

AUDUBON CHARTER SCHOOL

Charter Renewal Application



French and Montessori Education, Inc.

Cornelius Tilton, Chairman of the Board
Carlos Zervigon, Vice Chairman
Janice A. Dupuy, Principal/CEO

RENEWAL TRANSMITTAL FORM

Audubon Charter School
Name of School

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Name of the Board Chair/President

Janice A. Dupuy, CEO/Principal
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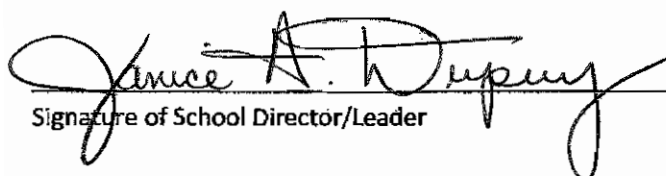
cornelius.tilton@gmail.com
E-mail of Board Chair

January 3, 2006
School's Initial Opening Date

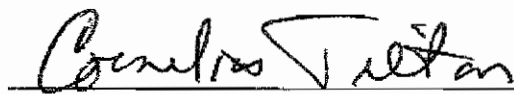
Pre-K 3 through 8th grade
Current Grades Enrolled

Pre-K 3 through 8th grade
Grade levels to be served at full enrollment

837 students
Maximum projected enrollment (at full growth)


Signature of School Director/Leader

11-2-2010
Date


Signature of the Board Chair/President

11-2-2010
Date

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I. Executive Summary

Our Mission

Audubon Charter School's mission is to foster a culturally rich and academically rigorous program using the French and Montessori Curriculum and a comprehensive arts curriculum. Audubon students are actively and purposefully involved in their learning so they become responsible citizens in a changing world.

Education Plan

Audubon is dedicated to the development of self-confident, responsible, life-long learners. This objective is achieved through our offering of a truly unique combination of both a French and Montessori Educational curricula. Each program utilizes those best practices established in Montessori educational research, such as conceptualization through hands-on-learning and academic study through the French Language. The additional assets of our school community – a diverse student body, highly-qualified/certified teachers, and a collaborative effort in school leadership combine to create a rich learning environment. Test data verify the effectiveness of our methodology by demonstrating steady progress over time. We contend that Audubon Charter School with its existing successful formula of instructional integrity, guidance from its governing board, French and Montessori Education, Inc., involvement of its Parent Teacher Organization, Friends of Audubon, will continue to provide exemplary opportunities for the student of New Orleans. Over the past five years Audubon Charter School has maintained its place in the top 10% percent of successful schools in the district and is poised to continue its upward momentum in the years to come.

Curriculum Directors support the unique instructional models offered at Audubon. We have a director for the French School and a director for the Montessori School. Both directors have certification in their curriculum areas and offer support to the teachers through mentoring, modeling lessons, professional development, observations and collaboration meetings vertically, horizontally and between the two programs. The directors monitor student progress through Power School, data analysis and conversations with teachers. The Directors are a conduit between the teachers, parents and students; they ensure success for all students.

CURRENT YEAR ENROLLMENT & DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Total Enrollment	731
# of Students on Waiting List	540
Gender	
# Male	349
# Female	382
Ethnicity/Race	
1-American Indian/Alaskan Native	2
2-Asian	31
3-Black	341
4-nataive Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4
5-White	353
Special Populations	
# Students with IEPs	218
# English Language Learners	67
# Homeless Students	30
# Eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch	336

I. Looking Back: The Record of Performance

A1. Educational Performance

Audubon Charter School continues to show growth across all grade levels and subject areas on state assessments. Our School Performance Score has increased by a total of 8.4 points since becoming a charter school in 2006. We attribute our academic growth to the following School Improvement initiatives:

- Implementation of after school LEAP and Saturday iLEAP tutoring classes
- Implementation of a RTI program staffed by Reading and Math Interventionists
- Job-Embedded Staff Development Focus on Data-Driven Instruction
- Active parental involvement in the educational process
- Provision of continuing education opportunities for staff members
- Implementation of technology across the curriculum

<i>Ref #</i>	<i>INDICATOR</i>	<i>BENCHMARK</i>	<i>AUDUBON CHARTER SCHOOL</i>
1.a.	SPS Assessment Index Baseline	80.0	108.9 (2006-2008) 109.8 (2009) 114.1 (2010)
1.b.	SPS Assessment Index Growth	Missed Growth Target by 0.3 pts Exceeded Growth Target by 4.7 pts. (2010)	110.6 (2009) 117.3 (2010)
1.c.	AYP Subgroup	Meet for all subgroups	All subgroups made AYP 2006-2010
1.d.	% Basic or Above	10% or greater increase	*See Attachment A
1.e.	Attendance	State average or above 94.4% (2008) 94.5% (2009)	97.0% (2008) 96.9% (2009)
1.f.	Dropout	State average or below 1.7% (2008) 1.9% (2009)	0.0% (2008) 0.0% (2009)

A2. Educational Performance

The outcomes in 1a., 1b, 1c and 1d were achieved through the use of the specialized curriculum, following the school improvement plan, intervention and other strategies. The following information is provided to explain the programs that contributed to Audubon's success.

French School and Louisiana Standardized Testing Requirements

The French School is accredited by the French Ministry of Education from Pre-K through 5th grade. We now seek to obtain the accreditation for our recently opened Middle School from grades 6th through 8th. As a result, we are using the French curriculum as published in the Official Bulletin of National Education (BOEN). This curriculum is posted on www.education.gouv.fr.

