

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Attendance Area:

1.1 Belle Chasse Academy will be open to all eligible students in grades K-8 who are qualified for admission to a public school under the laws of the State of Louisiana and who reside within the State of Louisiana.

2. Admission Requirements:

2.1 In administering the below admission requirements, no admission decision shall discriminate against any student on the basis of race, religion, gender, ethnicity, national origin, intelligence level as measured by an intelligent quotient examination, or identification as a child with an exceptionality as defined in R.S. 17:1943(4).

2.2 First Year requirements. In accordance with Belle Chasse Academy's purpose and stated missions and subject to the requirements of paragraphs (3) and (4), preference for admission will be as follows:

2.2.1 First priority to attend the school will be given to those students who are active duty military dependents (as defined below) and reside on a military base within proximity to the school.

2.2.2 Second priority to attend the school shall be given to those students who are active duty military dependents, but reside off base within proximity to the school.

2.2.3 Third priority to attend the school shall be given to those students who are dependents of employees of Belle Chasse Academy, Inc.

2.2.4 Fourth priority to attend the school shall be given equally to those students who are dependents (as defined below) of retired military persons (as defined below) and retired reserve military persons (as defined below).

2.2.5 The capacity of the school for the first year is currently expected to be approximately 700 students. When receiving applications for enrollment, should the number of applications from a group which is next in priority exceed the capacity of the school or a particular grade level(s), then the pertinent applications from that group will be placed on a list, categorized by grade level, and students will be admitted by lottery drawn from the appropriate grade level until available positions are filled. If after all applications from the above mentioned groups have been accepted and students enrolled, the school shall announce available space, if any, by grade level and open registration to all other Louisiana public school students by publishing a notice in the *Times-Picayune* and *Belle Chasse Gazette* for two consecutive weeks, the last publication being at least one month prior to the date set for registration. Should these applications exceed the capacity of the school, a waiting list categorized by grade level shall be maintained in the

school office. Students will be accepted by lottery, drawn from the appropriate grade level, until available positions are filled.

2.3 Second Year and Thereafter Requirements. In accordance with Belle Chasse Academy's purpose and stated missions and subject to the requirements of paragraphs (3) and (4), preference for admission will be as follows:

2.3.1 First priority to attend the school will be given to those students and their siblings who are re-enrollees and attended the school in the immediate preceding school year.

2.3.2 Second priority to attend the school will be given to those students who are active duty military dependents and reside on a military base within proximity to the school.

2.3.3 Third priority to attend the school shall be given to those students who are active duty military dependents, but reside off base within proximity to the school.

2.3.4 Fourth priority to attend the school shall be given to those students who are dependents of employees of Belle Chasse Academy, Inc.

2.3.5 Fifth priority to attend the school shall be given equally to those students who are dependents of retired military persons and retired reserve military persons.

2.3.6 The capacity of the school following the first year will grow to a maximum capacity of approximately 1300 students by school year 5. When receiving applications for enrollment, should the number of applications from a group which is next in priority exceed the capacity of the school or a particular grade level(s), then the pertinent applications from that group will be placed on a list, categorized by grade level, and students will be admitted by lottery drawn from the appropriate grade level until available positions are filled. If after all applications from the above mentioned groups have been accepted and students enrolled, the school shall announce available space, if any, by grade level and open registration to all Louisiana public school students by publishing a notice in the *Times-Picayune* and *Belle Chasse Gazette* two consecutive weeks, the last publication being at least one month prior to the date set for registration. Should these applications exceed the capacity of the school, a waiting list categorized by grade level shall be maintained in the school office. Students will be accepted by lottery, drawn from the appropriate grade level, until available positions are filled.

3. **At-Risk Percentage:**

3.1 Belle Chasse Academy is a new charter school stemming directly from a modification of current business operations of the United States Navy in the New Orleans

area, and falls squarely under the provisions of R.S. 17:3991(B)(1)(a)(ii). Accordingly, students applying for admission under paragraphs 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, and 2.3.3 will not be subject to any at-risk percentage requirement, so long as all such students who are at-risk as defined in R.S. 17:3973(1) are admitted to the school. All students applying for admission under paragraphs 2.2.3, 2.2.4, 2.2.5, 2.3.4, 2.3.5, and 2.3.6 however, will be admitted only if the school is in compliance with the at-risk percentage of R.S. 17:3991(B)(1)(a), based on the number of students admitted under such paragraphs.

4. Admissions Process and Timetable:

4.1 Belle Chasse Academy shall enroll those students who submit a timely application according to the priorities established in paragraph 2.

4.2 Applications for enrollment will be accepted from April 1 through June 1 of each year. A completed application shall be filed for each student entering the school. The file shall include an application form for each student, a copy of the birth certificate, social security number, immunization records, appropriate transcripts and records from previous schools (for transfer students), and a signed copy of a parent/student responsibility agreement. During the first year of operation no student shall be admitted until the application period has expired. For the second year of operation and thereafter, the school may pre-admit students previously enrolled in the school and their siblings so long as the at-risk requirements of paragraph 3 have been satisfied. Parents and students will be required to attend an orientation meeting prior to beginning school.

5. Recruiting Plan:

5.1 First year: Prior to the first year of operation of Belle Chasse Academy, potentially eligible students will be contacted in a variety of ways. For those students who are active duty dependents, their parents will be contacted by the local on base housing offices in the New Orleans area. They will also be notified during all hands welcome aboard briefings concerning the base and surrounding areas. If there is insufficient interest in the school, then advertisements will be placed in local newspapers and other mediums.

5.2 Second year and thereafter: After the first year of operation there should be a reduced need for continued advertising. The base housing offices and the welcome aboard briefs will serve as the primary medium of advertising to those affiliated with the military. For those not affiliated with the military, word of mouth and local newspaper advertisements will serve as the primary mediums.

6. Assurances:

6.1 Desegregation order: Belle Chasse Academy is located in a district that is currently under a desegregation order. The school will be operated by a private company that will ensure compliance with the order by obtaining a Declaratory Judgment, if

necessary, from the appropriate District Court, declaring the school to be in compliance. The school will be able to obtain this court order given that the demographics of the potential student population will likely mirror that found in the United States military at large. The U. S. military is widely recognized as a racially and ethnically diverse organization, more so than most communities. The private company will retain and pay a local attorney to obtain the Declaratory Judgment.

6.2 Home Study Students: The school will not discriminate against any student solely because he or she has been previously home educated.

6.3 Brumfield v. Dodd criteria: The school will not be racially discriminatory or racially segregated in student admissions or staffing.

6.4 Civil Rights Laws and Individual with Disabilities: The school will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations otherwise applicable to public schools with respect to civil rights and individuals with disabilities.

6.5 Discrimination Prohibited: The school shall not discriminate among employees, potential employees, or pupils in violation of any state or federal law.

6.6 Nonsectarian: The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, and employment practices.

6.7 School Entrance Age: The school will comply with R.S. 17:222 governing school entrance ages for the state of Louisiana.

7. Definitions:

7.1 "Active duty military dependent(s)" means legal dependents of active duty military personnel as reflected in the appropriate personnel and administrative files.

7.2 "Dependent(s)" means legal dependent according to applicable state law or as reflected in appropriate military or other-government personnel and administrative records.

7.3 "Military" refers to any or all of the five (5) national Armed Services.

7.4 "Retired military person(s)" means a person who is receiving an active duty retirement stipend stemming from active military service. This term includes persons who receive stipends received for a medical retirement.

7.5. "Retired reserve military person(s)" means a person who is receiving a reserve retirement stipend stemming from reserve military service. This term includes persons who receive stipends received for a medical retirement.