

AGENDA ITEM: Compass Points International, Inc. Application

Compass Points International, Inc. submitted an application package for the Board’s consideration. This report contains:

- Background information regarding the qualifications of the applicant,
- A copy of the scoring rubric which confirms the application package meets the requirements as demonstrated through the review of the preliminary application package submitted on August 3, 2009, the technical assistance provided to the applicant, a review of the revised application package submitted on December 29, 2009 and
- Staff’s overview and summary of the application package.

The following background information is provided for your consideration.

Compass Points International, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation that was created on June 12, 2009 for the purpose of conducting public education with 3 directors: Kimberly Belli became a member 06/12/2009; Geneva Saint-Amour became a member 06/12/2009; and Michael Saint-Amour became a member 06/12/2009. Through the background review process, additional information was required. Communication with the individuals is documented below:

Organizational Structure

Corporate Principals or Sole Proprietor	Communication
Geneva Saint-Amour became member 06/12/2009	<p>On November 16, 2009, staff spoke with Ms. Saint-Amour. She stated that her current employer submitted the paperwork to renew her fingerprint clearance card which expired on October 30, 2009, but that it would take 4-6 weeks to be processed. Staff confirmed with Ms. Saint-Amour that she is currently working as a school principal with an expired fingerprint card. On November 25, 2009, staff received a fax from Ms. Saint-Amour indicating that she has still not received her card, that the district submitted the information and that she is now on medical leave and not working at the school with an expired card.</p> <p>On 12/16/09, staff confirmed through DPS that the fingerprint clearance card for Ms. Saint-Amour had been renewed effective 12/14/09.</p>

Background Information

Corporate Principal	Education History	Employment History	FCC	Notes
Kimberly Belli	Master’s degree in Vocational Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation Counselor for the State of Arizona 2007 – present. Guidance Counselor at Northpoint Expeditionary Learning 2006 – 2007.	Valid	There were no concerns identified in the background and credit check.
Geneva Saint-Amour	Master’s degree in Education Counseling	Director of Northpoint Expeditionary Learning 2006 – present. Principal for Bouse Elementary School 2002-	Valid	There were no concerns identified in the background and credit check.

		2006.		
Michael Saint-Amour	Master's degree in Counseling and Human Development.	Director of Educational Services Agency for the Yavapai County 2007 – present. Campus Director for Arizona western College 2001 – 2006.	Valid	There were no concerns identified in the background and credit check.

Current and Prior Charter Compliance

Corporate Principal	Compliance Information
Geneva Saint-Amour	Ms. Saint-Amour is the Director for Northpoint Expeditionary Learning, a school site under the Prescott Unified School District. Northpoint Expeditionary Learning 2009 – Excelling 2009 – Met AYP

School Governing Body

Member Type	Number	Name
Organization Principal	1	Geneva Saint-Amour
Community	4	TBD

Roles and Responsibilities

Applicant	Governing Body
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt or bond financing for capital development Final approval of the annual budget and compensation plan Sale, lease, purchase, or disposition of real property The hiring, evaluation and dismissal of the Principal of Northpoint Academy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will assist the School Principal in implementing all aspects of the charter contract Hold the School Principal accountable to carry out the policies and procedures of the school

Program of Instruction

Mission	Northpoint Academy prepares students for full participation in a dynamic world, promoting relevant and rigorous academics, character development, and social responsibility, while utilizing the talents and expertise of dedicated teachers, community professionals, and engaged family members, within the proven Expeditionary Learning model.
Description of Community and Target Market	Northpoint Academy will be drawing students from the east Yavapai area. Northpoint Academy will be drawing from three school districts located in the 10 mile radius area from the school site-Prescott Unified, Humboldt Unified and Chino Valley Unified School District. The market will be 9-12 graders that are in rural, educationally underserved student population.
Comprehensive Program of Instruction Summary	Northpoint Academy will utilize a project-based learning model with an integrated curriculum focus based on the 5 core practices of Expeditionary Learning School's 10 design principles. Expeditionary Learning framework has community at its core, while focusing on literacy skills, quantitative reasoning,

	<p>and scientific inquiry. The school will offer a combination of non-traditional methodology with college prep expectations. Active pedagogy will be at the core of the instructional methods used.</p> <p>The methods of assessment is standards based that will vary depending on instructional goals but will include tests, quizzes, papers, and labs as well as portfolios, presentations, performances, and exhibitions. All Northpoint students will complete the required elements of state mandated testing.</p> <p>Students will receive two grades for every course, a grade for academics and a grade for Habits of Work. Students who earn an “I” in any course or fail to earn a credit in the Habits of Work will be assigned a remediation based “Integrated Course”.</p>				
School Calendar	Standard – 180 days				
Student Count		Year	Grades Served	# of Students	# of Sites
		1	9-12	150	1
		2	9-12	200	1
		3	9-12	250	1
Findings	<p>The application met the minimum requirements, although the following areas scored an approaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction: 1 out of 4 grade levels (11th) • Rubric: 1 out of 4 grade levels (9th) 				

Business Plan/Budget

Budget	<p>The start up budget listed in the application package for Compass Points International, Inc. is \$20,000. The corporation has received a DUNS number and a federal EIN and will be applying for federal 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt statuses.</p> <p>Most of the start-up activities will be performed and funded by the three founders of Northpoint Academy. Certain start-up components related to the facility will be coordinated with the Prescott Unified School District. The founding principles of Northpoint Academy provided start-up funds of \$20,000.</p> <p>Years one through three of the operating budget is based on 90% of the projected student enrollment. Projected annual budget balances are: Year One-\$7,522, Year Two-\$22,308, Year three-\$30,929. At the end of each month during the first year revenue exceeds expenditures.</p>
Secured Funds	The secured funds as stated by the applicant have been confirmed as available.
Findings	The application met the minimum requirements.

Site Information

Name of Proposed School	Northpoint Academy
Location	Confirmed location: 551 First Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Secured Facility	The facility, which Northpoint targets to lease, has 14 classrooms (12 thousand SF.), 7 offices (2600 SF), cafeteria with kitchen (6,500 SF), restrooms, recreation and parking lot. The facility targeted has enough capacity (21,000 SF) to implement the proposed program of instruction. The facility is presently owned by the Prescott Unified School District and negotiations with the district are in progress.
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Scoring Rubric Summary

Preliminary application package scoring rubric results: 28% of the scoring areas did not meet the criteria.
 Revised application package scoring rubric results: 1% of the scoring areas did not meet the criteria.

Staff Recommendations

Approve the application and grant a charter to Compass Points International, Inc. to establish Northpoint Academy charter school.