The French School also provides additions to this curriculum where gaps have been identified between the French and Louisiana curricula. As a Louisiana Public School, our goal is to adequately prepare our students for the state mandated assessments, iLEAP and LEAP. Below is a summary of the additions to the French curriculum that we provide grade levels:

French Cycle/Grade	Subjects	Additions to curriculum to meet Louisiana GLEs
Cycle 3/ 3rd, 4th & 5th grade	Math	Rounding of numbers/Estimation of products and quotients/Money-using dollars/Measurement: length, weight, mass and capacity using the non-metric system/Transformations: translation and rotation/data analysis, probability and discrete math/Patterns, relations and functions/Range, mean, median and mode/Rules and understanding of fractions/Simple equations
	Science	The skills necessary to follow Scientific Inquiry rules and understanding Scientific Inquiry/Earth Science: Properties of Earth Materials/Science and Environment – Earth Keepers Field Trips/Technology/Light/Astronomy/Movement
	Social Studies	Louisiana history, geography and government/Regions of the United States: Study of Landforms, Climate, Resources, Economy and People/Civics: Citizenship and Government of the United States/USA history from the early civilizations to the 20 th century: discovery, settlements, colonies, independence, Civil War.
French Cycle/Grade	Subjects	Additions to curriculum to meet Louisiana GLEs
Middle School 6th, 7th and 8th Grade	Math	Greatest common factor and least common multiple/fractions and mixed numbers: additions and subtractions/Relate fractions, decimals, percent/Ratios, proportions, percent/Compare and order fractions and integers/Perfect squares/Translate expressions and equations/Evaluate expressions/2 step equations/Computing with integers/Square roots/Inequalities/Geometry: ordered pairs/similar and congruent figures/Measure of central tendency/Frequency tables and Venn diagrams/Logical reasoning/Scattered plots/Stem and Leaf plots/Box-and-whisker plots/Probability and combination/Rules of patterns and functions/Rates of changes/Rates and proportions/Estimation/Translations on a

		grid/Changes in perimeter and area/Changes in volume/Bar graphs and histograms/Circle graphs/Line graphs/Units of capacity and volume/Transformations *& dilations/Sampling/Permutations & combination.
Middle School/ 6 th , 7 th and 8 th grade	Science	Matter and its properties/Elements, compounds and reactions/Forces and motion/Properties of Energy/Work, power and efficiency/Energy use and renewal/Chemistry of Life/Plant and animal cells/Ecology/Balance within ecosystems/Reproduction and heredity/Food web and cycles/Landforms and topography/Earth's forces/Astronomy and Space/Exploration/Pollution and its effects
	Social Studies	Hunter-gatherer societies/Elements, compounds and reactions/Early river valley civilizations in Asia/Hittite, Minoan, and Mycenaean civilizations/Classical Persian Civilization/World History from the 11 th century to the 16 th century/Foundations of the American Political System/United States History 1776-1877/Louisiana geography/Louisiana history/Structure and Purposes of Government at the state and federal levels/Fundamentals economic concepts/Microeconomics/Economy as a whole.

The Montessori Program

The Montessori program at Audubon Charter School is designed to meet both the goals set by the American Montessori Society and the grade level expectations set by the Louisiana Department of Education.

The Montessori goals are identified by the teacher education programs that have been approved by MACTE, the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education <http://www.macte.org/> At this point, all of our preprimary and lower elementary teachers (grades one to three) have successfully completed a MACTE approved teacher education program and are implementing the practices and materials presented there. These practices and materials are presented in detail in the *Lower Elementary Montessori Scope and Sequences* document.

Our upper elementary teachers (grades four to six) and our middle school teachers (grades seven and eight) are in the process of completing their Montessori teacher education. At this point, these teachers are using more traditional Non-Montessori texts and practices in order to meet those learning expectations set by the state of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Department of Education expectations for the different grade levels are identified at their website, <http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/saa/1915.html>

Relating Montessori Goals to Louisiana Expectations

Most of the expectations set by the Louisiana Department of Education will be met by the practices and materials presented at the MACTE approved teacher education programs. However, in some cases, those materials and practices are designed to meet specific Montessori goals that are not included in the state expectations. For example, the Montessori program puts more emphasis on the natural sciences at the elementary school level.

In some cases, Montessori materials and practices do not meet the state expectations and teachers use supplementary non-Montessori materials to do so. For example, the following supplementary materials are used in the following subjects at the lower elementary level:

Grade	Subject	Supplemental Materials
Lower Elementary 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Grade	Language Arts	<i>Wordly Wise</i> /EPS Publishing <i>Open Court</i> /SRA McGraw-Hill <i>SRA Reading</i> /SRA McGraw-Hill <i>Accelerated Reader</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Star Reading</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Project Read</i> /Language Circle <i>Six Traits Writing</i> /NWEL & Great Source <i>Handwriting Without Tears</i> <i>A-Z Reading</i> Kits and Games/Didax Educational Resources
	Mathematics	<i>Accelerated Math</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Star Math</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Mortensen Math</i> <i>Study Island</i> /Archipelago Learning
	Science	<i>The FOSS (Full Optian Science System) Kits</i> /Delta Education
	Social Studies	Assorted maps and graphs <i>Study Island</i> /Archipelago Learning
Upper Elementary 4 th – 6 th Grade AND Middle School 7 th and 8 th Grade	Language Arts	<i>Wordly Wise</i> /EPS Publishing <i>Open Court</i> /SRA McGraw-Hill <i>SRA Reading</i> /SRA McGraw-Hill <i>Accelerated Reader</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Star Reading</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Project Read</i> /Language Circle <i>Six Traits Writing</i> /NWEL & Great Source <i>Handwriting Without Tears</i> <i>Study Island</i> /Archipelago Learning
	Mathematics	<i>Accelerated Math</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Star Math</i> /Renaissance Learning <i>Mortensen Math</i>

		<i>Study Island/Archipelago Learning</i> <i>vMath Live/Voyager Learning</i> <i>Study Island/Archipelago Learning</i>
	Science	Harcourt Science Text and Workbooks The <i>FOSS (Full Option Science System)</i> Kits/Delta Education <i>Life Science/Prentice Hall</i> <i>Earth Science/Prentice Hall</i> T.R.E.E (Teaching Responsible Earth Education) <i>Study Island/Archipelago Learning</i>
	Social Studies	<i>World History Program/Harcourt Education</i> Assorted Maps and graphs <i>Study Island/Archipelago Learning</i>

Finally, through the use of specialized learning materials, the Montessori program introduces some concepts at an age earlier than that identified by the Louisiana expectations. Students work with this material to discover abstract algorithms and concepts. For example, the following concepts are presented in the following subjects in the lower elementary (1st/2nd 3rd grade) class.

