

# **BALLINGTON ACADEMY**

FOR THE

*Arts & Sciences*

## **Charter Petition**

**Prepared for:  
Community of San Diego  
and  
San Diego Unified School District**

Contact: Doreen Mulz  
dmulz@voa-swcal.org  
(619) 228-2054

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**Board of Directors  
and  
Ballington Academy of Arts and Sciences**

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## **CHARTER SCHOOL INTENT AND CHARTER REQUIREMENTS**

It is the intent of the California Legislature, in enacting the Charter Schools Act of 1992, to provide opportunities for teachers, parents, pupils, and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from the existing school district structure, as a method to accomplish all of the following:

- (a) Improve pupil learning.

*BAAS believes that a systematic standards-based instructional program will ensure that students will be successfully engaged in rigorous academic activities. Rigorous instruction, guided by data-based analysis of student achievement, will ensure that every student, regardless of ethnicity or readiness level, will achieve the same level of success in English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Math, and Arts.*

- (b) Increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low achieving.
- (c) Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
- (d) Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.
- (e) Provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system.
- (f) Hold the schools established under this part accountable for meeting measurable pupil outcomes, and provide the schools with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.
- (g) Provide vigorous competition within the public school system to stimulate continual improvements in all public schools.

The Charter Schools Act (or Act) (Education Code Sections 47600 et seq.) requires each charter school to have a “charter that outlines at least the sixteen (16) mandatory items of the Act. The following provisions of this charter coincide with the requirements of Section 47605 of the Act.

## **ASSURANCES**

As the authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the information submitted in this application for a charter for the Ballington Academy of Arts and Sciences (“BAAS”, “Charter School”, or “School”), a program of Volunteers of America, Southwest California Corporation, to be located within the boundaries of the San Diego Unified School District ("District") is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; I also certify that this application does not constitute the conversion of a private school to the status of a public charter school; and further, I understand that if awarded a charter, the School:

- Will meet all statewide standards and conduct the student assessments required, pursuant to Education Code Section 60605 and section 60851, and any other statewide standards authorized in statute, or student assessments applicable to students in non-charter public schools. The Charter School shall certify that its students have participated in the state testing programs specified in Education Code Section 60600-60652 in the same manner as other students attending public schools. [Ref. Education Code Sections 47605(c), 47612.5(a)(3)]
- Will be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of the Charter School for purposes of the Educational Employment Relations Act and will comply with Government Code Sections 3540-3549.3. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(O)]
- Will be non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]
- Will not charge tuition. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]
- Will admit all students who wish to attend the School according to the following criteria and procedures and as further outlined herein:
  - a. Admission to the Charter School shall not be determined according to the student’s place of residence, or that of his/her guardians, within this state, except that any existing public school converting partially or entirely to a charter school shall adopt and maintain a policy giving admission preference to students who reside within the Charter School’s former attendance area.
  - b. If the number of students who wish to attend the Charter School exceeds the Charter School’s capacity, attendance, except for existing students of the Charter School, shall be determined by a public random drawing.

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Preferences shall be extended to students currently attending the Charter School and students who reside in the District. In the event of a drawing, the District Board shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the growth of the Charter School and shall not take any action to impede the Charter School from expanding enrollment to meet student demand.

- c. Other admissions preferences permitted by the Board in this petition that are consistent with law. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(2)(B)]
- Will not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, perceived sexual orientation, home language, or disability. [Ref. Education Code Section 47605(d)(1)]
  - Will adhere to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act.
  - Will meet all requirements for employment set forth in applicable provisions of law, including, but not limited to credentials, as necessary. [Ref. Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 11967.5.1(f)(5)]
  - Will ensure that teachers in the School hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools are required to hold. As allowed by statute, flexibility will be given to non-core, non-college preparatory teachers. [Ref. California Education Code Section 47605(l)]
  - Will ensure that no person who has been convicted of a violent or serious felony is employed in either a certificated or classified position. [Ref. California Education Code Section 44830.1, 45122.1]
  - Will at all times maintain all necessary and appropriate insurance coverage.
  - Will promptly respond to all reasonable inquiries from the District, county office of education, or the Superintendent of Public Instruction, including but not limited to inquiries regarding its financial records. [Ref. California Education Code 47604.3]
  - Will follow any and all other applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations that apply to the Charter School including but not limited to:

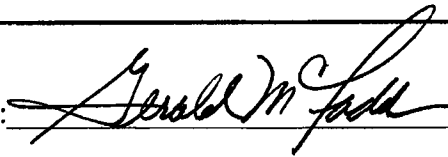
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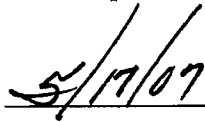
- BAAS shall maintain accurate and current written records that document all pupil attendance and make these records available for audit and inspection.
- BAAS shall on a regular basis consult with its parents and teachers regarding the Charter School's education programs.
- BAAS shall comply with any jurisdictional limitations to locations of its facilities.
- BAAS will comply with Education Code Sections 51745-51749.3 in the event that the Charter School offers independent study.
- BAAS shall offer, at a minimum, the same number of instructional minutes set forth in Education Code Section 46201 for the appropriate grade levels.
- BAAS shall comply with all laws establishing the minimum and maximum age for public school enrollment.
- BAAS shall comply with all applicable portions of the No Child Left Behind Act.
- BAAS shall comply with the Public Records Act.
- BAAS shall comply with the Brown Act.
- BAAS shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

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Authorized Representative's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## **FOUNDING GROUP (SCHOOL TRUSTEES)**

The overall vision for the development of BAAS was founded by Volunteers of America, Southwest California's Board of Directors through an intensive review of community needs and a strategic planning process. Spearheading the birth of the charter school is the School Trustees. The School Trustees consists of members from the Board of Directors and educational experts from the prospective community. The School Trustees consists of Ms. Pauline Berryman; Associate Dean at University of San Diego, Brian Gray; Director of Marketing at AT&T, Frank Robinson; Vice President at Union Bank, Richard Fragalie; Previous Superintendent, El Centro School District, and Anne McKenzie; Principal. The School Trustees framed the design, values, instructional strategies, instructional program, curriculum, educational philosophy staffing, and operating procedures for the school. The School Trustees membership draws on extensive experience and a diverse background of professional competencies. Professional competencies include school administration and finance, banking knowledge, marketing, special education, curriculum ad instruction, education reform and policy, and State Standards requirements. The School Trustees will continue to oversee the school, provide technical assistance, and ensure quality services and excellence in academic achievement. In addition to the School Trustees, Volunteers of America's, Southwest California, coordinated an administrative cabinet to work in concert with the School Trustees. The administrative cabinet at Volunteers of America, Southwest California's consists of the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. McFadden, the Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Phelps, the Controller, Mr. Glasgo, and the Division Director, Ms. Mulz. Mr. McFadden has a Masters in Business in Administration from Pepperdine University and over 20 years of experience in human service planning. Ms. Phelps has a Masters Degree in Organizational Development and over fifteen years of administrative management experience in the social sector. Ms. Phelps is valued for her organizational skills, knowledge of collaboration and partnerships, and ability to develop innovative, quality programs. Mr. Glasgo has over 20 years of experience in accounting, finance and management. He has worked in both the private and public sectors as a Controller. Mr. Glasgo will have ultimate oversight of fiscal compliance at BAAS. Ms. Mulz has a bachelor's degree and psychology with an emphasis is program evaluation. She has over five years experience in management and operations. Ms. Mulz will serve as the primary person for administrative oversight and corporate supervision of the principal and staff. Please reference Appendix A for resumes of the founders.

