



Visions Unlimited Academy

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May 7, 2010

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Visions Unlimited Academy; we wanted to give you an overview of the school, community and to discuss some of the issues related to possible employment here.

The facts are pretty straight forward. The school is in its ninth year; it currently has 73 students and with a high percentage of special needs students. Our students, grades k thru 8 are mid to lower range in income (48% free and reduced lunch), but our parents are supportive, caring and involved. Most of our classes are multi age, our special education department is very capable; our focus is general education with emphasis on literacy and a natural learning environment. Of course, we are intent on teaching the state academic standards and in doing it effectively.

Recently, someone asked "Why would somebody start a charter school like this?" The answer is I looked around and found that the world wasn't quite right and we wanted to do something about it. The districts we'd worked for revealed all the strengths of the human character and sometimes the ills of human organizations and we wanted to create a place where students could learn and have fun and where teachers could teach while continuing to grow in the profession. We rely on people like Gay Su Pinnell, Lucy Caulkins, Ralph Fletcher, Marilyn Burns, Brian Cambourne, and Robert Marzano and to provide the theory and the research base that supports instruction.

We have extended our belief in the child and workshop approaches to the special needs populations whose parents believe are having their needs underserved. We are in studying autism through a professional development grant and we are receiving training from the State of Arizona . This has helped us modify our behavior to better serve the students with autism and other special needs students. We are committed to providing quality service to all students.

Please complete the application that accompanies this letter and return it to us include a resume if you have not already done so. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Richard Valentine
Director