Language Arts

- Parts of Speech
- Sentence Analysis

Mathematics

- All four operations
- Geometry nomenclature for plane and solid figures
- Nomenclature and simple operations for fractions
- Nomenclature for decimal fractions
- Binomial and trinomial squares

Science

- A strong emphasis on the natural sciences including:
 - Nomenclature for the internal and external parts of vertebrates and invertebrates
 - An introduction to animal and plant classification
 - An introduction to the geological history of planet Earth
 - An introduction to the development of life on planet Earth

Social Studies

- The use of a *Fundamental Needs* model to identify how different cultures at different times in history have met their basic needs for:
 - Nourishment
 - Shelter
 - Transportation

- Physical Safety
- Emotional Safety

It should be noted that the Montessori program involves much more than specialized learning materials and curricula. The program is based upon the belief that learning is a very natural process for humans. This means that the job of the Montessori teacher is to create environments and situations that invite and encourage students to connect their natural inclination to learn with the information and skills necessary for them to successfully adapt to and improve their culture.

Special Programs/Areas of Focus

- Arts Reach/Academic Enrichment – after school program focusing on arts, athletics, French homework assistance, and Tulane tutors
- Watch me work night – students work is demonstrated to the parents by the students
- High School Fair – collaboration with Hynes Charter School; 8th grade students and parents to meet with 90% of the high school admissions counselors at a fair specifically for our students.

Intervention

Intervention is provided in different formats depending on the needs of the child. We provide small group intervention with our Reading Interventionist in grades K – 8th. Our math interventionist works with students in 3rd – 8th grade. In addition, our special education teachers work with students on an individual basis depending on the goals and objectives written in the IEP. LEAP tutoring is offered to 4th and 8th grade students beginning in October, after school. This is small group instruction, based on what content areas the students need additional help. iLEAP tutoring begins in January and is held on Saturdays. Students for these programs are selected by previous year's test scores, DIBLES scores, Performance Series testing and teacher recommendation based on the data.

Technology Integration

Model classrooms at all grade levels and in both programs provide educational enrichment using technology. Classrooms are equipped with Promethean boards and projectors, ELMOs, Qwizdom student response systems, and laptops. Teachers have access to software including Qwizdom, vMath Live, United Streaming, Renaissance Learning and Scantron's Achievement series. Student software includes Montessori Education Software in the areas of cultural studies, language and math, French software in all content areas, Accelerated Reader and Accelerated Math, Study Island, Rosetta Stone (French and Spanish), KidBiz and TeenBiz and Brain Pop. The various programs are used to enhance the curriculum in all content areas.

Measuring Effectiveness of the program

Incremental Assessments throughout the year

Grades Pre-K 4	Two incremental assessments (DSC)
Grades K – 3 rd grade	Three Incremental Assessments (DIBELS)
Grades 2 nd – 8 th grade	Three Incremental Assessments (Performance Series Testing)
Grades K – 3 rd grade	Three incremental Assessments (STAR Math)

State Mandated Testing

Grades 3, 5, 6 and 7	iLEAP (CRT and NRT)
Grades 4 and 8	LEAP (CRT)

Leadership and Governance

Audubon Charter School utilizes site-based leadership, with oversight by the board of directors, French & Montessori Education, Inc. (FAME, Inc.). FAME is a 501(c) non-profit corporation, doing business as Audubon Charter School. It is operated exclusively for educational purposes. A thirteen member Board of Directors governs the corporation, including one French Parent Representative, elected by the parents in the French school and a Montessori Parent Representative, elected by the parents in the Montessori school.

All French and Montessori Education, Inc. directors, officers and employees shall abide by all applicable provisions of Louisiana’s Code of Governmental Ethics, La. R.S. 42:1101 et seq. The Board of Directors appoints a CEO/Principal of Audubon Charter School who is responsible for hiring faculty and staff and the day to day operations of the school.

Parental and Community Involvement

Audubon Charter School has embraced the supportive partnership with our parent community. The parents are actively involved in helping fund the needs of the school, providing communication through the publication of our newsletter, the Rarebird and advocacy for policies that support the school. Parents will continue to be involved through the Friends of Audubon PTO. In terms of governance of the school, there are two Parent Representatives elected to the board by the parents of Audubon Charter School. The Board will also look to parents to serve on ad hoc committees needed/requested by the board and school administration.

Audubon Charter School uses resources in our community as well as internationally to strengthen the school. Audubon has benefited from partnerships with the following entities:

Tulane University’s Center for Public Service, Alliance Francis, the French Ministry of Education, the French Consulate’s office in New Orleans, Audubon Institute and Teaching Responsible Earth Education (T.R.E.E) and Entergy Corporation.

As part of learning to become responsible citizens in a changing world, we teach our students the importance of giving back to others. Throughout the years, our students have donated time, money and other items to the following organizations through participation in various programs and events: American Heart Association, Second Harvest Food Bank, Susan G. Koman Foundation, Pennies for Peace and We will continue to teach our students the value of giving back and serving others.

B. Financial Performance

Ref #	INDICATOR	BENCHMARK
2.a.	Prior and Current Year Budgets	Budgets balanced using realistic and responsible assumptions
2.b.	Financial Audit	Unqualified opinion; no major findings as submitted to OPSB on an annual basis
2.c.	Financial Obligations	All in good standing; certificates submitted annually with charter school evaluation
2.d.	Financial Reporting	Timely and sufficient filing of all LDE-required financial reports

Looking Forward: Plans for the Next Charter Term

A. Educational Plans

1. Vision

Audubon's mission statement was changed to reflect the mission and vision of the school. Our focus on French and Montessori Education were not addressed in the original mission statement, which was written in the weeks immediately following Hurricane Katrina.

Audubon plans continued success of both the French and Montessori Programs. We plan to achieve further growth and development in the following areas: academic curriculum, cultural arts and parent/community involvement. All plans will support the mission of the school.

Audubon Charter has no plans to expand its current program. However our current physical location and educational program are dependent on the assignment of an alternate facility by OPSB, in adherence to the Master Plan and future funding.

a. Academics & Student Achievement

Audubon Charter School's mission promotes an academically rigorous French and Montessori curriculum.

Our French school is accredited by the Government of France. It meets the French Ministry of National Education's requirements for teaching standards and academic performance. Accreditation assures French nationals that they will receive full credit for their courses and can transfer into any French educational institution in the world. It also ensures that American students at Audubon will receive an excellent education while learning French in a French setting.

