**New Community School Sponsorship**

**Application and Rubric**

Contract Starts July 1, 2026

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| **General Information** |
| *Proposed School Name* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Street Address* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *City, State, Zip Code* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *School District* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Proposed Grade Levels* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Expected Enrollment* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Type of School* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *First Year of Operation* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *School District* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Founding Coalition* | [ ]  *Individual* [ ]  *Parents* [ ]  *Teachers/Administrators* [ ]  *Management Company (Operator)*[ ]  *Private Not-for-Profit Business* [ ]  *Community-Based Organization* [ ]  *Other Founding Group* |
| **Primary Contact**  |
| *Name and Title* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Email and Phone* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Additional Contact and School Information** |
| *Governing Authority Members and Roles* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Management Company* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *School Director* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *School Treasurer* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Superintendent* | *Click here to enter text.* |
| *EMIS Coordinator* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| *Special Education Coordinator* |  *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Names and emails of other school personnel or stakeholders to be copied on communication regarding this application.** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |

| *By signing below, the Governing Authority President and the School Leader (Operator) acknowledge they have answered all questions truthfully and to the best of their knowledge.* |
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| *Governing Authority President* |  | *Date* |  |
| *School Leader (Operator)* |  | *Date* |  |

**Enrollment Plan:**

1. Complete the enrollment plan table below with projected enrollment for the next five (5) years.
2. Describe the specific methods the school will use to reach the enrollment targets.
3. Describe the specific methods the school will use to achieve consistent student retention.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Target Enrollment by Year & Grade | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Total |
| Year 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| **Section A: School Profile & Facilities** |
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| A.1 – Describe in detail the reasons for wishing to start a new community school. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.1 – The reasons for wishing to start a new community school are explained in detail. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.2 – Provide the proposed school’s mission and vision.  |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.2 – The proposed school’s mission and vision are clear and compelling. | ***Click to enter points***  |
| A.3 – Provide a specific plan for how the school intends to achieve its mission over the next three (3) years.  |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.3 – The school has a specific plan to achieve its mission over the next three (3) years. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.4 – Describe in detail the characteristics of the community. Include descriptions of the existing traditional public, public community, private, and parochial schools. Explain how educational needs are not currently being met and why there is a need for the new community school in the area. Explain how the new community school will be unique and different from existing educational opportunities in the area. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.4 – The characteristics of the community are described in detail. Descriptions of the existing traditional public, public community, private, and parochial schools are included. It is explained how educational needs are not currently being met and why there is a need for the new community school in the area. It is explained how the new community school will be unique and different from existing educational opportunities in the area. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.5 – Describe in detail the proposed grade levels served within the first five (5) years of existence and the rationale/data behind serving those specific grade levels.  |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.5 – The school provided a detailed plan of proposed grade levels along with a data supported rationale for serving the proposed grades. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.6 – Provide a specific plan for how the school intends to promote parent and community involvement over the next three (3) years. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.6 – The school has a specific plan to promote parent and community involvement over the next three (3) years. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.7 – Provide a detailed explanation of how the proposed school’s facilities will be effective and adequately meet the needs of the student population. Include the school’s plan for student transportation, if applicable. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.7 – The proposed school’s facilities and, if applicable, transportation of students, will be effective and adequately meet the needs of the student population. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| A.8 – Provide a comprehensive staffing plan that includes clearly defined goals and a detailed timeline for all positions within the school. This plan should include all instructional staff, support staff, administrative, clerical, program-specific, etc. The plan should also detail how the school will recruit, employ, and retain professionally trained and licensed teachers. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| A.8 – The staffing plan has clearly defined goals, timelines, and recruitment strategies for obtaining and retaining all necessary staff. | ***Click to enter points*** |

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| **Section A: School Profile & Facilities Scoring** |
| **Questions & Comments** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Composite Score** |
| **Possible Points**  | **Enter here** | **Total Points Earned** | **Enter here** |

| **Section B: Academic Performance** |
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| B.1 – Provide the proposed school’s academic performance goals. Explain the action steps the school will take to achieve these goals. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| B.1 – The proposed school has outlined effective action steps to achieve its academic performance goals. | ***Click to enter points***  |
| B.2 – Describe in detail the proposed school’s plan to improve low scores or lack of progress for all applicable components of the Ohio School Report Card. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| B.2 – The proposed school has a detailed plan to improve low scores or lack of progress for all applicable components of the Ohio School Report Card. | ***Click to enter points*** |

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| **Section B: Academic Performance Scoring** |
| **Questions & Comments** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Composite Score** |
| **Possible Points**  | **Enter here** | **Total Points Earned** | **Enter here** |

| **Section C: Education Program** |
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| C.1 – Provide clear evidence the school’s education program is founded on an understanding of effective, research-based educational practices.  |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.1 – The school’s education program is founded on an understanding of effective, research-based practices. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.2 – Provide clear evidence the school’s education program is effective with the target student population. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.2 – There is clear evidence the school’s education program is effective with the target student population. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.3 – Describe in detail the manner in which the school’s education program demonstrates a clear understanding of its special education obligations under state and federal law. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.3 – The school’s education program demonstrates a clear understanding of its special education obligations under state and federal law. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.4 – Describe in detail how the school demonstrates a strong capacity for and commitment to the education of the special education student population. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.4 – The school demonstrates a strong capacity for and commitment to the education of the special education student population. | ***Click to enter points***  |
| C.5 – Describe in detail how the school’s education program will meet the diverse needs of individual learners and how it will be reviewed to adjust for updates to the student population. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.5 – The school’s education program meets the diverse needs of individual learners. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.6 – Describe in detail the methods that will be used to monitor, share, and utilize student data in order to meet the needs of the student population. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.6 – The school will use effective methods to monitor, share, and utilize student data in order to meet the needs of the student population. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.7 – Explain how the education program includes appropriate supplementary services. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.7 – The education program includes appropriate supplementary services. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.8 – Provide clear evidence all assessments are aligned with curriculum and instruction. Include Ohio’s required assessments and state-approved, local benchmarking assessments. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.8 – All assessments are aligned with curriculum and instruction. All of Ohio’s required assessments and state-approved, local benchmarking assessments are included. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| C.9 – Describe in detail how the school’s education program demonstrates its understanding of the Response to Intervention (RTI) construct. Explain the school’s ability to implement such efforts and how it identifies specific methods to monitor in order to effectively execute the process. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| C.9 – The school’s education program demonstrates its understanding of the Response to Intervention (RTI) construct. The school has the ability to implement such efforts and it identifies specific methods to monitor in order to most effectively execute the process. | ***Click to enter points*** |

