, "The Seventh Avenue Charter School is designed to recover students who have dropped out of high school and prepare them through vocational training to be productive contributors to society."

Waxahachie Academy is a school serving a multi ethnic community, offering grades Pre-K-12. We offer individualized education including private tutoring and phonetically based and remedial reading.  

Indicate the approximate percentage of each student population in as many categories as are applicable:  
15% pre-kindergarden;  
8% special education; 1% migrant;  
75% economically disadvantaged; 5% limited English proficiency;  
____ gifted  ____ recovered dropouts; 75% at risk of dropping out;  
5% pregnant or parent students  ____ other: ____________________
Friday Fax Letter Response

BOARD MEETINGS 1999-2000
Held at Facilities of the Sponsoring Entity AFFM&C, 3415 So. RL Thornton Freeway, Dallas TX 75224
August 27, 1999
September 20, 1999
October 18, 1999
November 15, 1999
December 20, 1999
January 17, 2000
February 21, 2000
March 20, 2000
April 17, 2000
May 15, 2000
June 19, 2000
July 17, 2000

BOARD MEMBERS
FAITH FAMILY ACADEMY CO-OP

BOARD MEMBERS

Gene Lewis
815 N. Hampton Rd.
Dallas, TX 75208
(214)942-4119
Sharon Lewis
815 N. Hampton Rd.
Dallas, TX 75208
(214)942-4119
Diana Cruz
3301 Glenshire Dr. #1304
Balch Springs, TX 75180
(972)286-2781
Mary Louise Jones
906 Live Oak Dr.
Desoto, TX 75115
(972)224-2645
(214)922-6574
Mary Ledbetter
1206 Panorama Loop
Waxahachie, TX 75165
(972)938-8578
Earlie Spann
865 E. Laureland
Dallas, TX 75241
(214)375-7826
Dear Proposed Charter School Applicant:  

August 31, 1998

Wayaha Chie-Walker Family

After review of the open-enrollment charter school application submitted by your organization, staff of the Texas Education Agency has determined that your application is incomplete. Your application is not eligible for consideration by the State Board of Education until the following items (indicated by a check mark) are supplied to the Agency. Except as provided below, the items must be addressed in writing and submitted to the Agency no later than 12:00 noon, Thursday, September 3, 1998. The items, other than those requiring an original signature, may be faxed to the attention of Brooks Flemister at (512) 463-9732. Items requiring an original signature may be delivered to the above address.

Please supply the following:

1. __ Assurance that the proposed charter school will provide a curriculum designed to address the requirements of Section 28.002, including Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

2. __ Assurance that the applicant has established performance levels for students served by the proposed open-enrollment charter school on the assessment instruments adopted under Chapter 39, Subchapter B, including the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills.

3. __ Evidence that the sponsoring entity of the proposed charter is an organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code or has applied for such status. (See page four of Guidelines.) Note that the sponsoring entity must itself be tax exempt or have applied for such status. It is not sufficient that the sponsoring entity belong to or be associated with a tax exempt organization.

4. __ Assurance that the governing body of the sponsoring entity will retain authority to ensure that the policies and operation of the school comply with all applicable laws and requirements of the charter contract.

5. __ A copy of the last tax return filed by the sponsoring entity if applicable (If not, please state why).

6. __ A list of the board members of the sponsoring organization. The list must identify the officers of the sponsoring agency, their credentials and statements covering the litigation and criminal history of both board members and the sponsoring entity.

7. __ Evidence that a facility has been secured for use by the proposed charter school. (See page 51 of the Application Guidelines). Note the evidence provided must satisfy requirements of sample form e.g. two signatures (lesser and lessee).

8. __ Evidence of parent/community support. (See page four of Guidelines.)

9. __ Two complete copies of the Assurances provided in the application packet, each with an original signature in blue ink.
10. ✓ A description of the geographical area to be served. Note that this description must be specific and definite. For example, descriptions such as “the southwest portion of the city,” or the “greater metropolitan area” are insufficient. Acceptable descriptions include those defining the area in terms of city or county limits, street names, boundaries of school districts, or zip codes.

11. ✓ Clarification that the proposed charter school will admit and fully serve eligible students with disabilities. This clarification must include an assurance that the charter school will provide transportation to a disabled student when required by the student’s Individual Education Plan. Include an assurance that certified teaching personnel will be employed when required by law and disciplinary procedures will follow the guidelines of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

12. Clarification that the admission policy of the proposed charter school will not discriminate on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the child would otherwise attend in accordance with the Texas Education Code. Information requested on admission application cannot be used to influence or deny admission. Exceptions would be grade level served, area of residence and disciplinary history.

13. ✓ Clarification that the policies of the proposed charter school will not provide for segregation on the basis of sex except where required or allowed by federal law.

14. ✓ Assurance that the admission policy of the proposed charter will not condition admission into the charter school on the promise of a student or parent that the student will meet certain attendance requirements.

15. ✓ Assurance that the admission policy of the proposed charter school will not favor students currently attending a predecessor or affiliated school. In other words, once a school or organization receives an open-enrollment charter, it may not give preference to students affiliated with the school or organization prior to the grant of the charter. A charter school may in its second year, however, give enrollment priority to students who attended the school in its first year of operation as a charter school.

16. ✓ Assurance that the proposed charter school will not withhold student records in violation of state or federal law.

17. ✓ Assurance that the proposed charter school will not charge tuition or impermissible fees, including fees charged as penalties for the failure of a student or parent to comply with the school’s requirements.

18. ✓ Assurance neither members of the governing body, personnel, or students of the proposed charter school will be required to subscribe to particular religious beliefs or belong to a particular church or denomination.

19. ✓ Clarification that the applicant assures compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and the Texas Public Information Act. Note that in some instances the applicant will be required to delete or revise statements in the application that are inconsistent with these acts.
20. ✓ Clarification that the applicant will provide a special education program that addresses the following provision of services i.e.; Child Find, Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee (ARD), Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), Individualized Education Plan (IEP), due process and services for expelled students in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). This clarification should include a detailed explanation of each activity and how they will be provided to the student with disabilities.

21. Assure that the applicant will provide, in accordance with the policy of the State, a program to ensure equal educational opportunities to every student whose primary language is other than English. The charter school will provide English as a Second Language (ESL) Program or Bilingual Education program as required in the Texas Education Code, Chapter 29, Subchapter B.

22. State Revenue has not been correctly estimated.

Estimated Initial Enrollment ___

X 90% attendance = ___ (estimated ADA)

X$4000 average state funding per ADA ___ (estimated state aid)

Amount budgeted for state revenue ___

Difference ___

(Please call Nora Rainy in the School Financial Audit Department at 512-463-9126 with any questions regarding budget item).