Success in our Montessori school is directly tied to the degree to which children believe that they are capable and independent human beings. By allowing children to develop a meaningful degree of independence and self-discipline, Montessori establishes a pattern for a lifetime of good work habits and a sense of responsibility. Students are taught to take pride in completing tasks for themselves.

The high academic standards of both programs yield excellent results as evidenced by American and French national exams. Students who complete their elementary and middle school years at Audubon attend the city's best secondary schools, public and private. Many receive scholarships from highly competitive schools with rigorous entrance requirements.

b. Enhancement of the Arts Program

Audubon Charter School's mission promotes a culturally rich environment for all students. We provide a comprehensive arts curriculum in the areas of creative movement, drama, visual arts, and music. Our Arts Reach after-school program also provides enrichment in music, art, and dance to students at both campuses. Our students attend culturally enriched field trips and performances throughout the school year.

Our students are also provided the opportunity to attend after-school and summer programs at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA).

In an effort to support our mission and continue to grow our arts program, staff and faculty members will participate in future professional development to enhance and implement a Disciplined-Based Arts Education curriculum within the classroom environment.

c. Parental and Community Involvement

Audubon Charter School embraces the supportive partnership of the parent community. Parents are actively involved in the governance and administration of the school through the PTO. Parents are involved in the school through the Parent Teacher Organization, as well as through two elected Parent Representatives on the FAME, Inc. Board of Directors – one Montessori Representative and one French Representative.

Parents also serve on the French School Council, the School Improvement Plan Team, and several other decision-making committees focused on the mission of our school.

Our school's success depends not only on the faculty & staff, but also relies heavily on volunteers. Each Audubon Family is expected to complete 25 hours of volunteer service during the school year. These service hours can be completed in many different ways. Parent and community volunteers assist with various clubs, teams, fundraising efforts, classroom assistance and other projects.

2. Mission Specific Goals

Goal	Metric
<p>All of the Montessori classes will follow a scope and sequence that identifies the Montessori and supplementary curricula for their particular age grouping. This scope and sequence will be based on the curricula presented in teacher education programs that have been approved by MACTE, the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education http://www.macte.org/ and on expectations set by the Louisiana Department of Education for the different grade levels.</p>	<p>The Montessori Director is responsible for keeping on public file four current Scope and Sequences for the following age levels: ages 3-5 (Pre-primary), ages 6-8 (grades one to three), ages 9-11 (grades four to six), ages 12-13 (grades seven and eight). These documents are to be updated for each new school year.</p>
<p>All of the teachers in the Montessori program will have completed or be in the process of completing the Montessori Teacher Education programs that prepare them for the age grouping they teach.</p>	<p>At least 75 of the lead teachers in the Montessori classrooms will have successfully completed the Montessori teacher education programs and be certified for their age group. The remaining head teachers will be engaged in completing the teacher education programs.</p>
<p>All of the Montessori classrooms will have the learning materials necessary to follow the Scope and Sequence.</p>	<p>The Montessori Director will create a list of the learning materials that are required for each age grouping. The Director will keep in public file a current inventory of all the specialized learning materials that are available for each classroom and make sure that the items on the classroom inventory match at least 90% of the required materials.</p>
<p>Audubon will work towards accreditation for the French Middle School by the French government.</p>	<p>The French Director and the Audubon Charter Administration will work with the French Inspector to begin the accreditation process in the next five years. The process can take anywhere from 3 to five years to complete.</p>
<p>Audubon's French school students will achieve the French National average on the French evaluations for the 2nd and 5th grade students.</p>	<p>Audubon students will continue to take the French National Exams that are administered to 2nd and 5th grade students enrolled in the French program.</p>

B. Financial Plans

5-year financial projections (See Attachment B)

C. Organizational Plans

1. Enrollment Plan (See Attachment C)

2. Admissions Policy (See Attachments D-F for applications and matrix)

Audubon Charter School has an admission process, approved by the Office of Civil Rights. This policy has been in place since Audubon was part of the OPSB as a City-Wide Access School and since becoming a Type-3 Charter School after Hurricane Katrina. A lottery is used for open-access admission in Pre-K through 2nd grade Montessori and Pre-K through Kindergarten French. An approved matrix system is used to calculate points from various areas for 3rd – 8th grade applicants. These areas include attendance from the previous school, GPA, parental involvement and other requires. Modifications have been made to the admissions process to allow access to more students.

Current Admissions Policy	Previous Admissions Policy
All students are admitted to our Pre-K program by lottery. We have a full day Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 program in the Montessori School and a Pre-K 4 program in the French School. We have a total of 72 students enrolled in our Pre-School.	Audubon had a half-day, gifted only Pre-K program with enrollment of 12 students in the Montessori program and 10 students in the French program prior to becoming a charter school.
Audubon's Pre-K is now fee-based. The maximum fee that any student pays is \$4,570.00; this fee is determined by the guidelines set forth in the LA4 program. Students who have an IEP (gifted or Special Ed.) and 4 year old students who qualify for LA4 reimbursement do not pay the fee.	There was no fee – all students were gifted and the school received MFP funding students enrolled in the program.
Montessori School – students in Pre-K 3 through 2 nd grade are admitted by lottery. Students without previous standardized test score in 3 rd – 8 th grade are tested, and the scores are entered into an admissions matrix. Students are admitted if they meet the minimum score and based on availability. If there are more qualified applicants than space available, a lottery is held.	Students were tested for admission to Kindergarten through 8 th grade. An approved admissions matrix was used and students who met the minimum matrix score were selected. Students in the French school were tested for proficiency in the language in 1 st – 8 th grade.

Admissions Process

Audubon's admissions process begins in mid-October and ends in early January of the following year. All applications received during this time-frame are considered TIMELY. Any application submitted after the deadline are considered LATE and may not be processed. Parents of LATE applicants are only notified/contacted if it is necessary for Audubon to process LATE applications. **All students applying to 5th grade, including non-public or home school students, must schedule and successfully pass the 4th grade LEAP in order to be offered placement or enter 5th grade in any public school in Louisiana.**

Parents are required to complete the application and submit it with the following documents:

- Child's birth certificate
- Parent ID
- French Passport (French Nationals only for proof of citizenship)

Students applying for 3rd through 8th grade

- Copies of final report card from previous school year and first quarter report card for the current school year, attendance and behavior included. (Attendance and behavior for the previous school year must be verified by the previous school if not indicated on the final report card.
- Copy of standardized test scores (IOWA and LEAP/iLEAP), if these test have been previously completed by the student
- IEP or IAP, if applicable, for any students so that accommodations can be provided during testing
- One blank, stamped envelope

Parents will be given an appointment for curriculum meeting/observation when their application is dropped off. Attendance at the meeting is required. Attendance will be verified by sign-in sheet and parents turning in their appointment slip.

