**Worcester Cultural Academy Charter Public School Applicant Group**

**Proposed Board of Trustees, Proposed Employees, and Representatives of EL Education and
Old Sturbridge Village, written by the applicant group**

***Members of the Board of Trustees:***

**Keith Blanchette -** Mr. Blanchette has deep ties to Worcester. His firm, of which he is a Partner, Stolberg, Ebbeling, & Blanchette, LLP, is based in Worcester. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Worcester State University where he majored in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting and Finance. He also has a minor in Communications and graduated Cum Laude. Mr. Blanchette has served as Treasurer of the Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School (OSACPS) Board since inception.

**Pamela Boisvert** - Ms. Boisvert was born and raised in Worcester and attended Worcester Public Schools. Her two daughters and their families currently reside in Worcester. She is on the board and was the former CEO of Massachusetts Education and Career Opportunities Inc. (MassEdCO). She is a former board member of the Washington-based Council for Opportunity in Education (COE). She is currently a member of the advisory boards for the Massachusetts Dept. of Higher Education’s Office of Student Financial Assistance, the Latino Education Institute, and the New England regional office of the United Negro College Fund. She and her husband were the 2015-16 co-chairs of Worcester-based United Way of Central Mass’ Annual Campaign, the first chairs to be selected from the nonprofit sector. She is a former board member of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Mass. Higher Education Assistance Corp., Mass. Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Dynamy, Inc., and Girls Inc. of Worcester. Ms. Boisvert is a founding member of OSACPS and has served as Secretary, a member of the finance committee and now chairs the Governance committee. She received her master’s degree in Nonprofit Management from Worcester State University.

**Angele Goss** - Ms. Goss has more than 20 years of professional experience connecting low-income and first generation students (middle, high school and college) to resources and experiences that improve their access to and through post-secondary education. She currently teaches Adult Basic Education to predominately second language learners, ranging in age from 18 to 65, and teaches courses on cultural competency at Fitchburg State University. Additionally, she is a Cultural Engagement presenter who facilitates difficult conversations around race, equity, and cultural self-reflection. Ms. Goss has directly supported the Worcester community by taking part in holiday food drives through her church that help mitigate food insecurity among Worcester families. Ms. Goss holds a master’s degree in education from Fitchburg State University.

**Amy Herman -** Ms. Herman previously worked in Head Start programs in Worcester. She is a founding teacher of Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School. She will be retiring from a teaching career when she is eligible in late February 2023 and support her replacement during this transition at OSACPS. In March, officially retired and no longer employed by OSACPS, she is eligible for a board seat of WCACPS. Bringing her knowledge of Head Start programs in Worcester, STEM collaboration with WPI as a Seeds of STEM Curriculum Developer., start-up experience from OSACPS, and membership on charter school boards, she will add an experienced perspective to this board. Ms. Herman holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master’s in Early Childhood Education from Worcester State University with a major in Early Childhood Education and Sociology.

**Stacey Luster -** Ms. Luster resides in Worcester, MA. She has her J.D., and is General Counselor and Assistant to the President for Employment and Equal Opportunity at Worcester State University. Stacey Luster, the first Black woman ever elected to Worcester City Council, works to support anti-racism and equal opportunity, and she has co-founded two advocacy groups designed to help those efforts: Black Families Together, which focuses on addressing institutional racism in Worcester; and the Black Excellence Academy, which helps students of color who are struggling in school.

**Alicia O’Connell Rogers -** Ms. O’Connell Rogers resides in Worcester, MA. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Children’s Literature dual degree program at Simmons University, with a focus on Children's and Youth Library Services. An attorney, she advised clients in real estate transactions in private practice and directed the public and leased housing application process at the Worcester Housing Authority. She has held volunteer positions in youth-serving agencies and educational institutions throughout Worcester County, including at Girls Inc. of Worcester, the Women’s Initiative of the United Way, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School, ArtsWorcester, and the YMCA of Central Massachusetts. Most particularly at Girls Inc. of Worcester, she has experience working directly with children and teens, one-on-one and in groups.

**Jane Roseberry -** Ms. Roseberry’s main objective is to create safe, positive, and educational experiences for all children as well as creating and maintaining a supportive and engaging environment for teachers and staff. Ms. Roseberry holds an Associates of Arts, Business Management degree from Dean Junior College, a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from the University of Rhode Island, and a Master of Arts, Special Education from Lesley University. Ms. Roseberry is currently the Principal of Highlander Charter Elementary School in Providence, Rhode Island.

