

BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Katika D. Lovett, Deputy Superintendent
SUBJECT: Approving The Infinity Academy as a New LEA Charter School in Bibb County Schools

INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

The Infinity Academy (TIA) seeks approval to operate as a new Local Educational Agency (LEA) charter school within the Bibb County School District (BCSD). The proposal is grounded in innovative educational approaches, commitment to community engagement, and a strong alignment with district goals to foster student achievement and holistic development. This memo outlines the key components of the petition and how they address the educational needs and strategic goals of BCSD.

STEAM-Lead Model

The Infinity Academy's STEAM-Lead model integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) with Servant Leadership principles to create a robust framework for student learning and leadership. This model emphasizes:

- Foundational Principles: Rooted in evidence-based practices, the model encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity.
- Instructional Strategies: Cross-curricular planning, thematic units, and project-based learning ensure a comprehensive and engaging educational experience.
- Integration of STEAM and Servant Leadership: Students will apply STEAM knowledge to address real-world issues while incorporating servant leadership principles, fostering community engagement and ethical responsibility.

Curriculum Compacting and Mastery

Infinity Academy plans to implement curriculum compacting to accelerate learning for students who demonstrate mastery of content. This approach includes:

- Assessment Methods: Utilizing tools such as MAPS, GMAS, and DRC Beacon to measure student progress and mastery.
- Support Structures: Ensuring interventions and support for students who may struggle with compacted curriculum to meet grade-level standards effectively.

ACTION MEMORANDUM

Teacher Certification and Professional Development

To ensure high-quality instruction, the academy will assure the following:

- Teacher Certification: Seek waivers for certification requirements where necessary, while ensuring all teachers are well-trained in the STEAM model.
- Professional Development: Continuous professional development tailored to the instructional framework and innovative methods adopted by the academy.

Special Education and Support for Diverse Learners

The Infinity Academy is committed to providing inclusive education through:

- Identification and Services for Students with Disabilities: Comprehensive procedures for identifying and serving students with disabilities, including IEP development and adherence to IDEA requirements.
- Support for English Language Learners (ELL) and Homeless Students: Specialized personnel and resources to ensure equitable access to education for all students.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

A cornerstone of the Infinity Academy's mission is strong community engagement:

- Stakeholder Involvement: Active involvement of parents, community members, and local organizations in the school's planning and ongoing operations.
- Partnerships: Collaborations with local businesses, nonprofits, and higher education institutions to enhance educational opportunities and community support.

Financial and Operational Sustainability

The academy has developed robust strategies to ensure financial sustainability and operational efficiency:

- Financial Practices: Sound financial practices, positive cash flow management, and maintaining full enrollment each year.
- Staff Recruitment and Retention: Competitive salaries, comprehensive benefits, and professional development opportunities to attract and retain qualified staff.

RECOMMENDATION

The Infinity Charter Academy petition presents a strong charter application. However, there have been recent questions regarding the contents of the application including TIA's current non-profit status (Note: TIA does not have federal non-profit, 501(c)(3) status as of date) and the verification of signatures for TIA's board members. These questions make it difficult for the District to confidently move forward at this time. It is therefore



BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

ACTION MEMORANDUM

recommended that the district deny The Infinity Academy as a LEA approved charter school for the 2025-26 school year.

Superintendent's Comments and Approval:

Superintendent's Comments	Approved/ Not Approved
Dr. Dan A. Sims	Approved