Students applying for 3rd – 8th grade will be given a testing appointment. If a student is scheduled to test at Lake Forest Elementary or Lusher Charter School, the parent can request that the scores be forwarded to Audubon Charter School.

Parents attending the observation/curriculum meeting will sign a form "Understanding of Unique Curriculum" for either the French School or the Montessori School. (NOTE: Points are given on the admissions matrix for 3rd – 8th grade applicants who complete this form and points are given for attendance at the meeting).

A lottery is held in February each year. Letters are sent to parents in March. Applicants who have been accepted have two weeks to accept or decline placement at Audubon Charter School. Audubon has a three tiered selection process as outlined below:

Tier	Montessori School	French School
Tier 1	Siblings (PK-8)	Siblings and French Nationals (PK-8)
Tier 2	Attendance at an accredited Montessori School (K-8)	Attendance at an accredited French school and Franco-phones (K-8)
Tier 3	All other students	All other students

All students who met the criteria, but were not accepted are placed on a waiting list. Audubon maintains the waiting list until the day after Labor Day.

Audubon Charter School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national, or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies.

3. Neighborhood preference

Audubon does not have a neighborhood preference.

4. Data Plan

Audubon Charter School will continue to collect and report accurate student and staff data as per the Department of Education’s data collection requirements. Audubon uses a standardized data collection and analysis system to collect data provided in R.S. 17:3911, Subsection B. The data collection system used provides for, but is not limited to the regular collection of information on students and staff alike.

5. School Discipline

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a major advance in school-wide discipline. The emphasis at Audubon Charter is a school-wide system of support that include proactive , discipline-related research and strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create a positive school environment reflective of Montessori philosophy and principles.

While specific rules may vary from classroom, to classroom, we have school wide rules to which all teachers and students adhere. These rules must be observed throughout the school building, outdoors and at all school-sponsored events.

Audubon Charter School’s PBS team will meet quarterly to review discipline data. The team includes administrators, regular and special education teachers, behavior interventionist, social worker, and parent representatives. Data will drive decisions to revise our discipline plan and School Improvement Plan strategies to decrease the number of incidents by 10%. Audubon Charter School’s code of conduct is in compliance with R.S. 17:3991.B. (14) and 17:252.

The daily routine at Audubon is consistent so the children know what is expected of them at all times. The Rarebird Rules (Be Positive, Be Prepared, Be Prompt, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible) set limits of behavior to insure the safety and dignity of everyone and everything in the school. Within the ground rules, children are free to be themselves, having fun, exploring and discovering, either alone or with others.

Clear, effective communication is modeled and taught. Teachers acknowledge positive behavior and do not emphasize the negative. Children are thanked for their cooperation, their display of manners and their show of respect. They are encouraged to express their feelings and ideas and to make requests in kind and considerate ways. Effective communication skills reduce the frustrations caused by not being heard or understood.

A high standard is set so children live up to the expectation of speaking, listening and solving their own problems. When a conflict or problem arises, teachers do not intervene unless it becomes obvious that the children need help in finding a solution. Otherwise, the teacher offers coaching and encouragement to the children. Positive discipline teaches children what they should do, as opposed to punishment which tells children what not to do. Punishment teaches fear; positive discipline teaches self-esteem.

The PBS team will support the teachers in their efforts to maintain a positive learning environment for all students. Students will not be permitted to interfere with the rights of others to learn in a safe environment. Students who demonstrate behavior which is beyond acceptable classroom and school limits will receive consequences as described in our Student/Parent Handbook.

6. Transportation

Audubon conducts a transportation survey at the beginning of each school year. Any student living at least one mile from the school is eligible to receive bus tokens. Parents may request bus tokens if they move during the school year.

7. Educational Service Providers

We do not intend to contract with an education service provider. N/A

8. Organizational Goals (OPTIONAL)

9. Facility

Audubon Charter School currently occupies two buildings. The Lower School (Pre-K 3 through 3rd grade) is currently housed at 428 Broadway. The Upper School (4th – 8th grade) is currently housed at 719 S. Carrollton Avenue. The two buildings are owned by OPSB.

The Broadway Campus is scheduled for renovation under Phase I of the Master Plan with an anticipated completion date of March 2013. Audubon would like to remain at the Broadway Campus once the renovation has been completed.

The Carrollton Campus is scheduled to be land-banked under the Master Plan. The building is inadequate for the needs of our school and is in need of major renovation and repair. Audubon has already requested the Allen Building for our Upper School; however OPSB is currently working on a policy to assign buildings to schools. We would like to remain in the Uptown area near the lower school for the convenience of our parents.

