B.1 Applicant Organization

Applicant's history

History

In 2008, Eva and Daniel Foster established Palm Valley Montessori. Palm Valley Montessori currently offers preschool and kindergarten for children ages two to six years. But the history of the organization goes back to the early childhood years of Eva Foster, when her mother enrolled her in a Montessori program. Since that time, her love of the teaching method has only grown stronger. After studying mainstream education in college, Eva was hungry for a return to this amazing philosophy. She received her Montessori certificate from the Montessori Education Center of Arizona under the direction of Mrs. Nimal Vaz, a living legend of the Montessori Method. Later on, when Daniel and Eva had their first child, Eva applied the Montessori Method to their home life and started dreaming about opening a school.

In 2008 Eva and Daniel purchased property in Goodyear, Arizona and established Palm Valley Montessori, which offers preschool and kindergarten for children ages two to six years. Eva and Daniel personally financed and managed the remodeling of the 3,400 square foot facility on two acres of land. The property is certified, up to code and has an approved capacity of 100. Not too long after the successful start of the preschool parents began to ask about the possibility for a Montessori charter school KG through the 3th grade. Currently no charter Montessori elementary school exists in Goodyear or the surrounding community. P.V. Montessori School will be the first public Montessori program offered in the area.

Establishment of Principals

In 2011 David and Daniel Foster decided to support Eva's entrepreneurial endeavors and formed P.V. Montessori School, Inc. – an Arizona non-profit corporation to hold the charter of P.V. Montessori School to serve K-3 students. The non-profit corporation will be operated by a Board of Directors (Daniel Foster and Eva Foster, combined possess extensive educational, business and financial experience) and lead by its Board President (Eva Foster). Eva Foster will serve on the School Board as its President and will also lead the school operations as the School Director.

Attainment of any licenses, operating permits

P.V. Montessori School, Inc. – an Arizona non-profit corporation was established to hold the charter of P.V. Montessori School..

The Articles of Incorporation have been duly submitted and filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

The Corporate Board of Directors has been established and officers of the corporation have been elected. New Corporate Directors were added in 2102 - Eva Foster. The annual report with all changes has been duly filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

The By-laws have been written and accepted by the Corporate Board of Directors.

The corporation has obtained an EIN number and will apply for a DUNS number.

In 2008 Eva and Daniel Foster established Palm Valley Montessori, LLC to operate the private preschool business. The preschool operation has all necessary business, operating and facility licenses. All licenses and certificates remain in good standing.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Corporation and the Corporate Board of Directors

Role

The major role of the corporate organization of P.V. Montessori School, Inc. is to hold the charter for P.V. Montessori School.

Responsibilities

As a school establishing organization, P.V. Montessori School, Inc. carries several major responsibilities related to the students it intends to serve, their parents, the community at large and the Montessori community.

Students: P.V. Montessori School has the responsibility to provide high quality education to the students enrolled at the school.
Parents: P.V. Montessori School has a responsibility to the parents of the students to create an environment that is safe, well-rounded and academically challenging for their children.
Community: P.V. Montessori School also has a responsibility to the local community to provide choice in education.
Montessori Community: P.V. Montessori School has a responsibility to both the national and international Montessori community to uphold the values and teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori.

Responsibilities of the Corporate Board of Directors:

The Corporate Board of Directors is charged with responsibilities related to the business affairs of the corporation, general oversight and monitoring of the school operations. Specifically, aligned with the current bylaws the Board of Directors has the following responsibilities:

- Manage the business affairs of the corporation
- Maintain the fiscal health of the corporation
- Establish/Change the by-laws of the corporation
- Maintain Good Standing of the corporation with the Arizona Corporation Commission
- Submit annual reports and any other reports required to the Arizona Corporation Commission
- Elect corporate officers
- Recruit corporate board directors as needed
- Fill in vacancies on the corporate board

