

Press Release

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Tulsa Public School Board to Approve Street School Expansion

TULSA, Ok. – Street School will officially replicate its model to a second site for the 2018-19 school year. The Tulsa Public School Board is set to approve the contract expansion so more students could be served who may be at risk of dropping out of high school.

The need to replicate Street School is based on the annual number of inquiries received from students currently not enrolled and parents or guardians who need an alternative.

“We are thrilled with the opportunity to replicate our longstanding model,” said Street School’s President and CEO, Dr. Lori McGinnis-Madland. “We have had a waiting list for a countless number of years because our current location is at capacity. A second location will allow us to replicate our program that has been in place for 45 years.”

The building that housed the former Franklin Youth Academy is next door to Street School’s current location at 1135 S Yale Avenue. The building has been vacant for one year.

“Having an opportunity to be right next door is ideal for us. We don’t have to duplicate administration and we will be able to build slowly to ensure success,” said McGinnis-Madland.

Street School is Oklahoma’s longest-running alternative education program and has been serving at-risk youth and their families for forty-five years as a non-profit agency through a partnership with Tulsa Public Schools. On average, the graduation rate hovers at 90%.

STREET SCHOOL

“By replicating Street School and leveraging our documented success we can serve more students and increase graduation rates for the entire District,” said McGinnis-Madland.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, more than 4,000 students drop out of Tulsa area schools starting in the ninth grade. Individuals without a high school diploma increase welfare costs, incarceration rates and escalate the cost of public health care.

It is a little known fact but Street School designed the model for alternative education in Oklahoma. Sixteen of 17 mandated criteria in Oklahoma statues are in place because of Street School. These mandates have been adopted by the National Alternative Education Association and are used globally.

Street School plans to have 40 students enrolled for the upcoming school year. Tulsa Public Schools will provide five teachers and Street School will add a clerical position and two therapists. All students must live in the TPS District to attend the program.

The therapeutic counseling component at Street School is a critical part of the program. Students meet regularly with their assigned counselor for individual and group therapy.

“We want to replicate carefully and slowly so we maintain the integrity of our model. All of our students choose Street School as their high school. They are not sent to us as “damaged” or unruly from another school. We must ensure our students personal and emotional needs are met because if they are not, then their ability to focus in school is diminished,” said McGinnis-Madland.

Street School will begin accepting applications for enrollment on August 1. For more information contact Street School at 918-833-9800 or visit the website at www.streetschool.org.