AUDUBON CHARTER SCHOOL

Attachments

Attachment A – Percentage of Growth

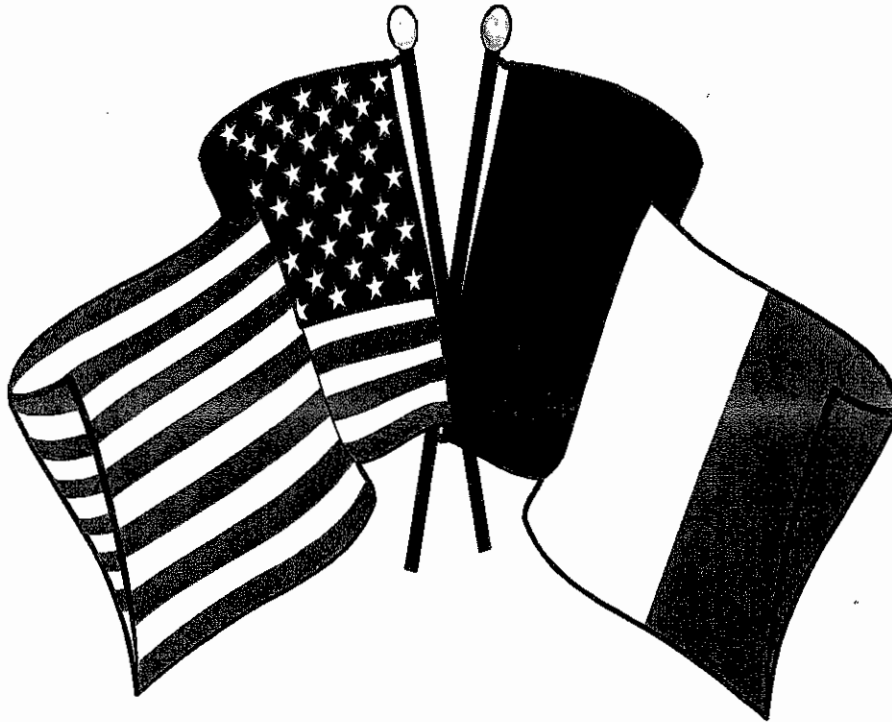
Attachment B – 5 Year Budget Projections

Attachment C – Enrollment Projections 2011 – 2016

Attachment D – 2011-2012 Pre-Kindergarten Application

Attachment E – 2011-2012 Kindergarten Application

Attachment F – Admissions Matrix



Audubon Charter School
Percentage Growth in LEAP and iLEAP Scores
Attachment A

GRADE	English Language Arts					Math				
	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2009-2010	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2009-2010
3	71	72.2	77.6	74.6	74.6	72.5	65.8	78.8	84.5	84.5
4	98	89.7	87	88.2	88.2	87.7	76.5	63.8	81.9	81.9
5	75	85.9	81.3	84.8	84.8	77.8	75	70.3	75.7	75.7
6	78.6	87.5	88.9	92	92	78.6	81.3	88.9	96.8	96.8
7	75.9	100	95.8	95.1	95.1	79.3	82.6	91.7	96.7	96.7
8	73.7	95	86.4	97.7	97.7	84.2	100	86.4	90.9	90.9

GRADE	ELA	MATH
3rd	3.6	12
4th	-9.8	-5.8
5th	9.8	-2.1
6th	13.4	18.2
7th	19.2	17.4
8th	24	6.7
	12.04	9.28

10.66

French and Montessori Education, Inc.
d/b/a Audubon Charter School
Draft Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Assumptions	General Fund 2010-11	General Fund 2011-12	General Fund 2012-13	General Fund 2013-14	General Fund 2014-15
Enrollment Eligible for MFP	670	680	690	700	710
Ineligible Enrollment	54	55	56	57	58
Total Enrollment	724	735	746	757	768
MFP per Student - Local	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00
MFP per Student - State	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,940.00
Fee per Pre-K III Student	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 4,570.00
Expense Inflation		1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%
Donations Increase		5%	5%	5%	5%
TRSL Contibution Rate	20.2%	23.7%	23.7%	23.7%	23.7%
Increase		17%	Inflation	Inflation	Inflation
Medical Insurance Increase		25.0%	Inflation	Inflation	Inflation

French and Montessori Education, Inc.
d/b/a Audubon Charter School
Draft Statement of Changes in Net Assets

MFP - Local	2,665,717	2,757,400	2,797,950	2,838,500	2,879,050
MFP - State	2,639,800	2,679,200	2,718,600	2,758,000	2,797,400
MFP	\$ 5,305,517	\$ 5,436,600	\$ 5,516,550	\$ 5,596,500	\$ 5,676,450
Donations	102,500	107,625	113,006	118,657	124,589
Interest Income	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Other Revenues	136,000	294,350	298,920	303,490	308,060
Salaries -	3,466,956	3,518,960	3,571,745	3,625,321	3,679,701
Benefits - Insurance	414,371	517,964	525,733	533,619	541,623
Benefits - Retirement	610,854	755,626	766,961	778,465	790,142
Benefits - Taxes	34,966	35,490	36,023	36,563	37,112
Custodial	258,636	262,516	266,453	270,450	274,507
Disposal	6,000	6,090	6,181	6,274	6,368
Dues	16,000	16,240	16,484	16,731	16,982
Food Service	22,000	22,330	22,665	23,005	23,350
Insurance	92,912	94,306	95,720	97,156	98,613
Materials	109,729	111,375	113,046	114,741	116,462
Information Technology	120,000	121,800	123,627	125,481	127,364
Purch Svc	136,000	138,040	140,111	142,212	144,345
Rentals	16,002	16,242	16,486	16,733	16,984
Repairs & Maintenance	53,045	53,841	54,648	55,468	56,300
Travel	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	120,000	121,800	123,627	125,481	127,364
Other Expenses	44,361	45,026	45,702	46,387	47,083
Interest Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	\$ 5,521,832	\$ 5,837,646	\$ 5,925,211	\$ 6,014,089	\$ 6,104,300
Change in Net Assets	\$ 23,385	\$ 2,129	\$ 4,465	\$ 5,757	\$ 5,999

Net budget for presentation to Orleans Parish School Board

Net Income before capital spending:	\$ 23,385	\$ 2,129	\$ 4,465	\$ 5,757	\$ 5,999
Capital Budget - Furniture	(23,385)				
Net Budget	\$ -	\$ 2,129	\$ 4,465	\$ 5,757	\$ 5,999

Attachment C
 Audubon Charter School
 Enrollment Projections: 2011 - 2016

Enrollment by Grade	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Pre-K 3	20	20	20	20	20
Pre-K 4	64	64	64	64	64
Kindergarten	90	90	90	90	90
1st	98	104	98	96	97
2nd	97	98	100	94	94
3rd	94	94	92	96	88
4th	78	88	88	89	88
5th	74	74	86	83	84
6th	70	70	68	80	78
7th	65	65	68	65	75
8th	57	60	60	60	59
	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	807	827	834	837	837

Attachment D

2011-2012 Pre-Kindergarten Application

General Information

Audubon offers a **FEE-BASED** Pre-Kindergarten in both the French and Montessori Schools. The annual fee to attend Pre-K is currently \$4,570.00 per student, per school year. Students entering Pre-K 4 who qualify for free or reduced lunch and students with an IEP are not required to pay the fee because the school receives LA4 or MFP funding for these students. Detailed information will be provided at the curriculum meeting.