23. ✓ Applicant needs to provide a draft of a board policy for the admission of students eligible for a Public Education Grant (PEG) transfer.

24. Other concerns

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Waxahachie
Faith Family Academy
Debra,

I found our problem. I had
Dr. Rector, one of our administrators,
deliver the paper work, but I forgot
to enclose the original 2 page
application for approval. They
made them for me, and put
a different amount on expected
enrollment than I had figured
for the budget. I have
corrected these.

Thank you,

Karen Bellnap
Application for Approval of an Open-Enrollment Charter

Instructions: The open-enrollment charter proposal must be submitted in contractual form including, in the order of the items below, these same components. Attach the following after the answers to the questions below: (1) signed facilities agreement, (2) evidence of parental/community support for the proposed charter, and (3) documentation of non-profit status.

Submit two copies of the completed application with attachments to the Texas Education Agency, Document Control Center, 1701 North Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701. For assistance, contact the Division of Charter Schools at (512) 463-9575.

Chief Operating Officer of Proposed Charter: Karen Belknap, Chairman of Board

Name of Sponsoring Entity: Faith Family Fellowship

The applicant is an "eligible entity" under the following category (check one):

- [ ] an institution of higher education (TEC 61.003);
- [x] a tax-exempt organization [501(c)(3)];
- [ ] a private/independent institution of higher education (TEC 61.003);
- [ ] a governmental entity.

Sponsor Address: 3415 S. R.L. Thornton Frwy. City: Dallas

Zip: 75221 Phone Number: 214-375-7575 FAX: 214-375-7580

Type of charter sought: [x] an open-enrollment charter under TEC 12.1011(a)(1)

[ ] an open-enrollment charter under TEC 12.1011(a)(2) (75% rule) (applicants for this charter must complete additional question #10 and sign the additional assurance found on page 30.)

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Date of proposed opening: January 1999
Charter Site Address: 701 Ovilla Road. City: Waxahachie

Zip: 75165 Phone Number: 972-938-3808 FAX: 214-375-7580

Correspondence Address: 3415 S. H.L. Thornton Freeway

City: Dallas ZIP: 75224

Grade Levels: Pre-K - 12 Enrollment: 150 Maximum Enrollment: 250

The charter will primarily serve an area that is geographically:

- [ ] urban
- [x] suburban
- [ ] rural

The proposed charter will be located in State Board District 14 (number).

In succinct terms describe the proposed school including grade levels offered, student populations served, educational focus and any other essential characteristics. For example, "The Seventh Avenue Charter School is designed to recover students who have dropped out of high school and prepare them through vocational training to be productive contributors to society."

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is designed to individualize the education of the student to assure his/her Maximum progress.

We are serving grade levels pre-K through 12th grade.

Indicate the approximate percentage of each student population in as many categories as are applicable:

- [15%] pre-kindergarten;  
- [3%] special education;  
- [10%] migrant;

- [75%] economically disadvantaged;  
- [10%] limited English proficiency;

- [15%] gifted  
- [15%] recovered dropouts;  
- [75%] at risk of dropping out;

- [1%] pregnant or parent students  
- [ ] other:
**Application for Recognition of Exemption**

**Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code**

---

**Part I: Identification of Applicant**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>Full name of organization (as shown in organizing document)</td>
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<td>1b</td>
<td>c/o Name (if applicable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1c</td>
<td>Address (number, street, and room or suite no.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Employer identification number (If none, see Instructions.)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Name and telephone number of person to be contacted if additional information is needed</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Month the annual accounting period ends</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Date incorporated or formed</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Activity codes (See instructions.)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Check here if applying under section:</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Did the organization previously apply for recognition of exemption under this Code section or under any other section of the Code?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Has the organization filed Federal income tax returns or exempt organization information returns?</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Check the box for your type of organization. BE SURE TO ATTACH A COMPLETE COPY OF THE CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS TO THE APPLICATION BEFORE MAILING.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **a** Corporation—Attach a copy of your Articles of Incorporation, (including amendments and restatements) showing approval by the appropriate State official; also include a copy of your bylaws.
- **b** Trust—Attach a copy of your Trust Indenture or Agreement, including all appropriate signatures and dates.
- **c** Association—Attach a copy of your Articles of Association, Constitution, or other creating document, with a declaration (see instructions) or other evidence the organization was formed by adoption of the document by more than one person; also include a copy of your bylaws.

---

I declare under the penalties of perjury that I am authorized to sign this application on behalf of the above organization and that I have examined this application, including the accompanying schedules and attachments, and to the best of my knowledge it is true, correct, and complete.

**Please Sign Here**

President

(Date)

---

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see page 1 of the Instructions.

---

Complete the Procedural Checklist (page 7 of the instructions) prior to filing.
Dear State Board of Education,

My [redacted] is a student at Faith Family Academy in Dallas, Texas. Please grant Charter status to this school.

My [redacted] is getting a better education than [redacted] would in a public school, in our area. [redacted] is in a safe, caring environment at Faith Family Academy. However, many parents struggle financially to keep their children in school and the teachers are grossly underpaid. When the parents are unable to pay tuition at the scheduled time, the teachers are not paid.

Your help would greatly be appreciated.

Thank You,
Dear State Board of Education,

My [redacted] is a student at Faith Family Academy in Dallas, Texas. Please grant Charter status to this school.

My [redacted] is getting a better education than [redacted] would in a public school, in our area. [redacted] is in a safe, caring environment at FFA. However, many parents struggle financially to keep their children in school and the teachers are grossly underpaid. THANK YOU!
Special Education

Faith Family Academy of Waxahachie will provide service for eligible students with disabilities. We will provide transportation to any disabled student, when it is required by the student’s Individual Education Plan. We will provide certified teaching personnel, when required, according to the guidelines of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

We use Child Find to locate our Special Ed. Students. When we feel that student may have a disability, we report that student to Child Find. We then participate in the ARD process. We participate in Free and Appropriate Public Education. We will follow the IEP for that student. We will meet any requirement set for each individual student. We will provide due process and services for expelled students, in the Least Restrictive Environment.

We will either provide a place in our school that meets the Individuals Act or send a teacher to the student’s home to provide education for that student. We will work very close with WISD in this process.

For the past years, and in the future we will continue to provide services according to the Individuals with Disabilities Act.
English As a Second Language or Bilingual Education

Faith Family Academy of Waxahachie will provide English As a Second Language or Bilingual Education as required in the Texas Education Code, Chapter 29, Sub Chapter E. We will provide equal educational opportunities to every student whose primary language is other than English.

