

## 1.8 Start-up and Operations

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14 Del. C. §§ 512(1), (8)-(10), and (12)-(13)

- 1. Start-Up Plan. Provide, as Attachment 15, a detailed start-up plan for the school, specifying tasks, timelines, and responsible individuals, which is aligned with a sound Start-Up Budget.**

The start-up plan and work schedule for the SMS is included in Attachment 15, which identifies specific tasks, timelines, and responsible individuals for the start-up operations of the school. Accompanying budget information is provided in Attachment 16.

- 2. Describe what you anticipate will be the challenges of starting a new school and how you expect to address these challenges.**

The SMS anticipates that its challenges will occur surrounding three areas:

- a) Transportation: Due to the rural nature of the county, transportation distances and times will require additional buses to ensure that students will arrive in time for school within spending inordinate travel time. Finding bus providers in this area will be more difficult than in other parts of the state and contracts with local school districts may be necessary.
- b) Community Engagement: The Montessori approach is not well known in this portion of the state. However, our community engagement plan will produce frequent educational opportunity for parents to learn and understand the pedagogy. This will require a more intense effort surrounding the community engagement effort and may require a full marketing and information campaign to achieve it. Montessori Works, Incorporated will be key in funding and executing this campaign.
- c) Facilities: There are fewer available properties large enough to house the school in Sussex County than in other parts of the state. We have begun the process of identifying properties and will have a site identified prior to the final decision of the State Board of Education on the authorization of the charter school in April 2017. Execution of leases and capital funding will be identified prior to January 2018, while renovation and occupancy will occur before June 2018.

- 3. Complete the Start-Up (Year 0) Budget in the Budget Sheets. Complete all pages in the Budget Sheets, and provide as Attachment 16 (see link in Section 1.10 Budget and Finance).**

Please see Attachment 16 for the Planning Year budget for 2017-2018.