

## **Bend International School**

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### **LEA**

Bend-La-Pine school District

### **SEA**

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### **Abstract**

Bend International School is a K-8 charter school with the mission of empowering students with an exceptional 21<sup>st</sup> century education through integrated teaching with a global focus. Our target population is 50% low-economic/50% mainstream, with a large portion being minority, ELL, and Special education students.

One of the goals of Bend International School is to unite a divided community by providing equal access to innovative educational programs. The majority of magnet and alternative educational options exist on the west side of our community, while the lower socio-economic, minority, ELL and higher need students mostly reside on the east side of town. Due to excessive long wait lists and magnet zones most east side students are not able to attend these smaller “choice” schools. Bend International School will be placed on the east side of town, attracting and serving the needs of this population. The Bend community has expressed this need (Bend Community survey Results), and we look forward to partnering with the District to serve all students with their mission of “educating thriving citizens for global success.”

Bend International School holds the ambitious goal of improving achievement and increasing high school graduation and college enrollment rate for students from high poverty and diverse backgrounds. Expected outcomes of the program include: increased levels of academic achievement for all students, increased high school graduation and college enrollment rates for lower socio-economic/ ELL / minority and special education students, and a decrease in the equity gap of educational opportunities and achievement in our community. We also expect to see an increase in global competence and language proficiency (both Spanish and English) for all students, preparing them with the skills they need for 21<sup>st</sup> century success.

Bend International School is honored to participate in the contribution of research and sharing of educational practices with the U.S. Department of Education in order to strengthen the Charter Schools Model across the Nation. Our well developed, research based strong theory provides a framework for replication in other schools. The relevant outcome of the Bend International School’s curricular model and program promotes academic success for diverse students of all levels and abilities.

This project meets the purpose of the Charter Schools Project by:

- 1. Increasing the number of high quality charter schools across the Nation**

- 2. Increasing academic achievement, especially of students of low socio-economic status**
- 3. Promoting Diversity in the student population of charter schools**

It is the goal of Bend International School to meet and exceed the priorities of the Charter Schools' Program, while also fulfilling the goals of the U.S. Department of Education's International Strategy by promoting global competence, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and international education and understanding for all students. Charter Schools have recently been criticized for not serving the needs of diverse learners at the same rate that public schools do. Bend International School has a commitment and passion to achieve a balanced student and staff population, reaching out to diverse groups within our community, and promoting academic excellent for all students.