



From the President: Charter Schools?

Charter schools are independently-operated public schools that have the freedom to design classrooms that meet their students' needs. All charter schools operate under a contract with a charter school authorizer – usually a nonprofit organization, government agency, or university – that holds them accountable to the high standards outlined in their “charter.” It is common to see charter schools led by former teachers who wanted to take the lessons they learned in the classroom and apply those lessons to an entire school.

Each of the more than 7,000 charter schools is unique – both inside and out. Some focus on college prep, some follow a **STEM curriculum**, and others integrate the arts into each subject. Most charter schools are located in cities, but there are charter schools in suburban and rural areas as well. Some charter schools require uniforms, others have longer school days, and some teach their entire curriculum in two languages. The possibilities are endless, but charter schools aim to provide a range of options so that parents can choose the public school that best fits their child.

The reasons that parents choose charter schools for their children are just as unique as the students themselves. They choose charter schools because of the strong, dedicated teachers, because the school's focus matches their child's needs, or simply because their child was struggling in their assigned public school and needed to try something new. Charter schools provide families with options in public education, allowing parents to take a more active role in their child's education.

Charter schools were created to provide opportunities for teachers, parents, students and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from the existing school district structure as a method to accomplish the following: **improve student learning; increase learning opportunities for all students.**

The Charge for Bridgetown Academy Charter School

Erika D Kirkland, President CEO

Our STEM-Focused Charter School

The Approach

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) approach to education focuses on the hard sciences, develops critical thinking skills, and improves problem-solving abilities. STEM aims to give students the tools they'll need to succeed in school, work, and hobbies. It's like a toolbox full of smaller toolsets for designing and making things. Inside a carpenter's toolbox, you might find sets of drill bits, ratchets and wrenches, chisels, and other useful gadgets. STEM disciplines are like those little toolsets. Each is useful in its own right, but most activities require more than one.

STEM equips kids with competencies that will enable them to overcome personal challenges, pursue careers in technical fields such as software engineering or artificial intelligence, find creative solutions to difficult problems, and understand how the world works.

Incorporating our Business Development Incubator in the Highschool curriculum will help economically challenged youth start and grow successful job creating businesses in various "essential" industries such as technology, agriculture, aquaculture, and manufacturing. This will put an end to governmental dependency.

Kids who believe in themselves tend to do better in school. Writing code and seeing it work is satisfying. Building a robot, programming it to execute a task, and watching it happen is thrilling. But while kids are having fun, they're also building confidence. That confidence is important in test-taking and academic achievement.

Throughout the STEM curriculum, students have opportunities to use and get comfortable with technology. Computers, peripherals, sensors, and other instruments are important items in many STEM classrooms and education programs.

Bridgetown Academy Charter School will offer a **unique freedom and flexibility** not found in public school districts, and the freedom from the red tape of public education allowing them to dedicate increased resources and energy on supporting students in excelling academic standards.

Five Year Budget

Grayland Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Budget
Revenues						
FEFT Core State Funding	1,260,000	1,680,000	2,100,000	2,520,000	2,940,000	10,500,000
Class Size Reduction Funding	185,000					185,000
Federal Funding	54,000	72,000	90,000	108,000	126,000	450,000
Title I						
Food Service	90,000	120,000	150,000	180,000	210,000	750,000
Grants and Fundraising	175,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	475,000
Total Revenues	1,764,000	1,947,000	2,415,000	2,883,000	3,351,000	12,360,000
Salaries						
Fundraising, Startup	250,000					
Principal	78,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	390,000
Teachers	638,000	812,000	986,000	1,160,000	1,334,000	4,930,000
Instructional Aides	75,000	100,000	125,000	125,000	150,000	575,000
Secretary	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000
Total Salaries	821,000	1,020,000	1,219,000	1,393,000	1,592,000	6,045,000
Benefits						
Retirement	82,100	102,000	121,900	139,300	159,200	604,500
Health	69,000	69,000	69,000	69,000	69,000	345,000
FICA	11,905	14,790	17,676	20,199	23,084	87,654
Other	20,525	25,500	30,475	34,825	39,800	151,125
Books and Supplies						
Texts and Instructional Materials	22,500	30,000	37,500	45,000	52,500	187,500
Other Books	13,500	18,000	22,500	27,000	31,500	112,500
Software	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
Classroom paper and supplies	18,000	24,000	30,000	36,000	42,000	150,000
Office Supplies	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	12,000
Janitorial Supplies	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	18,000
Services and Contracts						
Custodial	14,250	14,250	14,250	14,250	14,250	71,250
Bookkeeping and Audit	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	60,000
Payroll Services	1,272	1,272	1,272	1,272	1,272	6,360
Legal	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	40,000
Professional Services	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	75,000
Liability and Property Insurance	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	60,000
Waste Disposal	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	9,000
Student Testing and Assessment	4,500	6,000	7,500	9,000	10,500	37,500
Staff Development	22,500	22,500	22,500	22,500	22,500	112,500
Special Education Consultant	36,000	48,000	60,000	72,000	84,000	300,000
Travel and Conference, Board Meet	13,750	13,750	13,750	13,750	13,750	68,750
Internet Service Provider	9,600	9,600	9,600	9,600	9,600	48,000
Postage	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440	7,200
Copier Lease	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	18,000
Facilities and Capital						
Rent/Lease/Mortgage	282,240	282,240	282,240	282,240	282,240	1,411,200
-deposit/rent/down payment						
	800,000					
Replace Furnishings and Equipment	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	140,000
Gas/Electric	5,400	5,400	5,400	5,400	5,400	27,000
Phone	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	12,000
Security Alarm	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	6,000
Total Expenditures	1,549,482	1,807,742	2,066,003	2,295,776	2,554,036	10,273,039
Surplus (Deficit)	214,518	139,258	348,997	587,224	796,964	2,086,961

