



2019 PHASE I: Letter of Intent

Last updated: 04/04/2019

Basic Contact and Application Information

New Applicant groups and Existing Education Corporations interested in submitting an application to establish Regents-authorized charter schools are asked to complete this brief information sheet. The Department will use this information to plan and coordinate peer review panels with appropriate expertise to evaluate all application materials.

Please indicate whether a New Operator Applicant Group (which does not operate a Regents-authorized charter school or does not operate any schools currently) or an Existing Education Corporation (which operates one or more Regents-authorized charter schools) is submitting this Round 1 Letter of Intent.

Existing Ed Corp (operating one or more Regents-authorized charter schools)

Name of Existing Education Corporation

	Name of Existing Education Corporation	Number of Charter Schools Existing Ed Corp Currently Operates
	Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School	1

Proposed Charter School Name(s)

(Please write out the full name of the proposed new charter school(s), and include the words "charter" and "school" in the naming).

	Name of Proposed School(s)	Grades Served Over Charter Term (K-5, .6-8, 9-12, etc.)	Max # of Students Served Over Charter Term
	Buffalo Academy of Science 2	K-4, 9-12	640

Proposed or Current Board Chair and Public Contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address.

(The entire chart may not be visible on your screen. Use the "tab" key to move from column to column. The first column will remain static as you do so).

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number (###-###-####)	Email Address
Proposed/Current Board Chair	Selcuk Acar		
Public/Media Contact Person	Joseph Polat		

List of Key Design Elements

List the key design elements which are those features of the school that are innovative or unique to the school’s mission and goals, are core to the school’s overall design, and critical or integral to its success. The design elements may include a specific content area focus; unique student populations to be served; specific educational programs or pedagogical approaches; unique calendar, schedule, or configurations of students and staff; and/or innovative organizational structures and systems. Approved schools will be accountable for implementation of the key design elements included in their charter.

1	Emphasis Math, Science and Technology
2	Individualized Instructions & Tutoring
3	Role Modeling
4	Multicultural Theme
5	Field Trips and Summer Enrichment Programs
6	(No response)
7	(No response)

If available, please provide the URL to the website established for the proposed school or existing education corporation.

www.buffsci.org

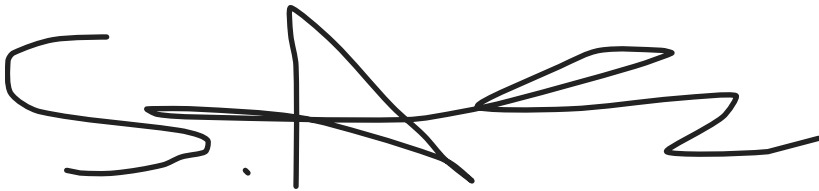
Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s), such as a charter or educational management company or a university, academic program partner, or whole school change partner.

(Refer to the application kit for definitions and guidance as only "substantial" partnerships should be listed here).

Proposed Management Company	(No response)
Partner Organization 1	(No response)
Partner Organization 2	(No response)

Proposed Board Chair Signature

(Internet Explorer may not support this feature. Open the portal using Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S.A.' followed by a stylized flourish.

Date

2019/04/04

Thank you for completing this form.

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY

I. Applicant Group Information

- a. **Applicant Group:** Table 1. Completed and attached
- b. **Public Contact:** Mr. Joseph Polat, Executive Director, (716) 854-2490, polat@bascs.org
- c. **Application History:** 1) Charter School Application Approved January 12, 2004; 2) Charter School Renewal Approved December 16, 2008; 3) Charter School Renewal Approved March 20, 2012; 4) Charter School Renewal, Full-Term, Approved February 10, 2015; 5) Replication Charter School: Full Application submitted August 16, 2018: Denied. *Significant modifications to Review Panel Summaries (fall 2018):* Integrated all review panel feedback into Letter of Intent and Full Application to ensure all requests are addressed and that feedback has not only been fully addressed but has been incorporated into BuffSci business practices.

