

# **ALABAMA NEW CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION EVALUATION REPORT**

Reviewed By:

**Dr. Karl Hamner**

**Dr. Faron Hollinger**

**Ms. Hailah Said**



**Alabama Public Charter School Commission**

**ALABAMA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION  
Spring 2022 Charter Application Evaluation  
Executive Summary**

**Floretta P. Carson Visual and Performing Arts Academy**

<b>Non-Profit Information</b>			
Non-Profit:		Education Service Provider (ESP)	
		Name (# of ESP schools)	
<b>School Information</b>			
School:	<b>Floretta P. Carson</b>	Home District:	Mobile County
Grade Configuration at Start:	6-9	Districts Served:	Mobile County
Grade Configuration at Scale:	6-12	Year Opening:	2023
Enrollment at Start:	240	Enrollment at Scale:	420
<b>Proposal Summary</b>			
<p><b>Academy Model:</b> The school plans to open by August 21, 2023 as a grade 6-9 provider and adding an additional grade each year, becoming a grade 6-12 program by 2026. The school will provide disadvantaged and diverse students a rigorous, pre-college, and professional level education in the visual/performing arts. To ensure success in the arts and academics, the school developed innovative, inclusive, and evidence-based practices.</p> <p><b>Financial Model:</b> The financial plan is thorough and anticipates using variable income (i.e. grants) to manage possible financial shortages.</p> <p><b>Organizational Model:</b> The school’s organizational structure is clear and well designed. The leadership team is well credentialed and experienced. Plans for professional development and community engagement are particularly outstanding.</p>			
Statement of Assurances Included:			No
Potential conflicts of Interest Identified:			Yes



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Section	Points Possible	Points Awarded
<b>Educational Program</b>	107	107
<b>Operations Plan</b>	69	67
<b>Financial Plan</b>	20	15
<b>Overall Alignment &amp; Viability</b>	15	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>Link to Rubric</b>	<a href="http://www.alchartercommission.com/media/qgzlnbkg/apsc-application-rubric-6-2020.pdf">http://www.alchartercommission.com/media/qgzlnbkg/apsc-application-rubric-6-2020.pdf</a>	

<b>Strengths of the Application</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thoroughly laid out in every section with extensive use of research evidence to support educational approach choices.</li> <li>• Excellent involvement of community in development of the application along with extensive plans to continue to engage and involve the community and families.</li> <li>• Excellent leadership team with strong educational capacity to implement the model.</li> </ul>
<b>Areas Needing Further Attention</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities have not been secured.</li> <li>• Financial contingency plans relied on variable income choices such as grants and fund raising.</li> </ul>



**Alabama Public Charter School Commission**  
**SECTION 1. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Evaluative Comments</b>
<b>Educational Program Overview</b>	4 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very well laid out and comprehensive application; very responsive to the rubric.</li> </ul>
<b>Curriculum &amp; Instructional Design</b>	20 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C&amp;I thoroughly describes and well thought through; structure and approach are based on evidence-based practices and sound educational theory.</li> <li>• Inclusion of assigned mentors as part of the main educational approach is innovative; who the mentors are and how they will be recruited was not clear.</li> <li>• Excellent year around plan for on-going education and very thorough use of research and education literature to support their C&amp;I choices.</li> </ul>
<b>Student Performance Standards</b>	4 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensively described and supported.</li> <li>• Choice that all high school courses will be Advanced Placement and Honors level is bold and ensures the learning expectations are highly rigorous.</li> </ul>
<b>HS Graduation Requirements (HS Only)</b>	4 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduation requirements for high school are clear and exceed Alabama's standards. Support and structure for students to achieve these standards are clearly laid out.</li> </ul>
<b>School Calendar and Schedule</b>	4 (Excellent)	
<b>School Culture</b>	20 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thorough, well supported and evidence-based school culture is described, as is how each group of stakeholders in the school will participate in and benefit from the culture.</li> </ul>
<b>Supplemental Programming</b>	4 (Excellent)	
<b>Special Populations and At-Risk Students</b>	15 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thorough description of a well planned and supported process for identifying and meeting the needs of the full spectrum of special need and at-risk students.</li> </ul>
<b>Student Recruitment &amp; Enrollment</b>	4 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive, culturally inclusive enrollment plan that reflects a deep knowledge of the community and reflects the early and inexpensive involvement of family and community in developing this plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Student Discipline Policy &amp; Plan</b>	4 (Excellent)	
<b>Family &amp; Community Involvement</b>	4 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As noted above, applicant has gone to a great length to incorporate the community and family input and has a thorough and engaging plan for on-going family and community involvement in the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Educational Program Capacity</b>	20 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership team clearly have the individual and collective qualifications to implement the school.</li> </ul>



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**SECTION 2. OPERATIONS PLAN**

Category	Score	Evaluative Comments
<b>Organization Structure &amp; Partnerships</b>	7 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear and capable organization structure.</li> <li>• Excellent community partnerships.</li> </ul>
<b>Governing Board</b>	15 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board members are well credentialed and experienced.</li> </ul>
<b>Staffing Plans</b>	4 (Excellent)	
<b>Professional Development</b>	7 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Development plan as described is very thorough and aligned with the goals and mission of the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Performance Management</b>	7 (Excellent)	
<b>Facilities</b>	8 (Very Good)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities have not been secured.</li> </ul>
<b>Startup &amp; Ongoing Operations</b>	15 (Excellent)	
<b>Operations Capacity</b>	4 (Excellent)	

**SECTION 3. FINANCIAL PLAN**

Category	Score	Evaluative Comments
<b>Financial Plan &amp; Financial Management Capacity</b>	15 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial plan is thorough.</li> <li>• Contingency plan to meet financial short falls depends solely on variable income such as grants.</li> </ul>

**SECTION 4. OVERALL ALIGNMENT AND VIABILITY**

Category	Score	Evaluative Comments
<b>Overall Alignment &amp; Viability</b>	15 (Excellent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very strong application.</li> <li>• Excellent curriculum and instruction, consistent with school's mission and vision.</li> <li>• Strong leadership team.</li> <li>• Strong community engagement and support.</li> </ul>
<b>Experienced Operators if Applicable</b>		N/A

<b>Conflict of Interest</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
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The description of the board's ethical standards and procedures for identifying and addressing conflicts of interest does not exist or is lacking sufficient detail (Attachment 16): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Code of Ethics Policy.</li><li>▪ Conflict of Interest Policy.</li></ul>	No
The applicant has provided a signed, conflict of interest statement for every: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Applicant team member</li><li>▪ Identified board member</li></ul>	No
The applicant has provided a statement of Assurances agreeing to requirements should approval be granted.	No