Budget Narrative

The Staff

-1 Principal with a salary of \$78,000 annually Assumes grades 6-8 for first year, two classes or 3 classes per grade, 20 students each class

- Number of Students

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
180	240	300	360	420	5 th year, will be grades 6-12
○ Max Student teacher ratio 20:1					

- Number of Teachers

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
11	14	17	20	23
○ Salary of 58,000 annually				

- Number of Instructional Aides

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
3	4	5	5	6
○ Salary of 25,000 annually				

Facility Square Footage assumes 80 square feet per student at full capacity

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
22,400	22,400	22,400	22,400	22,400

FEFP Core State student funding/year 7,000

Federal Funding per student/year 300

Food Service Revenue per student/year 500

The first year of the Charter School is planned for grades 6-8, with three classes in each grade for a total of 180 students. Each successive year, one grade will be added until the high school is at capacity by year 5, with a total of **420** students. We anticipate operating fully as a Middle-High school in the 5th year of operation. As a publicly funded charter school, our annual operating revenue will come from FEFT Core State and Federal funding, in addition to fundraising. Each grade will offer the standard grade appropriate Math, PE, Reading, Science, and History courses, with the addition of Coding and Arts. Our yearly budgeting for Books and Supplies includes funds for the purchase of computers and software to allow all students access to the most up-to-date technology.

Program Administration

Erika D. Kirkland is the President/CEO of Grayland Foundation. Ms Kirkland is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, with more than 20 years of experience facilitating international agreements and serving as a program manager for multi-disciplinary teams. She has managed diverse government programs and worked with U.S. and foreign economic agencies to facilitate economic issues as well as foreign policy dealing with science and technology innovation. When not working, she has volunteered her services, serving on the PTA Board of her children's school and hosting extracurricular coding and financial literacy classes.

Charter School Staff will spend time getting to know each of the students and build healthy relationships with the students attending the Charter School. School staff workers provide leadership and direction for the Charter School by taking responsibility for the care, training, and mentoring of each student in the program, and by providing healthy youth activities that encourage spiritual growth, enrich relationships, and stimulate personal development.

Charter School Services

The Charter School's services will be advertised publicly via its website and local education publications. The use of funds, curricula, and meeting minutes will be maintained for public review via the Charter School's website.

The Charter School will serve students from grades 6-12 in the West/Northwest areas of Jacksonville, Florida. These areas are heavily made up of disadvantaged, low-income families.

Hours of Operation

Charter School will operate weekly 7:30am-3:30pm Monday-Thursday 7:30am-1:30pm Friday.

Short-Long Term Plan

The Charter School is planned for a location in West/Northwest Jacksonville Florida. We are looking at the options for acquiring and renovating a commercial property or purchasing/leasing an existing school property from Duval County.

VISION

Grayland Foundation, a not-for-profit 501c(3) organization, proposes a collaboration with Jacksonville School District Duval County, to establish a Charter School offering STEM Education and Training Entrepreneurship support system targeting disadvantaged youth residing in Duval County.

Bridgetown Academy Charter School will create a wholesome environment for learning. The mission of Bridgetown Academy is to offer STEM-Focused Customized Learning as an alternative form of teaching to enhance learning opportunities for the underserved residents of Duval County and to create more Education equity by combatting the disparity in resource distribution in the School system.



From Junior High



To Senior Graduation

Your donation will help us change the lives of our youth! We appreciate your attention and thank you for your support!



www.graylandfoundation.org