

Indiana State Board of Education,

This letter serves as an application for the Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees and Hamilton Southeastern Schools, to serve as a charter authorizer in accordance with IC 20-24-2.2-1.2.

Strategic Vision

Hamilton Southeastern Schools is seeking charter authorization to explore collaborative partnerships to increase career exploration opportunities for every student we serve through the possible creation of charter schools. This need was identified through a community connected transformation facilitated through an IDOE 3E grant, authored by Central Indiana Education Service Center (CIESC), and facilitated by a Ford Next Generation Learning (Ford NGL) process. This community created transformation statement is driving our work.

Through ongoing collaboration with our community, HSE Schools strives to...

- Develop each student's passion and ensure future readiness
- Provide every student with diverse personalized learning experiences
- Create a culture for authentic, relevant learning

Charter schools will allow HSE Schools to strategically innovate with community stakeholders to provide career experiences to students while directly impacting community and economic development through the following actions:

- Diversify the experiences of students to explore, engage with, and experience careers in our community throughout their PK-12 education journey.
- Expand opportunities for students to engage with work-based learning, college dual credit earning opportunities, and earning sector-specific credentials of value and industry certifications that align with student career interests and goals, and the needs of our current and future economic ecosystem
- Develop teacher learning opportunities focused on instructional innovation, and creative instructional staffing systems and strategies. This could include, but not limited to:

- Providing externships, training, and credentialing opportunities to currently licensed PK-12 educators to make curriculum and instruction more authentic to student's future goals and community/ workforce needs
- Working to license and credential sector and industry professionals in order to educate students
- Incentivizing innovative instruction and professional growth by these staff members through creative compensation
- Establish Career Programs driven by economic development work force needs as informed by data from the City of Fishers, One Zone (City Chamber of Commerce, and Invest Hamilton County (County Chamber of Commerce)
- Build Flexible and Agile Learning Environments and Facilities in schools and the community – Beyond the initial investment in facilities for these kinds of experiences, charter applicants must also show qualifications and capacity to invest in future career programs

HSE Schools' Budget, Personnel Capacity, and Commitment to execute the duties of quality charter authorizing

The authorization process will be managed by HSE Schools Director of PK-12 Initiatives. Applications will be vetted for compliance with law, statutes, policies, and procedures. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of district personnel and community stakeholders (exact composition to be determined) using a district created scoring tool. Recommendations will be made to the Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees. Specific oversight duties of the performance and compliance of the authorized charter will be delegated to relevant Central Office Administration including the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools, Career Technical Education Director, Chief Financial Officer, Director of PK-12 Initiatives, and any other role relevant to the charter structure. At this time, there will be no additional costs to HSE Schools to conduct authorization duties. HSE will monitor the capacity of individuals supporting authorizing activities and develop an organization chart as needed. HSE Schools maintains the authority to charge administrative fees in the future if that is deemed necessary to fulfill the responsibilities as an authorizer.

HSE Schools' Charter School Application Process

Applications must include at least the components outlined in IC 20-24-3-4 Proposal to establish charter school; required contents.

Charter school applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For the 2024-2025 school year, applications are due on or before September 29. Application status will be communicated to applicants within a month. This timeline complies with state law of communicating acceptance/ rejection of the proposal within seventy-five (75) days of submission. This submission deadline may be extended by up to fifteen (15) days if mutually agreed upon by both parties in writing.

HSE Schools will organize received applications into a report submitted electronically to Indiana State Board of Education by Dec. 31. Applications will be differentiated between accepted proposals and rejected proposals. Accepted proposals will include the length of time HSE will authorize the

Innovation Network School proposal. Rejected proposals will include the reasons for rejection. This report will also include school goals, educational program design, and the name of the education management organization operating the school and the chief operating officer of the education management organization, if applicable.

HSE Schools' Charter School Performance Framework

HSE Schools will develop a Performance Framework to clearly articulate targeted outcomes and key results with evaluative measures that will be used to show impact and effectiveness in the form of a rubric. Rubric criteria will include at least:

- School's performance on all Indiana Department of Education metrics used to evaluate school performance including relevant Graduates Prepared to Succeed (GPS) dashboard metrics
- Student work-based learning, internship, and/ or apprenticeship experiences correlated to student development and evidence of HSE Schools' Journey of a Student (Portrait of a Graduate)
- Data that shows increased student enrollment in Career Technical Education/ AP/ IB/ Dual Credit course offerings to students that align with community partner needs/ post-secondary institution degrees/ and cost savings/ value
- Examples of Community and Work-Force Development Partnerships that directly impact student success beyond high school graduation, whether that be enrollment, employment, and/or enlistment.

HSE Schools' renewal, revocation, and nonrenewal process

HSE Schools acknowledges that authorization must be renewed every 6 years by state law. When submitting for re-authorization, HSE Schools will use information and guidelines provided by the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) no later than May 1 to submit letter for authorization by June 1, in order to receive SBOE approval/ denial by July 1 in accordance with state law.

- a. HSE Schools Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing prior to issuing any authorization renewal, revocation, or nonrenewal in accordance with state law.
- b. Renewal Process: Charter renewals will occur based on an agreed upon charter period in accordance with state statute. Renewals will be based on the school's performance on the performance framework. Renewal applications must include data and evidence related to operational effectiveness, academic performance, financial health of the school, and community impact. These performance measures will be made public.
- c. Revocation and Nonrenewal Process: In the event of HSE Schools pursuing revocation or nonrenewal of an organizer's charter, the organizer will be notified of this intent following the evaluation of first semester data, no later than January 31. This notification will include feedback and explanations regarding performance based on the performance framework. Organizers will be provided one month to prepare a response and submit by March 1. The organizer will be given the opportunity to submit documents and provide testimony in support of continuation of the charter at a designated proceeding prior to March 15. The organizer is entitled to representation by counsel. HSE Schools will deliberate and make a final determination in writing by April 1. Should the charter be revoked or not renewed, the reasons for revocation or nonrenewal will be clearly stated in writing.

We, Hamilton Southeastern Schools/ Board of Trustees of Hamilton Southeastern Schools commit to full adoption of the standards of quality charter school authorizing in accordance with section IC 20-24-1.5. As an authorizer, HSE Schools is committed to collaboration and partnership with Organizers and Operators that support to strategic goals of HSE Schools and the community it serves.

Juanita Albright

Date: *8-28-24*

Dr. Juanita Albright -Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees President

Pat W. Mapes

Date: *8-28-24*

Mr. Pat Mapes -Hamilton Southeastern Schools Superintendent