Required Attachments

- Table 1:** Applicant Group Information: Completed and attached
- Attachment 5a:** 1) New Applicant and Prospective School Trustee Background Information Form, 2) Resume of Curriculum Vitae, 3) Education Credentials: Completed and attached

II. Proposed Charter School Information

- a. **Proposed School Name:** Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School II (BuffSci II)
- b. **Proposed School Mission Statement:** Mission statement of BuffSci II is the same as BuffSci which is to fulfill the high demands of Grades K-12 students, their parents, and the community as a whole:
 - Provide an excellent academic experience with emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) for students to excel in any field of study
 - Provide a rigorous, innovative, challenging, and enhanced curriculum focused on preparing students to attend the college or university of their choice
 - Prepare students for college from a community who are not served successfully by public education and cannot afford private education services
 - Prepare students to become responsible, educated citizens who have the skills and understanding to participate and work productively in a diverse, multicultural, globally oriented environment and who are ready to carry the torch of knowledge, freedom, and prosperity that has been passed from one generation to another in this great country
 - Create a partnership and participation environment among the student-teacher-parent triad to provide youth with the support necessary to reach their highest potential; intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically

c. **Proposed School Location:** City of Buffalo, New York. Applicant group is not requesting to be co-located.

d. **Target population/community served:**

Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School II will serve students that reside in the city of Buffalo. The school will aim to serve a diverse student body similar to Buffalo Public Schools. The BuffSci II aim to enroll comparably more English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners (ELL/MLL) by using weighted Admission Lottery. The target student demographics are as follows:

50 % Black of African American	20 % ELL/MLL
20 % Hispanic or Latino	23 % Student with Disabilities
20 % White	80 % Economically Disadvantaged

e. **Planned grades and enrollment, using the required chart below to indicate grades, ages, and enrollment:**

Projected Enrollment Table Over the Charter Term						
Grades	Ages	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
K	5-6	72	72	72	72	72
1 st	6-7		72	72	72	72
2 nd	7-8			72	72	72
3 rd	8-9				72	72
4 th	9-10					72
5 th	10-11					
6 th	11-12					
7 th	12-13					
8 th	13-14					
9 th	14-15		80	80	80	80
10 th	15-16			72	72	72
11 th	16-17				66	66
12 th	17-18					62
Ungraded						
Totals		72	224	368	506	640

f. **Proposed management and/or partner organizations:** N/A. BuffSci is not affiliated with a charter management organization or network of charter schools.

g. **School Performance:** First and foremost, BuffSci meets the spirit, law, and purpose of establishing charter schools in New York State: to ensure an equitable, challenging, high-quality education for economically disadvantaged students, limited English students, and students with disabilities. BuffSci results, as provided in the charts below, show that, for all students and for subgroups of students, BuffSci 1) attains significantly higher levels of academic proficiency in core subjects than BCSD, and (included in the Full Application)

similar schools in New York, 2) BuffSci Mean Growth Percentile (MPG) in Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) were consistently above State for multiple years, 3) significantly higher graduation rates than the BCSD, many with Regents with Advanced Designation, and 4) ensures that all students are accepted into 4-year colleges of the student's choice. BuffSci proves that any urban youth can radically change their life trajectory.

Chart I: Academic Proficiency for Subgroups of Students: BuffSci

Percent Proficient	5-8 ELA 2017- 18	5-8 Math 2017- 18	5-8 Science 2017- 18	HS ELA 2014 Cohort	HS Math 2014 Cohort	HS Science 2014 Cohort
All Students	48%	38%	73%	79%	92%	87%
African American	44%	36%	73%	82%	94%	88%
Economically Disadvantaged	49%	39%	73%	79%	90%	87%
Limited English Proficient	25%	18%	63%	44%	78%	67%
Students with Disabilities	24%	17%	20%	40%	60%	40%

NOTES: Proficiency is a) Levels 3-4 in Grades 5-8 and b) Percent scoring 3 and above in HS ELA, HS Math, and science four year cohort results.