- Ratify acts of the Corporate Board
- Conduct meetings at least annually
- Designate committees as needed
- Oversee and monitor the school operations including:
  - Establish the School Board/Appoint School Board members/Appoint the President of the School Board/Appoint the School Director
  - Delegate authority on daily operations to the School Board
  - Ratify acts of the School Board
  - Review School Board minutes at least annually
  - Oversee accounting and legal contracted services/Review school financial documents at least annually
  - Review performance of all staff at least annually
  - Set staff salaries

Eva Foster: Eva Foster will serve as President of the Corporate Board. She will also serve as the President of the Governing Board. Eva Foster possess the necessary qualities - entrepreneurial, educational and experience to successfully operate a charter school. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History at Hendrix College, Arkansas. She has extensive Montessori training and is certified to instruct 3-6 year olds in the Montessori Method. She received her Montessori Primary Teaching Certification from the Association Montessori Internationale in 2005. Eva is currently training as a Montessori certified teacher at the Elementary Level. Eva has experience as a local small business owner and is extremely capable in navigating the challenges of running a growing, successful small business. Eva has a group of devoted parents who volunteer frequently and feel very strongly about both the Montessori Method of education and her execution of that philosophy. She has already developed close relationships in the community both with the current families attending the private preschool, prospective families, and with peers in the Montessori community. Her background as a successful businesswoman along with her training and experience in traditional and Montessori classrooms makes her well very qualified for this position. Eva is aware of the responsibilities she is taking on and has demonstrated the character and tenacity to follow through with meeting every challenge that comes up.

Daniel Foster: Daniel Foster is a Corporate Principal of P.V. Montessori School, Inc. and Officer (Secretary and Treasurer). Daniel will also serve on the School Board and will help the school with business, financial and real estate matters. Daniel Foster possess the necessary qualities - entrepreneurial, educational and experience to successfully operate a charter school. He has extensive experience in the business, finance and real estate. He was a Title Processor at Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., one of the largest law firms in Arizona with extensive legal experience covering over 40 distinct areas of law. As a Title Processor he filed title claims for title issues arising from prior liens, vesting issues, and fraud; Researched and reviewed title reports and all manner of recorded documents; Worked with attorneys to resolve special issues during the foreclosure and REO process; Developed relationships with various mortgage servicers and gained extensive knowledge in the title, foreclosure and litigation processes; Resolved issues to bring file to sale including assignments, prior liens,

judgments, and criminal restitution, mechanics liens, senior lien sales, and junior lien issues. Daniel is consistently recognized for conflict resolution and diplomatic understanding in difficult situations and problem solving.

Daniel Foster is sufficiently qualified to lead and manage the charter school operation of P.V. Montessori School. He is currently the Administrator of the private school that educates kids in the primary ages (6-9 year olds). As the Administrator of the private school he performs small business management duties which are comparable to charter school operations and management, such as: business and financial management, budget preparation, bookkeeping, payroll, purchasing, fundraising, cash flow management, student attendance, employee relations, vendor relations, outside services, community relations, public relations.

