



UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

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Kristin Elinkowski, Vice Chair

Tim Beagley
Dean Brockbank
Bruce Davis
Robert Enger
DeLaina Tonks

Marlies Burns,
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Marlies Burns, Executive Director

DATE: March 17-18, 2016

ACTION: New charter school application for 2017-2018 – Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy

Background: The State Charter School Board (SCSB) is charged in UCA 53A-1a-501.6 with authorizing and promoting the establishment of charter schools. The SCSB heard presentations from seven applicant groups seeking to open in the 2017-2018 school year and held governing board capacity interviews with each.

The SCSB authorized five of the seven schools considered. The Utah State Board of Education, at its February 2016 meeting, approved two of the four initial applications presented. The SCSB now presents Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy for approval. The full charter application can be found at <http://schools.utah.gov/charterschools/State-Charter-School-Board/2016-Board-Meetings/January-2016.aspx>

Board Strategic Plan: This item supports the following imperative(s) and strategies in the Board's Strategic Plan:

Imperatives

- Educational Equity
- Quality Learning
- System Values

Strategies

- **Accountability:** Provide a transparent public educational system using evidence-based data that informs the public on the effectiveness of public education.
- **Educational Options:** Empower stakeholders with information to decide how, what, and where students are taught.

Anticipated Action: The Law and Licensing Committee will consider approving this new charter school to open in the 2017-2018 school year as outlined in its applications. If approved by the Committee, the Board will consider approving the application.

Contact: Marlies Burns, 801-538-7817

**Utah State Board of Education
Executive Summary Report**

This summary report was submitted to Brad C. Smith, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Utah State Office of Education, two weeks ahead of the regularly scheduled USBE meetings for approval and inclusion in the board's agenda materials. Only that which is in writing, and included in the agenda materials, shall be considered by the USBE in its final approval process. Attachments, by way of clarification, or elaboration, may be included.

1. Charter School Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy
2. Authorized Agent Jennifer Ryan Phone 801-831-8875
3. Mailing Address (authorized agent) 13236 S Aintree Ave City Draper
4. The charter school is approved to open one campus in the following school district: Alpine
5. When is the charter school expected to begin operations? September 2017

6. List or attach all duly elected, current board directors of the school:

Jennifer Ryan
Dan Smith
Chris Parkin
Tasi Young
Kaylie Reed
Ben Moulton
Kelly Tate

7. Summary description of charter school (mission statement):

"Entrepreneurial success through academic rigor, project-based learning, and creating a culture of creativity, collaboration, adaptability, accountability, communication, and problem solving."

8. Is this charter school an extension or expansion of a currently existing charter school? (If so, attach student achievement data from existing charter school).

No, Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy is a new school application.

9. How many students will the school serve and at what grades? Does the grade configuration align with the local school district configuration?

2017-2018	600 students	Grades K-9
Ultimate enrollment	600 students	Grades K-9

Yes, the grade configuration does align with the local school district.

10. Is the schools' curriculum fully aligned with the Utah State Core Curriculum? If not, in what areas does the school deviate from the Core?

Yes Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy's curriculum is fully aligned with the Utah State Board of Education's approved curriculum.

11. How will the school address the needs of students with disabilities who will need Special Education services?

Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy will seek to attract children whose parents feel that they would function better in a more student-centric, entrepreneurial learning environment, as well as parents who wish to see technology utilized more effectively to enhance student learning for disabled, ELL, and 504 students.

12. Does the school have a building site or actual building ready to serve students? What are the financial stipulations in the use of that building?

Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy will meet the requirements in UCA 53A-1a-507 and R277-482 by submitting any facility financing agreements to the State Charter School Board for advice prior to signing and having its building under construction by January 1, 2017, respectively.

13. Has a financial analysis been conducted and is there a strong likelihood the charter school will financially succeed?

Yes, the State Charter School Board has reviewed Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy's budget to ensure that its finances are viable and there is a strong likelihood of financial success.

14. Who will perform the financial accounting for the school (by name) and what are his/her credentials for accounting?

The business manager or management company has not been named at this time but will be named prior to the school opening. The school included a detailed list of roles and responsibilities for the business manager/management company.

15. Please provide a brief summary of other points the State Charter School Board would like the Utah State Board of Education to consider in making the decision to approve the charter school:

The majority of State Charter School Board members felt comfortable with the application submitted by Ignite Entrepreneurship Academy and were confident the governing board would implement the plan, as written and presented, with fidelity.

Tim Beagley voted in opposition stating he still is not convinced this is a really good idea. He went on to say that he is troubled by them taking two parts of what charter schools are trying (i.e., Montessori model and distance education), that don't really seem to be working very well, and putting them together.

16. Votes of the SCSB in approving the charter school application:

Recommended full approval: Kristin Elinkowski, Howard Headlee, DeLaina Tonks, Bruce Davis

Voted in opposition: Tim Beagley

Not present for vote: Dean Brockbank, Robb Enger