



NJDOE News

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For Immediate Release: April 13, 2009

27 Applications Received in Latest Round of Charter School Selection Process

The Department of Education has received applications for 27 proposed new charter schools. The detailed applications will undergo a review and the successful applicants will begin start-up activities in anticipation of opening in September 2010.

"We are seeing a continued interest in establishing new charter schools," said Commissioner of Education Lucille Davy. "We received two more applications than we did last year, which indicates to us that the charter school movement in New Jersey is still going strong."

Commissioner Davy said the applications are a sign that interested citizens and organizations throughout the state are committed to providing school choice for students and their families. She will announce the results of the review of the new applications on or about September 30, 2009.

Twelve counties are represented among the new applications. Proposed are six high schools, five middle schools and 16 elementary schools. In a departure from the past, the new set of applications is well represented by suburban and rural school districts, such as Parsippany-Troy Hills, East Amwell, Springfield and Riverside (*see [attachment](#) for the complete list of new applications*). Historically, most of the applications have come from urban centers such as Jersey City, Newark and Trenton.

A charter school is a public school open to all students on a space-available basis that is funded by taxpayers but operates independently of the district board of education under a charter granted by the Commissioner. Once the charter is approved by the Commissioner, the school is managed by a board of trustees deemed to be public agents authorized by the State Board of Education to supervise and control the school.

New Jersey currently has 62 charter schools that enroll more than 19,000 students. Six additional charter schools are scheduled to open in September 2009. They are: The **Ellen G. Pressman Charter School**, Plainfield; the **Ethical Community Charter School**, Jersey City; the **Institute for Excellence Charter School**, Winslow Township; the **Newark Educators Community Charter School**, Newark; the **Riverbank Charter School of Excellence**, Florence; and the **Vineland Public Charter School**, Vineland.

For more information about charter schools in New Jersey, visit the Department of Education's Web-site at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/chartsch/>