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| **Section C: Education Program Scoring** |
| **Questions & Comments** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Composite Score** |
| **Possible Points**  | **Enter here** | **Total Points Earned** | **Enter here** |

| **Section D: Financial Management** |
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| D.1 – Provide a solid business plan with clear evidence of the ability to successfully execute the proposed school’s operations. Include thorough market research, specific goals, strategic action steps, and timeframes for completion. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| D.1 – The business plan is solid and provides clear evidence of the ability to successfully execute the proposed school’s operations. Thorough market research, specific goals, strategic action steps, and timeframes for completion are included. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| D.2 – Provide a first year expenditures budget with detailed preoperational costs, monthly cash flow, and projected first year enrollment. Clearly explain the process by which the budget and enrollment figures were determined. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| D.2 – A first year expenditures budget with detailed preoperational costs, monthly cash flow, and projected first year enrollment is provided. The process by which the budget and enrollment figures were determined is clearly explained. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| D.3 – Provide the total amount and sources of funds, property, or other resources expected to be available and indicate which of these are secured, anticipated, or have firm commitments. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| D.3 – The total amount and sources of funds, property, or other resources expected to be available is provided and which of these are secured, anticipated, or have firm commitments is indicated. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| D.4 – Explain in detail the school’s specific and achievable plan to recruit new students. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| D.4 – The school has a specific and achievable plan to recruit new students. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| D.5 – Explain in detail the school’s specific and achievable plan to ensure financial sustainability in the future that includes meeting financial needs for low initial enrollment, not receiving anticipated revenues, or if revenues are lower than the estimated budget. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| D.5 – The school has a specific and achievable plan to ensure financial sustainability in the future that includes a plan for meeting financial needs for low initial enrollment, not receiving anticipated revenues, or if revenues are lower than the estimated budget. | ***Click to enter points*** |

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| **Section D: Financial Management Scoring** |
| **Questions & Comments** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Composite Score** |
| **Possible Points**  | **Enter here** | **Total Points Earned** | **Enter here** |

| **Section E: Governance & Management Structure** |
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| E.1 – For each and all proposed governing authority members of the school, list their roles and knowledge bases; provide completed FBI/BCI background checks; and provide recent trainings certificates. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.1 – The school provided all proposed governing authority member information requested and it has the necessary experience and knowledge to oversee the school.  | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.2 – Explain in detail the governing authority’s plan for monitoring the school’s academic performance. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.2 – The governing authority has a clear plan for monitoring the school’s academic performance. | ***Click to enter points***  |
| E.3 – Explain in detail the governing authority’s plan for monitoring the school’s finances. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.3 – The governing authority has a clear plan for monitoring the school’s finances. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.4 – Describe in detail any outside contractual relationships that will be used to ensure the effective operation of the school. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.4 – Any outside contractual relationship that will be used to ensure the effective operation of the school is described in detail. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.5 – Provide the school’s organizational chart with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.5 – The school’s organizational chart clearly defines the roles and responsibilities. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.6 – Disclose any conflicts of interest that may exist between or among school leaders, vendors, governing authority members, or other management companies (operators). Describe the steps that were taken to address such conflicts of interest and explain the outcomes. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.6 – Any conflicts of interest that may exist are disclosed. The steps taken to address such conflicts of interest are described and the outcomes are explained in detail. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.7 – Disclose any pending lawsuits, threatened liabilities, or negative media attention related to the school, governing authority members, leadership team, its management company, or vendors, and include any actions taken to address such issues. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.7 – Any pending lawsuits, threatened liabilities, or negative media attention is disclosed along with any actions taken to address such issues. | ***Click to enter points*** |
| E.8 – Explain any previous attempts to obtain a sponsorship contract, the authorizer to which the school applied, and the outcome of the application. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| E.8 – Any previous attempts to obtain a sponsorship contract, the authorizer to which the school applied, and the outcome of the application are explained in detail. | ***Click to enter points*** |

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| **Section E: Governance & Management Structure Scoring** |
| **Questions & Comments** |
| *Click here to enter text.* |
| **Composite Score** |
| **Possible Points**  | **Enter here** | **Total Points Earned** | **Enter here** |

| **Section F: Additional Information** |
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| Present any additional information which is relevant or compelling in support of this application. |
| *Click here to enter text.* |

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| **Application Reviewer (Completed by the ESCLEW Review Team)** |
| Click here to enter text. |

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| **Scoring Totals****The section below is to be completed by the ESCLEW Review Team.** |
| Section | Title | Total Points Earned | Total Potential Points |
| Section A | School Profile & Facilities |  |  |
| Section B | Academic Performance |  |  |
| Section C | Education Program |  |  |
| Section D | Financial Management |  |  |
| Section E | Governance & Management Structure |  |  |
| **Totals:** |  |  |
| **Percentage of Points Earned** |  |  |