Chart II: Academic Proficiency Comparisons BuffSci-BCSD

Percent Proficient	5-8 ELA 2017- 18	5-8 Math 2017- 18	5-8 Science 2017- 18	HS ELA 2014 Cohort	HS Math 2014 Cohort	HS Science 2014 Cohort
BuffSci	48%	38%	73%	79%	92%	87%
BCSD	23%	14%	53%	65%	67%	67%
% Higher/Lower	+109%	+171%	+38%	+82%	+73%	+77%

Chart III: Academic Proficiency for Subgroups Comparisons BuffSci-BCSD

Percent Proficient	5-8 ELA 2017-18	5-8 Math 2017- 18	5-8 Science 2017- 18	HS ELA 2014 Cohort	HS Math 2014 Cohort	HS Science 2014 Cohort
BuffSci						
Economically Disadvantage	49%	39%	73%	79%	90%	87%
Limited English Proficient	25%	18%	63%	44%	78%	67%
Students with Disabilities	24%	17%	20%	40%	60%	40%
BCSD						
Economically Disadvantage	16%	14%	22%	63%	65%	65%
Limited English Proficient	2%	3%	6%	36%	45%	32%
Students with Disabilities	4%	4%	12%	26%	22%	26%
% Higher/Lower (ED)	+206%	+179%	+232%	+25%	+38%	+34%
% Higher/Lower (LEP)	+1150%	+500%	+950%	+22%	+73%	+109%
% Higher/Lower (SWD)	+500%	+325%	+67%	+53%	+172%	+54%

Chart IV: High School Graduation Comparisons BuffSci-BCSD

Graduation Data	BuffSci	BCSD
Graduation (2014 Cohort)	86%	64%
Regents with Advanced Designation	25%	13%
Students with Disabilities	80%	45%
Plans: 4-Year College	100%	41%

h. Strategic Vision and Growth Plan: N/A

III. Enrollment and Retention Strategies

- a. Strategies to attract and recruit its students:** Strategies for informing families is extensive and includes broad public awareness, targeted mailings, flyers, retail day flyers, presentations, community partnership targeted outreach, and door-to-door outreach. BuffSci II charter enrollment priorities are 1) current students; 2) siblings of current students; 3) students who live in Buffalo City School District; and 4) other students. In addition, BuffSci II will use a weighted lottery to ensure ELL/MLL students are prioritized. BuffSci II will target to enroll and retain students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged and ELL/MLL students to 1) meet its enrollment and retention target and 2) ensure comparable enrollment of BCSD schools. Focused outreach will occur with community groups and services who serve children and youth with disabilities. Applications for enrollment in BuffSci are accepted through a lottery. This ensures students are not chosen with regards to their academic success, race, gender, language, handicapping condition, income level, heritage, or any other factor. The diversity of Buffalo population has been and will continue to be fairly reflected in BuffSci II’s student population.
- b. Strategies to retain its students:** BuffSci II will have two major strategies to increase the retention of SWD and ELL/MLL: (1) Evaluate and improve the services provided, (2) provide ongoing professional development focused on SWD and ELL/MLL to general education teachers. At BuffSci, students with disabilities are offered consultant teacher services based on student need in all four major content areas: English Language Arts, Science, Math, and Social Studies. Students also receive accommodations in the classroom as outlined in their Individual Education Plans (IEPs), including but not limited to: preferential seating, shortened assignments, differentiation of curriculum, and targeted classroom assistance and prompting. Special education teachers are available full time to students with special education needs. Accommodations for these students include providing a separate, quiet location for testing needs according to students’ IEPs; assisting students in achieving their IEP goals; teaching study skills and learning strategies; reinforcing new topics and skills; performing observations of students in classrooms; offering strategies to general education teachers for program modifications; and response to intervention strategies. Special Education Instructors also attend grade level meetings, department meetings and staff meetings. They make home visits, attend parent meetings, call home, and keep track of student grades and progress. English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners are supported by full-time instructors. The instructors

provide testing accommodations for all grades and push-in or pull-out instruction as necessary. In addition, content area teachers consult with the ELL/MLL teacher to individualize needs and collaborate on optimal instructional strategies to promote general academic success. The ELL/MLL instructor incorporates core content information into the language curriculum to further assist in the overall success of the students. Students are further supported in after school sessions as needed. Grade level meetings, parent meetings, home visits, and phone calls are used to help track student progress.

