



CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE  
ROOM 5N EB Mezzanine, 89 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALBANY NY, 12234  
Tel. 518/474-1762; Fax 518/474-7558; [charterschools@nysed.gov](mailto:charterschools@nysed.gov)

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO:**

[krinercash@buffaloschools.org](mailto:krinercash@buffaloschools.org)

June 15, 2020

Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent  
Buffalo City School District  
65 Niagara Square Room #712 City Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Dr. Kriner Cash:

This notice is to inform you that on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the New York State Board of Regents received three applications to establish a charter school within the City of Buffalo. The applications are under review for possible action at the November 16-17, 2020 Board of Regents meeting. Full application materials may be viewed on or after Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/startcharter/StartCharter2020.html>.

Please note that pursuant to Education Law section 2857(1) and 8 NYCRR 119.4 (available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/publichearing.html>), the school district of location is required to hold a public hearing to solicit comments from the community relating to the foregoing applications. This hearing, which is required to be held within the community that is potentially impacted by the charter school, must be held within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

Public hearing comments are generally due 45 days after receipt (or within 15 days of from the hearing) of this notice. However, given the COVID-19 pandemic, NYSED has provided additional flexibilities if needed to school districts required to conduct charter school public hearings. Those flexibilities allow for school districts, at their discretion, to hold charter school related public hearing remotely and to delay charter school public hearings until a date **no later than September 30, 2020**. More information on these flexibilities can be found at <https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/620bra10.pdf>.

**Please provide the following required documentation:**

1. A copy of the public hearing notice at the time of dissemination.
2. Written confirmation that the hearing was held no later than the next business day following the hearing.
3. Copies of all written records or comments generated from this hearing should be sent within 15 business days after the hearing. However, the Department would appreciate receiving the **written records or comments no later than October 7, 2020**.

All documentation listed above should be submitted electronically to [CharterSchools@nysed.gov](mailto:CharterSchools@nysed.gov) (the subject line of the email should include: *'Name of Charter School' Public Hearing*).

In addition, Buffalo City School District has the right to comment directly to the Board of Regents on the programmatic and fiscal impact of the proposed charter school on traditional public and non-public schools in your district. Comments should be submitted no later than **September 30, 2020** to [CharterSchools@nysed.gov](mailto:CharterSchools@nysed.gov) (the subject line of the email should read: *Buffalo City School District response to 'Name of Charter School' application*).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (518) 474-1762 or [Vickie.Smith@nysed.gov](mailto:Vickie.Smith@nysed.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vickie Smith", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Vickie Smith  
New Schools Coordinator

c: David Frank

## 2020 NYSED Round 1 Charter School Applications

Proposed School Name; Grade Levels; Max Enrollment	Community School District of Location	Proposed Board Chair Name	Proposed Board Chair Email Address	Public Contact Name	Public Contact Email Address	Mission Statement
Ellington Preparatory Academy Charter School; Grades 9-12; 400 Students	Buffalo Public Schools (Regent Collins)	Dr. Eddie L. Hoover	Ehoover242@aol.com	Kristine Douglas	Ellingtonprep1@gmail.com	The mission of Ellington Preparatory Academy Charter School is rooted in the belief that all students can achieve in education using Career and Technical Education (CTE) partnered with Work Based Learning Program in a rapidly changing society, without having to forfeit multiple pathways of future success.
Learn4Life-Buffalo Charter School; Grades 9-12; 350 Students	Buffalo Public Schools (Regent Collins)	Philip Dabney, Jr.	dabneyesq@gmail.com	Cheri Shannon	cshannon@llac.org	The mission of Learn4Life-Buffalo Charter School is to re-engage students who have either dropped out or who are in danger of dropping out of school, and then increase their personal and academic skills to support them in becoming career, college and/or military ready according to their own personal paths. All students will re-engage, persist, graduate from high school, and have the opportunity and support to receive industry level certification in a Career Technology Education Pathway.
Royal Academy of Buffalo Charter School; Grades K-5; 450 Students	Buffalo Public Schools (Regent Collins)	Soner Tarim	starim@royaltx.org	Soner Tarim	starim@royaltx.org	The mission of the Royal Academy of Buffalo ("Royal-Buffalo") is to empower our students and spark their curiosity through a rigorous, well-rounded education that gives them the skills, drive and resilience they need for lifetime success.