PENN-GRIFFIN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CHARTER DOCUMENT

Team Name: Penn-Griffin School of the Arts

School/District Goals:

Desired Outcome: The project team will develop written processes outlining the tasks, roles, and functions to assist in creating a grades 6-12 program at Penn-Griffin (currently grades 6-8) with plans to accept the first class of 9th grade students in 2006-07 or as the Board of Education determines. These processes should include designing a coherent, competitive, and vertically aligned arts program, philosophy, and curriculum that will make Penn-Griffin a premier 6-12 school of the arts in the Southeast. The project team will produce a five-year plan for Penn-Griffin that will include a grade-by-grade implementation and a vision for the school at its capacity. The plan will include: creating a vertical and specialized curriculum in the arts, ordering supplies and materials, designing extra-curricular clubs and sports, intramurals, textbooks, hiring teachers, aligning the high school curriculum to meet the academic and artistic needs of the students, setting guidelines for admission and retention of students, a communication plan to the community, a marketing plan, a timeline to gather information about other programs and to get schedules and students in place.

Suggested Direction: The project team should visit other arts schools in North Carolina and the nation to determine a clear focus and direction for the school. When students apply to Penn-Griffin the curricular expectations should be clear from grade 6 to grade 12. The team should meet with members from the curriculum department, facilities, and magnet schools to ensure that all materials will be ready and space will be suitable to meet the curricular needs. The project team should decide whether to have one or two media center(s) for the school. If one, then consideration should be given to a larger space. The project team should also decide whether to "separate" instructional space for middle versus high school students and whether this separation would require additional labs in the school for science and technology.

Time Frame: The project team should hold its organizational meeting no later than March 24, 2006. At least two visits to other sites and a statement of philosophy should occur by May 1, 2006. A timeline for implementation should be ready by May 20, 2006. The team will meet each week in March sharing research, visiting information, and creating a philosophy. The project should be completed by October 2007. Written or oral project update reports will be presented to Lillie Cox and Anne Murr by noon each Friday.

Resources: Representatives from the following departments: Division of Academic Improvement (Ann Murr), Human Resources (Barbara Campbell), Facilities (Gerald Greeson), Curriculum and Instruction (Pam Farlow), Purchasing (John Mann or designee), Transportation (Jeff Harris). The team will receive $9,000 for travel expenses as these trips are planned.

Tools or Processes: The Team should do thorough research of arts programs and should also consider the history of Penn-Griffin and the alumni that have worked to keep the school active.

Decision Authority: Advisory. The superintendent's cabinet will approve the plan. Core project team will meet with Champions bi-weekly to establish progress on specific tasks.

Assigned Members:
Bobby Ann Hayes, Principal, Penn-Griffin School of the Arts, hayesb@gcsnc.com, 819-2870
Pam Farlow, Curriculum Specialist, farlowp@gcsnc.com, 370-3270
Gerald Greeson, Director of Maintenance, greesog@gcsnc.com, 370-2385
Karen Ellis, Curriculum Coach for Math, ellisk@gcsnc.com, 370-8985
Christy Howard, Core Teacher Representative, Penn-Griffin School of the Arts, howardc@gcsnc.com, 819-2870
Sara Reynolds, Core Teacher Representative, Penn-Griffin School of the Arts, reynols@gcsnc.com, 819-2870
Catherine Butler, Art Teacher Representative, Penn-Griffin School of the Arts, butlerc3@gcsnc.com, 819-2870
Donna Higgins, Parent Representatives,
Patty Corbett, Parent Representative,

Champions:
Lillie Cox, Executive Director of Organizational Development, coxl@gcsnc.com, 370-2313
Anne Murr, Instructional Improvement Officer, murra@gcsnc.com, 370-2311