Faith Family Academy of Waxahachie will provide for the admission of students eligible for a Public Education Grant.

Karen Belknap
Chairman of the Board
1. Geographical Area

The Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is located in the Northwest area of Waxahachie city limits. It will attract mostly Ellis County students. It is located on Ovilla Road, on the northwest corner of the Hwy 287 and Ovilla Road. It is approximately \( \frac{1}{4} \) mile west of Interstate 35E.

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy will accept students from the WISD, Midlothian and Red Oak.
D. GOVERNING BOARD

1. The governing board is composed of a combination of people with credentials, people from the community and parents. Additional board members, up to 11, will be appointed during the '98-'99 school year, when additional members are found. Their responsibilities are:
   a. Monitor the administration of the academy, so that the Texas Education Code is adhered to.
   b. Set policies for the academy.
   c. Approve the curriculum and programs used in the academy.
   d. Mediate disputes between teacher - student or principal - student.
   e. Approve the budget.
   f. Meet with the 501C3 Board which is the sponsoring board for reporting and accountability
   g. Call in the 501C3 Board, in case of a deadlock, for mediation.
   h. Although the Faith Family Fellowship is the sponsoring entity, the board is not limited to Faith Family members. It is a make up from community people, educators and parents.

I. Please note, the Founding Board has:
   (3) African-American members
   (1) Hispanic member
   (6) Anglo members

The 501C3 Board has:
   (4) Anglo members
   (3) African-American members

j. The board will always have a racial makeup that is as diverse as the school’s populations.

2. The following board members serve as the founding board.
   Karen Belknap - Chairman of the Board
   Don Belknap - Vice-chairman, former principal of private school
   Dr. Shala White - Chiropractor
   Mary Jones - Mother of student
   Carroll Lewis - Parent of student
   Monce Lewis - Parent of student
   Hazel Wilson - Teacher in DISD
   James Derrick - Businessman
   Brenton White - Private school teacher

3. A criminal background check will be made on all new members, appointed by the Founding Board, and approved by the sponsoring entity board. A criminal background check will be made on every new employee before they start work.

4. Although Faith Family Academy of Oak Cliff is housed in church property and Faith Family Fellowship is the sponsoring entity, the Board policy prohibits the use of class time for "religious"
VI. Educational Leadership & Instructional Personal

Karen Belknap, Chairman of the Board, has degrees in Psychology, Crime and Delinquency, and Human Development and Family Life, and is presently pursuing a Master’s degree in counseling. When our charter is approved, Mrs. Belknap plans to step down and become Superintendent. She has worked with teenagers and children for many years in counseling. She has been a truant officer. She has worked with the Juvenile Courts, teaching delinquent skills, that lowered recidivism. She was the head counselor at the Dallas Salvation Army Halfway House. She has been the Principal of Faith Family Academy, an inner-city school, for 2 years. She has set up many programs to help students excel.

Don Belknap, our business administrator, holds a degree in business, and has graduated from a seminary. He also holds a cooking certification. He has taught junior high and high school. He has owned many businesses and has held an administrative position for the same company for 32 years. He has also been a pastor for many years.

Kathryn Jankiewicz is a certified teacher. She is an Edu-K consultant, a Motor Skill Diagnostician, and Academy Tutor, and is certified with Brain Gym. She will be a resource person, to offer perceptual motor skills testing and a prescription of recommended activities for each student.

Brenton White holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Boston University, and a Master’s degree from the University of Southern California. He has taught elementary classes. He has been successful in teaching phonics to elementary students, that had previously been unable to learn to read. He excels in setting up programs that rewards and encourages students to excel. Many students in his classes have gained 2-3 years in a 9 month term.

Dr. Kathryn Books, is a resource person, who will be available to our school. An honors student throughout her undergraduate, graduate and first professional degree programs. Dr. Phyllis Books has continued to lead the way in effective treatment of learning disorders through a unique multi-disciplinary system which integrates the structural and social behavior of the individual...with far reaching affects on larger societies.

Dr. Books received her BA in English and Education at Michigan State University in 1971, and her Masters in Interpersonal Communication and Education in 1977 from the University of North Texas. In 1986, she graduated with academic excellence from Parker College of Chiropractic, in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Books is licensed in Texas and California, and has conducted private practice since 1986. She is a Certified Instructor in several procedures and was an Expert Examiner for the California Chiropractic Board. She holds the Diplomat, American Chiropractic Board of Nutrition and is a Certified Clinical Nutritionist. As a Parker College alumna, she was voted Outstanding International Alumni in 1996 for her efforts in Europe and overseas in this unique field she pioneered. She is a member of the American Chiropractic Association and both the Texas and California State Associations, as well as the International and American Associations of Clinical Nutritionists. She has taken graduate study in over 30 advanced training symposiums, Therapeutic Touch, Hands of Light, Acupuncture and Learning Enhancement of Advancement Program (LEAP). She has studied and mastered more than 10 chiropractic techniques which she incorporates into her private practice for individual patients.

Dr. Books has taught internationally in Germany, Switzerland, England, Netherlands, Australia, and Japan as well as in the United States. In addition to introducing her ASSISI concepts, she has taught at world conferences. Dr. Books has also made numerous public appearances including media interviews in the United States and abroad, discussing such topics as breakthroughs with Learning Disabilities, Secrets of Healthy Living, Enhancing Your Child’s Learning Styles and Handicaps: Visible and Invisible.

Dr. Books established the ASSISI Foundation in 1994 and has devoted herself to exploration of new discoveries in the expansion of learning capacity and in the healing process, for children (of all ages). The current direction includes research projects and expanded teaching arenas for “Foundations in Learning.”
Pastor Gene and Sharon Lewis are founding pastors at Faith Family Fellowship for 15 years. He oversees several churches in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. They have owned many businesses over the past years. Sharon is a licensed florist and Gene is a landscaper. They are the president of the sponsoring entity board. They have sponsored Faith Family Academy for the past 7 years.

Earnest and Shirley Crowley are associate pastors and on the board of the sponsoring entity. They have been the associate pastors for approximately 5 years.

Hazel Wilson is a certified teacher in DISD.

Dr. Shala White, a chiropractor has a pre-med. degree and a Doctorate in Chiropractic. She was on the Dean's List, all of her college years. Dr. White is on our school board.

Doctor Thomas J. Rector has 30 years of teaching and administrative experience. He has handled up to $25 million budgets. He has a B.A. from Baylor University, a Masters from SMU and a doctorate in Education from Texas A & M.