**Jennifer M. Safford -** Ms. Safford resides in Worcester, MA. She is the co-founder of the Collaborative for Youth and Community Justice and its Director of Operations & Outreach. She currently holds the position of Youth and Gang Violence Initiatives Projects Coordinator for the International Development, Community & Environment Department at Clark University in addition to serving as a Visiting Professor teaching courses in Youth Work. Safford is also a Senior Instructor in the Department of Graduate and Continuing Education, and Adjunct Faculty in the Health Sciences Department at Worcester State University where she teaches classes in Community Health Planning and Promotion, Multiculturalism and Health, and Personal Health. In 2020, Ms. Safford received the Erskine Award from the YWCA of Central Massachusetts in recognition of her demonstrated leadership and exemplary levels of achievement in her profession and community. Her undergraduate studies were in Sociology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Ms. Safford holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Worcester State University where she majored in Sociology and minored in Psychology. She also has a Master’s degree from Cambridge College where she majored in Education, Integrated Studies.

**Parent Council Member** - to be determined after the initial enrollment period.

***Additional Members of the Founding Group:***

**Proposed Principal: Lisa DeTora** - Ms. DeTora resides in Worcester, MA. Founding school leader of OSACPS who demonstrates the capacity to found and sustain an excellent charter school through a successful charter renewal with no conditions; Founding teacher of the first pilot school outside of Boston that later evolved into an innovation school in Fitchburg, MA; public school educator since 2001, BA Bates College, MA Syracuse University, MA Elementary Education Lesley University, Certificate in Administrative Leadership Collaborative for Educational Services.

**Proposed Director of Special Education: Melissa Hogan-** Director of Special Education and Student Supports at OSACPS – Results oriented Special Education Administrator with the ability to provide leadership, stability and fiscal responsibility while meeting the needs of the district and promoting growth for students and staff. Demonstrates capacity to sustain an excellent charter school-led special education department through TFM and Charter Renewal with no conditions. Over 20 years experience as a leader in Special Education. Degree- Bachelors in Science/Physical Therapy (Northeastern University), Doctorate in Physical Therapy (A.T. Still University).

**EMO Employee: Jim Donahue** -President and CEO of OSV, founder of Highlander K-12 Charter School and Highlander Institute in Providence, RI, founding Executive Director of OSACPS in Sturbridge, MA, over fifteen years at OSV; twenty five years experience in urban education at the elementary and middle school levels; BA in Economics from Colby College.

**EMO Employee: Emily Dunnack** - Ms. Dunnack resides in Worcester, MA. Director of Education at OSV, with over 20 years experience in museum education including program development, staff training, and school partnerships; manages Learning Through Experience (LTE) and Learning Through Project (LTPs) programs for all Old Sturbridge Academy students and 21st Century Community Learning Centers out of school time program for 70 K-5 OSACPS students; founding member of OSACPS; previously served as Head of Education at the Connecticut Historical Society; MA Leadership in Museum Education Bank Street College.

**EMO Employee: Jamie Greenthal** - Director of Charter School Strategy and Planning at Old Sturbridge Village; previously led marketing and communications at KIPP NYC, and was also responsible for growth and school start-up, supporting the opening of five schools between 2019-2021. Prior to KIPP, worked at Goldman Sachs and ESPN. Was Board Chair of PAVE Academy Charter School in Brooklyn, NY (SY16-17 to SY21-22). Degrees from Amherst College (BA) and Dartmouth College (MBA).

**EMO Employee: Tina Krasnecky**- Vice President of Finance and Human Resources at OSV - 30 years’ experience of managing public funds effectively and responsibly in financial and operational management; BS Finance Bentley College, MBA Clark University . Founding member of OSACPS and has managed their finance and human resource functions since inception (2017).

**EMO Employee: Alexandra McConnon -** Executive Assistant to the CEO & Board Support. With 10 years of administration experience, Ms. McConnon joins the team to provide Board support for all of the members of the school. Ms. McConnon will assemble agendas, record meeting minutes, and distribute materials to make each Board and committee meeting a success to enrich the school.

**EMO Employee: Jasmin Rivas**- is the Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access for Old Sturbridge Village. She was the 21st Century District Coordinator for the Southbridge Public Schools. She is currently serving on the board of New Hope Inc. (a domestic and sexual violence prevention agency serving South-Central and Southeastern Massachusetts). She served as a founding member of OSACPS. She has served on the boards of the Tri-Community YMCA in Southbridge, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass and the YWCACPS of Central Mass Girls C.H.O.I.C.E. Program. She holds a Bachelors in English from Worcester State University and a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Bay Path University. She recently obtained a Diversity and Inclusion Certificate from Cornell University.

**EL Education: Jodi Rabat-** School Designer and Professional Development Specialist with EL Education. For the last six years she has served as a strategic partner and capacity builder for school leadership teams in New England and around the nation, supporting them in achieving goals, impacting educator effectiveness, and improving achievement for all students. Jodi has supported Old Sturbridge Academy during the last five years. She also served as a Manager of Teacher Leadership Development with Teach For America. She holds a Masters in Education from the University of Puget Sound, and a Bachelors of Business Administration from Pacific Lutheran University.