- c. **Success in meeting enrollment and retention targets:** BuffSci has met its enrollment and retention targets for economically disadvantaged students and ELL/MLL students. Question (a) addresses strategies for increasing enrollment, and retention of, students with disabilities.

IV. Public Outreach and Community Support

- a. **Public outreach conducted to date to solicit community input.** See attached Table 2.
- b. **Initial assessment of parent interest in and/or demand for proposed school:** BuffSci is a high-demand school as was seen in its most recent enrollment lottery—800 applications submitted for 180 seats. In determining interest in a replication school site, BuffSci conducted an online survey of existing parents, prospective parents, and parents in the community at large (June-July 2018). Results of this survey showed that 90% of parents are likely to send their children to a charter school. Additionally, BuffSci held a petition in August 2018 to determine interest in the original replication application: over 1,100 parent and community member signatures were received. As BuffSci meets with community members, stakeholders, community organizations, community leaders, and the public, it provides a presentation on the design of the school, its instructional approach and key design elements, academic test and graduation results, and accomplishments—this presentation overwhelmingly results in attaining interest in, and demand for, high-quality public charter school options for Buffalo youth. The applicant team received about 40 support letters for BuffSci II application from community leaders and organizations.

Required Attachments

- Table 2: Public Outreach Information:** Completed and Attached
- Attachment 2a: Initial Samples of Public Outreach:** Attached

V. Board Chair Signature and Date

On behalf of the Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School (BuffSci) Board of Trustees, we extend our gratitude for your consideration of BuffSci' Letter of Intent to Apply for replication.

SAcar
Signature, Selcuk Acar, Ph.D.
BuffSci Board of Trustees President

April 3, 2019
Date of Signature



Table 1: Applicant Group Information

Last updated: 04/04/2019

Must include a minimum of 5 members proposed as Trustees

Applicant Group Information

	Name/Phone/Email Address	Current Employment	Relevant Experience/Skills and Role on Applicant Group	Proposed Role in School (e.g., trustee, employee, none)	Proposed Position on Board (Officer, Trustee, Constituent Rep)
1	Selcuk Acar, Ph.D. [Redacted]	Full-Time Professor, Buffalo State College	Educational Leadership, Creative Studies	Trustee	President
2	Betty Jean Grant [Redacted]	Former Erie County Legislator, Legislative District #2	Community Leadership, Policy, Law, Education and Civic Activism, B.S. in Elementary Education / M.S. in Special Education / taught elementary grades, Former Board Member, Buffalo City School District	Trustee	Trustee
3	Moyla Halimy [Redacted]	Coordinator, Economic Development & Government Affairs, Buffalo Niagara Partnership	Former BASCS Student, Economic Development and Workforce Development, Diversity and Inclusion	Trustee	Interim Treasurer
4	David Banks, Ph.D. [Redacted]	Professor Emeritus, State University of New York at Buffalo	Anthropology	Trustee	Trustee

5	Mustafa Gokcek, Ph.D. [REDACTED]	Full-Time Professor, Niagara University	Social Science, Legal Issues	Trustee	Secretary
6	Bernard B. Freedman [REDACTED]	Retired Lawyer Hodgson Russ LLP	Educational/Sch ool Law, School Financial Planning and Budgeting, Municipal Law, Real Estate Law, School Business Operations	Trustee	Trustee
7	Murat Demirbas, Ph.D. [REDACTED]	Full-Time Professor, State University of New York at Buffalo	Computer Science and Engineering	Trustee	Trustee
8	Joseph Polat [REDACTED]	Executive Director, Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School	Lead Applicant	Employee	Executive Director. (Board liaison, not a voting board member)
9	Ilay Recep Ornek [REDACTED]	Chief Financial Officer	Financial Planning	Employee	N/A
10	Staci Cameron [REDACTED]	Director, Human Resources	Talent Recruitment	Employee	N/A
11	Ashley Piazza [REDACTED]	Supervisor, Curriculum	Curriculum Development, Education Planning	Employee	N/A
12	Ginger Ragland [REDACTED]	Coordinator, Community Outreach and Relations	Community Engagement and Collaboration, Public Relations	Employee	N/A
13	Jason Aydar [REDACTED]	Coordinator, Guidance and	Curriculum Development, Education	Employee	N/A