All students must participate in the application process and are selected based on a two-tiered system as explained below. A program **MUST** be selected at the time applications are submitted. Applicants will have the opportunity to change programs in writing **AFTER** the curriculum meeting and prior to the lottery.

General Directions

- All applications must be submitted in person to the Carrollton Campus Office located at 719 S. Carrollton Avenue. Applications must be received by 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 13, 2011 in order to be considered on-time. All applications after that date and time are considered late and will not be accepted.
- Applications will be accepted in person between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on days when school is closed.
- Late applications will be accepted only if there are no applicants on the waiting list

Applications will **NOT** be processed unless they contain **ALL** of the following:

- Completed and signed Audubon Charter School application form
- Copy of student's birth certificate;
Pre-K 3 students must be 3 by September 30, 2011; Pre-K 4 students must be 4 by September 30, 2011
- Copy of parent/legal guardian's Driver's license or State ID
- One business envelope with 42¢ postage stamp (DO NOT ADDRESS THE ENVELOPE)

Curriculum Meeting

Pre-K Applicants must attend a curriculum meeting. Curriculum meeting appointment will be confirmed at the time applications are submitted.

Admissions

If your child is accepted for admissions, you will be required to attend a classroom observation in May, prior to new student registration.

All accepted students must reside in Orleans Parish. You must provide proof of residency at the New Student Registration. **All proofs of residence must be in the same name at the same address, which must also be the address of the student.**

Selection Process/Timelines

- Tier 1:** Siblings of students who are **CURRENTLY** attending Audubon Charter School and French Nationals (who carry a valid French Passport). French Nationals are only considered Tier 1 status for the French School.
- Tier 2:** All other students are considered Tier 2 applicants and will be placed in a lottery and accepted in order, IF there is availability after Tier 1 students have been placed.

Dates to Remember

January 13, 2011	Last day to submit timely application
February 8, 2011	Pre-K Lottery, 9:00 a.m., Broadway Campus Cafeteria
March 17, 2011	Letters of acceptance mailed
March 31, 2011	Letters of acceptance due to Admissions Office
TBD	Classroom observations (by appointment for ACCEPTED students only)
May 11, 2011	New Student Registration – Carrollton Campus (4pm – 6pm)

AUDUBON CHARTER SCHOOL
2011-2012 PRE-KINDERGARTEN APPLICATION
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION IS 2:00 P.M. JANUARY 13, 2011

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received by: _____

Tier 1 Tier 2

Completed & Signed Application

Attended Curriculum Meeting

Date: _____

Birth Certificate

Signed Understanding of Unique Environment

Driver's License/State ID IEP or 504 IAP

STUDENT INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION)

What program are you applying for? Montessori French

Grade Applying For: Pre-K 3 Pre-K 4

Student's Last Name, First Name & Middle Initial (Please print name as it appears on the birth certificate)

Current Street Address

City, _____

State _____

Zip _____

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female

Is student Hispanic? Y or N

Race/Ethnicity (Select all that apply):

American Indian/Alaskan Native

Asian

Black/African American

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

White

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Mother/Legal Guardian: Last Name _____

First Name _____

Father/Legal Guardian: Last Name _____

First Name _____

If Legal Guardian, Relationship to Student: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Cell: _____ Other: _____

E-mail (1): _____

E-mail (2): _____

TIER 1 STATUS INFORMATION

Is the student or parent a French National? Yes No

Do you have a sibling **currently** attending Audubon Charter School? Yes No

If yes, sibling's name and current grade _____

Attachment E

2011-2012 Application (K – 8th Grade)

General Directions

- All applications must be submitted to the Carrollton Campus Office located at 719 S. Carrollton Avenue. Hand delivered applications must be received by 4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 13, 2011 in order to be considered on-time. Applications will be accepted in person between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on days when school is closed.
- Late applications will be accepted **ONLY** if there are no applicants on the waiting list.

Applications will **NOT** be processed unless they contain **ALL** of the following:

- Completed and signed Audubon Charter School application form
- Confirmed appointment for Observation/Curriculum Meeting
- Selection of only **ONE** program – either French OR Montessori; undecided applications will be considered incomplete
- Copy of student's birth certificate; Kindergarten students must be **5 years old by September 30, 2011**
- Copy of parent/legal guardian's Driver's license or State ID
- One business envelope with 42¢ postage stamp (DO NOT ADDRESS THE ENVELOPE)

All applicants are required to attend a Curriculum Meeting. The curriculum meeting is your opportunity to understand the French and Montessori Curriculum, ask questions and observe in a classroom. Appointments are scheduled at the time applications are submitted.

Additional requirements for 3rd – 8th grade applicants

- Copy of student's FINAL 2009-10 and 1st Quarter 2010-11 report card (bring original & a copy)
- Copy of 2009-10 LEAP/iLEAP scores, including National Percentile Scores (IOWA).
- Schedule a testing date for students who do not have test scores and for French Students who have not previously attended an accredited French school.

Additional requirements for 5th Grade applicants ONLY:

- Students applying for 5th grade who are transferring from a private school or are home schooled must provide proof that they have passed the LEAP test or that they have signed up to take the test. Students must score Basic or above in both Math and Language Arts for admission to Audubon Charter School

Selection Process

Tier 1: Siblings of students who are CURRENTLY attending Audubon Charter School and French Nationals (who carry a valid French Passport)

Tier 2: Franco-phones and students who have attended an accredited French school; students who have attended an approved Montessori school for at least one year. French Nationals, Franco-phones and students who attend a French school are only considered Tier 1 status for the French school. Students who have previously attended an approved/accredited Montessori program are only considered Tier 1 for the Montessori school.

Tier 3: All other students are considered Tier 2 applicants and will be placed in a lottery and accepted in order, IF there is availability after Tier 1 and Tier 2 students have been placed.

- Students applying for Montessori 1st and 2nd grades will be put into the Tier 1 or Tier 2 Lottery
- Tier 1 students are placed first. If there are still vacancies, we will contact Tier 2 parents to schedule proficiency testing for the grade in which you are applying. Francophone applicants who have not attended an Accredited French school will be required to take a proficiency test. Students must also meet minimum matrix score.
- Students applying for the Montessori 3rd – 8th grade must score a minimum of 20 points on the Matrix for admission. This includes Tier 1 applicants.

