Written by George Browning
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Student enrollments are now being sought by organizers and leaders of Via Charter School, a new, free public school with a scheduled opening date of August 5, 2013, in Scott County for kindergartners through sixth graders.

Next Step School Corporation (NSSC) officials recently announced that NSSC has signed an agreement with the Indiana Charter School Board (ICSB) to operate Via Charter School. The application, according to a news release, was approved during a public hearing held in Indianapolis this past May. ICSB has the responsibility to ensure that charter schools are held accountable for providing high-quality educational options for Indiana families regardless of income, race or zip code.

NSSC is a not-for-profit entity that holds the school's charter. Via Charter School is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Names of directors were not provided in the news release, but the release described the board as being composed of talented individuals from a variety of backgrounds, which include legal, business, corporate and military.

Currently, NSSC staff is evaluating property in Scott County for the location of the new school with student needs and fiscal stewardship in mind. NSSC will also assist in developing, planning and marketing the school as well as handle finances, human resources and curriculum and hold overall responsibility for school operation.

Via Charter School is scheduled to open its doors on August 5, 2013, and offer kindergarten through sixth grade instruction. It promises high quality, comprehensive and meaningful education for all of its students. While open to all families in Indiana, the focus of the charter school will be college preparation and dual language skills.

School leaders will report directly to the school's board and are responsible for starting and organizing the school, managing staff and meeting specific standards established by the Indiana Department of Education, NSSC board and its charter agreement.

The news release stated that Via Charter School will be different from other, traditional public schools because it plans to integrate the best practices of the business community into an Educational Quality Management System. Such a system will ensure transparency in the school environment and high standards in student, teacher and administration performance, advised its news release. Via Charter School will utilize the International Baccalaureate and other programs to help students develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalizing world.

The school's long-term vision of growth is to offer a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade system. Application to attend Via Charter School is open to any student living in Indiana. While an application is not a guarantee of/or required attendance at the new school, it will give families a choice of where to enroll their children for the 2013-14 school year.

To apply or obtain further information about Via Charter School, visit www.viacharterschool.com.