

Argosy Collegiate Charter School

Members of the Applicant Group

This is prepared by the applicant group of the proposed Argosy Collegiate Charter School.

Proposed Founding Board:

The Founding Board has deep roots in Fall River as generational residents, parents, business owners, community volunteers, educational leaders at the primary, secondary, and post-secondary levels including leaders in special education, STEM research and teacher development at UMass Dartmouth. Our team includes the former superintendent of Needham Public Schools (who brings charter school board membership), retired Fall River Public School middle school principal, three university professors, three MBAs, 2 PhDs in Education, an MS in Educational Mathematics, public leaders, and business leaders with a combined 90 years of financial management expertise. The Founding Group remains actively engaged in identifying and adding to its membership a representative from the Fall River Community Services sector.

Paul C. Burke is President/Owner of Hadley Insurit Group and brings experience in finance, insurance, and governance, and strong ties to local business leaders. An educator (25+ years) with the MA Association of Insurance Agents, his leadership includes: Swansea Advisory and Finance Board, Swansea Town Moderator and Selectman, Center for Marketing Research at UMass Dartmouth, Fall River Chamber of Commerce.

Nancy Martin-Bernier provides 40 years of experience in Fall River as principal, literacy coach, special needs teacher and team facilitator and in higher education as adjunct instructor at Framingham State. She has written multiple education grants and has led a team that authored the Fall River Public School Policy on Bullying. She brings extensive board experience and holds a BS in Elementary Education and Special Education and an MBA.

Michelle Pelletier Colberg, Real Estate Broker and Commercial Property Developer, offers a wealth of experience in strategic planning and large facilities property development and renovations in Fall River. She brings experience in community service and governance including extensive board membership for the Fall River Office of Economic Development, The United Way, and the Fall River Chamber of Commerce.

Domenic DiNardo brings passion for innovative learning strategies and solutions, strategic planning, and marketing experience to the Founding Board. He is the Business Development Manager - Integrated Solutions for Pearson Learning Solutions, and holds a BA in Economics and an MBA.

Richard Farmer, VP of Commercial Lending at Bristol County Savings Bank in Fall River, brings 35 years of financial leadership in commercial real estate, lending, and business banking. He brings decades of experience in governance including the Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee, South Eastern Economic Development Corporation, and as Chair of the Audit Committee for the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks.

Chandra Hawley Orrill, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Department of STEM Education and Teacher Development for the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. She is also a Research Associate in the Kaput Center for Research and Innovation in STEM Education and brings extensive experience as the Principal or Co-Principal Investigator for more than 27 grant-funded educational programs and projects.

Lisa Rocha, Associate Attorney for Morrison Mahoney, LLC, brings expertise in general liability, worker's compensation, and family law. She prepares and reviews financial statements, drafts legal documents, and provides legal counsel. Ms. Rocha holds a BA and JD and is licensed in MA and RI.

Frederick J. Tirrell, Ph.D. brings a unique combination of educational expertise to the founding group. He is the former Superintendent of Needham Public Schools, served on the Sturgis Charter School Board of Trustees, and is an Adjunct Professor at Bridgewater State University. He has served on numerous boards, and holds a BS in Business Administration, a M.Ed. and Ph.D. in Education Administration.

Teri Theberge, a Fall River parent and Nuclear Medicine Technologist for Southcoast Hospital Group, is particularly adept at building relationships among community and business leader. She brings expansive community networking and was recipient of the Southcoast Hospital Cultural Award and the Parent Volunteer Award at the Stone School in Fall River. She has also developed a health/fitness program for a local youth organization.

Gary Vierra, Senior Vice President of BankFive, brings 30+ years of bank finance, technology, operations, compliance and risk management experience to the Board. He holds a BS in Accounting and MBA from and he has been a volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America for over 18 years.

Proposed Executive Director:

Kristen Pavao, proposed Executive Director, is Building Excellent Schools Fellow and Lead Founder of Argosy Collegiate. A Fall River native, she is a respected and accomplished Fall River educator. She holds a BS and Teacher Certification and MS in Educational Mathematics. Ms. Pavao leads community outreach and the founding team, and continues to engage stakeholders in partnership, including those with UMass Dartmouth, Narrows Center for the Arts, The Flint Association, and Teach For America.

Advisory Council: Since February 2013, we have built an Advisory Council to support in a non-voting capacity the Board and proposed leadership on a variety of charter school development and implementation levers such as operations, finance, strategic planning, philanthropy, curriculum development, human resources, professional development, and special student populations.

Our Advisory Council is currently a team of five (5):

Julie Almond, CEO for HealthFirst Family Care Center in Fall River, has dedicated 38+ years to the delivery of top health care options for low-income families, secured an 11.5 million dollar facility development grant, led strategic planning and facility development, managed multi-million dollar annual operating budgets, and prepared and reported on multiple annual reports.

Cynthia Goncalves, President of Central Source, a back office Business Management organization providing services for 12 MA charter schools in budget development, state and federal reporting, establishing non-profit foundations, fiscal policy and procedure development, and staff and board trainings, has served as an advisory member in the past months and will continue through all phases of the chartering process; upon authorization, we anticipate that Ms. Goncalves will exit the Advisory Council as we anticipate hiring Central Source as our back office financial vendor.

Michael Goodman, Ph.D., is the Chair of the Department of Public Policy at UMass Dartmouth, Co-editor of *MassBenchmarks*, a journal of the MA economy including research on an array of Commonwealth organization, and has extensive experience in education including managing budgets and performing faculty evaluations, governance, and identifying and securing grants.

Louis Petrovic, Ph.D., President of Resource Associates which advises start-up and emerging companies with investment procurement, technology development, and marketing, was the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Development and Director of the Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center at UMass.

Greg Torres, President and CEO of MassINC, sets policy, leads fundraising initiatives, and guides program operations to support MA residents in reaching the American Dream and is former CEO of the MENTOR Network where he now serves on the Board.