He has finished 55 hours of management and accounting at Dallas Baptist University. He completed 24 hours of education administration courses to obtain Superintendent Endorsement for Texas Public Schools - Doctorate Level. He was on Region VIII Advisory Board for 5 years. He was with region VIII Education Service Center Academy, Covey Leadership Center.

Dr. Rector is, at present, Superintendent at Chapel Hill Independent School District. He previously was president over the Valley Baptist Academy, Harlingen, Texas. He has conducted many educational conferences.

He has served as Acting President, Executive Vice President and Vice President and Vice President of Finance at Dallas Baptist University.

He will be working in the administration of Faith Family Academies.

Other teachers will be hired as needed.

VII. Disclosure of Litigation and Criminal History

- Faith Family Fellowship has not been in any litigation or bankruptcy.
- None of our Founding Board Members have been in litigation or have a criminal history.
- All new board members or employees will have a criminal background check before coming to work.

Faith Family Academy of Oak Cliff has schooled approximately 100-140 students each year for the last 7 years.
Texas Education Agency Review
Of
Applications for Approval of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxo Faith Fan Academy

Legal Review:
Governing Board Specified  

Admission policy  

Church/State  

Special Education  

Facility agreement sufficient  

Tax Return  

Reviewer/date 091
Texas Education Agency Review
Of
Applications for Approval of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxhawie Faith Family

Checklist of requirements:

☑ Two copies of application
☑ Two original signatures on Assurances
☑ Evidence of parental/community support
☑ Litigation history
☑ Policy for Peg Students

NOTES:

☐ SPED Discipline
☐ SPED Transportation

092
Texas Education Agency Review

Of

Applications for Approval of Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

Name of Proposed Charter School: Waxahachie Fork High

Programmatic Review:

TEKS

TAAS

Church/State

Check membership of 501(c)3 Board

Looks like whole board is from the church

Other

Review/date

093
NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY

The undersigned school district hereby files a notice of intent to apply for Public Charter School Grant Generations 3-6

RFA # 701-01-012

Name of Organization: Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Mailing Address: 300 W. Kiest Blvd.,
Dallas, TX 75224

Phone Number: (972) 938-3996

- The filing of this notice is not mandatory; however, it will assist the Texas Education Agency in anticipating the volume of applications in order to better expedite the review process and finalize awards.

- Filing this notice in no way binds the applicant in regards to its application for a Public Charter School Grant (Continuation Application for Generations 3-6)

- Applicants who do not file this notice are still eligible to apply for funding.

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS NOTICE BY MAIL OR BY FAX AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST FOR APPLICATION, BUT NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2000 TO:

Document Control Center
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress, Room 6-108
Austin, Texas 78701-1494
FAX (512) 463-9811
NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY

The undersigned school district hereby files a notice of intent to apply for Public Charter School Grant Generations 3-6

RFA # 701-01-012

Name of Organization Waxahachie Faith Family Academy

Mailing Address 701 Ovilla Rd.
Waxahachie, TX 75167

Phone Number (972) 938-3996

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Document Control Center
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress, Room 6-108
Austin, Texas 78701-1494
FAX (512) 463-9811
CIVIL RIGHTS CERTIFICATE


The applicant provides this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining Federal grants, loans, contracts (except contracts of insurance or guaranty), property, discounts, or other Federal financial assistance to education programs or activities from the Department of Education.

The applicant assures that it will comply with:

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq., which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance.


4. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq., which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance.

5. All regulations, guidelines, and standards lawfully adopted under the above statutes by the United States Department of Education.

The applicant agrees that compliance with this Assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of Federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the applicant, its successors, transferees, and assignees for the period during which such assistance is provided. The applicant further assures that all contractors, subcontractors, subgrantees or others with whom it arrange to provide services or benefits to its students or employees in connection with its education programs or activities are not discriminating in violation of the above statutes, regulations, guidelines, and standards against those students or employees. In the event of failure to comply the applicant understands that assistance can be terminated and the applicant denied the right to receive further assistance. The applicant also understands that the Department of Education may at its discretion seek a court order requiring compliance with the terms of the Assurance or seek other appropriate judicial relief.

The person or persons whose signature(s) appear(s) below is/are authorized to sign this application, and to commit the applicant to the above provisions.

Date

Authorized Official(s)

Name of Applicant or Recipient

Street

City, State, Zip Code

For further information, please contact Office for Civil Rights Area Code (202) 205-8635
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5. All regulations, guidelines, and standards lawfully adopted under the above statutes by the United States Department of Education.

The applicant agrees that compliance with this Assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of Federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the applicant, its successors, transferees, and assigns for the period during which such assistance is provided. The applicant further assures that all contractors, subcontractors, subgrantees or others with whom it arranges to provide services or benefits to its students or employees in connection with its education programs or activities are not discriminating in violation of the above statutes, regulations, guidelines, and standards against those students or employees. In the event of failure to comply the applicant understands that assistance can be terminated and the applicant denied the right to receive further assistance. The applicant also understands that the Department of Education may at its discretion seek a court order requiring compliance with the terms of the Assurance or seek other appropriate judicial relief.

The person or persons whose signature(s) appear(s) below is/are authorized to sign this application, and to commit the applicant to the above provisions.

10-15-98

Authorized Official(s)

City, State, Zip Code

For further information, please contact Office for Civil Rights Area Code (202) 205-8635
Section 901 of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 provides that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Section 902 of Title IX authorizes and directs the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (hereinafter the "Department") to effectuate the nondiscrimination requirements of section 901 by issuing rules, regulations, and orders of general applicability. Pursuant to section 902, the Department has issued 45 C.F.R. Part 86 (hereinafter "Part 86") which became effective on July 21, 1975.

Section 86.4 of Part 86 requires that every application for Federal financial assistance for any education program or activity shall, as a condition of its approval, contain or be accompanied by an assurance from the applicant satisfactory to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights (hereinafter the "Director") that each education program or activity operated by the applicant and to which Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Part 86 apply will be operated in compliance with Part 86.

Section 86.4 also provides that the Director will specify the form of the assurance required and the extent to which such assurance will be required of the applicant’s subgrantees, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, or successors in interest. Under this authority, HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) has been specified as the form of assurance which shall apply to all recipients of and applicants for Federal financial assistance subject to the provisions of Title IX and awarded by the Department.

HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) constitutes a legally enforceable agreement to comply with Title IX and all of the requirements of Part 86. Applicants are urged to read Part 86 and the accompanying preamble. The obligation imposed by Title IX and Part 86 are independent of, and do not alter, the obligation not to discriminate on the basis of sex imposed by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (20 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.); Executive Order 11246, as amended; sections 799A and 855 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295h-9 and 298b-2); and the Equal Pay Act (29 U.S.C. 206 and 206 (d)).
PERIOD OF ASSURANCE

HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) is binding on a recipient for a period during which Federal financial assistance is extended to it by the Department. With respect to Federal financial assistance used to aid in the purchase or improvement of real or personal property, such period shall include the time during which the real or personal property is used for the purpose of providing an education program or activity. A recipient may transfer or otherwise convey title to real and personal property purchased or improved with Federal financial assistance so long as such transfer or conveyance is consistent with the laws and regulations under which the recipient obtained the property and it has obtained a properly executed HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) from the party to whom it wishes to transfer or convey the title unless the property in question is no longer to be used for an education program or activity or the Federal share of the fair-market value of such property has been refunded or otherwise properly accounted for to the Federal government.

An applicant or recipient which has submitted an HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) to the Director need not submit a separate form with each grant application but may, if the information contained therein remains accurate, simply incorporate by reference, HEW Form 639 A, (3/77), giving the date it was submitted. On the other hand, a revised HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) must be submitted within 30 days after information contained in the submitted form becomes inaccurate, even if no additional financial assistance is being sought.

OBLIGATION OF RECIPIENT TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES FROM OTHERS

As indicated in Article III, paragraph 2, of the Assurance, if a recipient subgrants to, or contracts, subcontracts, or otherwise arranges with an individual, organization, or group to assist in the conduct of an education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department or to provide services in connection with such a program or activity, the recipient continues to have an obligation to ensure that the education program or activity is being administered in a nondiscriminatory manner. (See 45 C.F.R. 86.31.) Accordingly, the recipient must take reasonable steps to ensure that the individual, organization, or group in question is complying with Title IX and Part 86. These steps may include, but do not necessarily require, obtaining assurances of compliance from such subgrantees, contractors, and subcontractors in the form of, or modeled on, the HEW Form 639A, (3/77). These steps to require, however; such activities as may be reasonably necessary to monitor the compliance of these subgrantees, contractors, or subcontractors, regardless of whether they have submitted assurances to the recipient. If a recipient is unable to assure itself that any contractor, subcontractor, subgrantee, or other individual or group with whom it arranges to provide services or benefits to its students and employees does not discriminate on the basis of sex as described in Part 86, the recipient may not initiate or continue contracts, subcontracts, or other arrangements with that individual or group or make subgrants to it.
ADMINISTRATIVELY SEPARATE UNITS

If an educational institution is composed of more than one administratively separate unit, a separate HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) may be submitted for each unit or one may be submitted for the entire institution. If separate forms are submitted, the administratively separate unit for which the form is submitted should be clearly identified in the first line of HEW Form 639 A, (3/77). An "administratively separate unit" is defined as a school, department or college of an educational institution (other than a local educational agency) admission to which is independent of admission to any other component of such institution. See 45 C.F.R. 85.2(o).

STATE EDUCATION AGENCIES

State education agencies are generally not responsible for running pre-school, kindergarten, elementary or secondary programs. Such responsibility is generally left to local education agencies although some supervisory authority may be vested with the state education agency. Consequently, most state agencies should not check the boxes for "Pre-school," "Kindergarten," or "Elementary or Secondary" in Article I of HEW Form 639 A, (3/77). If the state agency runs special programs for the handicapped, including those on the pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, or secondary level, the box marked "Other" should be checked and the appropriate description inserted in the space provided.

Under Article III, paragraph 5, of HEW Form 639A, (3/77) a state education agency may be called upon from time to time to submit reports necessary to determine Title IX compliance by local education agencies within its jurisdiction. The form and content of such reports will be specified by the Director at the time the request is made.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION

Applicants or recipients which are educational institutions controlled by a religious organization are not covered by Part 86 to the extent that application of Part 86 would be inconsistent with the religious tenets of the controlling religious organization.

Section 86.12 of Part 86 requires an institution seeking an exemption to submit a written statement to the Director identifying the provisions of Part 86 which conflict with a specific tenet of the controlling religious organization. Such a statement must be signed by the highest ranking official of the educational institution claiming the exemption. An applicant or recipient claiming an exemption is not relieved of its obligations to comply with that portion of Part 86 not specified in its statement to the Director as being inconsistent with the tenets of the controlling religious organization.
Although 86.12 imposes no time restrictions when a recipient or applicant may claim an exemption, applicants or recipients are urged to make such claims when they initially submit HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) by checking the appropriate box in Article I of HEW Form 639 A, (3/77) and attaching thereto the statement required by 86.12(b). Such an approach will avoid misunderstandings on the part of both the Department and the applicant or recipient as to what, if any, action is required under Part 86.

An applicant or recipient will normally be considered to be controlled by a religious organization if one or more of the following conditions prevail:

1. It is a school or department of divinity; or

2. It requires its faculty, students or employees to be members of, or otherwise espouse a personal belief in, the religion of the organization by which it claims to be controlled; or

3. Its charter and catalog, or other official publication, contains explicit statement that it is controlled by a religious organization or an organ thereof or is committed to the doctrines of a particular religion, and the members of its governing body are appointed by the controlling religious organization or an organ thereof, and it receives a significant amount of financial support from the controlling religious organization or an organ thereof.

The term "school or department of divinity" means an institution or a department or branch of an institution whose program is specifically for the education of students to prepare them to become ministers of religion or to enter upon some other religious vocation, or to prepare them to teach theological subjects. (This definition is adopted from section 1201(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, P.L. 89-329.)
ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972 AND THE REGULATION ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE IN IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF

(PLEASE READ EXPLANATION OF HEW FORM 639 A (3/77) BEFORE COMPLETING THIS DOCUMENT)

Pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 86.4:

WAXAHACHIE FAITH FAMILY ACADEMY
(Name of Applicant or recipient)
701 Ovilla Rd
(address)
WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
(city, state, zip code)
970-801-001
(identifying code-FICE, OE, or IRS)

(hereinafter the "Applicant") gives this assurance in consideration of and for purpose of obtaining Federal education grants, loans, contracts (except contracts of insurance or guaranty), property, discounts, or other Federal financial assistance to education programs or activities from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (hereinafter the "Department"), including payments or other assistance hereafter received pursuant to applications approved prior to the date of this assurance.

ARTICLE I - TYPE OF INSTITUTION SUBMITTING ASSURANCE.