Organizational and Principal Relationships

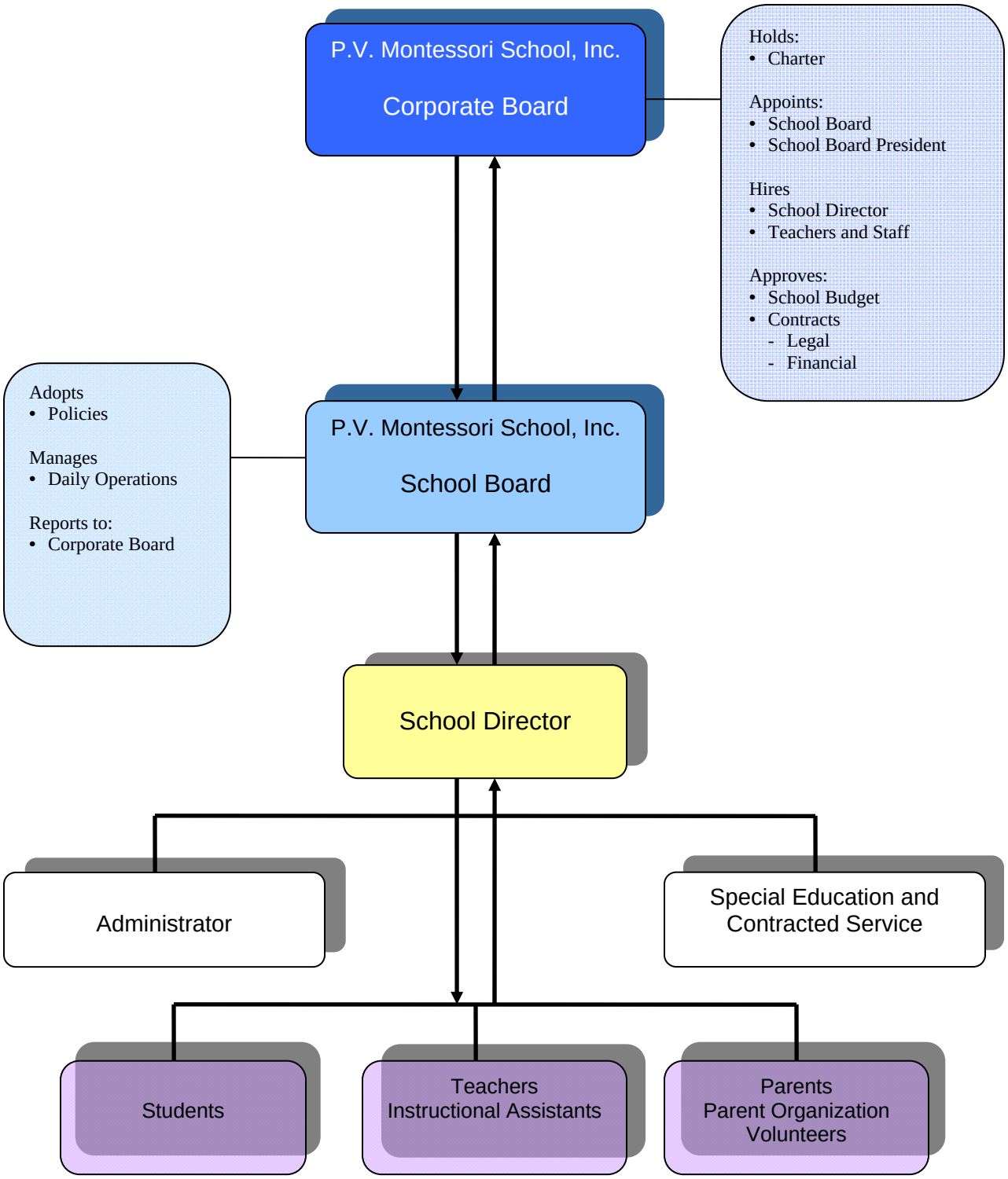
P.V. Montessori School Inc. is a stand alone independent corporation and is not subsidiary to any other entity. P.V. Montessori School Inc. has been created to operate P.V. Montessori School - a public charter school and has not been involved with the operation of other charter schools. No Principal of P.V. Montessori School Inc. has been involved with the operations of another charter school.

Organizational Structure

Ultimately, the School Director, School Board and legal/financial contracted service providers report to the Corporate Board. The Corporate Board has delegated authority on daily operations to the School Board. The School Director presides on the School Board. The faculty, staff, volunteers and special education service providers all report directly to the School Director.

Public relations and community development issues are handled by the School Director, while keeping the School Board informed. The School Director may, of course, consult individual School Board members for advice as needed from their areas of expertise, but will be careful not to violate Open Meeting Law.

Organization Chart on next page:


P.V. Montessori School, Inc.
Corporate Board
Holds:
• Charter
Appoints:
• School Board
• School Board President
Hires
• School Director
• Teachers and Staff
Approves:
• School Budget
• Contracts
- Legal
- Financial
Adopts
• Policies
Manages
• Daily Operations
Reports to:
• Corporate Board
P.V. Montessori School, Inc.
School Board
School Director
Administrator
Special Education and Contracted Service
Students
Teachers
Instructional Assistants
Parents
Parent Organization
Volunteers