		Curriculum	Planning		
14					
15					
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25					

Application History

Identify whether any member of the current applicant group has ever applied to this or another charter entity to open this proposed school or another charter school, either in New York State or outside of New York State. Indicate the date on which the application(s) was/were submitted and to which charter entity; briefly describe the outcome of the charter entity’s decision; and provide a concise description of significant modifications made in this application (if applicable).

Full Application submitted August 16, 2018: Denied.

Significant modifications to Review Panel Summaries (fall 2018): Integrated all review panel feedback into

Letter of Intent and Full Application to ensure all requests are addressed and that feedback has not only been fully addressed but has been incorporated into BuffSci business practices.

Table 2: Public Outreach Information

Date(s) of Outreach (mm/dd/yy)	Target Stakeholder Group	Description of the Outreach	Location of Outreach	Input Obtained	Action Taken on Input	# of Attendees
April, 2019	<i>Public</i>	Open public meeting to be held at the Buffalo Erie County Central East Clinton Public Library	1929 Clinton Street, Buffalo NY 14206	TBD	TBD	TBD
4/2/2019	<i>Public</i>	Open public meeting, announced in various media outlets, held at the Buffalo Erie County Downtown Public Library	1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo NY 14203		N/A	
3/28/2019	<i>Community: Buffalo area Charter School Leaders</i>	Presentation during Buffalo area Charter School Leaders meeting	Enterprise Charter School	Transportation concerns discussed. Suggestions for location and facility received. Need for high school grades	School schedules and calendar reviewed for a better transportation experience.	10
2/14/2019	<i>Stakeholder: NYS Senator Timothy Kennedy (Senate District 63: Buffalo)</i>	Meeting with Senator Kennedy and staffers with BuffSci parents (3), students (3), and Executive Director to provide presentation about replication and update on current student accomplishments	2239 South Park Ave. Buffalo NY 14210	Senator expressed his support for upstate charter schools to replicate	Senator is providing a letter stating his support for BuffSci to replicate; replication application in progress	12

1/11/2019	<i>Stakeholder: NYS Assemblyman Sean Ryan (Assembly District 149: Buffalo)</i>	Meeting with Assemblyman Ryan with BuffSci 12 th -grade students and BuffSci Executive Director, and to provide presentation and about replication and update on current student accomplishments	65 Grant St. Buffalo, NY 14213	Meeting held by Legislative Counsel Kate Meyer	No input received	7
11/29/2018	Stakeholder: City of Buffalo Common Council Members Christopher Scanlon (<i>South District</i>) and David Franczyk (<i>Fillmore District</i>)	Provided presentation on BuffSci' current educational structure, history, and accomplishments. To garner support for BuffSci II Replicator Application and to extend invitation to speak/read to Kindergarten students and to tour the middle school	65 Niagara Square, Buffalo NY 14202	Council members were both very responsive in supporting expansion	Replication application in progress; letter supporting expansion / replication have been received	5
11/14/2018	<i>Community: Academy Road / St. Mary's Road Block Club</i>	To inform and advise community/neighborhood residents of BuffSci' pending bid for the Doat Street school building for school replication / expansion purposes and to request their support for the replicator application. BuffSci Executive Director presented a history of BuffSci, its test scores, academic proficiency, and graduation rate history and trends.	George K. Arthur Community Center, 2056 Genesee St, Buffalo, NY 14211	Members voiced their overwhelmingly positive input for a neighborhood school for residents' children to attend. BuffSci Executive Director asked the residents what they wanted for the building: their preference would be an elementary (K-4) or middle school (5-8) age students, did not want high school age students.	Inclusion of Grades 5-8 being discussed and considered by the Board of Trustees, although high school grades are included in the replication application due to few high-quality public school choices for neighborhood youth. Options for informing the entire neighborhood is being discussed and implemented with the block club	16