A. The Applicant is (check the following boxes where applicable):

1. ( ) A state education agency.
2. ( ) A local education agency.
3. ( ) A publicly controlled educational institution or organization.
4. ( ) A privately controlled educational institution or organization.
5. ( ) A person, organization, group or other entity not primarily engaged in education. If this box is checked, insert primary purpose or activity of Applicant in the space provided below:

*HEW Form 639 A (3/77) This form supersedes HEW Form 639 (7/76). HEW Form 639 (7/76) submitted prior to this revision are valid and recipients need not submit a new assurance.
B. ( ) Claiming a religious exemption under 45 C.F.R. 86.12(b). (If religious exemption is claimed, attach statement by highest ranking official of Applicant identifying the specific provisions of 45 C.F.R. Part 86 which conflict with a specific religious tenet of the controlling religious organization.)

C. The Applicant offers one or more of the following programs or activities (check where applicable):

1. ( ) Pre-school
2. ( ) Kindergarten
3. ( ) Elementary or Secondary
4. ( ) Graduate
5. ( ) Other (such as special programs for the handicapped even if provided on the pre-school, elementary or secondary level). If this box is checked, give brief description below:
6. ( ) Undergraduate (including junior and community colleges)
7. ( ) Vocational or Technical
8. ( ) Professional

ARTICLE II-PERIOD OF ASSURANCE. This assurance shall obligate the Applicant for the period during which Federal financial assistance is extended to it by the Department.

ARTICLE III-TERMS AND CONDITIONS. The Applicant hereby agrees that it will:

1. Comply, to the extent applicable to it, with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (P.L. 92-318), as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1681, 1682, 1683, and 1685 (hereinafter, "Title IX"), and all applicable requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Department's regulation issued pursuant to Title IX, 45 C.F.R. Part 86 (hereinafter, "Part 86"), to the end that, in accordance with Title IX and Part 86, no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity for which the Applicant receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance from the Department. (This assurance does not apply to sections 904 (proscribing denial of admission to course of study on the basis of blindness) and 906 (amending other laws) of Title IX, 20, U.S.C. 1684 and 1686.)

2. Assure itself that all contractors, subcontractors, subgrantees or others with whom it arranges to provide services or benefits to its students or employees in connection with its education program or activity are not discriminating on the basis of sex against these students or employees.
3. Make no transfer or other conveyance of title to any real or personal property which was purchased or improved with the aid of Federal financial assistance covered by this assurance, and which is to continue to be used for an education program or activity and where the Federal share of the fair market value of such property has not been refunded or otherwise properly accounted for to the Federal government, without securing from the transferee an assurance of compliance with Title IX and Part 86 satisfactory to the Director and submitting such assurance to the Department.

4. Submit a revised assurance within 30 days after any information contained in this assurance becomes inaccurate.

5. If the Applicant is a state education agency, submit reports in a manner prescribed by the Director under 45 C.F.R. 80.6(b) as to the compliance with Title IX and Part 86 of local education agencies or other education programs or activities within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE IV—DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYEE AND ADOPTION OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES. (Check the appropriate box.)

A. 1. ( ) Pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 86.8, the Applicant has adopted grievance procedures and designated the following employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with Part 86 and has notified all of its students and employees of these grievance procedures and the following name, address and telephone number of the designated employee:

2. [Name of Employee]
   (name of employee)

3. 3415 S.R.L. Thornton
   (office address)

4. 214-375-7525
   (telephone number)

B. 1. ( ) The Applicant is not presently receiving Federal financial assistance subject to Part 86 and, consequently, has not designated a responsible employee or adopted grievance procedures pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 86.8 but will do so immediately upon award of such assistance and will immediately notify the Director, its students and employees of the name, office address, and telephone number of the employee so designated.
ARTICLE V - SELF-EVALUATION. (Check the appropriate box.)

A. ( ) The Applicant has completed a self-evaluation as required by 45 C.F.R. 86.3(c) and has not found it necessary to modify any of its policies and practices or to take any remedial steps to come into compliance with Part 86.

B. ( ) The Applicant has completed a self-evaluation as required by 45 C.F.R. 86.3(c) and has ceased to carry out any policies and practices which do not or may not meet the requirements of Part 86 and is taking any necessary remedial steps to eliminate the effects of any discrimination which resulted or may have resulted from adherence to such policies and practices.

C. ( ) The Applicant has not completed the self-evaluation required by 45 C.F.R. 86.3(c) but expects to have it completed by ____________.

D. ( ) The Applicant is not required to conduct a self-evaluation under 45 C.F.R. 86.3 since it did not receive any Federal financial assistance to which Part 86 applies prior to July 21, 1976.

Date: ____________________________

(Insert name of Applicant)

By

(This document must be signed by an official legally authorized to contractually bind the Applicant.)

(Insert title of authorized official.)
This contract is executed the 15\textsuperscript{th} day of OCT 1998 between the Texas State Board of Education (the "Board") and Waxahachie Faith Family Academy ("Charterholder") for an open-enrollment charter to operate a Texas public school.

1. Definitions. As used in this contract:

"Charter" means the open-enrollment charter, as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Texas Education Code (TEC), granted by this contract.

"Charter school" means the open-enrollment charter school. Charterholder agrees to operate as provided in this contract. The charter school is a Texas public school.

"Agency" means the Texas Education Agency.

2. The Charter. This contract grants to Charterholder an open-enrollment charter under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, TEC. The terms of the charter include: (a) this contract; (b) applicable law; (c) Request for Application #701-98-016; (d) any condition, amendment, modification, revision or other change to the charter adopted or ratified by the Board; (e) all statements, assurances, commitments and representations made by Charterholder in its application for charter, attachments or related documents, to the extent consistent with (a) through (d); and (f) assurance by Charterholder, evidenced by execution of this contract, that no false information was submitted to the Agency or the Board by Charterholder, its agents or employees in support of its application for charter.

3. Authority Granted by Charter. The charter authorizes Charterholder to operate a charter school subject to the terms of the charter. Action inconsistent with the terms of the charter shall constitute a material violation of the charter.

4. Alienation of Charter. The charter may not be assigned, encumbered, pledged or in any way alienated for the benefit of creditors or otherwise. Charterholder may not delegate, assign, subcontract or otherwise alienate any of its rights or responsibilities under the charter. Any attempt to do so shall be null and void and of no force or effect; provided, however, that Charterholder may contract at fair market value for services necessary to carry out policies adopted by Charterholder or the governing body of the charter school.

5. Term of Charter. The charter shall be in effect from October 15, 1998 through July 31, 2003, unless renewed or terminated.
6. **Renewal of Charter.** On timely application by Charterholder in a manner prescribed by the Board, the charter may be renewed for an additional period determined by the Board. The charter may be renewed only by written amendment approved by vote of the Board and properly executed by its chair.

