

Dr. Alice A. Thompson
Interim Deputy Superintendent
School Leadership &
Operational Support



Michael L. Thurmond
Superintendent

Office of Charter Schools
1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard
Stone Mountain, GA 30083-1027
678-676-0377

October 17, 2013

Mr. Matthew Lewis
Druid Hills Charter Cluster, Inc.
1909 Grist Stone Court
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

Charter Petition Review Results & Clarification Meeting

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Thank you for submitting the charter school petition for the Druid Hills High School Charter Cluster ("Cluster") to the DeKalb County School District ("District") on August 16, 2013. The District would like to acknowledge the effort and time spent in developing the petition. After careful review of your petition, the District has determined that the Cluster petition contains areas that raise questions which need additional clarification or correction. Executive Summary and Charter Petition Review Results documents are attached for your review and response. The purpose of the attached documents is to provide the petitioners with information to satisfy the application guidelines and requirements.

On **Tuesday, October 22, 2013 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**, an optional "Clarification Meeting" will be conducted for the Druid Hills High School Cluster Petitioners, in the Professional Learning Room 2, located at the AIC Complex, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083. This time will be utilized for the petitioners to receive clarification regarding the *Charter Petition Review Results*. Please contact the Office of Charter Schools no later than **Monday, October 21, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.** if you would like to attend this meeting and to confirm the names of two (2) representatives who will speak on behalf of the Cluster.

A revised charter petition may be submitted to the DCSD Office of Charter Schools by **Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.** The charter petition initially submitted will be considered incomplete if these corrections are not made and resubmitted on this date. Five (5) printed copies of your revised petition, along with ten (10) CDs are required. Please ensure that the electronic version of your petition is submitted as a Microsoft Word file and that all required attachments are included. Additionally, please name electronic files concisely, for easy access and review. Petitions submitted on October 29th will be considered the final version.

In an effort to ensure District transparency with the community, the documents provided to you today will be posted on the DeKalb County Schools website, located at www.dekalb.k12.ga.us, by Friday, October 18, 2013.

Lastly, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2064, a petitioner may request an extension beyond the ninety (90) day period that a Board of Education is required to approve or deny a petition. A petition extension requires the following:

- 1) The request for an extension must be sent via electronic or certified mail to Dr. José G. Boza, Jr., Director, Office of Charter Schools, 1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083.
- 2) An updated “Charter School Petition Time Line” will be created by the DCSD Office of Charter Schools with new due dates for the revised petition, the petition recommendation, and the Board of Education review.
- 3) The Board of Education review will be scheduled no later than forty-five (45) business days (not including days the DCSD administrative office is closed) after the extension request is officially submitted to the DCSD Office of Charter Schools.
- 4) The extension petition dates are final deadlines.
- 5) If a petitioner does not meet the extension deadlines, the charter petition initially submitted will be considered incomplete and the petition will be denied by default.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the DCSD Office of Charter Schools at 678.676.0377. Thank you for your patience and cooperation in this matter.

Respectfully,

José G. Boza

Dr. José G. Boza, Jr., Director
Office of Charter Schools

Enclosure: *Charter Petition Review Results
Executive Summary*