The Technical Review Panel (TRP) conducted an interview of the applicant, Vista College Preparatory, Inc. (VCP) on November 7, 2012 for the following purposes:

- To evaluate the capacity of the applicant to successfully implement the plan to operate a high-quality charter school,
- To provide the applicant team the opportunity to demonstrate how well they understand and have thought through the plan presented in the written application.

The applicant team present for the interview included the following members of the corporate board: Katherine Cecala, Christopher Dang, Cassandra Hilpman-Breecher, Dawn Kennedy, Kelly McManus, Julia Meyerson, and Charles Mitchell.

The interview questions posed by the interview panel addressed the Education Plan, Organization Plan, and Business Plan. The results of the in-person interview are divided into sections aligned to scoring areas of the application. Each row begins with an overall rating for that portion of the interview. The rating options for each section are:

- The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.
- The information provided by the applicant did not change the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.
- The information provided by the applicant raised additional questions and/or concerns in the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.

The last column provides a summary of the responses given by the applicant in italics, and includes the primary questions asked by TRP members.

Rating	Section	Summary
The information provided by the applicant did not change the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	A.3 Program of Instruction	1. Describe a typical day in the life of a 3rd grade ELL student at your school. *VCP described a typical day for a 3rd grade ELL student.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	A.3 Program of Instruction	2. What does your program provide throughout the day for a student who enters below grade level? *VCP described the overall intervention plan for students that enroll in the school below grade level. VCP described assessments to be used for monitoring student progress and how differentiated instruction will be provided to students.*

Rating	Section	Summary
The information provided by the applicant raised additional questions and/or concerns in the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	A.3.1 Mastery & Promotion	3. Describe the process for making promotion/retention determinations for students that do not meet promotion criteria in only one content area. (I.e. what happens if a student scores above 70% for Reading and Writing, but below 70% for Math?) *VCP described a process for making promotion/retention determinations. VCP confirmed that a student that does not meet promotion criteria in one area would be recommended for retention.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	B.3.2 Contracted Services/C.5 Three Year Budget	4. The budget narrative indicates that all food service costs will be reimbursed through federal funds. Before reimbursement occurs there will be costs to the school. Describe how these costs will be managed since they are not accounted for in the budget. *VCP described several sources of funds including anticipated Title I funds that were not accounted for in the budget, fundraising efforts, and stated that members of VCP have committed funds totaling 25% of the target fundraising goal.* <u>The applicant provided information in the interview which should be incorporated in the narrative.</u>
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.1 Facilities Acquisition	5. According to the facilities narrative, the budgeted lease amount is based on the low end estimate cost per foot. Describe the reasons for choosing this amount for your budget. • How will this result in a budget that is viable and adequate? *VCP described the reasons for budget choices and described the short term plan for incubation in the area to be followed by a long term plan to build or relocate to a future permanent facility. VCP also provided additional information regarding a new potential site that was not included in the written application package.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.1 Facilities Acquisition	6. The facilities presented in the narrative do not include any outdoor space. Describe the plan for providing the recess described in the daily schedule. *VCP described a plan to provide space for recess as described in the daily schedule in the written application package. The plans described by VCP included the primary site described in the application and the new potential site.*

Rating	Section	Summary
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.2 Advertising and Promotion	7. In the facilities narrative you state that you recognize the density of schools (both charter and district) in the South Phoenix community. Describe how your advertising and marketing plan is adequate to generate your target enrollment. *VCP provided a description regarding ongoing initiatives involving the local community as well as strategic partnerships with local organizations. The information provided supported the description of funds allocated to marketing.* <u>The applicant provided information in the interview which should be incorporated in the narrative.</u>
The information provided by the applicant raised additional questions and/or concerns in the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.3 Personnel	8. Describe a typical Tuesday in November for a first year 2nd grade teacher. *VCP provided a description of the full 10 hour day for a typical teacher and the professional development and support that will be provided to first year teachers at the school. VCP stated that they understand that they are asking a lot of their teachers. VCP stated that the school leader would set an example by leaving the school building at the end of the school day.*
The information provided by the applicant did not change the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.3 Personnel	9. Your schedule is described as an extended school day that begins at 7:00am and ends for teachers at 5:00 pm. The narrative states that teachers will not have a preparation period, but will be expected to also teach art or music. • How will morale and enthusiasm be maintained? • What contingencies does your staffing plan have to account for replacement of teachers mid-year? *VCP provided information that described staffing plan to ensure lunch and recess are monitored. VCP listed 4 schools that were visited and served as examples for the culture of high expectation to be in place at the school.*

Rating	Section	Summary
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.3 Personnel	10. Your facilities narrative states that you assume staff professional development will be held offsite and in a donated space. • Describe the progress toward securing donated space for 17 days of professional development in July. • Describe the contingency plan if a donated space cannot be secured. *Members of VCP individually stated that they have access to space that would be sufficient for training purposes. VCP also stated that 26 letters of support have been received from people and organizations that could be called on to provide space if needed.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	C.5 Three year budget	11. The budget is based on 90% of the projected enrollment. What is the minimum opening enrollment that will make the plan viable? *VCP stated that several contingency budgets have been created to account for 25% less enrollment, or a higher percentage of students requiring special education services. VCP also stated that a financial dashboard will be used.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	Organization Plan	12. Describe the succession plan for the organization to continue its mission past the involvement of the initial corporate principals. • Describe the qualities of future board members that would be sought out to ensure the continuation of the mission of the school. *VCP described a plan for continuing the mission past the involvement of the initial corporate principals. VCP stated that the succession plan included adding representation from the community and locating candidates committed to the mission and model of instruction. VCP stated that the process would include growing candidates through participation on task forces and committees.*
The applicant provided additional information that improved the TRP's overall evaluation of the applicant.	Education Plan	13. What will be the primary characteristics of the school if it is successful? *VCP provided a description that addressed academic, financial, and community outcomes for the school.*