7. **Revision by Agreement.** The terms of the charter may be revised with the consent of Charterholder by written amendment approved by vote of the Board. The commissioner of education ("the commissioner") may revise the charter on a provisional basis during an interim between Board meetings; however, such action shall expire unless ratified by the Board at its next regular meeting. Nothing in this paragraph limits the authority of the Board or the commissioner to act in accordance with other provisions of this contract.

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**Students**

8. **Open Enrollment.** Admission and enrollment of students shall be open to any person who resides within the geographic boundaries stated in the charter and who is eligible for admission based on lawful criteria identified in the charter. Total enrollment shall not exceed 300 students. The charter school's admission policy shall prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, academic or athletic ability, or the district the student would otherwise attend. Students who reside outside the geographic boundaries stated in the charter shall not be admitted to the charter school until all eligible applicants who reside within the boundaries have been enrolled.

9. **Public Education Grant Students.** Charterholder shall adopt an express policy providing for the admission of, and shall admit under such policy, students eligible for a public education grant, including those students who reside outside the geographic area identified in the charter application, under Subchapter G, Chapter 29, TEC.

10. **Non-discrimination.** The educational program of the charter school shall be nonsectarian, and shall not discriminate against any student or employee on the basis of race, creed, sex, national origin, religion, disability or need for special education services.

11. **Children with Disabilities.** The charter school is a “local educational agency” as defined by federal law. Charterholder must comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §1401, et seq., and implementing regulations; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), 29 U.S.C. §794, and implementing regulations; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12131-12165, and implementing regulations; Chapter 29, TEC, and implementing rules; and the many court cases applying these laws. For example:
(a) **Child Find.** Charterholder must adopt and implement policies and practices that affirmatively seek out, identify, locate, and evaluate children with disabilities enrolled in the charter school or contacting the charter school regarding enrollment, and must develop and implement a practical method to determine which children with disabilities are currently receiving needed special education and related services. For each eligible child, Charterholder must develop and offer an individualized education plan appropriate to the needs of that student.

(b) **Free Appropriate Public Education.** Charterholder must provide a free appropriate public education to all children with disabilities otherwise eligible to enroll in the charter school. If the program, staff or facilities of the charter school are not capable of meeting the needs of a particular child, Charterholder must implement changes necessary to accommodate the child at the charter school. If reasonable accommodations would be insufficient to enable the child to benefit from the charter school's program, Charterholder must, at its own expense, place the child at an appropriate school.

(c) **Services to Expelled Students.** Charterholder must continue to provide a free appropriate public education to a child with disabilities even after expelling or suspending the child for valid disciplinary reasons. This obligation to serve the child continues until the end of the school year.

(d) **Monitoring.** The charter school's implementation of the laws governing education of children with disabilities will be monitored for compliance by the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs; the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights; the Texas Education Agency; and others. This monitoring activity includes responding to complaints, random on-site inspections and other investigations by the enforcing agencies, and will result in corrective actions imposed on Charterholder by these agencies for all discrepancies found.

(e) **Due Process Hearings.** The charter school's implementation of the laws governing education of children with disabilities will, in addition, be subject to court supervision via litigation against Charterholder brought by individuals affected by the actions of the charter school. The cost of this litigation can be substantial.

**Notice:** These are only a few of the charter school's legal responsibilities in this area, included here for illustrative purposes only.

12. **Student Performance and Accountability.** Charterholder shall satisfy Subchapters B, C, D, and G of Chapter 39 of the TEC, and related agency rules, as well as the student performance accountability criteria stated in its application for charter. Charterholder shall annually provide in a manner and form defined by the commissioner a written evaluation of the charter school’s compliance with the statements, assurances,
commitments and representations made by Charterholder in its application for a charter, attachments, and related documents.

13. **Criminal History.** Charterholder shall take prompt and appropriate measures if Charterholder or the charter school, or any of their employees or agents, obtains information that an employee or volunteer of the charter school or an employee, officer, or board member of a management company contracting with the charter school has a reported criminal history that bears directly on the duties and responsibilities of the employee, volunteer, or management company at the school. Charterholder further represents that the Board and the agency shall be notified immediately of such information and the measures taken.

14. **Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect.** Charterholder shall adopt and disseminate to all charter school staff and volunteers a policy governing child abuse reports required by Chapter 261, Texas Family Code. The policy shall require that employees, volunteers or agents of Charterholder or the charter school report child abuse or neglect directly to an appropriate entity listed in Chapter 261, Texas Family Code.

15. **Notice to District.** Charterholder shall notify the school district in which the student resides within three business days of any action expelling or withdrawing a student from the charter school.

16. **School Year.** Charterholder shall adopt a school year with fixed beginning and ending dates.

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<th>Financial Management</th>
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17. **Fiscal Year.** Charterholder shall adopt a fiscal year beginning September 1 and ending August 31.


19. **Federal Requirements.** Failure to comply with Internal Revenue Service withholding regulations shall constitute a material violation of the charter.

20. **Workers' Compensation.** Charterholder shall extend workers' compensation benefits to charter school employees by (1) becoming a self-insurer; (2) providing insurance under a workers' compensation insurance policy; or (3) entering into an agreement with other entities providing for self-insurance.

21. **Annual Audit.** Charterholder shall at its own expense have the financial and programmatic operations of the charter school audited annually by a certified public accountant holding a permit from the Texas State Board of
Public Accountancy. Charterholder shall file a copy of the annual audit report, approved by Charterholder, with the agency not later than the 120th day after the end of the fiscal year for which the audit was made. The audit must comply with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and must include an audit of the accuracy of the fiscal information provided by the charter school through PEIMS. Financial statements in the audit must comply with Government Auditing Standards and the Office of Management and Budget Circular 133.

22. **Attendance Accounting.** To the extent required by the commissioner, Charterholder shall comply with the "Student Attendance Accounting Handbook" published by the Agency; provided, however, that Charterholder shall report attendance data to the agency at six-week intervals or as directed by the agency.

23. **Foundation School Program.** Distribution of funds to the charter school under Section 12.106, TEC, is contingent upon charterholder's compliance with the terms of the charter. Charterholder is ineligible to receive Foundation School Program funds prior to execution of this contract by the board. Within 30 days of receiving notice of overallocation and request for refund under Section 42.258, TEC, Charterholder shall transmit to the agency an amount equal to the requested refund. If Charterholder fails to make the requested refund, the agency may recover the overallocation by any means permitted by law, including but not limited to the process set forth in Section 42.258, TEC.

