



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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March 7, 2013

Ms. Luanne Bannan, Board President
Willow Oak Montessori
P.O. Box 1180
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Mr. Luanne Bannan:

The Office of Charter Schools is pleased to inform you that, on March 7, 2013, the State Board of Education (SBE) voted to grant final approval to your application. The SBE may grant the initial charter for a period not to exceed 10 years and may renew the charter upon request for subsequent periods not to exceed 10 years each.

The Charter for Willow Oak Montessori is granted for ten years, becoming effective July 1, 2013 and will expire June 30, 2023. Willow Oak Montessori must, by law, undergo a five year review process in 2018.

Be advised that G.S. 115C-238.29G gives the SBE authority to terminate the Charter if a school "demonstrates no growth in student performance and has annual performance composites below sixty percent (60%) in any two years in a three-year period." The law further stipulates that if a charter school is within its first five years of operation, then the school shall develop a strategic plan that will be reviewed and approved by the SBE. If the charter school fails to demonstrate improvement under this strategic plan, the SBE is authorized to terminate that Charter.

In addition, Willow Oak Montessori may now begin the student enrollment process. Please review the memorandum sent to all charter schools on February 17, 2012, regarding public charter school student eligibility. This memorandum is hosted on our website and is the attachment on the last question of the FAQ page: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/charterschools/faqs>.

The Office of Charter looks forward to working with you in the future. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Charter Schools at 919-807-3491.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joel E. Medley".

Joel E. Medley, Director
Office of Charter Schools

JEM/pg

c: June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent, NC Department of Public Instruction
Philip Price, Chief Financial Officer, NC Department of Public Instruction

OFFICE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

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