Admissions

If your child is accepted for admission, you must attend the **New Student Registration**. Your family must be living in Orleans Parish by this date and be able to provide proof of residency. The following documents are required at New Student Registration:

- Completed Registration Packet, Copy of your child's Social Security Card, Copy of your child's Immunization record, Copy of current IEP or Progress Report for Gifted/Talented/Special Education students (if applicable), Copy of current IAP for 504 students (if applicable)
- Three (3) current proofs of residence in ORLEANS PARISH (Bring copy for our records and original) Acceptable proofs of residency include: Homestead Exemption or Lease AND at least two of the following Driver's license or State ID Card, Payroll Check Stub, Utility bill (electric, water, cable/internet service), Vehicle Registration & Vehicle Insurance, Voter Registration Card, W-2 Form, (Telephone bill and cell phone bills will NOT be accepted as proof of residency).

AUDUBON CHARTER SCHOOL 2011-2012 APPLICATION (K – 8TH GRADE)

DEADLINE IS 2PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2011

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received by: _____
 Birth Certificate
 Driver's License/State ID

Copy of 2009-10 FINAL Report Card
 Copy of 2010-11 1st Quarter Report Card
 Copy of LEAP/iLEAP & Iowa Test Scores
 IEP/IAP

Test Date: _____

Matrix: _____

Tier _____ Sibling Fr. Nat'l

Curriculum Meeting Y No _____ Pts

Reading _____

Lottery Number: _____

Parent Questionnaire Y No _____ Pts

Math: _____

Admitted: Yes No

Attendance Points: _____

GPA: _____

Behavior Points _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

What program are you applying for? Montessori French

Grade Applying For _____

Student's Last Name, First Name & Middle Initial (Please print name as it appears on the birth certificate)

Current Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female

Is the applicant Hispanic? Y or N

Please select one or more of the following:

American Indian/Alaskan Native Asian Black/African American Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander White

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Mother/Legal Guardian: Last Name _____

First Name _____

Father/Legal Guardian: Last Name _____

First Name _____

If Legal Guardian, Relationship to Student: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Cell: _____ Other: _____

E-mail (1): _____

TIER 1 STATUS INFORMATION

Is the student or parent a French National? Yes No

Has the student previously attended a French School that is accredited by the French Government? Yes No

Has the student previously attended a Montessori School? Yes No

If yes, name and location of school: _____

Do you have a sibling **currently** attending Audubon Charter School? Yes No

If yes, sibling's name and grade _____

Student's Name: _____

Grade Applying For _____

Please list any other school age siblings and the school they are currently attending:

EDUCATION HISTORY

Current School (2010-2011) _____ Current Grade _____

Please check any educational designations that apply to this application

- Gifted with IEP
- Talented in _____ with an IEP
- Primary Home Language Other than English (PHLOTE)
- I am in the process of having my child evaluated for Gifted/Talented
- I suspect my child may qualify for special education services. (Please explain) _____
- Special Education _____
- 504 (IAP) or Behavior Modification Plan
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Speech Therapy

Check if applicant has had behavior problems, which includes behavior modification plans, suspensions, expulsions, or has been asked to withdraw from school. Please explain: _____

If your child is applying for 5th grade, please read and initial.

_____ I understand my child **must take the LEAP test** in the 2010-11 school year, and submit test scores. If my child is not enrolled in a public school, I will contact Audubon Charter for testing information.

Please read, initial each time and sign the application.

_____ I certify that I am legally responsible for the child for whom the application is being made and have the legal right to apply, on behalf of the child, for admission and to register the child if admission is offered. *If you are not the student's birth parent, please provide a Certified True copy of the Transfer of Custody/legal Guardianship. A notarized statement is NOT considered proof of guardianship.*

_____ I have responded to all sections of this application and certify that all the information is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of any part of this application will render it ineligible and any admission offered would thereby be revoked.

_____ I understand that it is my responsibility to notify the school of any special testing accommodations my child may need **at the time I turn in my completed application.**

_____ I understand that if my child cannot keep the testing date assigned, it is my responsibility to contact the school and re-schedule for a later date. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that my child has a scheduled testing date by January 13, 2011. All testing must be completed by February 3, 2011.

_____ I understand that retests will not be administered

_____ I understand that if any part of this application is INCOMPLETE, the application will not be processed, my child's name will NOT be included in the lottery and the school is not responsible for notifying me of an incomplete application.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Applications and all material submitted are property of Audubon Charter School. Applicants are responsible for maintaining copies of all documents submitted.

Attachment F

2011-2012 ADMISSIONS MATRIX (3RD – 8TH GRADE)

Student Name: _____ Grade Applying For: _____

Minimum of 26 out of 40 points required for admission. Matrix Score _____

POINTS	GRADE POINT AVERAGE	READING%	MATH %	OBSERVATION 2 POINTS IF PARENT/GUADIAN ATTENDS.	ATTENDANCE			
10	3.5 – 4.0	90 – 99	90 – 99		0-2 DAYS ABSENT	3 POINTS		
9		80 – 89	80 – 89		3-5 DAYS ABSENT	2 POINTS		
8	3.0 – 3.49	70 – 79	70 – 79		6-8 DAYS ABSENT	1 POINT		
7	2.5 – 2.99	60 – 69	60 – 69		9 OR MORE DAYS ABSENT	0 POINTS		
6	2.3 – 2.49	55 – 60	55 – 60					
5	2.0 – 2.29	50 – 54	50 – 54	PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE	BEHAVIOR			
4		45 – 49	45 – 49					
3		40 - 44	40 - 44					
2								
1	0.0 – 1.99	0 - 39	0 - 39				A/E/O	3 POINTS
							B/GOOD	2 POINTS
							C/SATISFACTORY	1 POINT
0							D/F/UNSATISFACTORY/NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	0 POINTS

- GPA for each grade level is derived from an average of the promotional subjects.
- Promotional subjects for grades 3 through 8 are Reading, English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.
- Attendance and behavior must be included on copy of report card submit.
- Students applying for 5th grade must take and pass the state mandated LEAP test.