24. **Tuition and Fees.** Charterholder shall not charge tuition and shall not charge a fee except that it may charge a fee listed in Subsection 11.158(a), TEC.

25. **Assets of Charter.** Charterholder shall not apply, hold, credit, transfer or otherwise make use of funds, assets or resources of the charter school for any purpose other than operation of the charter school described in the charter.

26. **Indebtedness of Charter.** Charterholder shall not incur a debt, secure an obligation, extend credit, or otherwise make use of the credit or assets of the charter school for any purpose other than operation of the charter school described in the charter.

27. **Interested Transactions.** All financial transactions between the charter school and (a) Charterholder; (b) an officer, director, or employee of Charterholder or of the charter school; or (c) a person or entity having partial or complete control over Charterholder or the charter school shall be separately and clearly reflected in the accounting, auditing, budgeting, reporting, and record keeping systems of the charter school. Charterholder shall not transfer any asset of the charter or incur any debt except in return for goods or services provided for the benefit of the charter school at fair market value.
28. Non-Charter Activities. Charterholder shall keep separate and distinct accounting, auditing, budgeting, reporting, and record keeping systems for the management and operation of the charter school. Any business activities of Charterholder not directly related to the management and operation of the charter school shall be kept in separate and distinct accounting, auditing, budgeting, reporting, and record keeping systems from those reflecting activities under the charter. Any commingling of charter and non-charter business in these systems shall be a material violation of the charter.

29. Non-Profit Status. Charterholder shall take and refrain from all acts necessary to be and remain in good standing as an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code. If Charterholder is incorporated, it shall in addition comply with all applicable laws governing its corporate status. Failure to comply with this paragraph is a material violation of the charter, and the Board may act on the violation even if the Internal Revenue Service, Secretary of State, or other body with jurisdiction has failed to act.

30. Records Retention and Management. Charterholder shall implement a records management system that conforms to the system required of school districts under the Local Government Records Act, Section 201.001 et seq., Local Government Code, and rules adopted thereunder; provided, however, that records subject to audit shall be retained and available for audit for a period of not less than five (5) years from the latter of the date of termination or renewal of the charter.

31. PEIMS Reporting. Charterholder shall report timely and accurate information to the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS), as required by the commissioner.

32. Conflict of Interest. Charterholder shall comply with any applicable prohibition, restriction or requirement relating to conflicts of interest. If an officer or board member of Charterholder or of the charter school has a substantial interest, within the meaning of Chapter 171, Local Government Code, in a transaction, such interest shall be disclosed in public session at a duly called meeting of the governing body prior to any action on the transaction.

33. Disclosure of Campaign Contributions. Charterholder shall adopt policies that will ensure compliance with the disclosure requirements of State Board of Education Operating Rule 4.3 or its successor.

34. Indemnification. Charterholder shall hold the Board and agency harmless from and shall indemnify the Board and agency against any and all claims, demands, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature asserted by any third party and occurring or in any way incident to, arising...
out of, or in connection with wrongful acts of Charterholder, its agents, employees, and subcontractors.

35. **Failure to Operate.** Charterholder shall operate the charter school for the full school term as described in the charter application in each year of the charter contract. Charterholder may not suspend operation for longer than 21 days without a revision to its charter, adopted by the Board, stating that the charter school is dormant and setting forth the date on which operations shall resume and any applicable conditions. Suspension of operations in violation of this paragraph shall constitute abandonment of this contract and of the charter.

36. **Charter School Facility.** Charterholder shall have and maintain throughout the term of the charter a lease agreement, title or other legal instrument granting to Charterholder the right to occupy and use one or more facilities suitable for use as the charter school facilities described by the charter. During any period of dormancy granted by the Board, this requirement may be waived by the Board. Facilities occupied and used as charter school facilities shall comply with all applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the Texas Architectural Barriers Act, Article 9102, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes.

37. **Agency Investigations.** The commissioner may in his sound discretion direct the agency to conduct investigations of the charter school to determine compliance with the terms of the charter or as authorized in Sections 39.074 and 39.075, Subchapter D, Chapter 39, TEC or other law. Charterholder, its employees and agents shall fully cooperate with such investigations. Failure to timely comply with reasonable requests for access to sites, personnel, documents or things is a material violation of the charter.

38. **Commissioner Authority.** The commissioner in his sole discretion may take any action authorized by Section 39.131, TEC or Chapter 29, TEC relating to the charter school. Such action is not "adverse action" as used in this contract. Charterholder, its employees and agents shall fully cooperate with such actions. Failure to timely comply with any action authorized by Section 39.131, TEC or Chapter 29, TEC is a material violation of the charter.

39. **Adverse Action.** The Board in its sole discretion may modify, place on probation, revoke or deny timely renewal of the charter for cause ("adverse action"). Each of the following shall be cause for adverse action on the charter: (a) any material violation of the terms of the charter listed in paragraphs 2, 3, and 20; (b) failure to satisfy generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management; or (c) failure to comply with an applicable law or rule.
40. **Entire Agreement.** This contract, including all referenced attachments and terms incorporated by reference, contains the entire agreement of the parties. All prior representations, understandings and discussions are merged into, superseded by and canceled by this contract.

41. **Severability.** If any provision of this contract is determined by a court or other tribunal to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason, the remainder of the contract shall remain in full force and effect, so as to give effect to the intent of the parties to the extent valid and enforceable.

42. **Conditions of Contract.** Execution of this contract by the Board is conditioned on full and timely compliance by Charterholder with: (a) the terms, required assurances and conditions of Request for Application #701-97-028; (b) applicable law; and (c) all commitments and representations made in Charterholder's application and any supporting documents (to the extent such commitments and representations are consistent with the terms of this contract).

43. **No Waiver of Breach.** No assent, express or implied, to any breach of any of the covenants or agreements herein shall waive any succeeding or other breach.

44. **Venue.** Any suit arising under this contract shall be brought in Travis County, Texas.

45. **Governing Law.** In any suit arising under this contract, Texas law shall apply.

46. **Authority.** By executing this contract, Charterholder represents that it is an "eligible entity" within the meaning of Section 12.101 (a), TEC. Charterholder shall immediately notify the Board of any legal change in its status which would disqualify it from holding the charter, of any violation of the terms and conditions of this contract, or of any change in the chief operating officer of the charter school or Charterholder. Charterholder further represents that the person signing this contract has been properly delegated authority to do so.

Entered into this 15th day of OCT, 1998.

Texas State Board of Education

[Signature]
By Dr. Jack Christie
Chairman

Charterholder

[Signature]
By [Signature]