11/5/2018	<p><i>Stakeholder:</i> Buffalo City Common Councilman Richard Fontana (Lovejoy District)</p>	<p>To discuss BuffSci interest in the vacant BCSD School #11 on Doat Street. Gave overview of BuffSci history, student accomplishments, and BuffSci II expansion project.</p>	<p>65 Niagara Square, Buffalo NY 14202</p>	<p>Very receptive to a charter school as occupant, recommended meeting with a strong block club coalition to solicit residential approvals/support of expansion plans and to obtain petitions signage</p>	<p>Contacted Academy Road/St. Mary's Road Block Club President, Gwendolyn Cruz-Hunt. Invited to meet together November 14 at 7 pm at the George K. Arthur Community Center (14211)</p>	<p>4</p>
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10/30/2018	<i>Stakeholder:</i> Erie County Legislator April McCants-Baskin (<i>Erie County District 2</i>)	Presentation of BuffSci current curriculum structure, test/graduation results, and accomplishments to garner support for BuffSci II Charter Application	BuffSci Middle School, 89 Clare Street, Buffalo 14206	Suggested moving support teachers to full-time. Discussed gap transfer between 2-year/4-year college students pursuing teaching degree, hiring of the 2-year college student for school teacher substitutes. The Legislator will contact and meet with Dr. Hacyo of SUNY Erie Community College to explore/develop partnership.	Replication application includes full-time support teachers	3
10/18/2018 (1:00 pm)	<i>Community:</i> Various community leaders representing faith-based, business, and non-profit organizations	Presentation of BuffSci current curriculum structure, test/graduation results, and accomplishments to garner support for BuffSci II replicator application	BuffSci Middle School, 89 Clare Street, Buffalo 14206	Recommended contacting HBCUs College of Education teacher programs to solicit minority teachers, hold a community job fair to attract potential minority teacher applicants, and use external mentors to work with BuffSci students	Follow -up meetings: 1) Mentoring: October 23, 2018 with David Blackburn (Youth Vocational Counselor, City of Buffalo) and Pastor Charles Walker 2) Minority teachers: November 8, 2018 with Bishop Michael Badger	22

10/18/2018 (9:00 am)	<i>Stakeholder:</i> Erie County Legislators: Barbara Miller-Williams (<i>District #1: Buffalo</i>) and Edward A. Rath, III (<i>District #6: Buffalo</i>)	Presentation of BuffSci current curriculum structure, test/graduation results, and accomplishments and to garner support for BuffSci II replication application	BuffSci Middle School, 89 Clare Street, Buffalo NY 14206	Very crucial to get residential community, district-elected officials, and business community involvement / approval	BuffSci scheduled meetings/attained letters of support	5
8/1/2018	<i>Community:</i> Parents, media, and other stakeholders	Media and community informed about BuffSci replication application and invited for a press conference about the new school project; press conference was printed/announced in local media outlets	190 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202	No input received	No input received	7
7/6/2018	<i>Public</i>	A press release was sent to all news outlets for charter expansion	Press release	No input; announcement of press release	N/A	General public
6/27/2018	<i>Stakeholders:</i> Current and prospective parents	Information about the replication application and request for support letter mailed to all current and prospective parents.	Mailing	Received over 50 support letters from parents	Moved forward on replication application	400
6/27/2018	<i>Community:</i> Community leaders, businesses, other stakeholders	Information about the replication application and request for support letter mailed to over 200 community stakeholders and institutions	Mailing	Received over 50 support from community leaders, community members, businesses, and community organization	Moved forward on replication application	200

June-July, 2018	<i>Public:</i> parents, prospective parents, community at large, etc.	An online community survey was conducted to determine interest in a new charter school	Online	Over 90% of survey takers are likely to enroll their children in a charter school	Included in replication application	141 survey takers
6/20/2018	<i>Stakeholders:</i> Parents of current students	Information shared about the replication application, petition signed, and support letters requested	BuffSci Middle School, 89 Clare Street, Buffalo NY 14206	1,100 petition signatures received	Moved forward on replication application	Informed 800 parents
5/5/2018	<i>Community:</i> Community activists, alumni student	Hosted by Linda Russell-Holmes, Alumni De'Jon Hall, and Betty Jean Grant at BuffSci' Board of Trustees meeting. Discussion of school's expansion, continued growth, improvements, and future plans	BuffSci, 190 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202	Annual Board Meeting	Board approved replication application	15

Group types: *Stakeholder, Community, Public, Partnership, Collaboration*

BuffSci II COMING IN 2019



Coming Soon to Your Neighborhood!

**CONTACT US AT
(716)854-2490**

Attn: Ms Kortni Burg

BuffSci II is coming! There will be a public Info Meeting at the Downtown Erie County Library on Tuesday April 2, 2019 from 11:30AM-1:00PM! Come support our expansion!!

PosterMyWall.com

SEATS ARE LIMITED!





For Immediate Release: July 26, 2018

Contact: Ginger Ragland, (716) 854-2490, ginger@bascs.org
Joseph Polat, (716) 854-2490, polat@bascs.org

**ADVISORY FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1ST:
Buffalo Charter School to Host Open Community
Information Session**

Buffalo Academy of Science Charter Public Hearing of Replication Application

BUFFALO, NY – The Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School (BuffSci) will hold its first public hearing on **Wednesday, August 1st at 3:00pm**. BuffSci is applying to the New York State Charter School Office to replicate the school model used successfully in its current K-12 school. BuffSci is hosting this community information session to discuss the application mentioned above.

BuffSci has grown from a 7th grade – 12th grade school to add Kindergarten, 1st, 5th and 6th grades. As a result, approximately 200 more students attended the school, for the 2017-2018 school year. BuffSci students outperformed Buffalo district schools by wide margins according to last year's state testing data and demand for the schools has grown.

BuffSci is excited to invite the community to learn about our plans for replication to serve even more Buffalo students and their families. Parents, Students and all families in the community are welcome to join us for this open forum. This event is open to the public and free of charge to all.

WHO: Buffalo Community, Parents, Students, Elected Leaders and Stakeholders

WHEN: Wednesday, August 1st, 3:00pm

WHERE: 190 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

About the Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School:

Buffalo Academy of Science is a tuition-free, college-preparatory charter school teaching students in a diverse community to be successful in a globally-oriented environment, using innovative and dynamic teaching methods with a small student to teacher ratio.

###



Dec 5, 2018

NAME

TITLE

ORGANIZATION NAME

ADDRESS

Buffalo, New York ZIP

Dear NAME:

As an important community stakeholder in our Buffalo and Western New York community, I am pleased to present this information for your review. As part of our long-term strategic plan, the Buffalo Academy of Science is in the preparatory stages of expanding our services to serve more students by replicating our school model in Buffalo. We hope that you will lend your support for the BuffSci school replication project so that we may further address the needs of the community by extending the same high-quality education that we have provided our current students to many more students in the district.

Over the past decade, BuffSci has built a reputation for instilling a culture of excellence within our school community. As a result of the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, and families, our students have seen much academic success. We are proud of the great work and measurable outcomes that have been achieved within these walls, and we know that expanding our educational services will serve only to better prepare our Buffalo students for college and careers. But we cannot do this alone or in a vacuum – we need your support.

I would like to ask for your formal support of the BuffSci school replication project. Support from our community stakeholders is a vital step in ensuring the funding and services needed to bring this project from fledgling stages to fruition. If you believe that providing a richly diverse and empowering setting, a quality STEM-focused education and an overall rigorous, innovative curriculum to the young students of Buffalo is important to the future of this great city, I encourage you to provide us with your letter of support.

For your convenience, I have attached a draft letter of support which you may tailor to your needs. To better familiarize you with our school, I have attached a BuffSci fact sheet. I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to hearing back from you about this special request.

Sincerely,

Joseph B. Polat, Director
Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School